



STOP RAPE NOW
UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT



**ANNUAL
PROGRESS
REPORT
2025**

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STOP RAPE NOW
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2025 Annual Progress Report



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BINUH	United Nation Integrated Office in Haiti
CAR	Central African Republic
CMR	Clinical Management of Rape
CRSV	Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
CRSV-MPTF	Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Multi-Partner Trust Fund
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CTED	United Nations Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate
DPPA	United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
DPO	United Nations Department of Peace Operations
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EU	European Union
FoC	Framework of Cooperation
GBV	Gender-based violence
IDP	Internally Displaced People
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
ISIL	Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant
ITC	International Trade Centre
JCs	Joint Communiqués
JPO	Junior Professional Officer
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex
MARA	Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements on CRSV



MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MINUSMA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MPTFO	UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPG	Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine
OSAPG	United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide
OSGEY	United Nations Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
OSRSG-CAAC	United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict
OSRSG-SVC	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
OSRSG-VAC	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children
PUNOs	Participating UN Organizations
RMC	Resource Management Committee
RSF	Rapid Support Forces
SALW	Small Arms and Light Weapons
SCC	Special Criminal Court
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-based Violence



SOGIESC	Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics
SRSR	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
SRSR-CAAC	Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict
SRSR-SVC	Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
SSNPS	South Sudan National Police Service
SVC	Sexual Violence in Conflict
S/WPA	Senior/Women Protection Adviser
TOE	UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict
TiP-S	Trafficking in Persons for Sexual Exploitation
TORs	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UN Action	UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict
UN Action MPTF	UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Multi-Partner Trust Fund
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDGC	United Nations Department of Global Communications
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan
UNITAD	United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability Against Da'esh/ISIL Crimes
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODA	United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs



UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organization
WFP	World Food Program
WPA	Women's Protection Adviser
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Against a backdrop of escalating violence, shrinking humanitarian space, and declining resources, in 2025, the United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Network (UN Action or the Network) demonstrated its comparative advantage in delivering integrated responses that **bridge humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding efforts**. Across all initiatives, survivors remained at the centre, shaping programmes, informing policy, and guiding service delivery, while national ownership and institutional capacity were prioritized to ensure sustainability and long-term impact.

At the global level, UN Action continued to function as a **unique strategic coordination platform**, uniting UN system efforts to comprehensively address conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), bringing together 27 member entities to align on 1. Advocacy for Action 2. Knowledge Building and 3. In-Country Operational Support.

At country level, UN Action delivered tangible, survivor-centred results in highly constrained environments. In **Sudan**, UN Action restored safe spaces and community-based protection mechanisms in Darfur, enabling tens of thousands of women and girls to access psychosocial care, clinical services, and livelihood support. Nearly 10,000 women, girls and community members were reached in West Darfur alone. These interventions combined urgent life-saving support with local capacity and resilience-building. As one participant in the livelihood support and economic

empowerment programme shared: *“After the training, I was able to start my own coffee shop. Now, I feel much stronger and more hopeful.”*

In **Ukraine**, UN Action delivered integrated support to 10,582 beneficiaries including survivors and service providers who were able to access rehabilitation and holistic services and capacity development programmes through locations such as Survivor Relief Centres (SRCs) and community service points. As one survivor who participated in the rehabilitation programme reflected: *“For the first time since everything happened, I felt safe in my body again—and not alone in what I carry.”*

A defining feature of UN Action’s work in 2025 was its investment in **survivor leadership and localization**. In Ukraine, more than 200 survivors contributed to national consultations on survivor-centred reparations. Targeted small grants and technical capacity support from UN Action enabled survivor’s networks to expand their reach and influence. As one survivor reflected: *“We are no longer invisible—we are organized, and we are heard.”* As part of its knowledge building pillar, the UN Action Network convened a Survivor-Centred CRSV Action Lab, which brought together over 30 stakeholders, including members of civil society, the UN and donors, to strengthen survivor-centred CRSV responses related to Myanmar.



Photo: Panzi Foundation/DRC Project



Photo: UN Action/Framework for the Prevention of CRSV



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission

Across diverse contexts, the UN Action Network has demonstrated the value of a **“One UN” approach**, bringing together complementary mandates and methodologies to deliver holistic responses spanning protection, prevention, healthcare, economic empowerment and enhanced monitoring and reporting. This proven approach has enabled survivors to progress from immediate support to longer-term recovery, while simultaneously strengthening national systems, institutions and ownership.

UN Action also strengthened its role as a **unique global knowledge hub**, supporting

350 practitioners and engaging with 46 Civil Society Organizations to enhance prevention and deliver survivor-centred approaches through the roll-out of guidance and practical tools, such as *The Framework for the Prevention of CRSV*. In 2025 the Network focused particularly on making initiatives more inclusive of LGBTQI+ individuals and groups facing multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination. These knowledge-building and dissemination efforts helped to translate global commitments into programmatic action to more effectively prevent and respond to CRSV.



In 2025 UN Action's work also contributed to **supporting Senior/Women's Protection Advisers (S/WPAs) in terms of resource mobilization and knowledge building**, which the UN Action Network has consistently undertaken since pioneering and conceptualizing the WPA function in 2009. Through technical capacity support, providing political advocacy platforms and structured opportunities for UN system-wide coordination, including in Myanmar, Sudan and Ukraine, UN Action enhanced the capacity of S/WPAs to galvanize the UN system, engage national counterparts, and drive coherent, survivor-centred responses. This ensured that field-level insights more effectively informed global advocacy and policy processes, and vice versa, reinforcing the system's overall impact.

Despite these achievements, challenges remain. Persistent insecurity, funding shortfalls, and institutional constraints continue to limit access to services and slow the pace of structural transformation, particularly at the local level for underserved populations. These constraints underscore the **need for sustained investment and continued system-wide coordination**.

Looking ahead, UN Action will deepen its role as a **global knowledge hub and strategic convener**, ensuring that lessons from the field are systematically captured, translated into practical guidance, and shared across contexts to inform more effective responses.

The next phase will place increased emphasis on localization and field-focused impact, including expanded support to survivor's networks, women-led organizations, and national actors. At the same time, UN Action will strengthen direct support to SWPAs and CRSV Focal Points, enhancing their capacity to lead coordination and provide technical expertise in complex and rapidly evolving environments.

UN Action will also undertake its strategic planning process for the next five-year period to ensure that the UN system anticipates risks, adapts to shifting conflict dynamics, and sustains impact despite constrained resources and deepening geopolitical divisions and backlash on gender equality. The UN Action Network is uniquely positioned to meet the UN80/humanitarian reset moment, as a system-wide platform with a proven track record of fostering synergy of action and leveraging comparative advantages for optimal efficiency, to galvanize normative commitments and translate them into coordinated, country-level action. Through these priorities, UN Action, with funds channelled through the CRSV-MPTF, will continue to serve as a flexible, catalytic mechanism by linking global leadership with localised delivery, and ensuring that survivor-centred approaches remain at the heart of the UN system-wide response.

Photo: UN Women/Mailee Osten-Tan



INTRODUCTION



UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict (UN Action) is a network of 27 UN entities¹ across the humanitarian-development-peacekeeping nexus united to address conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). The Network started in 2007 with a bold idea: to bring together the United Nations system, from peacekeepers to human rights experts to humanitarian aid providers, to tackle sexual violence in conflict as a serious peace and security issue. It was created following the Brussels Call to Action and was endorsed by the Secretary-General's Policy Committee and by Security Council Resolution 1820. In all relevant Security Council resolutions, notably 1820 (2008), 2331 (2016) and 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2467 (2019), the Security Council specifically highlights UN Action as the critical interagency coordination forum to address CRSV.

Since its inception, the Network has also enhanced capacity in the field to prevent and respond to CRSV. UN Action does so through a Multi-Partner Trust Fund, which has funded over 65 projects in conflict-affected countries, as well as regional and global initiatives.

UN Action is supported by a small, central Secretariat, works through a vibrant system-wide network of Focal Points and is governed by a Steering Committee,

consisting of the Principals from our members and strategically chaired by the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Ms. Pramila Patten.

Further, UN Action is the primary consultation forum for the annual Report of the Secretary General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (the Report). The Report serves not only as a public record of this crime, but also as a global advocacy instrument for driving the field of CRSV prevention and response forward. Annually, the Report brings new trends and patterns on CRSV to light, and additionally, serves as an information base and reference tool for strategic advocacy and enhanced operational response.

The overarching goal of UN Action is that CRSV is prevented, survivors' needs are met, and accountability of perpetrators is enhanced.

To do this, the Network employs a survivor-centred approach to comprehensively address CRSV across three pillars:

Advocacy for Action 2. Knowledge Building and 3. In-Country Operational Support.

Achievements under these pillars for 2025 are highlighted in the present Annual Report.

1. CTED, DPPA, DPO, ILO, IOM, ITC, OCHA, OHCHR, OSAPG, UN Office on Youth Affairs, OSRSG-CAAC, OSRSG-VAC, UNAIDS, UN-DGC, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UN Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDIR, UNOCT, UNODC, UNODA, UN Women, WFP, WHO.

REFERENCES TO UN ACTION AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN CONFLICT IN CRSV SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS SINCE 2008:

[Resolution 1820 \(2008\)](#)

*Welcoming the ongoing coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, marked by the inter-agency initiative “**United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict**,” to create awareness about sexual violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and, ultimately, to put an end to it.*

[Resolution 1888 \(2009\)](#)

*4. Requests that the United Nations Secretary-General appoint a Special Representative to provide coherent and strategic leadership, to work effectively to strengthen existing United Nations coordination mechanisms, and to engage in advocacy efforts, inter alia with governments, including military and judicial representatives, as well as with all parties to armed conflict and civil society, in order to address, at both headquarters and country level, sexual violence in armed conflict, while promoting cooperation and coordination of efforts among all relevant stakeholders, primarily through the inter-agency initiative “**United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**”.*

*5. Encourages the entities comprising **UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General and to continue and enhance cooperation and information sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response.*

*23. Urges relevant Special Representatives and the Emergency Relief Coordinator of the Secretary-General, with strategic and technical support from the **UN Action network**, to work with Member States to develop joint Government-United Nations Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence,*



in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and to regularly provide updates on this in their standard reporting to Headquarters.

