

Europe and Central Asia

Prevention and elimination of violence against women



Alia El-Yassir
Regional Director of
Europe and Central Asia

21 June 2019



"What it means to be a kidnapped bride"

- Kyial's story

[Link to the video](#)



A Daily Reality in All Countries Europe & Central Asia no exception

- Central to SDG Agenda 2030
- Rising inequality, exclusion, discrimination & backlash (*Istanbul Convention*)
- Off-track from global commitments (*Beijing, CEDAW, SDG Agenda*)

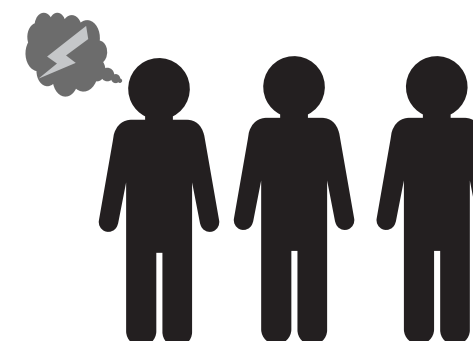
Recent Stats

1 in 2 women



experienced violence by intimate partners during their lifetime

1 in 3 men



think that beating a wife is acceptable

3 in 10 women



were sexually harassed since the age of 15

1 in 10 women



experienced cyber-harassment since the age of 15

A Positive Story: Our Collective Results

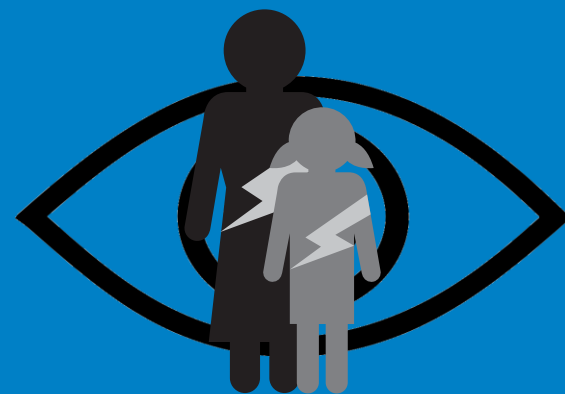
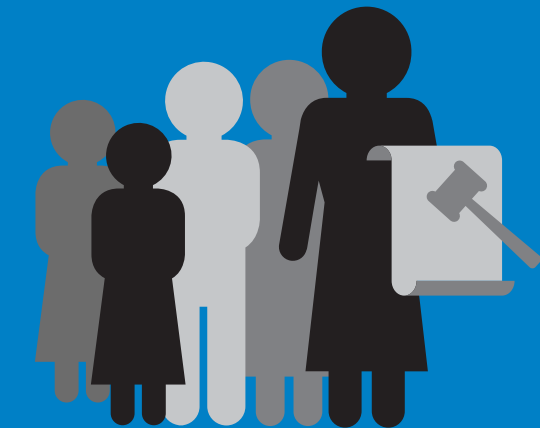


Strengthening legal/policy frameworks to prevent VAW

- 15 laws, 3 National Action Plans on VAW (9 countries)
- 250 women's organizations monitor & report on GE progress (6 countries)

Improving access to quality services

- 9,000 women with better access to justice, police services (6 countries)
- 1,600+ law enforcement officials provide justice to women/girls (7 countries)



Making violence and discrimination visible

- Evidence-based data on sexual harassment and violence (10 countries)

Changing discriminatory social norms & stereotypes

- 10,200 local champions - preventing VAW & addressing gender stereotypes (3 countries)
- 314 journalists practice gender sensitive reporting on incidents of VAW (3 countries)



Success Stories



1,100 refugee women benefited from protection & counselling services in Turkey

[Link to story](#)



*Young men help fight early marriages in minority communities in Kosovo**

[Link to story](#)

*Kosovo under UNSCR 1244



Rehabilitation for perpetrators of intimate partner violence in Georgia

[Link to story](#)



Making a Difference Our Solutions (2019 - 2021)

- Enforcing laws & policies
- Improving access to specialist services & safe spaces
- Promoting economic & social empowerment
- Generating evidence, knowledge & innovation
- Changing discriminatory social norms & stereotypes

Partnering with gov'ts, CSOs, youth, activists, private sector, media, men & boys, religious leaders, academia

UN Reform in Action

- **Improved planning & coordination**
UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, Issue-Based Coalition, Common Chapter
- **Joint advocacy & communication**
UNiTE, HeForShe, MeToo
- **Joint programming & funds**
Spotlight, SDG Fund



Partnerships & Support needed

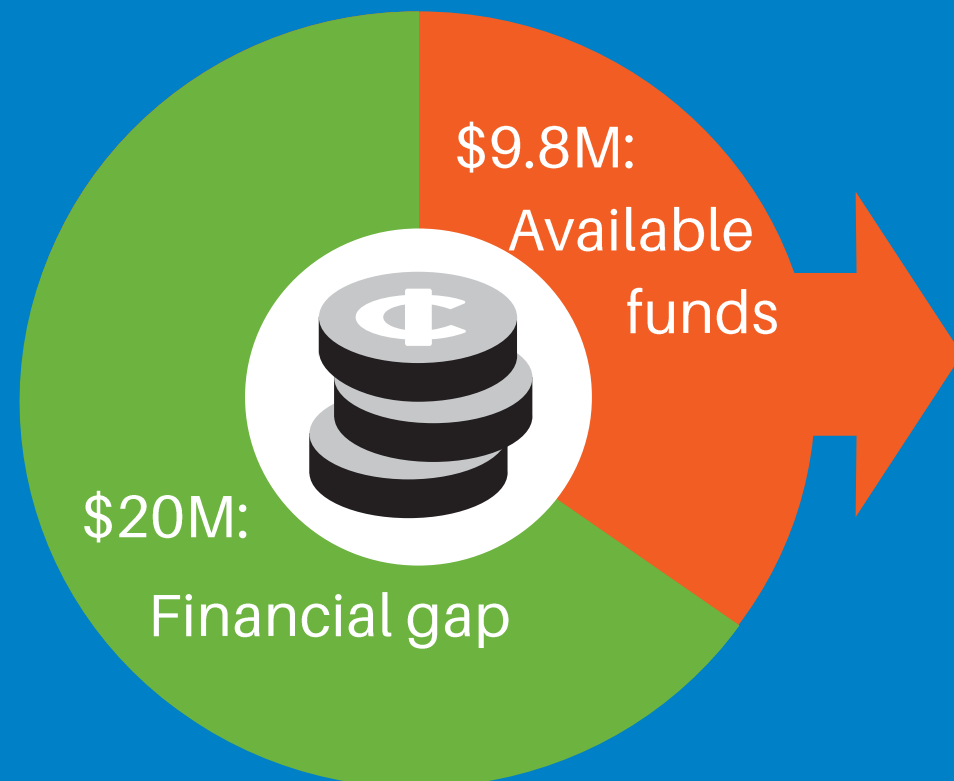
Cost of violence > Cost of response

\$352 billion in EU

\$1.5 trillion globally (2% GDP)



Investments 2019 - 2021



Thanks to our partners (regular & non-core)

UN Women top partners on VAW in the region: EU, Japan, Kazakhstan, Norway, Sweden, UK

- **Joint advocacy & results**

SDG Agenda +5, Beijing +25 & UNSCR 1325 +20, Istanbul Convention

- **Political support & champions**

- **Predictable & long-term investments**

- **Gender-Responsive Budgeting**



Thank you!