



STOP RAPE NOW

UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT

 www.stoprapenow.org

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UN Action is a **network of 21 entities**, united in the goal to end sexual violence during and in the wake of armed conflict. Created following the Brussels Call to Action, it was endorsed by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee and by Security Council Resolution 1820. UN Action is the only system-wide initiative employing a **survivor centred-approach** to work as **One UN** to:



Prevent Conflict-Related Sexual Violence



Enhance accountability



Meet the needs of survivors of sexual violence

The Challenge: Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

Widely regarded as “war’s oldest crime”, sexual violence remains a grim reality in today’s conflicts. It is frequently a conscious strategy employed on a large scale by armed forces as well as armed groups to humiliate opponents, shred societies, and destroy individuals. It is one of the only crimes for which a community’s response is more often to stigmatise the victim than to prosecute the perpetrator. A **grave violation of human rights and humanitarian law**, conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) is a **peace and security issue** that remains vastly under-addressed due to weak protection mechanisms, inadequate rule of law and judicial systems, and piecemeal services for survivors.

UN Action Supports the Solution

The scale and complexity of CRSV, coupled with poor coordination, has meant huge gaps in the global response. Thus, the creation of UN Action responds to calls from women’s rights organisations, NGOs, and survivors for the UN to provide a holistic response to CRSV. The Security Council specifically highlights UN Action as **the critical interagency coordination mechanism to address CRSV** in resolutions 1820, 1888, 1960, 2106, 2331, and 2467.

UN Action is chaired by the third **Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict** (SRSG-SVC) Ms. Pramila Patten. It is supported by a Secretariat located in the Office of the SRSG-SVC and governed by a Steering Committee consisting of Principals from the 21 UN member entities: CTED, DPPA, DPO, IOM, ITC, OCHA, OHCHR, OSRSG-CAAC, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNODA, UN Women, WHO, OSAPG, OSG’s Youth Envoy, OSRSG-VAC, UNOCT.

- 2006**
Brussels Call to Action
- 2007**
Establishment of UN Action
- 2008**
Resolution 1820
Launch of UN Action MPTF
- 2009**
Resolution 1888
Launch of "Get Crossed! Stop Rape Now!"
- 2010**
Resolution 1960
Appointment of first SRSG-SVC
Margot Wallström
First country-level
UN Action project (Chad)
- 2012**
Appointment of second SRSG-SVC
Zainab Bangura
- 2013**
Resolution 2106
- 2014**
First UN Action Donor's
Conference
- 2016**
Resolution 2331
- 2017**
Appointment of third SRSG-SVC
Pramila Patten
- 2019**
Resolution 2467
- 2020**
Launch of CRSV-MPTF
- 2022**
UN Action launches its Advocacy and
Fundraising Strategy to raise \$100
million by 2026

The UN's Secretary-General recommends Member States, donors, regional and intergovernmental organisations "to address chronic funding shortfalls for combating conflict-related sexual violence by providing predictable financial support to the conflict-related sexual violence multi-partner trust fund".

(2020 Report of the SG on CRSV, Recommendation 71.L)

Our ambition is to raise \$100 million by 2026.

In the first iteration of our Multi-Partner Trust Fund (2009 - 2019), UN Action implemented:

53 joint projects in 17 conflict-affected countries with \$22 million.

Building upon a decade of successes and lessons, UN Action launched **the Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Multi-Partner Trust Fund (CRSV-MPTF)** to support the implementation of our Strategic Framework (2020-2025). Although the COVID-19 pandemic has had far-reaching implications on the implementation of the CRSV agenda, as outlined in a Policy Brief (2020), UN Action adapted with speed to new ways of working demonstrating **agility, resilience, and commitment to innovation.**

Knowledge & Advocacy

Currently, UN Action is creating a first-of-its-kind Framework on the Prevention of CRSV, which will provide concrete guidance to affected countries pertaining to resolution 2467. The Network is also developing a common understanding on a survivor-centred approach.

UN Action is also re-invigorating the **#StopRapeNow** campaign as part of our advocacy efforts to raise awareness on CRSV and visibility of UN Action's projects.

UN Action has developed umbrella policies and technical guidance on CRSV, such as: the **Handbook and Policy for UN Field Missions on Preventing and Responding to CRSV**; **Strengthening the medico-legal response to sexual violence in conflict** and; the **Provisional Guidance Note on the Implementation on SC resolution 1960 on WPS (CRSV)**, including on the establishment of **Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Arrangements (MARA)**, which will be updated in 2022.

Our Projects

UN Action re-defined programmatic approaches and renewed its focus to support the realisation of formal commitments made by affected countries articulated through Joint Communiqués and Frameworks of Cooperations reached by the SRSG-SVC on behalf of the UN.

In **Lebanon, Jordan, and Iraq**, a programme currently jointly implemented by UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNFPA equips GBV services, including CRSV, with tools necessary to respond to the needs of survivors during the pandemic. It also works to reduce the stigma associated with GBV and CRSV as survivors are supported to re-integrate back into their communities.



IOM | Somalia, 2020

In **CAR, DRC, Côte d'Ivoire, and Iraq**, UN Action secured the deployment of Women Protection Advisors who are experts in supporting national institutions in adopting and implementing national strategies to address CRSV.



UN Photo | Jason Foonnten

In **Somalia**, our inaugural CRSV-MPTF project implemented by IOM and UNSOM provides women formerly associated with Al-Shabaab with essential services and empowers them to lead their communities to counter violent extremism.



UN Photo | Eskinder Debebe

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