*24. Requests that the Secretary-General ensure more systematic reporting on incidents of trends, emerging patterns of attack, and early warning indicators of the use of sexual violence in armed conflict in all relevant reports to the Council, and encourages the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special S/RES/1888 (2009) 09-53446 7 Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and the **Chairperson(s) of UN Action** to provide, in coordination with the aforementioned Special Representative, additional briefings and documentation on sexual violence in armed conflict to the Council.*

[Resolution 1960 \(2010\)](#)

*14. Encourages the entities comprising **United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to continue to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and to enhance cooperation and information-sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response.*

[Resolution 2106 \(2013\)](#)

*7. (...) and recognizes the role of **UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict** in facilitating coordinated responses of relevant peacekeeping, humanitarian, human rights, political and security actors and emphasizes the need for enhanced coordination, information sharing, analysis, response planning and implementation across these sectors.*

[Resolution 2467 \(2019\)](#)

*34. Recognizes the role of **United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict** as the interagency coordination forum chaired by the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to address this problem, and encourages the revision and continued development of innovative operational tools and guidance by **United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict**.*

Photo: UN Women/Pathumporn Thongking



SDG ACHIEVEMENTS

UN Action plays a vital role in supporting governments and civil society actors in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals including contributing to the achievement of the following SDGs:



By addressing violence against women and girls, empowering survivors of CRSV, and promoting women's leadership.



By ensuring survivors can access medical, psychosocial, and legal services essential for recovery.



By fostering accountability, reducing impunity for CRSV, and strengthening survivor-centred protection mechanisms.



By ensuring UN system wide coordination through the 27 UN entities that comprise the UN Action Network.

Photo: UN Environment Programme/Reza Shariar Rahman



ADAPTING TO AN EVOLVING CONTEXT

In 2025, according to information from the annual *Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence*, verified cases of CRSV increased significantly compared to the previous year, marked by heightened brutality and its systematic use across multiple contexts. CRSV continues to be deployed as a tactic of war, torture, terrorism, and political repression, with individuals deliberately targeted by both State and non-State actors. These trends are unfolding in a context of escalating conflict, shrinking humanitarian space, and declining resources, which are collectively constraining prevention, monitoring, and response efforts, while placing increased strain on the UN system's ability to deliver coordinated, survivor-centred action.

2025 also marked the sharpest contraction in humanitarian funding in a decade, with humanitarian appeals underfunded, the closure of hundreds of safe spaces and more than 1,000 UN supported health facilities and mobile teams shut down or at risk. Gender and protection systems — the backbone of CRSV prevention and response — have been disproportionately affected. For survivors, this translates directly into fewer confidential services, longer travel distances to care, reduced psychosocial support, and increased exposure to stigma and further harm.

Another defining feature of 2025 has been the entrenchment of CRSV within the political economy of conflict, including its use by armed groups and criminal networks to assert

territorial control, sustain operations, and exploit populations through trafficking, abduction, and forced marriage. These dynamics are evident across multiple contexts where UN Action operates, including the

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Myanmar, where sexual violence is systematically perpetrated during military ground operations, in detention settings, and in areas under contested control. In Haiti, the convergence of gang violence and trafficking has further illustrated the evolving nexus between insecurity and CRSV, requiring integrated, cross-sectoral responses.

At the same time, the operating environment for urgent action to address sexual violence has deteriorated significantly. In Sudan, where CRSV is a defining feature of the conflict, the collapse of health and protection systems, coupled with severe access constraints, has left survivors with limited or no access to life-saving services. Similar pressures are evident in South Sudan and Somalia, where funding shortfalls, insecurity, and service disruptions continue to erode already fragile response systems, underscoring the importance of sustained, coordinated UN support to national and local actors. Moreover, cuts to funding for humanitarian and GBV services directly undermine the UN's ability to safely monitor and document CRSV, as the loss of referral pathways means survivors cannot be directed to care, creating ethical barriers to monitoring.

Displacement remains both a driver and consequence of CRSV, with heightened risks across displacement trajectories. Women and girls continue to face acute exposure to sexual violence and trafficking in camps, transit routes, and border areas. In Ukraine, while progress has been made in strengthening national capacities and advancing survivor-centred approaches, ongoing hostilities and patterns of detention-related abuse demonstrate the continued need for integrated support across humanitarian, development, and justice pillars.

This backdrop underscores the critical importance of sustained political commitment, predictable financing, and strengthened system-wide coordination to deliver

survivor-centred, intersectional responses. UN Action's integrated approach, bridging humanitarian, development and peacebuilding efforts, remains essential to addressing these evolving dynamics and supporting Member States to translate global commitments into tangible protection and assistance for survivors.

In addition to its core support in coordinating UN system efforts to address CRSV, UN Action's work is focused on delivering tangible results in three strategic areas, namely: 1. Advocacy for Action 2. Knowledge Building and 3. In-Country Operational Support. Achievements under these pillars for 2025 are highlighted in the present Annual Report.



Photo: UNFPA/Mali Project



Photo: UN Ukraine/LGBTQI+ Workshop



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission



Photo: IOM/UN Action Somalia Project



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission



Photo: UNHCR/Sudan Project



Photo: UN Action/Uganda Project

Photo: UNMISS / Eric Kanalstein



RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2025



INITIATIVES RELATED TO OVERALL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION

UN Action has steadily grown in terms of its reach and capacity, from 12 UN member entities when it was founded in 2007, to 27 UN member entities today, spanning the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus. UN Action is chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC) and is governed by a Steering Committee consisting of Principals from the 27 member entities. In 2025, the Principal-level meeting of the UN Action Steering Committee provided an opportunity for the Network's membership to commit to stronger system-wide alignment, under the leadership of the SRSG-SVC as Chair of the Network. The meeting also served as a unique collective forum to discuss emerging trends on conflict-related sexual violence, as well as response strategies and endorse the findings and policy recommendations of the 17th annual Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, covering the period of January to December 2025.

The Network continues to be supported by an agile Secretariat, located in the Office of the

SRSG-SVC, which comprises: the UN Action Coordinator/ Senior Women's Protection Advisor, who, under the direct strategic leadership of the SRSG-SVC/Chair of UN Action, provides advice and policy orientation to the work of the Network in support of a coherent, comprehensive, and coordinated system-wide approach to preventing and addressing CRSV, bridging relevant sectors and actors, regularly conceptualizing and convening system-wide coordination meetings and political advocacy events with the donor and diplomatic community; a Deputy Coordinator/ Programme Management Officer who supports the UN Action Coordinator in delivering the Network's mandate and full implementation of UN Action's Strategic Framework and Work Plan; a Grants Management and Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, who manages the day-to-day implementation of UN Action's joint catalytic programmes in countries of priority concern, as well as resource mobilisation efforts, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) to demonstrate the impact of UN Action's activities



The Secretariat also includes a Knowledge Management Specialist, co-located at the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), who leads UN Action's knowledge-building team and activities as set out in the Network's Strategic Framework, including those relating to prevention. This year UN Action has expanded this pillar of our work through the recruitment of a second Knowledge Management Officer. The Secretariat includes a Programme Assistant who conducts essential administrative, financial, and programme operations to enable the Network and Secretariat to function smoothly. Co-funded by the Government of Italy, the Secretariat has also benefitted from the support of a Junior Professional Officer (JPO).

UN Action's monthly Focal Points meetings remain a strategic platform for driving progress on the Network's Workplan and ensuring coordination and information sharing on key thematic issues and geographical contexts, transcending institutional and sectoral silos. These meetings facilitate direct exchanges and consultations with key country counterparts, including S/WPAs and CRSV Focal Points, helping to bridge HQ, regional and field perspectives, fostering solidarity and synergy among stakeholders. Furthermore, these meetings provide a valuable opportunity to identify gaps in current efforts. A primary focus is on supporting the sustained and effective implementation of Joint Communiqués

(JCs), Frameworks of Cooperation (FoCs), and national strategies aimed at preventing and responding to CRSV, brainstorm solutions and develop actionable strategies to overcome obstacles. S/WPAs and UN Country Teams, who are at the forefront of implementing the CRSV mandate in the field, are encouraged to openly share the challenges they face, ensuring that the Network can provide targeted, responsive and field-focused support where it is needed most. Additionally, the monthly Focal Points Meetings not only foster stronger data and information-sharing, planning and coordination among UN entities, as well as relevant networks including the GBV AoR, but also provide a platform to amplify the perspectives and recommendations of S/WPAs, mission personnel, country teams and civil society partners. Moreover, the country and thematic focus of these meetings also promote deliberations around the patterns and trends collected by the Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Arrangements on CRSV (MARA), mandated by the United Nations Security Council, notably by leveraging the comparative advantages and data-sets of UN Action member entities which is pivotal in addressing CRSV comprehensively.

In 2025, UN Action convened ten system-wide Focal Points meetings that strengthened cross-regional coordination and information sharing, facilitated strategic discussions on emerging and ongoing crises, and ensured alignment around major events and



global initiatives. As new crises and conflicts continue to emerge, UN Action's Focal Points convened swiftly to exchange up-to-date and evidence-based information about CRSV reports and evolving trends. These discussions which regularly bring together over 30 participants from across the UN system result in concrete notes for the record, strengthen coordination on thematic and / geographically based initiatives and allow follow up from the UN Action Secretariat. They are essential for ensuring that UN Action member entities remain synchronized, and that system-wide advocacy addresses these urgent issues consistently and effectively. Specific situations, such

as emerging conflicts or crises, receive focused attention at these meetings whenever possible, ensuring that the Network is nimble and responsive. The table below illustrates some of these discussions, on specific thematic areas and geographical priorities, demonstrating how the Focal Points meetings serve as a dynamic, real-time coordination platform to bridge the upstream political/diplomatic perspective with the downstream humanitarian and protection response through coordinated engagements, resulting in concrete recommendations and directions for enhanced capacity and action.



Photo: UN Action/Jordan Project



Photo: UN Action/WPS Week Event



Photo: UN Action/Official Instagram



TEN UN ACTION FOCAL POINTS MEETINGS IN 2025

January

UN Action Collective Strategic Planning for 2025

The UN Action Secretariat provided a status update of the implementation of the UN Action Network's 2024 - 2025 Workplan, offering a space for collective reflection on key achievements in 2024 and an opportunity to plan the Network's strategic engagements throughout 2025.

In 2024, UN Action joint projects covered a wide range of situations, including Mali, Ukraine, Sudan and South Sudan. In addition key tools such as the Framework for the Prevention of CRSV has been translated into French, with a roll-out initiative taking place in Ukraine.

Knowledge was also shared through agency-led brown-bags including for example, by WHO on MHPSS. The Economic Empowerment core group launched a new webpage on the nexus of Economic Empowerment and CRSV. UNODC launched discussions on CRSV in the Digital Space in 2024 and is now working with UN Women to draft a policy paper on 'technology-facilitated CRSV', a new area of work for the Network.

February

Cross-regional country-focused discussions on the situation of CRSV in the DRC and in Syria

The UN Action Network collectively discussed political and humanitarian developments in the DRC and Syria, and their implications for the CRSV agenda, with a view to enhancing cohesion and coordination in the UN system response. Focal Points discussed key messages to inform political advocacy and engagements on these countries of concern, and the need for durable solutions to fill critical resource and capacity gaps.

In the DRC, the interagency GBV coordination mechanism developed messages to be disseminated at community-level to support survivors, facilitate disclosure, and ensure safe and ethical referral of survivors of sexual violence.

