

Submission to the Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Status of efforts to address Gender Based Violence and Sorcery Accusation Based Violence in WESTERN PROVINCE 17th May, 2023

This is only a template of questions for guidance. You do not need to use this template if you already have other reporting documents that respond to the Committee's request for information. If you do not have information requested, please just indicate that is the case. You can use narrative paragraphs or bullet points, depending on what you think is most appropriate. Please attach any supporting documents that will be of interest to the Committee's inquiries.

Overview of GBV and SARV in the province

- Data related to incidence of GBV and SARV in your province
 - How many cases of GBV and SARV are there in your province?
Ans: Reported GBV Cases handled in the Districts and PHQ is 30 plus per year, otherwise most cases are not reported. Reported SARV cases not more than 5per year.
 - How many cases are handled by the health service? And by the police service?
Ans: Cases related to GBV, data are withheld with these two service providers; Health and Police
 - If you are unable to provide data, please indicate what you need to improve data collection.
**Ans: Way forward – create database
We feel that as a province all service providers to provide the data of the number of cases for proper record that will indicate how effective we are providing this service.**
- including information about the current system in place to collect such data, any data gaps and needs.

Provincial GBV Strategy

- If you have a Provincial GBV Strategy that has been finalised and endorsed:
 - The date it was endorsed by the PEC and how long it lasts
Ans: Nil
 - Summary of key activities to be implemented under the strategy
 - Summary of annual workplan and annual budget to address GBV / SARV
 - Status of implementation progress – what have you achieved? Have you encountered any challenges that are impeding implementation?
- If you do not have a Provincial GBV Strategy:
 - What are your plans for developing a strategy in future? Please include a timeline for producing a Strategy and who will be involved.
**Ans: Submission for PEC endorsement and funding
Who to be involved: The National GBV Secretariat, Provincial Planning and Division of Community Development
Timeline: The third quarter of this year 2023**

- If you have a draft strategy, please summarise the main activities and budget required. Please also explain what the next steps are to finalise the strategy

Ans: Nil from the province, will adapt from the National GBV Strategy

Provincial GBV Secretariat and Action Committee

- Do you have a Provincial GBV Secretariat or Focal Point in place? If so, please explain their mandate and how many full time and part-time staff they have. Please advise their annual budget for staffing and for programming. If there is no-one, please indicate what plan your Government has to properly staff up an effective Provincial GBV Secretariat in line with the requirements of the National GBV Strategy.

Ans: Nil – Currently the Division of Community Development in the province and districts is the focal points

All these functions will be implemented after the setting up of the Provincial GBV Secretariat

- What budget has been allocated annually to address GBV and SARV by your provincial government and through any other government or non-government sources. Please attach the last budget proposal made to address GBV and SARV at the provincial level.

Ans: 2023 budget estimate is K100,000 and actual appropriation is K40,000

- Do you have any District GBV Secretariats? If so, please explain their mandate and how many full time and part-time staff they have. Please advise their annual budget for staffing and for programming.
- Please advise whether there is a GBV, Family and Sexual Violence or Child Welfare Action Committees operating in the province. Who are the members of those bodies. How often do they meet? Who provides secretariat services? Do they have a budget? If so, how much and who provides the budget? If no, what budget is required?

Ans: The three districts of the province have FSVAC committees but needs empowerment and Strengthening

Provincial GBV and SARV crisis response and justice services

- Information regarding GBV crisis support services that are available in your province, including:
 - (i) information about how the GBV/SARV referral pathway works in your province. Are there any government or non-government services that

**Ans: Yes, Government is Health and Police
Non-Government is Catholic Church (Family Life Centre & FSV/Child Protection)**

- (ii) Family support centres and other health services, the assistance they provided and number of cases they are handling.

Ans: Family Support Centre in South Fly District, Daru General Hospital and the other two districts only provide health and counselling services at the district hospitals. The number of case-withheld

- (iii) The number of safe houses and the support they provide (noting that specific details may need to be kept confidential).

