

GBV Sub-Sector WG

Achievements, Challenges & Priorities for 2025

Achievements



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



1. Co-chairing and Membership Diversity:

- Effective co-chairing by UNHCR, IRC, and Feminoteka (a local WLO), showcasing a collaborative approach between international and local organizations.
- Diverse composition of members, including NGOs, INGOs, RLOs, WLOs, UN agencies, donors, and the Ministry for Equality's Department for Equal Treatment, reflecting a multi-stakeholder engagement.
- Inclusion of academia in the CMR/IPV TaskForce, strengthening evidence-based interventions, fostering research-practice synergies.

2. Government and Stakeholder Engagement:

- Active engagement and support from the government, emphasizing institutional commitment to addressing GBV.
- Effective communication strategies, such as simultaneous translation during meetings, promoting inclusivity and participation of non-English speaking actors; regular communication updates with members via newsletters.

3. Operational and Strategic Planning:

- Development and endorsement of the **GBV Sub-Sector WG WorkPlan** and **Terms of Reference (ToR)**, providing a clear strategic framework for the group's activities.
- Creation of robust coordination tools, accessible via an external confidential shared drive, including:
 - **A Catalogue of Online Training Resources.**
 - **A Calendar of Events.**
 - **A Repository of GBV Assessments**

Achievements

4. Capacity Building and Training:

- Completion of a comprehensive **Training Needs Assessment**, identifying gaps and prioritizing capacity-building efforts.
- Compilation of a list of training facilitators with specialized expertise across member organizations, ensuring a pool of resources for tailored training delivery.

5. Knowledge Exchange and Learning:

- Facilitation of partner exchanges and documentation of lessons learned, with five presentations highlighting diverse operational contexts within the country.

6. Service Mapping & GBV Referral Pathways:

- Development of **GBV Referral Pathways templates** for all voivodeships, adhering to inter-agency standards, improving the coherence and accessibility of referral services.

7. Advocacy and Awareness:

- Successful launch of the **16 Days of Activism Campaign**, which included:
 - A **Policy Forum roundtable** to discuss recent legislative changes.
 - A **documentary screening and discussion**, raising awareness through storytelling and dialogue.
 - **5D StandUp - training on responding to sexual harassment in public spaces**, equipping stakeholders with practical skills for immediate action.



Challenges

1. Fragmented Efforts:

- Individual contributions by organizations are not yet fully consolidated.

2. Organizational Instability:

- Many member organizations are undergoing restructuring and resource reassessment, creating challenges in aligning priorities, sustaining commitments, and executing effective planning.

3. Data Limitations:

- Limited availability of comprehensive and up-to-date data hinders evidence-based decision-making, identification of gaps, and effective monitoring and evaluation of GBV-related programs.

4. Resource Constraints for Systemic Work:

- Insufficient allocation of resources to streamline systemic tasks, such as updating existing GBV Referral Pathways and developing new ones, delays the standardization and accessibility of up to date GBV Referral Pathways for all voivodeships.

Priorities for 2025

1. Strengthening Coordination and Consolidation:

- Enhance the consolidation of individual efforts by fostering stronger collaboration among member organizations to maximize collective impact.

2. Enhancing Emergency Preparedness:

- Develop and integrate emergency preparedness plans into GBV interventions, ensuring rapid response capacity during new influx.

2. Conducting GBV Safety Assessments:

- Conduct inter-agency GBV Safety Assessments in various parts of Poland to inform evidence-based decision-making.

3. Allocating Resources for systemic work, capacity building and advocacy initiatives:

- Advocate for dedicated funding to update existing GBV Referral Pathways and create new ones, ensuring they meet inter-agency standards.
- Organize training programs to address gaps identified in the Training Needs Assessment, leveraging the expertise of facilitators from member organizations.
- Expand advocacy campaigns like the 16 Days of Activism to engage a wider range of stakeholders and raise awareness.
- Under the leadership of WHO, CMR IPV members are also in discussion with the Ministry of Health to work with as an expert TaskForce on a policy for a unified protocol on CMRIPV. The mandatory protocol will be in align with the WHO guidelines.

4. Enhancing Cross-Sector Engagement and Scaling GBV Risk Mitigation

- Integrate GBV risk mitigation measures into all sectors' policies and programs to ensure a holistic approach to addressing GBV risks.