In Syria, UNDP conducted a gender-responsive conflict analysis, which spotlighted the issue of CRSV in the context of transitional justice, and aimed to ensure the inclusion of women in the transitional process and newly established governance structures.

April

Stocktaking of CSW69 / Beijing+30 and implications for the CRSV and wider WPS Agenda

Knowledge Building and the launch of the new UN Action Intranet

The UN Action Secretariat launched a new UN Action Intranet to enhance knowledge management and information-sharing. The initiative to create an online 'one-stop shop' for CRSV knowledge products, tools and resources was in response to the needs and requests of Focal Points, to enable Network collaboration in a simple and straightforward way, and to ensure information could be shared with desks and country-level counterparts in a seamless manner.

UN Women briefed on the key takeaways from CSW69, which took place from 10 to 21 March 2025, marking the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). The intergovernmental negotiations and numerous side-events brought into focus questions on how the UN system should strategize in the prevailing geopolitical climate to meet the needs, and realize the rights, of women and girls globally, while amplifying the voices of frontline civil society organizations and activists.



TEN UN ACTION FOCAL POINTS MEETINGS IN 2025

May

Cross-regional country-focused discussions on the situation of CRSV in Haiti and Myanmar

The UN Action Network adopted a cross-regional focus aiming to bridge political and humanitarian perspectives on the situations in Haiti and Myanmar, through an interactive exchange with the SWPAs in both settings, as well as a civil society briefer from Haiti. The meeting provided a space for the Network to agree on common advocacy priorities to increase visibility, garner additional funding, and encourage further action from the Security Council.

The SWPA, Haiti emphasized the critical role played by the MARA Working Group, stressing that adequately addressing sexual violence in Haiti requires the participation of all UN Country Team members in the MARA for a more robust UN system-wide response.

UN Women emphasized its support to local organizations closely connected to communities, women in IDP camps, and the national police. In collaboration with the Ministry of Women, UN Women is launching the Maison des Femmes initiative, which will provide safe shelters offering psychosocial and legal services, ensuring government ownership through close cooperation. The civil society briefer from OFAVA outlined the support provided through their safehouses and partnerships with UN Women and UNICEF on an income and cash-based initiative for survivors.

In Myanmar, UNFPA prioritizes access to adaptable and flexible services, primarily clinical management of rape (CMR) and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), as well as continuous consultation with women and girls to ensure their needs are met.

June

Country-focused discussions on the situation of CRSV in the Central African Republic (CAR) and Libya

Building on the cross-regional experience during the May Focal Points meeting, the UN Action Network focused on the situations in the CAR and Libya, through an interactive exchange with the SWPAs in both settings. The meeting also shed light on addressing CRSV in settings where peacekeeping and special political missions are present. The meeting aimed to maintain focus on, and support for, two contexts that have featured in successive annual Reports of the Secretary-General on CRSV for several reporting cycles, and to discuss strategic entry-points for the Network's engagement, including in the context of upcoming elections in both settings.

The SWPA in MINUSCA provided an update on the implementation of the 2019 Joint Communiqué, noting that the SRSG-SVC visited CAR in November 2023 to follow-up on the implementation of the agreement, which was followed by a technical visit paving the way for engagement with the Government toward eventual delisting of the FACA and the development of a national action plan to address CRSV under the auspices of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Reconciliation. However, progress on the implementation of the action plan has stalled. The SWPA noted that the development of a gender action plan for the FACA, led by the Minister of Defence, has overshadowed the specific action plan on CRSV and integrates CRSV concerns.

In the context of Libya, UNDP provided support to address electoral gender-based violence, especially through online platforms, by leveraging online monitoring tools and early-warning indicators, such as [AI-powered eMonitor+](#).



TEN UN ACTION FOCAL POINTS MEETINGS IN 2025

July

Regional discussion focused on the situation of CRSV in the Horn of Africa

The UN Action Network focused, for the first time, on a regional, cross-border overview of patterns and trends of CRSV across the Horn of Africa, including transboundary dynamics and drivers, through an interactive exchange with the regional SWPA, hosted in the UN Office to the African Union and in the Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa. In addition to sharing lessons learned and good practices from the deployment of a regional SWPA, the meeting shed light on two country contexts of acute concern in the region: Ethiopia and Somalia. The INGO Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) also briefed the Network. The country briefings surfaced common challenges and opportunities for a coordinated and coherent regional engagement addressing cross-border dynamics.

The SWPA African Union/Horn of Africa (AU/HoA) shared key lessons learned from her regional role, noting engagement with senior government officials and regional intergovernmental bodies to mainstream CRSV considerations into national and regional frameworks, as well as to emphasise the importance of prevention and early warning. Noting that the 2014 FoC signed between the UN and the African Union emphasised CRSV as a key concern in the region, the meeting provided an opportunity to take stock of where implementation had advanced or fallen short, distilling the enabling and restraining factors for future reference. This is part of UN Action's practice of providing a platform for outgoing SWPAs to share their experience, in order to consolidate an archive of knowledge (good practices and lessons learnt) to inform strategic and operational engagements moving forward.

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) presented the key findings of their shadow report submitted to the African Commission for Ethiopia's periodic review, which stemmed from the need for systematic documentation of the scale, scope, and patterns of CRSV in Ethiopia with a view to improving service coverage and ensuring accountability for these violations.

September

Country-focused discussion on CRSV patterns and trends in Ukraine

The UN Action Network collectively discussed CRSV prevention and response in Ukraine, in the context of the ongoing UN Action joint project. Focal Points received updates from the SWPA, the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission, and UNFPA Ukraine, highlighting the UN's collective and multisectoral support to the Government of Ukraine.

The SWPA outlined evolving CRSV trends, the UN Country Team's collective response, and key progress made through national partnerships. OHCHR provided updates on documented cases, strengthening the evidence base for advocacy and accountability. UNFPA Ukraine, on behalf of all joint project partners (WHO, UNFPA, IOM, UN Women, UNDP, and UNODC), shared progress and next steps to sustain coordinated prevention and response efforts.

The UN Action joint project in Ukraine aims to address gaps and needs relating to CRSV prevention and response. The first phase of the project, which is implemented alongside the Government of Ukraine, surpassed its target number of beneficiaries, reaching more than 2,220 as of November 2025. The project also reached key achievements in the areas of awareness-raising, legislation, policy, access and participation, with over 100 survivors interviewed by prosecutors with the assistance of psychologists, and seven survivor networks funded.



TEN UN ACTION FOCAL POINTS MEETINGS IN 2025

November

Country-focused discussion on the situation of CRSV in Myanmar

The UN Action Network collectively discussed the situation of CRSV in Myanmar. Briefings by the Regional SWPA, UN Women Myanmar, and the UNFPA GBV AoR

Coordinator in Myanmar shed light on the situation faced by local organisations, including women's rights organisations, who, despite significant challenges, continue to support survivors and affected communities. The meeting also addressed gaps in service provision in Myanmar, particularly in areas where access is impeded.

As part of its knowledge building pillar, the UN Action Network convened a Survivor-Centered CRSV Action Lab, which brought together over 30 stakeholders, including members of civil society, UN and donors, to strengthen survivor-centred CRSV response related to Myanmar.

The Regional SWPA stressed that the Survivor-Centred CRSV Action Lab was an initiative that enabled participants to share and enhance knowledge and perspectives, build and strengthen partnerships and identify practical ways to strengthen survivor-centred, gender-transformative and intersectional CRSV responses. The UN Action Secretariat contributed technical expertise, including global examples, tools and resources, that gave greater impact and visibility to the work of the Regional SWPA team.

December

Collective reflections on key achievements of the UN Action Network in 2025 and on the development of the forthcoming 2026–2030 Strategic Framework

The UN Action Secretariat presented key 2025 achievements of the Network, in line with its three structural pillars – Advocacy for Action, Knowledge Building, and In-Country Operational Support – alongside ongoing coordination and resource mobilization efforts, while outlining priorities and planning for 2026. The UN Action Network collectively took stock of its achievements against the five-year Strategic Framework for UN Action, which ran from 2020 till 2025, and collectively discussed priorities for the development of the forthcoming UN Action 2026 – 2030 Strategic Framework.

The UN Action Secretariat presented a comprehensive overview of the Network's 2025 achievements, underscoring how coordinated and joint activities have delivered strong results and support for S/WPAs and other CRSV focal points in the field, despite a challenging political and funding environment across the sector. Network members were encouraged to reflect on strategies to sustain, consolidate, and build on these gains in the year ahead to sustain the momentum.

The Secretariat stressed that the Network's results were achieved through collective action and that no single actor or sector could deliver this impact alone. In 2025, members advanced joint projects, developed knowledge products and implemented capacity-building initiatives, in addition to welcoming UNIDIR as a new member. It also explored nexus issues such as counter-terrorism, arms control, food security, cybersecurity, and climate change.



Strategic Support for High-level Visits by the SRSB-SVC/Chair of UN Action and Updates:

Given the extensive reach of the 27-member Network across Headquarters and within the United Nations Country Teams, the monthly Focal Points meetings of UN Action were also used as a platform for entities to support the preparation for, and share the outcomes of, the high-level field visits conducted by the SRSB-SVC/Chair of UN Action, as well as the technical visits conducted by the UN Action Secretariat and partners. In 2025, the Focal Points contributed actively to these missions, such as those to the DRC, Sudan, and Ukraine, notably by providing background information from their respective field colleagues. Upon returning from these missions, colleagues who had accompanied the SRSB-SVC/Chair of UN Action briefed the Focal Points on the key outcomes, findings and challenges, recommending ways forward to ensure coherent and coordinated UN engagement that bridges political advocacy with country-level action and impact, while building knowledge and socializing normative and policy frameworks across the UN system.

UN Action Network Growth

In 2025, the UN Action Network expanded from 26 to 27 UN member entities with the addition of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR). This addition is a clear recognition of the intersection between CRSV prevention, arms control and disarmament, and

the role that the proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) play in enabling CRSV. The interlinkages between arms control and disarmament tools and instruments and the prevention of CRSV have gained increased attention, notably through UNIDIR's research entitled [‘Addressing Weapons in Conflict-related Sexual Violence: The Arms Control and Disarmament Toolbox’](#), which revealed that approximately 70% to 90% of CRSV incidents are reported to involve the use of weapons, particularly firearms, as amplified by UN Action's advocacy to strategic audiences such as the UN Security Council and wider donor and diplomatic community.

Deepening Country-Level Coordination, Cooperation and Capacity

UN Action continued to deepen its support at the country-level, particularly in the areas of enhancing coordination and bolstering capacity, including as part of efforts to action the recommendations from the mid-term evaluation of UN Action's Strategic Framework. This evaluation found that while UN Action's work has laid critical groundwork for sustainable, nationally owned approaches to CRSV, it recommended consolidating these efforts by strengthening local partnerships, meaningfully engaging survivor's networks, and reinforcing technical support to field actors to ensure that interventions are durable and impactful.



