



Strengthening Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence in Kenya Programme

INTRODUCTION

Strengthening Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence (GBV) in Kenya is a € 6 million bilateral programme funded by the Governments of Finland and Kenya. **This programme (2022-2024) is designed to reduce GBV and other harmful practices – strengthening systems and structures at national level and in the counties of Bungoma, Kilifi and Samburu –**counties which were chosen due to their unique context, GBV concerns, and the goodwill demonstrated by their respective leadership:

- **Bungoma** has a population of over 2 million residents and is ranked 4th most populous in the country. A rapid review of GBV risk and vulnerability suggests that there are 23 high priority and 22 medium priority wards. The predominant forms of GBV include intimate partner violence (53%), defilement (12%), teenage pregnancy (12-16%), and female genital mutilation (FGM) in Mount Elgon Sub-county.
- **Kilifi** is a large coastal county with a population over 1.6 million. A rapid review of GBV risk and vulnerability suggests that there are 21 high priority and 16 medium priority wards. The predominant forms of GBV include child marriage (47%), intimate partner violence (39%), teenage pregnancy (20-24%), defilement (7%), and FGM among one of the minority groups in the county. While data is not widely available, incest, sodomy, and psychological violence were also noted as critical issues of concern.
- **Samburu** is in the arid and semi-arid lands of Kenya and covers over 21,000 km². It is the 9th largest county in the country and includes many remote hard-to-reach locations. A rapid review of GBV risk and vulnerability suggests that there are 11 high priority and 4 medium priority wards. The primary forms of GBV include FGM (86%), intimate partner violence (38%), teenage pregnancy (25-40%), defilement (7%), and child marriage (17%). There is low reporting of GBV across the county as much of the population do not interpret the behaviours to be problematic; much of the available data is likely under-reporting the full extent of the challenge.

Bungoma County	Kilifi County	Samburu County
Size: 3,032.4 km ²	12,370.8 km ²	21,022 km ²
Population: 2,040,343	Population: 1,690,018	Population: 399,378
12 sub-counties; 25 wards	9 sub-counties; 35 wards	3 sub-counties; 15 wards
149 villages	154 villages	108 villages
56% HH with water	68% HH with water	39% HH with water
4% HH with electricity	4% HH with electricity	0.7% HH with electricity
Languages: Luhya, Swahili	Languages: Mijikenda, Kiswahili	Languages: Maa, Kiswahili
Ethnic groups: Bakusu, Batura, Tachoni, Sabaot, Teso	Ethnolinguistic groups Chonyi, Giriama, Jibana, Kambe, Chonyi, Rabai, Kauma, Ribe, and Watha	Ethnolinguistic groups: Samburu, Tukana

This programme hopes to assist and protect those who are most vulnerable to GBV by strengthening capacity and improving coordination among duty bearers* while also increasing engagement of vulnerable groups, supporting empowerment of women and youth, while also mobilizing and inspiring champions – especially men and boys for lasting transformational change.

** In accordance with the Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA), this programme recognizes every human being as a rights holder and that every human rights claim has a corresponding duty bearer, namely an individual, or institution with an obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill human rights obligations. This programme seeks to be transformational by identifying the root causes of GBV and enabling duty bearers to meet their obligations. Thus, supporting rights holders to claim their rights.*

EXPECTED IMPACT:

GBV and other harmful practices reduced.

The overall goal of the programme is to contribute to Kenya's vision of eliminating FGM by 2024 and GBV by 2026, by strengthening the delivery of evidence-based interventions and improving access to quality prevention and response services – especially for the most vulnerable.

Expected outcomes of the Kenya-Finland Bilateral GBV Programme:

1

Improved capacity of duty bearers to identify, address, monitor and prevent GBV in the targeted counties.

2

Improved governance and coordination, policy implementation, strategic planning, and budgeting for GBV at national level and in the targeted counties.

3

Adequate and sustainable quality services and systems available in the targeted counties supported by effective national and county strategies and structures.

4

Increased levels of engagement of marginalized groups, and champions, to support GBV prevention and response.

OVERALL APPROACH/STRATEGY

The programme will support the country's own systems, strategies, policies, and plans at national and county levels, and strengthen the link between both levels of government. This includes strengthening multi-sectoral collaboration and leadership - working across the socio-ecological model to serve the most vulnerable groups, with the evidence-based interventions that are responsive to changing GBV risk/vulnerability and prevention opportunities in each county. This includes following a **human rights-based approach** – helping duty bearers across the socio-ecological model to prevent GBV, and to identify, address, and deliver survivor-centred support. This requires collective leadership, with simultaneous, complimentary efforts by individuals, peer networks, families, and communities. By **working at the system-level**, the programme is seeking transformational change, whereby duty bearers know and fulfill their responsibilities in the prevention and response chain, and by working with rights holders to advance gender equality, support empowerment of women, and youth, and promote local champions for violence-free homes, schools, and communities.

Beneficiaries – legal and moral duty bearers are the key beneficiaries of the programme. Legal duty bearers include the institutions, and elected or appointed officials that ought to respect, protect and fulfil human rights because the state has the overall responsibility for meeting human rights obligations. While Moral duty bearers include those that have the power to affect the lives of others – including parents, heads of household, companies, leaders and civil society organizations.

