



EU leadership of the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies

June 2017 – December 2018

PRIORITY: BRINGING CALL TO ACTION CLOSER TO THE FIELD

Activity: Awareness-raising workshops organised by the EU's (DG ECHO) field offices - an overview

Introduction

In June 2017, the European Union (EU), through the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations ([DG ECHO](#)), took over the leadership of the '[Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies](#)' (Call to Action). Founded in 2013, by the United Kingdom and Sweden, the Call to Action aims to ensure that every humanitarian effort includes the policies, systems and mechanisms to mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) risks, and to provide safe and comprehensive services for those affected by GBV. Its aim is to drive change and foster accountability from the humanitarian system to address GBV from the earliest phases of crisis. The Call to Action is guided by a [Road Map 2016-2020](#) that sets out common objectives, targets and a governance structure, to ensure that pledges are translated into concrete and targeted actions on the ground.

The EU considers GBV a priority in every humanitarian context. The [European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid](#) stresses the need to integrate gender considerations, including protection strategies against sexual and GBV, in humanitarian response. DG ECHO's [Gender in humanitarian aid policy](#) has a specific chapter on sexual- and gender-based violence. During its leadership in 2017 and 2018,, the EU allocated approximately €62 million in humanitarian aid for the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence under its protection and health programming

The EU's leadership of the Call to Action was guided by [four main priorities](#):

1. Increase *advocacy* on the need to prevent and respond to GBV.
2. Increase focus on *prevention* of GBV in emergencies. Measures to mitigate risks must become a reflex for all humanitarian actors.
3. **Bring the Call to Action to the field, where it can have the biggest impact.**
4. *Implement* commitments, following the Call to Action Roadmap 2016-2020.

On the third priority, the EU identified a number of actions based on the findings and recommendations of the 2016 Women's Refugee Commission Report and the 2017 International Rescue Committee's report on the impact of the Call to Action in the field.¹

Based on the [Women's Refugee Commission](#) report recommendation to “pilot test rolling out the Call to Action Road Map in a selected number of countries to inform best practices for future roll outs in humanitarian crises around the globe”, in December 2017, the EU carried out a first concrete action. It allocated €975.000 to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility, and the Women's Refugee Commission to pilot the Call to Action in Nigeria and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This two-year project started in early 2018. The [Northeast Nigeria Call to Action Road Map](#) was formally launched in September 2018. A similar process is ongoing in the DRC. More information is available [here](#).²

Throughout 2018, the EU organised a series of **field workshops to raise awareness on GBV in emergencies and the Call to Action**, and to discuss context-specific challenges. These workshops took place in **Afghanistan, Colombia, Kenya, Cameroun, Iraq, Jordan, Sudan, Thailand, Turkey and Senegal**, welcoming **more than 500 participants in total**.

¹ <https://www.calltoactiongbv.com/general-documents>

² <https://www.calltoactiongbv.com/call-to-action-in-the-field>

Through these workshops, the EU sought to address the following gaps and recommendations identified by the International Rescue Committee and the Women's Refugee Commission in their reports:

- The [Women's Refugee Commission's 2016 report](#) recommended that the Call to Action leadership "increased visibility of the Call to Action and the Road Map utilising existing humanitarian meetings (...) and other key opportunities".
- The [International Rescue Committee's 2017 report](#) recommended that the Call to Action needed to expand its reach to include southern-based implementing agencies and women's organisations; These workshops also implemented some of the other recommendations to the Call to Action partnership, in particular raising awareness on the Call to Action through field offices, ensuring that field staff is aware of the Call to Action, etc.

The objectives of these workshops were to:

- OBJECTIVE 1: Discuss context-specific challenges related to GBV in emergencies, share good practices and encourage synergies between activities at field level.
- OBJECTIVE 2: Increase awareness on the Call to Action and the Road Map in the field; and inform on the EU's priorities/activities for leadership of the Call to Action.

Overall, the workshops also aimed to contribute to increasing advocacy on GBV in emergencies by organising discussions on context-specific challenges. The workshops sought to make discussions on the Call to Action as concrete as possible, and to provide entry-points for making the initiative known to an audience that was not always aware of it.

Target participants included Government representatives, donors, UN agencies, INGOs and local actors. Attendance was not limited to Call to Action partners only. The EU used the opportunity to increase awareness on the Call to Action across other actors (e.g. southern-based implementing agencies) who, while not necessarily aware of the initiative, play a key role in GBV in emergencies in specific contexts.