In response, UN Action conducted consultations with S/WPAs and CRSV Focal Points across the system, to build tailored support packages based on needs and demands expressed across a wide range of conflict-affected countries.

As a result, UN Action convened and co-led, with the Regional SWPA a Survivor-Centred CRSV Action Lab, which brought together over 30 stakeholders, including members of civil society, UN and donors, to strengthen survivor-centred CRSV response related to Myanmar.

Through funding from the CRSV-MPTF, in South Sudan, in June 2025, UNMISS, DPO and the OSRSG-SVC, with substantive support from UN Action Secretariat, strengthened UNMISS Force's 'patrols to combat CRSV' (PTCCs). This practice aims to prevent and deter CRSV by integrating CRSV-specific risk analysis into patrol planning, conduct and follow-up while promoting an integrated mission approach. As part of the mission, the Military Expert of the OSRSG-SVC led a "table-top exercise" that specifically engaged military personnel to strengthen operational responses to CRSV.

In August, in Sudan, UN Action led consultations with the GBV AoR on CRSV, and delivered foundational training on CRSV concepts, as well as practical approaches to prevention and response. The UN Action Secretariat proactively mobilized resources

from Sweden to rebuild the CRSV infrastructure in Sudan, following the drawdown of the Mission, through the recruitment of a highly-qualified SWPA who will lead the UN system's efforts in coordinating CRSV, enhancing capacity, and re-establishing the MARA Working Group. The SWPA is based in the RCO, housed by UN Action member entity UNHCR, and provides direct advice and support to the RC/HC as the most senior UN official in country, in line with SCR 2467 (2019).

In December, UN Action partnered with UN Ukraine, Outright Ukraine, and Projector Ukraine to host a peer-to-peer learning initiative in Kyiv focused on how CRSV impacts the Ukrainian LGBTQI+ community, particularly in territories temporarily under Russian Federation occupation.

Efforts continued throughout the year in other contexts of concern, for example, in Haiti, UN Action supported the SWPA to build a participatory project of United Nation Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), UN Women, and IOM alongside key civil society partners and embarked on joint resource mobilization to scale-up multisectoral assistance to survivors.



UN ACTION PILLAR 1: IN-COUNTRY OPERATIONAL SUPPORT



In line with [Security Council resolution 2467 \(2019\)](#), UN Action's approach ensures that all supported actions are meaningful for, and designed around the needs and desires of CRSV survivors. Central to its resourcing priorities is that all projects funded must clearly articulate a survivor-centred approach, address the root causes of CRSV, contribute to prevention, foster national ownership and institutional capacity, and ensure sustainability².

Through the CRSV-MPTF, in 2025, UN Action implemented joint, catalytic projects in Sudan and Ukraine.

Mitigating Risks and Enhancing the Response to CRSV in Sudan

Between April 2024 and April 2025, UNFPA and UNHCR, with coordination support from the UN Action Secretariat, carried out a one-year initiative in West and Central Darfur to mitigate risks and strengthen the response to GBV, including CRSV. The project sought not only to provide life-saving services in the midst of conflict, but also to build sustainable, community-based structures that could continue to protect women and girls beyond the project cycle.

The project was implemented against a backdrop of acute insecurity. In Central Darfur,

Zalingei city endured intermittent aerial bombardments, persistent banditry and collapsed rule of law. In West Darfur, tribal conflict, looting and the entry of Rapid Support Forces (RSF) troops heightened fear and instability. Within this environment, women and girls were disproportionately exposed to violence and deprived of safe access to essential services. It was under these conditions that the project partners sought to restore dignity and safeguard access to health care, protection and livelihoods.

A central achievement of the project was the creation and rehabilitation of safe facilities for survivors. In West Darfur, a confidential corner within Geneina Maternity Hospital was restored to provide a discreet entry point for survivors of sexual violence to receive psychosocial support and clinical management of rape (CMR). In Central Darfur, the Multi-Purpose Community Center in Zalingei was refurbished and re-opened, managed by a committee representing both displaced and host communities, to ensure inclusive oversight. These spaces became lifelines for thousands, offering care, counselling and protection in environments otherwise marked by violence and fear.

2. Funding decisions are made by the Resource Management Committee (RMC), a subset of Network Focal Points, based on a rigorous set of funding criteria. Following a comprehensive OIOS audit, the Network updated the Operational Guidance Note of the RMC to accommodate situations in which RMC Members are also PUNOs of projects under consideration. In these instances, additional members from the network are invited to participate in the RMC to ensure quorum and maintain adequate representation.



Alongside infrastructure, the project invested heavily in capacity building. In West Darfur, 90 healthcare providers were trained in CMR, while in Zalingei, 35 service providers received similar instruction. Pre- and post-training assessments showed a dramatic rise in knowledge [on the specific handling of CRSV cases], with average test scores climbing from 19% to more than 83%.

GBV coordination mechanisms were strengthened through 14 Area of Responsibility meetings and workshops for more than 160 service providers, embedding a survivor-centred approach and adherence to international standards. These efforts addressed the acute pressure created by the conflict-driven displacement of previously trained staff and the urgent need to equip frontline responders with the skills required to support survivors safely and effectively.

Community engagement was another hallmark of the project. Community-Based Protection Networks were established and supported in both states, bringing together teachers, midwives, women and young people from the community to disseminate messages, identify risks and support survivors in accessing care. **In West Darfur, 45 members were trained to conduct outreach and safe referrals, while in Central Darfur, 35 members in Zalingei and Um Shalaya camp were capacitated to deliver awareness and protection activities.**

Awareness campaigns reached tens of thousands, including 17,389 people in West Darfur and 3,582 in Central Darfur,

challenging harmful practices such as early marriage and female genital mutilation and opening space for dialogue about the often-overlooked experiences of men and boys as survivors of CRSV. The campaigns, especially those linked to the 16 Days of Activism against GBV and International Women's Day, generated a surge in demand for services; regular awareness raising and mass outreach campaigns significantly increased the number of women and girls able and willing to access safe spaces, in a context where insecurity, stigma, broken referral pathways, and lack of information pose barriers to care.

Psychosocial support and livelihood assistance were equally central to the results achieved. In Central Darfur, 2,563 people accessed psychosocial services through the MPCC, while in West Darfur nearly 10,000 women and girls benefited from counselling, case management and recreational activities.

Women were trained in Psychological First Aid, equipping them to respond in emergencies. Vocational training and small-scale business support gave survivors new avenues for income. **In Central Darfur, 20 women completed an eight-day workshop on perfume production and business skills, while in West Darfur, 24 women, including survivors and women with disabilities, learned marketing and business management skills and were supported with start-up grants.** As one participant explained, *“After... vocational training on marketing at the Women and Girls' Safe*



Space, I was able to start my own coffee shop. Now, I feel much stronger and more hopeful.”

The impact of these services is best captured in the voices of women who used them. **One woman described the women and girls’ safe space as “like a second home where I can share my worries and find strength to carry on.”** Another, who lost her husband during fighting in 2023 and was left to care for four children, said that vocational training allowed her to earn a living and feed her family: *“Your support made a real change in my life.”* A pregnant woman recounted how the support of a midwife at the safe space ensured she could carry her pregnancy safely, despite the risks of moving through checkpoints and sporadic gunfire: *“Thanks to their support, I was able to have my baby girl safely at home... They truly supported us when we needed it most.”*

Challenges inevitably marked implementation, from seasonal flooding that cut off access to Azum locality for weeks, to interference by local authorities seeking to use rehabilitated facilities for political purposes, and bureaucratic barriers imposed by armed actors. Yet through negotiation, third-party monitoring and creative adaptation, UN Action partners were able to maintain services and reach the most vulnerable.

Ultimately, the project reached tens of thousands of people directly, restored critical services, and built the foundations for lasting community protection. Its sustainability rests on the local ownership embedded

in community-based protection networks, safe space committees and trained service providers who will continue to provide support. Above all, the initiative demonstrated that even in the midst of conflict, investments in protection structures, survivor-centred services and women’s livelihoods can yield tangible results. It fostered resilience, dignity and hope, while laying the groundwork for expanded support to other conflict-affected areas of Sudan, which UN Action is poised to implement moving forward.

In Ukraine, amid intensified hostilities, widespread service disruptions, and deepening humanitarian need, the ***UNited Action to Empower Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence*** project—implemented jointly by UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, UNODC, IOM, and WHO—remained a critical lifeline for survivors. This project is UN Action’s largest to date in both scope and scale. Initiated in 2023, it will run until 2026, after which a second phase of the project will be launched.

Even as funding cuts across the sector forced the closure of essential GBV entry points and left many women-led organizations struggling to sustain operations, the project ensured continuity of care, delivering survivor-centred, multi-sectoral services, while advancing systemic reforms. **In 2025, 10,582 individuals directly benefited from project interventions, including survivors, frontline responders, and service providers, reflecting both the scale and urgency of the response.**



At the individual level, the project delivered tangible, life-changing support to survivors navigating complex trauma and disrupted systems. **Through UNFPA-led rehabilitation programming, implemented in partnership with survivor networks and specialized service providers, and UNDP-led psychological accompaniment, implemented jointly with prosecutors, 160 survivors (including 69 men and 87 women) and 18 of their children received direct assistance through psychological counselling, rehabilitation, and tailored support services.** Four structured rehabilitation retreats, three for women survivors and one pilot for families provided integrated care including trauma therapy, medical support, and case management, alongside continued follow-up through peer support and referrals. **As one participant shared: “For the first time since everything happened, I felt safe in my body again—and not alone in what I carry.”**

For male survivors whose experiences are often under-recognized, the project, with strong support from IOM and UNFPA, created space for visibility, peer connection, and engagement. Through consultations, support to emerging male networks, and tailored programming, survivors began to organize and participate more actively in shaping responses. **One male survivor reflected: “For a long time, I thought what happened to me had no place to be spoken. Being here, with others who understand, changed that. It gave me a way forward.”**

Survivor Relief Centres (SRCs) and service delivery points strengthened through IOM, UNFPA and WHO interventions continued to serve as critical entry points for care, particularly in frontline and high-risk areas. These centres enabled survivors to access integrated medical, psychosocial, and legal support through improved referral pathways and strengthened service capacity. In complement, IOM-supported Resilience Centres expanded safe, community-based spaces for CRSV survivors and other war-affected individuals, helping to bridge critical service gaps in underserved areas.

Access to justice was significantly strengthened through UNDP, UNODC, and IOM interventions. Psychologists deployed by UNDP, including those embedded within the Office of the Prosecutor General’s Coordination Centre, **accompanied survivors during investigative interviews, directly supporting over 150 survivors and their family members.** This reduced re-traumatization and improved survivors’ ability to participate in legal proceedings. **As one practitioner reflected: “When survivors are supported through every step, they are no longer just witnesses—they become active participants in justice.”**

At the same time, UN Women, in partnership with JurFem and other civil society actors, expanded access to legal assistance at the community level. **A network of trained paralegals—including survivors—provided over 150 consultations and referrals, enabling**



Photo: UN Action/Sudan (April 2025)

survivors to navigate services and pursue their rights even in remote or conflict-affected areas. These efforts were reinforced through digital tools, offering confidential and accessible entry points to support.