Ans: Last year 2022, the organization Touching the Untouchables (TTU) being in the province and in South Fly District, set up safe houses in two, one in KURUNTI and the other in WAIDORO. The Kurunti one is completed and is ready for launching, whilst the other under construction.

The safe house project is an initiative from the local communities as a sustainability to GBV Spotlight Initiative funded by Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) under UN Women

(iv) Any counselling services available through health providers, NGOs or others.

Ans: Yes – the hospitals, health centres, NGOs and Churches do provide counselling services and do referrals to service providers; community development, Police FSVU, village courts and district courts.

(v) Police services across the province, including number of FSVU officers and the cases they are handling, but also the cases handled by other police in the province.

**Ans: Daru, Kiunga and Tabubil Police Stations
FSVU – Daru and Kiunga with 1x police officer
Cases related to GBV**

(vi) Other justice services, including the number of prosecutors and court services that deal with cases in the province;

Ans: Police prosecutors, village courts, district courts and national courts

(vii) The role of the Village Courts in supporting people to access Interim Protection Orders in your province.

Ans: The village courts in the LLGs, provide the Interim Protection Orders have been satisfactory.

(viii) Any other support services available in the province.

Ans: Yes - other partners are in the province and carrying out GBV programs, which we are uncertain and need to recognize their services.

Please include an analysis of the gaps in services and the needs of your provinces in order to provide proper services to GBV/SARV survivors.

Ans: 1. Isolation of networking with service providers

2. Knowing the provided data-set up central database for all service providers

3. Better facilities and infrastructure

4. Trained and skilled human resource

5. Geographical setting of the province (97sq km of land mass)

6. Transport – air, sea, river, land-foot and slim road network

7. Reach out is difficult and expensive

8. In the budget planning and allocation, the division of community development is one of those division's given the least priority to carry out directives and implementation of programs.

Please also include information about key services being provided by NGOs, churches and other non-government providers.

Ans: 1. Counselling

2. Visits

3. Reporting

4. Referrals

Provincial GBV and SARV prevention and awareness raising activities

- Please provide information regarding any GBV prevention activities being implemented in your province, whether by government officials or civil society organisations

Ans: Combine sectoral visits to LLGs with NGOs and CSOs to carry out awareness at LLG levels on Gender Base Violence, Child Protection and other related issues

- Does the Government support any education or awareness raising activities to address GBV or SARV? Is anything included in the local curriculum?

**Ans: Yes, there is support
Nothing included as yet in the local curriculum**

- Are there any impactful prevention activities being implementing in your region, for example, to build respectful relationships or build a culture of non-violence amongst people?

Ans: Churches have yearly organized programs to carry out family life workshops, courses and trainings, related to traditional and gospel values on family, community and business life.

Recommendations for improvement

- Please provide your ideas on what you think needs to be done to improve the GBV and SARV response in your country. Recommendations can be directed at national or sub-national stakeholders and can deal with law reform, policy, budgeting, programming or anything else. The Committee wants to improve the GBV and SARV response across the country and is looking for concrete, actionable ideas on what needs to be fixed.

Ans: This program touches the lives of human beings and any forms of development is for the human being, so our main focus is as follows;

1. National and Provincial interaction

- visit to provinces on national and international interests
- to empower and boost the working relationship for provinces to move forward
- training and workshops to provinces and follow-up
- provincial and national budgets must be correlated and guided to run the programs effectively

2. One officer (welfare/child protection) doing everything-and it seems heavy, should the structure be aligned with the national? Or under secondment?

3. Identification of officers-uniform/ID and risk incentives

4. To establish data base in regions or provinces for effective reporting and link

5 To roll out standard design of safe houses, family support centres and costings to provinces

If you have any questions, please email us at ParliamentGBVCommittee@gmail.com.