Each workshop was organised by the respective DG ECHO country/regional office with support of one of the regional thematic experts on Protection/Gender. Call to Action partners were strongly encouraged to participate in the organisation of the workshops. To this end, DG ECHO endeavoured to systematically involve other actors (mainly GBV, but not only) in preparatory work, to ensure that each workshop addressed context-specific challenges faced by the wider humanitarian community.

DG ECHO would like to thank all GBV sub-cluster coordinators and working groups with whom it closely cooperated to make these workshops a success. Efforts were deployed to avoid duplication of work and focus on topics, decided frequently in close coordination with the GBV sub-cluster, which could usefully be discussed within a Call to Action setting.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the EU's leadership of the Call to Action, visit our [webpage](#). For more information about the workshops, please contact Ellen Gorris (Gender policy officer, DG ECHO, ellen.gorris@ec.europa.eu) or Eliana Irato (Thematic expert Protection/ Gender, DG ECHO, Eliana.irato@echofield.eu).

Overview

Number	Country office	Date	Scope/Focus	Total umber of participants
1.	Kabul, Afghanistan	May 2018	Country	27
2.	Bogota, Columbia	May 2018	Regional covering Central and South America	56
3.	Nairobi, Kenya	May 2018	Regional/ South Sudan crisis	65
4.	Yaoundé, Cameroon	June 2018	Lake Chad and Central Africa crisis	49
5.	Baghdad and Erbil, Iraq	July 2018	Country	76
6.	Amman, Jordan	September 2018	Regional covering Ukraine, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Palestine	61
7.	Khartoum, Sudan	September 2018	Country	47
8.	Bangkok, Thailand	September 2018	Regional/Rohingya crisis	44
9.	Gaziantep and Ankara, Turkey	November 2018	Country	50
10.	Dakar, Senegal	December 2018	Regional	35
Total				510

Conclusions and recommendations

Workshop results

Whereas it is difficult to assess the long-term impact of the workshops, some immediate results include:

1. **More than 500 humanitarian actors** active at field-level had a first encounter with the Call to Action. As many of the summaries of workshops cite, for a large part of the participants, **this was their first ever engagement** with the Call to Action. All workshops highlighted the importance of further spreading information about the Call to Action. Many workshops helped to **clarify the purpose and relevance** of the initiative at field level.
2. The workshops provided a useful platform to **discuss and clarify different GBV-relevant initiatives under the Call to Action umbrella**. Some workshops included presentations on the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) GBV Guidelines, the Real-Time Accountability Partnership, or the Call to Action pilots in Nigeria and Democratic Republic of the Congo.
3. Many workshops **highlighted the work of the GBV sub-cluster**, in some cases with an audience that normally does not significantly engage with the work of this sub-cluster. This has the potential to provide further impetus to the work that they undertake and to support them with high-level in-country advocacy.
4. **Follow-up actions were identified for many workshops**, albeit taking different shapes or forms. Some workshops have resulted in the development of monitoring frameworks for actions at field level, whereas others have developed advocacy plans for specific crises.
5. A number of **local/national civil society actors** joined the Call to Action as a direct result of awareness raising through the workshops. Having very few local actors has been a known gap of the initiative.
6. Global organisations, local/national organisations, or sector-representatives, who are not members of the Call to Action actively participated in a number of workshops helping enrich the discussions. The **engagement of non-traditional GBV actors** may also enhance prevention efforts through other sectors and enhance the potential for integrated responses to GBV. At field level, such engagement could be useful, and prove that the Call to Action as a platform could also have context-specific settings.

Cross-cutting challenges and topics

The workshops discussed many context- or regional-specific challenges and opportunities, which are reflected in the summaries below. Unsurprisingly, many challenges identified by the workshops resonate to those highlighted in the [Call to Action Road Map](#) or in the [Call to Action 2017 Progress Report](#). These include challenges related to **lack of capacity and training** of actors; lack of **funding** (in general and specifically for GBV coordination); and **lack of involvement of local partners or funding for their activities**.

Whilst most workshops focused in general on prevention and response to GBV, some of the workshops also featured presentations on specific topics or aspects within this. Examples of these are for instance cash and gender, GBV integration in food security and livelihoods, providing GBV services in hard-to-reach areas, GBV and natural disasters, GBV and livelihoods, MHPSS, and male and LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer) survivors.