The project also made a measurable impact in strengthening frontline service delivery.

Across sectors, 2,904 professionals, including healthcare providers, prosecutors, police officers, legal aid lawyers, and social workers, were provided training in survivor-centred responses to CRSV at the community level; sensitive, ethical, confidential, and dignified treatment of CRSV survivors; sensitive communication for enhanced survivor-centred legal support and referrals; concepts of Trafficking in Persons for Sexual Exploitation (TiP-S), including in relation to cyberspace, and its CRSV dimension; GBV case management; trauma-informed



Photo: UN Action/Sudan (April 2025)

and survivor-centred investigation of CRSV amongst others.

The WHO and UNFPA led efforts to strengthen healthcare system responses, while UNODC and UNDP supported justice sector capacity-building, and UN Women strengthened the capacities of civil society and first responders, **reaching over 5,000 frontline actors.** These efforts translated directly into improved survivor experiences. **As one frontline provider noted: “Before, we didn’t always know how to respond. Now we know how to listen, how to support, and how to act without causing harm.”**

Innovation driven across agencies continued to expand access and system coherence. IOM supported the development and handover of a government-owned digital referral platform, while WHO’s CMR ExpertGuide provided



ongoing mentorship to healthcare providers. UN Women-supported digital tools and campaigns expanded access to legal information and prevention resources. **Prevention and awareness-raising initiatives reached over 500,000 people, while national communication campaigns reached millions, ensuring that survivors had access to information and services regardless of location.**

Survivor participation remained central across all agencies. **Through IOM-led consultations and broader inter-agency efforts, more than 200 survivors were engaged in shaping reparations frameworks and service delivery approaches.** At the same time, UN Women and partners ensured that survivor networks were actively **engaged as co-creators, trainers, and advocates.** **As one participant noted: “This is the first time someone asked what we need—and meant it.”**

At the community level, investments in localization translated into stronger, more sustainable support systems. **All eight registered survivor networks in Ukraine were actively engaged, with three new male survivor networks established. Importantly, two female survivor networks received targeted small grants through UN Women, alongside mentorship and institutional support, strengthening their ability to deliver services and engage in advocacy.** **These efforts enabled survivor networks to evolve into structured civil society actors. As one**

survivor reflected: “We are no longer invisible—we are organized, and we are heard.”

A defining strength of the project in 2025 was its ability to operate as **One UN**, bringing together the comparative advantages of each participating agency into a coherent and mutually reinforcing response. UNFPA anchored survivor-centred service delivery and rehabilitation; UN Women advanced localization, survivor leadership, and prevention of technology-facilitated violence; UNDP strengthened justice systems and institutional frameworks; UNODC contributed specialized expertise on trafficking and rule of law; IOM led on survivor consultations, reparations, reintegration, and digital referral systems; and WHO ensured alignment with international standards in health system responses. This integrated model enabled the project to bridge humanitarian, development, and justice interventions—ensuring that survivors could move more seamlessly from immediate support to longer-term recovery, while strengthening national systems in parallel. All agencies are active participants in the UN-system wide MARA Working Group and the Government-UN co-led Interagency Working Group on CRSV, which coordinates the activities that support the implementation of the Framework of Cooperation on Prevention and Response to CRSV in Ukraine, initiated by the UN mandate-holder in 2022.

Over the course of 2025, the project combined direct support with long-term system strengthening. By placing survivors at the centre



of every intervention, it not only responded to urgent needs, but helped to lay the foundations for a more resilient, inclusive, and accountable response system in Ukraine.

Looking ahead, these achievements provide a strong foundation for the next phase of programming. **Phase II of the UNited Action project** will deepen this integrated approach, scaling up survivor-centred services in frontline and under-served areas whilst further bolstering capacity and transferring responsibility to national actors. Building on the complementary strengths and comparative advantages of each UN Action member entity, Phase II will expand investments in rehabilitation, justice, digital innovation, and survivor-led action, ensuring that both immediate needs and long-term recovery pathways are addressed.

Monitoring Visit

The UN Action Secretariat undertook a monitoring mission to Ukraine from 3 to 15 December 2025 to assess progress in the final stage of project implementation, identify key achievements, challenges and lessons learned, and engage on sustainability and the next phase of support. The mission team engaged with PUNOs, national and local government counterparts, donors, CSO implementing partners and survivor's networks, as well as conducting site visits to project-supported locations in Kyiv, Borodyianka, Chernivtsi, Lviv and Uzhhorod. The UN Action Secretariat also brought together donors for a candid discussion with PUNOs, CSO partners and survivor's

networks, who also later accompanied the donor group for a visit to one of the Survivor Relief Centres located in Borodyianka.

Overall, the mission found that the project had matured significantly since the previous monitoring visit in July 2024, having moved beyond an initial catalytic phase to now contribute visibly to a broader ecosystem of CRSV prevention and response in Ukraine. The project has supported policy and legislative development, strengthened access to survivor-centred services, enabled training and technical tools across sectors, elevated survivor's networks, and enhanced donor and government confidence in a coordinated UN response. The mission also found that the project's flexible and coordinated approach has been especially valuable in a context marked by shifting conflict dynamics, institutional turnover, evolving survivor needs, and a highly constrained funding environment.

A number of achievements were particularly notable. PUNOs and partners reported progress on survivor-centred medical standards, legal and policy frameworks related to CRSV and trafficking in persons, support during the interim reparations process, and the development of knowledge products and digital tools such as on self-care. The project has also contributed to stronger national and local service delivery through SRCs, holistic rehabilitation programmes, legal aid support, awareness-raising campaigns and targeted training for justice, health, security, social service and media actors. At the same time,



Photo: UN Ukraine/Visit to the Survivor Relief Center



Photo: UN Ukraine/Visit to the Survivor Relief Center



Photo: UN Ukraine/Visit to the Survivor Relief Center



Photo: UN Action/Visit to the Survivor Relief Center

some of the project's most important results are qualitative in nature, including deepening trust between survivors and service providers, enhancing local coordination for a holistic response, and the emergence of strengthened survivor's networks (both male and female) as meaningful actors in peer support, advocacy and policy expertise.

Field visits strongly reaffirmed the value of SRCs and as trusted entry points for assistance. In each location visited, staff described how confidentiality, gradual trust-building and tailored psychosocial and case management support are

often essential before survivors will disclose CRSV experiences or engage with longer-term legal and reparative processes. This was particularly evident in relation to male survivors, former prisoners of war (POWs), civilians formerly held in captivity, and persons whose experiences were initially identified under other categories, such as torture or trafficking. The mission therefore reaffirmed that access to quality services is not only an end in itself, but often a prerequisite for rehabilitation, access to justice, and holistic healing.

The mission also found that support to survivor networks has become one of the project's



most significant areas of impact. Survivors and partners repeatedly described the importance of flexible support, mentoring, rehabilitation and small grants in helping survivor-led groups organise, formalise, expand their reach, and participate more confidently in public policy and technical spaces. At the same time, they stressed that these gains remain fragile and require continued support if survivor networks are to remain active, protected and institutionally sustainable.

However, challenges remain, particularly as the response continues to transition from project-based interventions to more fully institutionalised system-wide response. Progress at the local level is still evolving, with variations in the consistency of referral pathways and municipal ownership. At the same time, stakeholders noted that specialised services are operating under increasing financial pressure, reflecting broader funding constraints across the humanitarian and protection landscape.

Initiatives to support access to justice are advancing but continues to be shaped by a number of procedural and institutional factors, including the need to further strengthen witness protection mechanisms, ensure consistent implementation of existing legal frameworks, and address the practical implications of Ministry of Health Order 278, which requires mandatory reporting by medical professionals on sexual violence crimes.

Stakeholders also highlighted opportunities to further expand the reach of current systems

to better serve specific groups, including male civilians and POWs released from Russian captivity, children born of CRSV, and survivors in rural, remote and frontline areas. Addressing these gaps will be important to ensure that the response becomes more inclusive, consistent, and accessible across all contexts.

The mission concluded that the project has made important and unique contributions to the CRSV response architecture in Ukraine. It has demonstrated the value of a coordinated, survivor-centred and multi-sectoral model that combines service delivery, capacity building, rehabilitation, policy support, knowledge generation and survivor leadership across all areas outlined in the joint UN – Government of Ukraine FoC. The next phase of support should focus on consolidating and institutionalising these gains, while addressing remaining gaps in terms of justice and reparations pathways, survivor participation, stigma mitigation, and long-term sustainability of prevention and response efforts, anchored in locally-owned initiatives that are purposefully led by the Ukrainian government and civil society, particularly survivors.



Holistic Healing in Ukraine

In Ukraine, as part of a comprehensive programme covering priority areas such as legal aid, life-saving services and psychosocial support, UN Action and its partners co-developed and implemented an intensive and holistic recovery retreat for survivors of CRSV. Here survivors found not only treatment but a community of care. Over three cycles, thirty-six women were welcomed into a safe and nurturing retreat co-created by UNFPA, SEMA's survivor network, the Aurora platform for mental health, the Ukrainian government, and local partners. The program allowed mothers to bring their children when needed, ensuring family responsibilities were never a barrier to recovery. Here, healing was holistic—medical care, psychotherapy, psychoeducation, and case management were combined with warmth, dignity, and solidarity. “The most important part,” explained Lyudmyla, a participant, “was being surrounded by warmth and love. My mood lifted, I feel more energized, and I met like-minded people determined to overcome challenges.”

The retreat's design placed survivors at the centre, ensuring every detail reflected their needs and voices. Participants were guided not only through medical and psychological recovery but

also through navigation of essential services, from legal aid to interim reparations. The support did not end with their stay: bi-monthly online groups helped sustain emotional resilience, while case managers continued to walk alongside women after their return home. The impact was profound—diagnostic screenings showed significant decreases in PTSD, depression, and anxiety, but beyond the data, the women themselves testified to the change. As Lyudmyla shared, “*The knowledge I gained is truly valuable... learning about psychology was especially meaningful.*”

For many, the retreat marked the beginning of a renewed life. “*They inspired us to live and take action despite what we, as women, have endured,*” said Lidiya, a participant from Kherson. “*They taught us to embrace life, build confidence in the future, develop resilience, and hold on to hope. I must also acknowledge the high-quality medical care and comfortable accommodation.*”

Her gratitude echoed across the group: thanks to this survivor-led model, healing became a lived reality. The retreat is not just a place of recovery, but a powerful example of what is possible when survivors shape the response: a model of empowerment, solidarity, and hope that can be scaled to reach countless others still waiting for their chance to heal.



