

Factsheet on Financing SGBV: Case of Lyantonde and Masindi districts



FORUM FOR WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY

Background

Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE) is implementing the "The Advancing Women's Engagement: Strengthening Opportunities to Mobilize for Equality" (AWESOME) programme in Uganda.

The programme seeks to prevent and eliminate sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) against women and girls and strengthen women's leadership and participation in decision-making.

As part of the programme implementation, FOWODE commissioned a study to undertake a gender budget tracking study focusing on the allocations to initiatives against SGBV.

This fact sheet presents the main findings, presenting results of allocation at National level and Districts of Masindi and Lyantonde.

Policy and legal framework for SGBV allocations

Allocations to initiatives against SGBV are backed up by a comprehensive legal and policy framework at the Global level (the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Sustainable Development Goals among others) and at National level (the Constitution, Vision 2040,

NDP III Gender Policy and PFMA 2015 among others). From the above legal and policy framework the country is mandated to allocate funding to initiatives against SGBV.



ALLOCATIONS FOR SGBV

Ideally, allocations for SGBV at National level should mainly be reflected in the social development sector budget which is in charge of promoting gender equality. Other key sectors that promote the fight against SGBV include; Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS), health, and education. With exception of JLOS, all the above mentioned sectors do not have a dedicated budget line for SGBV. Thus it is impossible to track how much is allocated to SGBV

Among the Districts, the community-based services department is mandated to handle SGBV issues. Unfortunately, this department was one of the three least funded with only 2.55% allocated to social development in FY 2020/21. Prevention and handling of SGBV activities are financed under the budget line of facilitation for community development workers. On average, each District was allocated **UGX 4,985,906** for the whole year which is translated into **UGX 415,492** per month. This has to be shared among the Community Development Officers at the District and in the Sub-Counties and Town Councils.

Case of SGBV allocation in JLOS

In FY 2020/21, Directorate of Public Prosecution was allocated UGX 48,430,937,747 of this UGX 2,710,000,000 was allocated to gender, children and sexual offences. If it is distributed among 135 district in Uganda, each district approximately gets 1,672,839 monthly. This is on the assumption that nothing remains at the center. This is the only sector that has a streamlined budget for SGBV.

SUMMARY

There is no dedicated budget line for SGBV activities at National and District level.

In practice, however, funding for SGBV is spread in the different sectors including; social development, health, education and justice law and order sectors.

Arising from the above, ensuring that the MDAs and the district allocate sufficient funds for handling SGBV and later on ensuring compliance to this allocation is complex and unattainable within the current situation.

UGX. 4,984,906

Allocated to each district in FY 2020/2021 for SGBV activities

UGX. 415,492

Average monthly amount allocated to each district in FY 2020/2021 for SGBV activities



District allocations to the community-based services department

The grant and budgeting guidelines for the social sector are silent on planning and budgeting for SGBV activities. The LG Act Cap 243 is not explicit on how SGBV cases should be managed within the LG system.

In FY 2020/21 there was no direct budget or expenditure line dedicated to SGBV activities in the District budgets.

Health and education do not have a dedicated budget line for SGBV activities. SGBV activities are handled as part of other activities in these departments. For example, under health, the Primary Health Care grant can be used in the promotion of preventive messages against SGBV while development grants can be used to provide gender-friendly facilities that mitigate against SGBV. On the other hand, medical supplies and drugs are used in the treatment of SGBV survivors.

Budgetary allocations for SGBV activities in Masindi and Lyantonde districts

Like the national outlook, Masindi and Lyantonde districts allocate a small portion of their budget to social development (3% and 2% respectively).

In Masindi district, **UGX 53,480,888 (3%)** was allocated as facilitation to community development workers, of this **UGX 41,363,204** was allocated to salaries leaving a balance of UGX 12,117,684 as facilitation to be shared among the 13 Sub-Counties/ Town Councils and the community based services department at the district implying that each Sub-County/ Town Council approximately receives about **UGX 72,129** monthly

In Lyantonde district facilitation to community development workers was allocated **UGX 6,039,620** while operation of the community development at the Sub-County/ Town Council was allocated **UGX 3,360,000**, this money has to be shared among the eight Sub-County/ Town Council in Lyantonde implying that each sub-county/Town Council averagely receives **UGX 35,000** monthly.

In Lyantonde district there was a noticeable budget increase in allowances to health workers who follow up on SGBV cases from UGX 5,800,000 in FY 2020/21 to UGX 10,000,000 in FY 2021/22. While Masindi district did not have a particular allocation to SGBV.

In Lyantonde district, the police department of CFPU receives about UGX 20,000 quarterly as an imprest from which it has to handle SGBV activities.

On the other hand, in Masindi, the department reported that it relies on facilitation from the SGBV survivors.



In summary, there is no dedicated budget line for SGBV activities at National and District level. In practice, however, funding for SGBV is spread in the different sectors including; social development, health, education and justice law and order sectors. Arising from the above, ensuring that the MDAs and the district allocate sufficient funds for handling SGBV and later on ensuring compliance to this allocation is complex and unattainable within the current situation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- This calls for concerted efforts to lobby Ministry of Finance to include SGBV activities in the chart of accounts so that they are reflected in the budgets and inclusion of budgeting for SGBV in the budgeting guidelines.
- Support to the community services departments in the districts to ensure effective coordination of all partners along the referral pathway this will lead to effectiveness in handling SGBV cases.
- There is need to advocate for support the planning unit to ensure that the district allocates resources to SGBV activities in their budgets and annual work plans.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY;

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