Conclusions

1. Participants largely **welcomed the Call to Action as a useful platform** to discuss issues around GBV in emergencies, not just linked to the immediate emergency phase but also in the aftermath of a crisis, and linkages to issues such as the nexus, development, legislation development, coordination and advocacy.
2. **Call to Action-relevant initiatives at field level** should continue and be further developed to better understand lessons learnt in country. Participants also welcomed discussing different initiatives under the Call to Action umbrella.
3. Many workshops emphasised the **key role that the GBV sub-cluster/working group** plays, and highlighted their important work.
4. Participants stressed the **importance of including civil society organisations** (including women-led and local organisations) in these global initiatives.
5. Some participants expressed **concern about the Call to Action being a top down initiative**, and wondered how this could be anchored better at field-level to stimulate more local ownership.

Recommendations

For Call to Action Partners

1. Partners need to continue to work on disseminating the Call to Action initiative internally with their field colleagues. **Relevant field staff should be better aware of the initiative and the commitments made by their organisation at global level.** Their engagement to fulfilling these commitments should be stimulated.

For Call to Action Steering Committee and the global Lead

1. Work needs to continue to further implement the Call to Action at field level. For this, familiarisation with the initiative is a prerequisite. Many participants expressed interest in having **a second workshop in their context/region in 2019 or after.** A second workshop could go into more details as to **how actors are implementing their global Call to Action commitments on the ground**, be it at regional or at national level. For such follow-up workshops, close coordination with the GBV sub-cluster should be a priority in order to identify areas/challenges in need of advocacy at a different level or different/expanded audience, and to avoid duplications. Moreover, such workshops could focus on the **lessons learnt from the pilots that are taking place in Nigeria and Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Real-Time Accountability Partnership (GBV Accountability Framework).**³ The objective would be to showcase lessons learnt so far and prepare the ground for their application, or stimulate the appetite to use relevant tools from these processes.
2. Many of these workshops could be useful to lay the basis for further work on the Call to Action, including future priority setting in terms of advocacy. Some workshops brought together participants that normally do not interact. They proved to be effective in making the dialogue on the Call to Action more tangible. Such follow-up workshops, should they take place, could also usefully **feed back into the global Call to Action conversations**, particularly in terms of advocacy. Participants stressed that the field should be able to feed into the discussion on challenges and advocacy-priorities at global-level. The Call to Action can be a platform for further exchange and collaboration. Many participants welcomed the possibility to get together in such a setting.

³ For more information on this initiative in which several Call to Action members are collaborating on fostering accountability for GBV in emergencies, please visit: <https://www.calltoactiongbv.com/call-to-action-in-the-field>

Summaries of workshops

Kabul, Afghanistan – 8 May 2018

The workshop welcomed 27 participants, representing 20 organisations and agencies. Most participants were programme staff working at field-level, including many members of the GBV sub-cluster. Discussions on GBV have historically been quite sensitive in Afghanistan, so this workshop proved a useful opportunity for collective discussion. In addition to the presentation on the Call to Action, the agenda included panel discussions presenting agency or NGO-specific programming, as well as working groups on prevention and response in programming and GBV mainstreaming. The recommendations linked to these discussions particularly related to Outcomes 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Call to Action Road Map. Some of the recommendations included the need for sufficient gender-balanced trained humanitarian staff, the need for the development of a capacity-building plan, as well as that more should be done on information sharing and accountability. The importance of establishing participatory dialogue at all levels of society as a prerequisite for addressing GBV in emergencies. Participants flagged that none of the agencies, diplomatic missions and NGOs active in the field of GBV in Afghanistan had heard of the Call to Action, and so the workshop was a useful first introduction.

Bogota, Colombia – 16 May 2018

This workshop had a regional scope (Latin America and the Caribbean - LAC) and was attended by 56 participants from the region (Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Dominican Republic and Nicaragua). They included representatives from the United Nations, international and local NGOs, as well as representatives from local civil society (including women and victims' organisations) and governmental institutions.

The various topics addressed during the meeting illustrated the breath and complexity of GBV in emergencies, and how structural conditions that produce GBV intersect with and are exacerbated during emergencies. Panel discussions on context-specific challenges were organised in addition to a comprehensive presentation on the Call to Action Road Map. Discussions included GBV in the Colombian conflict, GBV in migration (including sexual exploitation and trafficking in Venezuela crisis), and GBV in natural disasters.