Photo: Numo Sestry x UN Women/Anton Tkachenko



Photo: UNFPA Ukraine/Ukraine Project



Photo: UN Ukraine/Visit to the Survivor Relief Center



Photo: UNFPA Ukraine/Ukraine Project

Photo: UN Women/Sayed Habib Bidell



**UN ACTION PILLAR 2:
KNOWLEDGE BUILDING**



UN Action serves as the global knowledge hub for the UN system and the wider community of practice on CRSV. Through a project funded by the European Union Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), UN Action leverages the expertise, experience, and access of its member entities to develop and disseminate knowledge on CRSV topics at the global-level and in-country.

In 2025, UN Action engaged 46 civil society organisations and directly supported 350 CRSV practitioners (UN, CSO, and Government), and was able to identify and distribute over 190 relevant resources globally. This year, our in-country knowledge building work focused on Ukraine, South Sudan, and the Asia-Pacific region and was dedicated to the themes of preventing CRSV and socializing a survivor-centred approach. Preventing CRSV.

UN Action has continued to roll-out its two signature practice-based knowledge products on preventing CRSV, namely the Framework for the Prevention of CRSV (2022) and The Matrix of Early-Warning Indicators of CRSV (2011). These foundational knowledge products serve as practical guidance for CRSV practitioners to adapt their activities to better

integrate measures to prevent CRSV from occurring in the first place and to prevent secondary harm to survivors and affected communities in its wake.

Through funding from the CRSV-MPTF, in South Sudan, in June 2025, UNMISS, DPO and the OSRSG-SVC, with substantive support from UN Action Secretariat, strengthened UNMISS Force's 'patrols to combat CRSV' (PTCCs). This practice aims to prevent and deter CRSV by integrating CRSV-specific risk analysis into patrol planning, conduct and follow-up while promoting an integrated mission approach. As part of the mission, the Military Expert of the OSRSG-SVC led a "table-top exercise" that specifically engaged military personnel to strengthen operational responses to CRSV. Despite reductions in peacekeeping personnel, PTCCs continue to be deployed to locations across South Sudan and have strengthened relationships with communities, increased protection from CRV and enhanced deterrence overall. Based on this exercise, a PTCC Practice Note is being developed and will be disseminated to other peacekeeping contexts in 2026.



Survivor-Centred Approach to CRSV

In December 2025, UN Action partnered with UN Ukraine, Outright Ukraine, and Projector Ukraine to host a peer-to-peer learning initiative in Kyiv focused on how CRSV impacts the Ukrainian LGBTQI+ community, particularly in territories under Russian Federation occupation. This initiative has since led to roundtable meetings and events where the UN and the international donor community have been more inclusive of this group, as well as concrete steps taken to better integrate the needs of the LGBTQI+ community into the national implementation plan for the FoC on the Prevention and Response to CRSV signed between the UN and the Government of Ukraine. This initiative was borne out of a need identified by UN Ukraine for a dedicated safe space for CSOs and other stakeholders to have open, practical, and transparent conversations about how to better include this community in national efforts to address CRSV. UN Action intends to document the lessons learned from Ukraine in 2026 for dissemination at the global-level and with other affected countries.

Knowledge Sharing

In 2025, UN Action co-hosted 11 events, webinars, and trainings with our member entities, CSOs, and Member States. This year's engagements focused on the topic of CRSV prevention through disarmament and

arms control, leveraging the expertise of member entities UNIDIR and UNODA. These events included:

- A training seminar for Security Council members with the Permanent Mission of Spain and the ICRC on “Applying IHL and the WPS Agenda: Practical Implications for Military Operations in Armed Conflict” (April 2025)
- A discussion with UNIDIR, DPO, and the Permanent Missions of Norway and Malta on UNIDIR’s publication [“Deploying the Arms Control and Disarmament Toolbox: Strengthening the role of UN Peace operations ”](#) (June 2025)
- Supporting UNIDIR’s interactive art exhibition to mark the 16 days of Activism against Gender-based Violence at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, co-hosted with the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands (November 2025)

The UN Action Secretariat also supported the Chair of the Network in her participation in the Riyadh 4th International Humanitarian Forum held in February 2025 and the Multi-Stakeholder Conference on CRSV in Paris hosted by Bibliothèques Sans Frontières (BSF), Université Côte d’Azur and the City of Paris to raise awareness on the needs of survivors of CRSV and advocate for greater international attention to this issue against a backdrop of pushback on gender equality and women’s right



Photo: UN Ukraine/LGBTQI+ Workshop

The UN Action Secretariat accompanied the SRSG-SVC to Sudan in April 2025, with the visit culminating in the signing of a Framework of Cooperation on prevention and response to CRSV with the authorities. The UN Action Secretariat and the OSRSG-SVC returned to Port Sudan in August to guide the translation of commitments into an Implementation Plan. Alongside the Commission on Combatting Violence against Women and Children, UN Action facilitated a multi-stakeholder two-day workshop to advance development of the Implementation Plan. The workshop brought together 45 participants from relevant government ministries, including social welfare, health, defence

and intelligence, civil society organizations, including women-led organizations, and entities of the UN system in Sudan. The workshop provided an inclusive platform to build knowledge on CRSV prevention and response, identify priorities, propose concrete actions, and build consensus across constituencies on the nation-wide response to CRSV.

Global Knowledge Hub

UN Action has mapped over 190 relevant resources from across the UN system, CSOs, and academia. To ensure resources are accessible for all CRSV practitioners, especially those working in conflict-affected areas with limited internet connection, UN Action began



Photo: UNIDIR x PM of Netherlands/Exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva



Photo: UNIDIR x PM of Netherlands/Exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva



Photo: UNIDIR x PM of Netherlands/Exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva



Photo: UNIDIR x PM of Netherlands/Exhibition at the Palais des Nations in Geneva

the process of updating its online resource hub. This platform will ensure that CRSV practitioners everywhere will be able to access critical guidance, policies, and tools to help their work. UN Action soft launched this revitalised platform and is planning a public launch in 2026 when more features will be made available.

This year, at the request of UN Action Focal Points and S/WPAs, UN Action Secretariat created and launched an Intranet where internal resources can be shared and collaboration and interaction can be facilitated on a single platform. This internal platform will complement the global resource library,

which is available to the general public. The Intranet has already proven useful for internal communications and collaboration on mission planning, document sharing, and real-time news updates. It has enabled UN Action to streamline the onboarding of new Focal Points through a comprehensive portal that allows access to internal trainings, resources, and information, such as previous Notes for the Record of UN Action Focal Points and Steering Committee meetings, as well as UN Action project reports. This resource has a tangible dividend in terms of mainstreaming, messaging coherence, and internal policy absorption, also enhancing efficiency by preventing duplication



Photo: UN Action/Multi-stakeholder workshop in Sudan (August 2025)



Photo: UN Action/Multi-stakeholder workshop in Sudan (August 2025)



Photo: UN Action/Multi-stakeholder workshop in Sudan (August 2025)



Photo: UN Action/Multi-stakeholder workshop in Sudan (August 2025)

of effort across the system in the development of induction and training materials on CRSV.

UN Action continues to produce and disseminate knowledge, guidance and tools to support the work of S/WPAs and CRSV Focal Points in-country and globally. In 2025, UN Action Secretariat piloted drop-in sessions to MARA working groups, as in South Sudan and Sudan, and other workshops run by member entities, such as DPO's Integrated Trainings for Peacekeeping Operations, to provide focused, intensive sessions on priority topics. The UN Action Secretariat also contributes consistently to the WPA Community of Practice, sharing

relevant and timely information, research, and knowledge products.

Finally, UN Action developed a rapid response plan for the Network to collectively and efficiently respond to an emerging crisis. The plan serves as a menu of UN Action country-level support options in situations of elevated CRSV concern and risk.



UN ACTION PILLAR 3: ADVOCACY FOR ACTION



Incorporating a lesson learned from the mid-term evaluation on elevating the visibility of the Network, over the past year, UN Action significantly strengthened its institutional presence and public engagement. This has reinforced UN Action's central role as an advocacy platform on CRSV and the WPS agenda globally. Through a combination of expanded digital outreach, high-level convenings, and targeted advocacy, the Network enhanced its ability to inform, connect, and mobilize diverse stakeholders, continuing to expand the constituency for action.

Expanding Digital and Public Outreach

UN Action's public engagement through digital platforms continued to grow substantially. The Network maintained an active and coordinated presence across [Facebook](#) (31,169 followers), [X](#) formerly Twitter (48,097 followers), and [Instagram](#) (1,737 followers), using these channels to disseminate key messages, amplify partner initiatives, and raise awareness on CRSV prevention and response.

Instagram analytics showed significant increases across key indicators, with reach expanding by 68.6%, content interactions doubling, profile visits increasing by 107%, and link clicks rising sharply. User engagement

indicated that audiences were not only expanding but actively interacting with the content.

Facebook similarly demonstrated sustained growth: visits increased by 33.8 %, while the number of followers more than doubled, signaling growing interest in UN Action's work. Content interactions increased steadily, and total views remained high throughout the year, indicating strong and consistent visibility. Together, these platforms strengthened UN Action's visibility and reinforced its role as a trusted source of information and advocacy.

To further diversify its digital footprint, UN Action launched a dedicated [LinkedIn](#) account (324 followers), creating a new space to engage with professionals, institutions, and partners globally on issues related to ending CRSV.

In parallel, the Network's website (www.stoprapenow.org) continued to serve as a key resource for members, partners, practitioners, and the wider public. To better reflect the scope and breadth of UN Action's work over the past two decades, a comprehensive website refresh is underway in partnership with the private sector company [Spruce Creative](#). This initiative aims to improve the design, navigation, and accessibility of the website, ensuring that resources and initiatives are clearly presented and easy to access.



Strategic Convening and Global Advocacy

Throughout the year, UN Action played a central role in convening and contributing to key international policy spaces, strengthening links between CRSV, international humanitarian law, protection of civilians, and peace operations.

In April, UN Action played a pivotal role at the Annual International Humanitarian Law Retreat organized by the Permanent Mission of Spain and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The Coordinator led a dedicated session on how CRSV is addressed as a matter of customary and conventional IHL for all Security Council members, helping to bridge policy and legal communities and deepening engagement with IHL experts at UN Permanent Missions.

In May, during Protection of Civilians Week, and at the invitation of the Government of Poland, UN Action moderated a side event on women and girls with disabilities in conflict and emergencies, strengthening connections between the CRSV agenda and the broader protection of civilians community of practice. The Network also contributed to the OHCHR STI Forum, where UN Action highlighted how digital technologies can support the ethical and effective collection of CRSV data.

June marked a particularly significant advocacy moment with the commemoration of the 11th International Day for the Elimination

of Sexual Violence in Conflict. UN Action supported the SRSG-SVC in the global observance, co-hosting a high-level event with Argentina and the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict. In the margins of the International Day, UN Action led an event on “Deploying the Arms Control & Disarmament Toolbox” with Malta, Norway, UNIDIR and DPO, focused on arms control, disarmament as integral to the prevention of CRSV, reinforcing the role of UN peace operations in this area.

