

# Final Evaluation of the Access to Justice Project

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## ABOUT THE REPORT

The Report of an Independent End Evaluation of the "Women and Girls Access to Justice, through Effective, Accountable and Gender Responsive Institutions. (A2J Project) commissioned by UN Women with support from the Austrian Development Agency.



## GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Project, from its inception, embraced a strong commitment to human rights and gender equality, evident in its conceptualisation. It directly addressed the principles of human rights and gender equality.



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## Project Expected Outcomes and Outputs

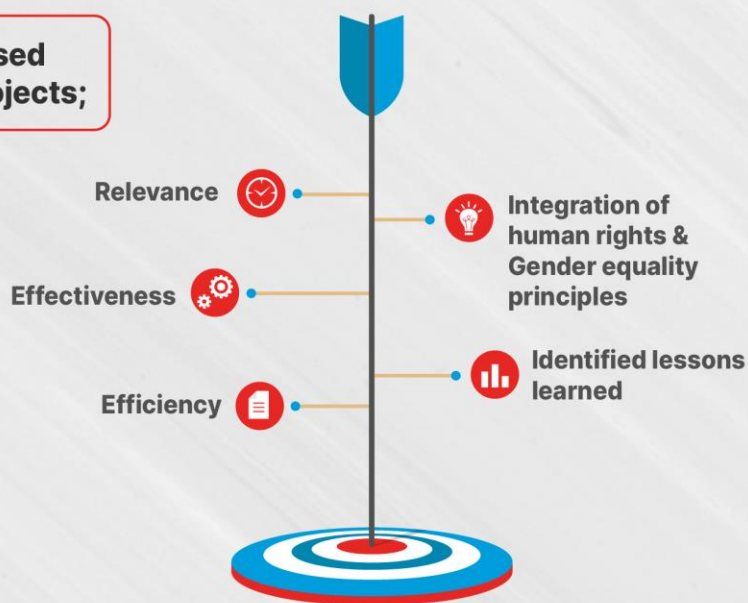
<b>Outcome 1</b>	Special Service Delivery and Accountability Systems/Special Courts for GBV institutionalized, integrated, and perpetrators are held accountable in accordance with the law and human rights.
<b>Output 1</b>	Systems, procedures and standards strengthened, integrated and implemented to guarantee quality justice for survivors of GBV and vulnerable women and girls.
<b>Outcome 2</b>	Increased use of available, accessible, and quality essential justice services by women and girls who experience violence.
<b>Output 2</b>	Capacities of formal justice institutions to deliver quality, coordinated essential services and fast track cases of GBV and other forms of discrimination is strengthened.
<b>Output 3</b>	Women and girls at risk of violence are empowered on their rights, have knowledge of and can access and use quality justice services.



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## EVALUATION OBJECTIVES

Assessed the projects;



UN WOMEN

AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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## METHODOLOGY



National, district and community consultations using a mixed approach



Desk review of literature



Thematic content analysis and descriptive analysis



Comparison of key baseline and end term indicator values

 UN  
WOMEN

 AUSTRIAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY

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## DISTRICTS WHERE DATA WAS COLLECTED



### NOTE:

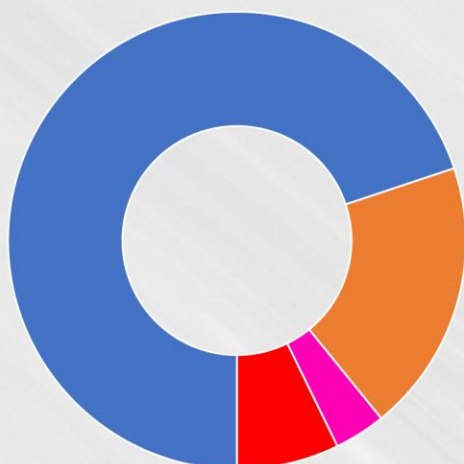
Project implemented in 11 Centres of Excellence (High Court Circuits and Chief Magisterial Courts of Fort Portal, Gulu, Soroti, Kampala, Kasese, Buganda Road, Tororo, and Moroto).



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## INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED DURING THE EVALUATION

Evaluation respondents included; Central and Local Government officials, development partners, civil society, community members and beneficiaries



**Respondents interviewed: 116**

- 68 females
- 48 males

**Key Informant Interviews conducted: 32**

**In-depth Interviews with GBV survivors: 6**

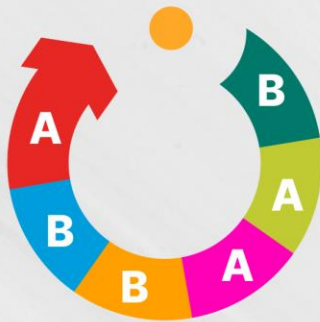
**Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) conducted: 12**

- FGD participants: 78
  - > 42 females
  - > 36 males



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## Evaluation Scores



- **Effectiveness**
- **Relevance**
- **Sustainability**
- **Impact**
- **Efficiency & Coherence**
- **Gender & Human Rights**

## Key Findings

**Relevance** - project on tandem with the key international, regional and national human rights and gender equality policies, legal instruments, guidelines and contextual A2J needs for GBV survivors.

**Effectiveness** - most targets, outputs and outcomes achieved, with key and strategic documents developed - Costed Strategy for institutionalisation of a GBV specialised justice system.

**Efficiency & Coherence** - Substantial resources allocated contributing to achievement of relevant outputs.

**Sustainability** - strategies adopted included working within; a) the existing policy and strategy frameworks; b) structures and systems strengthening; and c) multi-sectoral capacity.

**Gender and Human Rights** Project was anchored on promotion of human rights and gender equality.



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## EVALUATION APPROACH



- Aligned with international, regional, and national policies, legal instruments, and guidelines
- Aligned with national policies and laws on Gender-Based Violence (GBV)
- Addressed crucial Access to Justice needs specific to GBV survivors

## EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT



- Achieved most of its targets, outputs, and outcomes.
- Contributed to capacity building of the key justice institutions
- Set a strong foundation for improving access to justice for GBV survivors.
- Succeeded in building trust and establishing strong relationships





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## KEY PROJECT ENABLES



- Multisectoral approach
- Systems strengthening
- Introduction of 11 Centres of Excellence
- Enhanced community reach and awareness creation using Open Court Days and barazas

## IMPEDING FACTORS

- Delayed on-boarding of project coordinating entity
- Changes in the operating context i.e. COVID-19 pandemic, General Elections and National Programming
- Delayed release of project funds and variance in facilitation rates



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## Lessons Learned

- Leverage previous and ongoing programs for faster achievements and sustainability.
- Prioritise survivor-centered, trauma-informed, gender-sensitive, and human rights-based approaches
- Striving for a delicate balance between strengthening GBV response and prevention efforts

## Good practices

- Maximising of partnerships, working relationships and connections at all levels
- Adaptation to the context of the changes in the operating environment and COVID-19 pandemic
- Infrastructural investments through provision of audio-visual Institutionalised equipment and rooms
- Building strong partnerships with key Ministries Departments and Agencies
- Emphasise on multi-sectoral training and capacity building



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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Enhance collaboration between Key Stakeholders for effective project processes.
- Advocate for long-term funding to ensure project success and greater impact
- Align the project with the specialised justice system strategies for managing GBV cases.
- Fast track the review and finalisation of detailed Service Delivery
- Standards for Integrated Justice Services
- Implement capacity building in financial management and accountability
- Invest in social norm change at institutional and community levels
- Strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation system for effective impact tracking