Group work focused on recommendations to enhance effectiveness of GBV prevention and response. For each Outcome area of the Call to Action Road Map, specific areas of further work/recommendations for the LAC region were proposed. Examples of these include the positioning of GBV and gender issues in existing coordination spaces for emergencies, implementing accountability mechanisms and monitoring government response to emergencies (under Outcome 2), as well as donor conditionality on the inclusion of GBV risk analysis and on the presence of gender and experts in staff (under Outcome 4).

Participants strengthened their knowledge of the Call to Action. New actors expressed interest in learning more. The discussion raised awareness on the key role of the GBV subgroup. Thanks to the involvement of institutions and civil society, the workshop was also an opportunity for productive dialogue between humanitarian and non-humanitarian actors (i.e. clearer referral mechanism, sharing information, participating in common coordination mechanisms). As a follow-up to the workshop, tools and documents on best practices and lessons learnt on GBV in the region were collected and shared with participants. A session was organised with the Humanitarian Donor Group to share information on the Call to Action Road Map. Recommendations included the need for further efforts to link up work at regional level with country-specific actions on the Call to Action.

Nairobi, Kenya – 23 and 24 May 2018

This regional workshop gathered 65 international participants from South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia impacted by the South Sudan crisis. Participants included representatives from Governments, local and international NGOs, UN agencies and donors. This two-day event was a unique opportunity for participants to share and discuss best practice and innovative ways on how nutrition and food security/livelihoods sectors are integrating GBV risk mitigation mechanisms and/or are contributing to enhanced protection in the different contexts. In addition to an introduction to the Call to Action, the agenda included sessions on the South Sudan crisis (overview with a focus on GBV), global initiatives on GBV (including the [Real-Time Accountability Partnership](#)), cash and gender, GBV integration in food security and livelihoods, providing GBV services in hard-to-reach areas, GBV mainstreaming in coordination, GBV mainstreaming in nutrition, children and GBV, as well as a GBV-specific donors roundtable.

Each session was introduced by organisations directly involved in the subject matter, rather than focusing on the theoretical aspects of GBV mainstreaming and integration. Organisations in the region had sent an expression of interest to the workshop preparatory committee who selected some of the most interesting approaches to be presented to the larger audience. Some of the main points raised by participants included the importance of thorough gender analysis, and the need to enhance coordination/ collaboration between protection/GBV and cash actors. Another benefit of the workshop consisted in its regional dimension. While regional Child Protection coordination focusing on the South Sudan crisis already exists, more needs to be done to promote a regional approach to GBV programming in all countries impacted by the South Sudan crisis. As a concrete result of the workshop, UNHCR and UNFPA (through the Regional Emergency GBV Advisors of the GBV AoR) initiated discussions on the development of a Regional GBV strategy. The Health Cluster Coordinator in Sudan presented the result of the workshop to health cluster members in Khartoum upon its return in country.

The EU is thankful to Switzerland (SDC) for providing financial support for the organisation of this workshop, particularly towards ensuring that local NGOs could be present.

Yaounde, Cameroon – 26 June 2018

This regional workshop, attended by 49 participants representing 34 organisations, covered the crises in Cameroon, Chad and the Central African Republic. During the preparations, three working groups were created, representing each of the countries. The presentation on the Call to Action raised questions on the exclusive focus on emergencies. Participants agreed to identify the focal points within their organisations and establish a dialogue on challenges and opportunities to implement global commitments at field level. The leveraging of global Call to Action commitments to stimulate internal/external action within organisations was also highlighted. In addition, the roles and responsibilities of non-experts on GBV were discussed (including presentation GBV Guidelines), as were mechanisms on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. During the afternoon, a discussion on localisation and on social norms relevant to gender (including engagement with men and boys) took place. Feedback from participants was positive, highlighting the useful opportunity to discuss operational challenges; share learning experiences among the three neighbouring countries; and identify concrete actions (including for instance advocacy at humanitarian country team/humanitarian coordination level).

The closing session focused on identifying key actions forward for the group, relevant to the Call to Action Road Map. As a result, the external report includes a framework for monitoring commitments such as the facilitation of sessions on the IASC GBV Guidelines in all sectors (and as target that 100% of sectors conduct

such a session and appoint a GBV focal point); advocacy with the Humanitarian Coordinator/Humanitarian Country Team to set up a network of focal points on PSEA; harmonisation of training on GBV offered to local actors; and, exploration of options to increase financing for local actors. For each action, different actors were appointed. The EU (DG ECHO) is committed to take a leading role in monitoring these actions.