In the margins of the 80th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly in September, UN Action and OSRSG-SVC conceptualized a high-level event addressing the situation of women and girls who become pregnant as a result of conflict-related rape, as well as the children born of that violence, setting out a Global Declaration of Principles, in partnership with the Governments of Sierra Leone and the DRC.

During Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Month in October, UN Action, along with Spain, Colombia and the DRC, mobilized global partners at the Instituto Cervantes to promote a holistic response to CRSV; the Network co-led the high-level discussion “Investing in Dignity: How Prompt Reparations for CRSV Survivors Avert Intergenerational Societal Harm” at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN in New York and; UN Action amplified voices from the Asia-Pacific



region at a strategic event entitled “Peace by Piece: Addressing CRSV throughout the Peace Continuum”, along with the Governments of Australia and Timor Leste. In addition, on 30th October 2025, UNREC and UNIDIR held a webinar on “Deploying the Arms Control & Disarmament Toolbox” marking the 25th anniversary of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda.

To further strengthen system-wide coordination not only within the UN, but also amongst its Member States and partners, in November, at the invitation of Norway, the UN Action Coordinator spoke on the topic of building alliances and synergies across complementary platforms during the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies Annual Partner Meeting.

Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

UN Action continued to strengthen its partnerships and fundraising efforts by linking political engagement with concrete programmatic impact.

In March, in the margins of the 69th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Network convened survivors, civil society, experts, and government officials for a Global Donor Showcase. The event, titled “*From Global Commitments to Local Action: Preventing and Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence*”, was co-sponsored by UN

Action, and the Governments of Norway and Japan. It featured comparative examples and lessons learned from the Ukrainian and South Sudanese contexts and was co-designed in partnership with both Governments and civil society leaders and survivors of CRSV who shared a range of perspectives and recommendations at the event.

In July, UN Action, together with the Permanent Missions of Japan and Norway, briefed donors and Member States on CRSV response efforts in Sudan, highlighting both operational results and political engagement aimed at promoting compliance with international norms. The event showcased UN Action’s survivor centred holistic support project in Darfur, funded by Japan, and highlighted efforts undertaken by the Commission for Combatting Violence Against Women and Children. An expert on CRSV/WPS from the Government of Sweden added an important perspective following recent engagements and highlighted Sweden’s long-standing, steadfast support of UN Action through funding for a project to build CRSV and MARA capacity in Sudan.

Further donor engagement took place in November and December in Ukraine, including high-level meetings, donor roundtables, and project site visits. At the start of the “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence”, on November 25, 2025, a high-level meeting titled “*Strengthening Partnerships to Support*



Survivors” took place in Kyiv as part of the transition of the chairmanship of the Global Alliance to Prevent Sexual Violence in Conflict from Ukraine to the DRC. During UN Action’s visit to Ukraine (1–17 December), a donor roundtable was organized to showcase the impact of the UN Action Project in Ukraine, as well as the challenges, lessons learned, and way forward. The donors also participated in a project site visit. These activities showcased results, addressed challenges, and helped to shape the next phase of support in a consultative and transparent manner, while reinforcing pivotal partnerships.

Finally, the UN Action Secretariat provided Opening Remarks and showcased its project in Ukraine during a forum co-hosted by the national network of survivors “*Numo Sestry*” and UN Women in Kyiv.

Supporting Leadership and Strategic Partnerships

The UN Action Secretariat also provided direct support to the Chair of UN Action, SRSG Pramila Patten, in advancing strategic fundraising and partnerships. In October, the Chair’s visit to Ottawa facilitated high-level engagement with Canadian counterparts and explored opportunities for enhanced support within the Women, Peace and Security framework. In November, a mission to Paris enabled engagement with academia, judicial actors, civil society, and the private sector. The Chair participated in the event ‘*Beyond*

Borders: Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for CRSV Prevention and Recovery’, co-organized by UN Action, Bibliothèques Sans Frontières, Université Côte d’Azur, and the Ville de Paris.

Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation and Securing Resources

Bilateral fundraising and donor relations remained a core priority. The Secretariat advanced discussions with key partners, including Norway and Lithuania, through requests for core funding to reinforce long-term institutional sustainability. A comprehensive package of twelve concept notes was submitted to the Government of Japan under its Supplementary Budget Programme aligned with strategic priorities and covering a broad range of urgent programmatic and humanitarian needs.

Additional proposals were shared with Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Norway, focusing on survivor support, stabilization contexts, and the next phases of ongoing projects. These efforts yielded concrete results, including funding secured from the United Kingdom for Global MARA Support and from Sweden for multi-year SWPA deployment and MARA capacity support to Sudan, strengthening the UN system’s ability to deliver results in terms of monitoring, reporting, protection, assistance, coordination and advisory functions in countries of priority concern.



Annual Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-related Sexual Violence:

For almost two decades, the UN Action Network has served as the primary consultation forum for the compilation and endorsement of the annual Report of the Secretary-General on CRSV. This Report serves not only as a public record of events, but also as a global advocacy instrument for driving the field forward in terms of articulating strategic recommendations to enhance CRSV prevention and response. Annually, the Report brings new protection concerns and information on CRSV to light, and additionally, serves as a global reference tool, as well as a basis for strategic advocacy and enhanced operational response. In 2025, as per usual practice, UN Action Focal Points worked with the penholder and country counterparts to bring timely and quality data and analysis into the report from across a range of sectors. The UN Action Steering Committee met at Principal-level in

February to review and endorse the analysis and policy recommendations reflected in the 16th annual Report (published as S/2025/389), which was debated at the Security Council in August under the Presidency of Panama, with UN Action supporting preparations for the Open Debate, including the SRSG's statement to the Council, and disseminating the information widely across the UN system and to external partners.

Recommendations from this report have been widely cited and cross-referenced, including being brought into other Security Council debates and reports. For example, the 2025 annual Report of the Secretary-General on Small arms and light weapons (S/2025/670), which was debated at the Security Council in November, recommends systematic collection and analysis of data on the use of weapons in conflict-related sexual violence incidents. This is a positive example of mainstreaming in practice.



Photo: UN Action/WPS Week Event with Spain, Colombia and the DRC

Photo: UN Women / Jeroen van Loon

A woman wearing a vibrant, patterned dress and a blue headscarf is shown in profile, looking down at a basket of harvested crops she is holding. She is standing in a field of green plants under a bright, cloudy sky. The overall scene conveys a sense of agricultural labor and the fruits of that labor.

MOVING FORWARD: CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES



At the end of 2025, the UN Action Network made a strategic decision to extend its Workplan and Strategic Framework for another year, in order to consolidate gains made and align with the extension of the CRSV-MPTF, which will now run to 2030.

The extension will allow for an extensive external evaluation of UN Action's work over the past five years, bringing together half a decade of lessons learned in order to establish an even more coordinated, cohesive and effective network that is fit for purpose amidst the changes of the UN80 and Humanitarian reset processes, allowing for a clear and focused way forward. The evaluation will include Network Members, CRSV focal points at country level, partner organisations from civil society including survivor's networks and UN Member States, both those affected by conflict and those that champion the cause through their support of UN Action.

In terms of resource mobilization, while in previous years UN Action could rely for the most part on regular, multi-year core funding, in acknowledgement of the changing funding landscape and donor attention, the Network has increased its efforts to secure core contributions for its strategic priorities, whilst bringing on board new Member State donors for country and/or thematically delineated funds, and encouraged donors to provide in

kind support such as the contribution of JPOs, as received from Italy. UN Action will actively partner with allied Member States to ensure that they are intrinsic to UN Action's participatory approach to addressing CRSV. This approach will extend into 2026 as UN Action actively reassesses its fundraising strategy to adapt to an even more constrained financial environment.

The network continues to grow even more deeply across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus by expanding the roll-out of flagship knowledge products that have been developed including the *Framework for the Prevention of CRSV* and *Matrix of Early-Warning Indicators of CRSV*. This entails adapting the recommendations from each of the knowledge products to specific contexts and applying them based on requests from S/WPAs and CRSV focal points at country level, such as in South Sudan, Sudan, and CAR.

With the increasing reality of mission drawdowns and transitions, and the need to ensure the continuity of the MARA and sustain protection and response measures for CRSV survivors and those at risk in the absence of peacekeeping or special political missions, or in contexts where CRSV capacity has been weakened, UN Action will provide capacity, coordination and operational support including in Syria, Sudan and Haiti.



UN Action prioritises inclusion and intersectionality as part of its survivor-centred approach to preventing and responding to CRSV. This recognises that survivors are unique individuals. The Network’s initiatives will seek to advocate for and empower survivors by prioritising their needs, perspectives and wishes, and will pay special attention to intersecting inequalities based on, inter alia, ethnicity, religion, migratory status, disability, age, political affiliation, sexual orientation and gender identity, and HIV status. In 2025

the Network initiated activities to directly support SOGIESC survivors and those at risk in Ukraine and elsewhere and will further develop this workstream in 2026. It will also harness lessons learned from its operational programming to ensure all of UN Action’s efforts are inclusive of people with disabilities.

To mark 20 years since the launch of UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict Network which pioneered the global agenda on CRSV as a threat to security and impediment to the restoration of peace, launching a



Photo: UN Action/CAR Project



Photo: UN Ukraine/LGBTIQ+ Workshop



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission (July 2025)



Photo: UN Action/South Sudan Mission (July 2025)



Photo: UN Action/Côte d'Ivoire Project



Photo: UN Action/Côte d'Ivoire Project



Photo: UN Action/Mali project



Photo: UN Action/Mali Project

transformative trajectory of normative, institutional and operational change, UN Action will launch a commemorative campaign to elevate its platform and widen its presence.

As per its proven track record of almost 20 years of advocacy, knowledge-building and operational country-level support, UN Action will focus on its clear strategic priorities while responding to rapidly shifting situations of concern, using all means at its disposal to stay field-focused, ensure sustainability through local ownership, and prioritize the prevention of CRSV. It will work with its signature synergy of action, efficiency and creativity in the current challenging financial operating environment to maintain momentum despite negative trends on the WPS and gender

equality agenda globally, guided by the SRSG-SVC's vision, the shared goals, mandates and capacities of its 27 Network members, successive Security Council resolutions on CRSV adopted since 2008, and above all, the needs, rights and aspirations of survivors themselves.

Photo: UN Women/ Daria Komleva

A photograph of an elderly woman with a serious expression, wearing a dark, textured headscarf and a dark jacket. She is seated in a wooden chair, looking off to the side. The background shows a window with white curtains. The lighting is soft, highlighting her face.














FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS





CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2025, UN Action received voluntary contributions through the CRSV-MPTF totaling \$3,076,106 from Lithuania, Norway, The United Kingdom, Germany and Sweden. In addition, contributions were received from Estonia and Spain through the OSRSG-SVC.