See proposed **Theory of Change** below:

If we improve the capacity of duty bearers to identify, address, monitor, and prevent GBV in the targeted counties;

And if we strengthen the system for coordinating GBV prevention and response at (and between) national and county levels;

By using data to inform multi-sectoral efforts, at the right time, in the right location, and for the most vulnerable groups;

By promoting and scaling evidence-based programming and services across the socio-ecological model;

And by mobilizing, inspiring, and supporting collective leadership and complimentary efforts to address the root causes of GBV;

Together with empowering women and girls, and promoting champions for violence-free homes, schools, and communities.

Then we can contribute to a reduction in GBV and other harmful practices.

Rights holders should ultimately benefit from this programme, with a focus on the individuals, families, and communities with the most vulnerability and risk to GBV, as systems and structures for prevention and response are improved.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES & ARRANGEMENTS:

At the national level, the State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action (SDfGAA) under the Ministry of Public Service, Gender, and Affirmative Action, along with the Technical Assistance Provider¹ selected by the Governments of Finland and Kenya, are responsible for the programme. However, the strategic leadership and decision-making is shared between the national level and the participating counties. Ultimately, this programme recognizes the advances made with the Intergovernmental Collaborative Framework (IGCF) on Gender - and will support both levels of government to fulfill their concurrent responsibilities.

RESOURCES

Finland* is contributing € 5million Euro (KES 626,003,505) and Kenya is contributing approximately € 1 million Euro (KES125,200,701) over the Inception and Implementation Phase of the programme. GOK's contribution includes both financing and in-kind support such as office and other facilities. The commitment of the Ministry of Public Service, Gender, and Affirmative Action is crucial to the successful implementation of the programme. The Ministry appoints a Programme Director for the programme and provides material and logistics support to the programme both at the national and county levels meaning office space with the IT facilities. The roles and contributions of other partners will be determined during the inception phase.

** Finland is also financing a complimentary programme led by Kenya Red Cross to strengthen awareness of communities on GBV, as well as to build capacity for prevention at county level; both programmes are actively collaborating to support lasting transformational change in the sector.*

COORDINATION & COOPERATION

This programme works within the platform of the respective Gender Sector Working Groups to strengthen multi-sectoral planning, collaboration, and action on GBV prevention and response - testing a new model for coordination that includes four key dimensions:

A New Model for Coordination with 4 Dimensions

- 1 Supporting duty bearers to prioritize and plan services in accordance with GBV risk/vulnerability and prevention opportunities in the county.
- 2 Providing technical assistance to duty bearers to adapt and deliver services in accordance with changing needs - survivor-centred services linked to primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention.
- 3 Promoting and supporting collective leadership on policy implementation, working across the socio-ecological model to engage families, peer networks, and communities.
- 4 Learning from multi-sectoral efforts through improved linkages between the national and county GSWGs, and between the county and ward GSWGs.

¹ NIRAS Finland is the Technical Assistance Provider selected for this programme. NIRAS is responsible for the recruitment of all programme staff and consultants, and home office coordination.

MANAGEMENT AND DECISION-MAKING

The programme management structure includes a Programme Management Team which is responsible for day-to-day implementation, and Steering Committee which serve as the supervisory body:

Steering Committee (SC) Mandate & Tasks

- Serves as the highest decision-making body for the programme
- Makes strategic decisions on the project scope and major changes in project design, financing, including changes in results, targets, budget, & management arrangements
- Reviews: (1) Project progress; (2) Risk assessment and response measures
- Approves: (1) Annual workplan & budget; (2) Progress and Financial reports – incl. audit reports; (3) Risk assessment & is responsible for response; (4) Programme Implementation Manual (PIM); (5) Terms of Reference (TORs)

Membership

- Principal Secretary, SDfGAA - Chair
- Head of Cooperation - Finland
- Chief Officer - Bungoma
- Chief Officer - Samburu
- Chief Officer - Kilifi

Meeting Frequency: Semi-annual meetings, or according to need. *Urgent approvals can be processed by official correspondence between members.*

Programme Management Team (PMT) Mandate & Tasks

- Responsible for the day-to-day management of the programme
- Prepares: (1) Annual plans and budgets; (2) Progress and financial reports; (3) Risk Assessments; (4) Terms of Reference
- Provides strategic input to guide the technical approaches, interventions, and targets, in accordance with the priorities, needs, and potential synergies at their respective location – this includes consulting their respective technical leadership as needed
- Updates the risk assessment and implements mitigation measures under its mandate
- Ensures organization of annual audits

Membership

- Programme Director
- Chief Technical Advisor
- Finance & Procurement Manager
- Directors Gender, Bungoma: National & County
- Directors Gender, Kilifi: National & County
- Directors Gender, Samburu: National & County
- County Coordinators: Bungoma, Kilifi, Samburu

Meeting Frequency: Monthly.

The PMT is proposing to use the Kiswahili phrase “Tutembee Pamoja” as a guiding slogan which translates as “let’s walk together” throughout the programme implementation. This phrase emphasizes the need for collaboration and coordination – highlighting to the need for State and County Authorities to work together, while also inviting parents, communities, and other programmes/initiatives to work with us in addressing and preventing GBV.

Tutembee
Pamoja

SUSTAINABILITY

This programme is an additional support to the GOK to achieve its policy objectives. Therefore, to the extent possible, the programme implementation will be integrated in the existing systems at national and county level to ensure sustainability.