CONTRIBUTIONS		
Contributor	Contribution Amount (2025)	Total Contribution
 Belgium	-	\$459,525
 Estonia	\$21,023	\$127,436
 European Union	-	\$1,084,480
 France	-	\$53,125
 Japan	-	\$123,453
 Latvia	-	\$9,568
 Lithuania	\$46,344	\$175,397
 Luxemburg	-	\$59,214
 Norway	\$679,955	\$3,890,304
 Spain	\$109,500	\$109,500
 Sweden	-	\$486,035
 Switzerland	-	\$546,375
 The United Kingdom	\$399,583	\$1,080,081
Total	\$1,256,405	\$8,204,493



COUNTRY SPECIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS			
Contributor	Contribution (Amount) 2025	Total Contribution	Countries Supported
Canada	-	\$1,679,246	Ukraine
Germany	\$1,406,765	\$3,125,788	South Sudan, Ukraine, Sudan
Japan	-	\$3,224,001	Somalia, MENA, DRC, Mali, Sudan
Netherlands	-	\$1,447,265	Ukraine
Norway	-	\$4,751,142	Ukraine
Sweden	\$543,459	\$543,459	Sudan
Total	\$1,950,224	\$14,770,901	

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS		
Contributor	In-Kind Contribution	Location of Support
Italy	Junior Professional Officer	USA (New York)





UN ACTION

UN Action brings together the collective experience and institutional capacity of the UN system, and since inception in 2007 has filled critical knowledge gaps, generated policy, guidance, and training materials to inform evidence-based prevention and response to CRSV at the global and country-level. UN Action funds these efforts through the CRSV-MPTF, which (including activities funded through its predecessor, the [UN Action MPTF](#)), has supported over 65 projects across 22 conflict-affected countries since 2007, as well as regional and global-level initiatives. These projects have fostered collaboration across UN entities and catalysed innovative initiatives and programming in CRSV. Notably, the UN Action Network is the only UN system-wide initiative that leads advocacy, knowledge-building, resource mobilisation and joint programming to prevent and respond to CRSV.

UN Action was created in 2007 in response to the [“Call to Action”](#) of the June 2006 *Symposium on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Beyond*, held in Brussels. The establishment of UN Action responded to calls from within the UN, as well as from women’s rights organisations, NGOs and Member States, to elevate sexual violence politically, as a peace and security challenge, and as a humanitarian, human rights, gender and development issue.

In June 2007, the Secretary-General’s Policy Committee endorsed UN Action as

“a critical joint UN system-wide initiative to guide advocacy, knowledge-building, resource mobilization, and joint programming around sexual violence in conflict”. In all relevant Security Council resolutions, notably [1820 \(2008\)](#), [1888 \(2009\)](#), [1960 \(2010\)](#), [2106 \(2013\)](#), [2331 \(2016\)](#) and [2467 \(2019\)](#), the Council specifically highlights UN Action as *the* critical interagency coordination forum to address CRSV.

In line with the relevant Security Council resolutions mentioned above, UN Action seeks to synergise efforts of humanitarian, human rights, development, political, peace-keeping, and security actors to address CRSV – reinforcing good practices, strengthening coordination, and avoiding duplication of efforts. To achieve this synergy of action, UN Action harnesses the comparative strengths of each UN entity for a force-multiplier effect, recognising that sexual violence requires a broad-based, multisectoral response.

UN Action works through a network of Focal Points from each member entity and is governed by a Steering Committee consisting of UN Principals from each of the 27 entities. The Security Council appointed the SRSG-SVC to provide strategic guidance as the Chair to the Network; this work supported by a Secretariat, located in the Office of the SRSG-SVC.



Further, UN Action is the primary consultation forum for the annual Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. The Report serves not only as a public record of this crime, but also as a global advocacy instrument for driving the field of CRSV prevention and response forward. Annually, the Report brings new trends and patterns on CRSV to light, and additionally, serves as an information base and reference tool for strategic advocacy and enhanced operational response.

Subsequent annual Reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council have detailed critical dimensions and emerging challenges for addressing CRSV. Most recently, these include addressing the specific needs and challenges faced by children born of wartime rape and their mothers, the use of sexual violence to pursue strategies and tactics of terrorism, sexual slavery and conflict-driven human trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation, sexual slavery and forced marriage, as well as the need for enhanced justice and accountability, including reparations for survivors of CRSV. In 2019, the Security Council enshrined these new areas into resolution 2467, thereby providing strategic direction on essential elements that need to be considered in a survivor-centred approach to addressing CRSV. Further, the Security Council, under Operative Paragraph 34 in the same resolution, encouraged UN Action to revise and continue development of innovative

operational tools and guidance in these new areas.

Shortly after the issuance of Security Council resolution 2467, UN Action developed its new Strategic Framework (2020 – 2025), focusing particularly on a comprehensive and survivor-centred approach to CRSV, with a renewed emphasis on prevention of CRSV, including addressing its structural root causes.

The overarching goal of UN Action is that CRSV is prevented, survivors' needs are met, and accountability of perpetrators is enhanced.

UN ACTION'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The UN Action Network developed its [2020 – 2025 Strategic Framework](#) in 2020, through an intensive and iterative process that led to the delineation of a new Goal, Theory of Change four main Outcome Areas and a General Outcome related to overall coordination and advocacy, as well as specific activities, which were further detailed in its 2020 – 2021, 2022 – 2023 and 2024 - 2026 Workplans.

The overarching goal of UN Action is that *CRSV is prevented, survivors' needs are met, and accountability of perpetrators is enhanced.*

The five attending Outcomes are:

- **General Outcome related to Overall Coordination of the UN Action**



Network: UN agencies cooperate and share information to reinforce coordination and coherence and improve the system-wide response and implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on CRSV;

Outcome 1 related to Prevention, Protection and Support to Survivors:

Survivors and at-risk groups are supported and protected and CRSV risks are prevented and mitigated;

Outcome 2 related to Capacity Building and Strategic Engagement: Duty-bearers and decision-makers take action to address both the immediate risks as well as the root causes of CRSV at the global and national level and promote compliance and accountability;

Outcome 3 related to Knowledge Building and the development of Policies, Guidance and Tools: UN Action member entities contribute to advancing the implementation of the CRSV/WPS agenda in a way that is informed by relevant guidance, policies, and tools on addressing CRSV and its root causes;

Outcome 4 related to Data Collection, Management, Monitoring, Analysis and Harmonisation: Reliable, timely and objective information on CRSV trends, risks and patterns, supports evidence-based high-level advocacy, enhances engagement with, and pressure on, parties to conflict, and informs impactful, survivor-centred solutions.

UN Action also developed targets with linked indicators for each of these Outcome

areas. As living tools, UN Action's overall Governance Documents, Strategic Framework and Workplan are regularly reviewed and updated in consultation with decision-makers and key stakeholders, including country counterparts.

GOVERNANCE OF UN ACTION:

The UN Action Network Steering Committee

UN Action is governed by a Steering Committee comprised of principals and senior officials from its member entities and is chaired by the SRSG-SVC. As per the TORs, the Steering Committee serves as a high-level forum for discussing and coordinating substantive policy and operational matters regarding CRSV, with a view to taking consensus-based decisions on concerted courses of action.

The UN Action Network Focal Points

UN Action Focal Points serve as the main technical representatives for entities in the UN Action Network and serve as the liaison between the entity, including its country offices/missions, and UN Action, to ensure two-way communication, knowledge sharing and coordinated action.



The UN Action Secretariat

The UN Action Secretariat, located in the Office of the SRSG-SVC, coordinates and convenes the UN Action Network at the working-level, and provides technical and administrative support. It supports the preparation of the annual Report of the Secretary-General on CRSV, frames advocacy messages for UN Action and the SRSG-SVC, supports and engages in joint missions of situations of concern, conducts training, briefings and outreach activities, and develops strategic partnerships with a broad range of actors. The Secretariat also facilitates UN Action's strategic planning, monitors the implementation of agreed upon deliverables in line with UN Action's Strategic Framework and Workplan, and evaluates and reports on the impact of UN Action's activities.

UN ACTION'S FUND: THE CRSV-MPTF

The CRSV-MPTF succeeds the UN Action MPTF, which operated from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2019, and builds upon past achievements, best practices, and lessons learned, in an effort to reinforce synergies between UN entities, governments, and their partners in preventing and responding to CRSV, galvanised by Security Council resolution 2467 (2019).

Relaunched in 2020, and running to 2030 as the CRSV-MPTF, the new Fund aims to

increase coherence, bring attention to critical gaps and underfinanced priorities, consolidate and coordinate efforts to reduce fragmentation, and ensure impact at the country level across the UN system with regard to the CRSV agenda.

Under the CRSV-MPTF, two Windows were established – one for UN Action and the other for the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict (TOE). Each Window has its oversight and decision-making body and is guided by the strategic leadership of the SRSG-SVC.

The decision-making process for the use of funds is outlined in relevant governance documents. The UN Action Steering Committee, chaired by the SRSG-SVC, provides oversight and strategic advice. The MPTF Office of UNDP serves as the Administrative Agent using the pass-through fund management modality.

THE UN ACTION WINDOW OF THE CRSV-MPTF

Through the UN Action Window of the CRSV-MPTF, all 27 UN entities who are members of the UN Action Network are eligible to receive funding from the CRSV-MPTF. If the funding situation allows, projects that fit under the UN Action Strategic Framework and the Network's Funding Strategy may be granted funds based



on a call for proposals issued on a biannual (twice-yearly) basis.

To take resource allocation decisions for the UN Action Window of the CRSV-MPTF, the UN Action Network established a Resource Management Committee (RMC), a sub-committee of UN Action Focal Points. The RMC comprises five UN Action Focal Points, one of whom serves as the Chairperson, nominated every year by the broader group of UN Action Focal Points and endorsed by the SRSG-SVC.

Resource allocation decisions are made by the RMC based on its Operational Guidance

and the UN Action Network Funding Strategy. In 2025, the RMC comprised UN Women (as Chair), UNODC, DPO, OCHA and IOM. The UN Action Secretariat manages the technical and operational functioning of the CRSV MPTF, including support to the SRSG-SVC, the UN Action Steering Committee and the RMC in matters related to funding through, and fundraising for the CRSV-MPTF. It also supports the PUNOs submitting proposals for consideration through vetting of projects, grant administration, reporting, monitoring and evaluation.



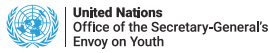
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www.stoprapienow.org

UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict is a unique, system-wide coalition of 27 United Nations entities working as one across the humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding sectors to prevent and respond to conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). Chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and funded through voluntary contributions to the CRSV multi-partner trust fund, UN Action delivers an agile, survivor-centred response that bridges global policy with local realities. Since 2007, it has supported 66 joint projects in 22 conflict settings, combining advocacy, knowledge leadership, and catalytic in-country initiatives to ensure survivors receive dignified care, strengthen accountability, and help build safer, more resilient communities.