Erbil and Baghdad, Iraq – 17 and 18 July 2018

Two half-day workshops were organised, with attendance of 27 participants in Baghdad (on 17 July) and 49 participants in Erbil (on 18 July). In Baghdad, in addition to the general presentation on the Call to Action, there was also a presentation on the [Real-Time Accountability Partnership \(RTAP\)](#) (piloted in Iraq). Participants highlighted the usefulness of discussing these different initiatives within one platform. Subsequently, a panel discussion on lessons learned on GBV programming and a forward-looking discussion took place. The main issues raised on the new ways of programming considering both scenarios of protracted displacement and returns. Participants emphasised the need to be more constructive in the partnerships with local actors, including the government of Iraq. The workshop in Erbil discussed the same themes (Call to Action/RTAP, lessons learnt and way forward). Participants expressed concern about the Call to Action being a top-down approach, wondering how it could be anchored more at the field-level. The involvement of local actors into the Call to Action was also identified as a key gap. More broadly on GBV, the importance of integrating GBV (including risk mitigation) in preparedness was highlighted. Integrated GBV services were cited as having a higher impact, but referral systems frequently do not work. Looking forward, groups discussions focused on four areas: partnerships, types of responses, prevention, and targeting. Key recommendations include need for better understanding of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), working with lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) communities, as well as men and boys, and the importance of prevention and advocacy. Participants recommended a second Call to Action workshop in 2019 to look at how Call to Action partners are fulfilling commitments in Iraq.

Amman, Jordan – 13 September 2018

This regional Call to Action workshop covered Ukraine, Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Palestine. It welcomed 61 participants. The workshop served to introduce partners in the region to the Call to Action as well as other GBV-related context-specific challenges, opportunities and initiatives. In the first part of the workshop, in addition to the presentation of Call to Action, particular attention was paid to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) GBV Guidelines, including practical ways to operationalise the GBV guidelines in the shelter sector (which was very appreciated by participants). The workshop provided the opportunity to bring partners together around specific issues, such as accountability of the humanitarian community for addressing GBV, as well also Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS). These topics were chosen following a survey amongst the participants.

The discussion on accountability (which is one of the Call to Action's strategic shifts) stressed the importance of scaling up the humanitarian commitment about GBV in emergencies. Participants also stressed the need for operationalised commitment by all sectors; advocacy at all possible levels for GBV and protection integration (for which Call to Action can play a useful platform); and, enhanced integration of women' and girls' needs within humanitarian responses. On MHPSS, the discussion highlighted that for more traditional health partners, the main focus remains on sexual violence. From a protection perspective, participants underlined the importance of an integrated approach where survivors of GBV have access to psychological support as well as classical GBV services such as case management and safe spaces. There was also a practical presentation focussing on LGBTIQ and male survivors in Jordan.

At the end of the workshop, participants suggested a follow up workshop in 2019, focused on how partners are fulfilling Call to Action commitments in the above areas. Participants agreed that any partner could propose to organise such a meeting.

Khartoum, Sudan – 20 September 2018

The workshop in Khartoum welcomed 47 participants, including representatives of the Government of Sudan, UN Agencies, international NGOs, local NGOs and donors. GBV is an extremely sensitive issue in Sudan and there have not been many opportunities to openly discuss barriers to the provision of safe and quality GBV response services in the country in the past. Participants described the workshop as a 'unique opportunity' to bring different stakeholders together to discuss GBV. The majority of participants was not aware of the Call to Action. The main topics discussed included an overview of GBV global and national initiatives currently implemented in Sudan and GBV risk mitigation; strong emphasis was put on GBV response (with a focus on life-saving service provision) to address the significant barriers in place for local and international actors in the country; a GBV-specific donor panel discussed GBV funding and reinforced different donor perspectives on GBV, an opportunity that partners in country do not always seize due to the sensitivity of the topic.

The main output of the workshop was a matrix of main actions to be undertaken by different stakeholders (humanitarian and development donors, Government of Sudan, INGOs and local civil society organizations) in addressing the main barriers to the provision of safe and quality assistance to GBV survivors. This matrix will hopefully represent an accountability tool for the different stakeholders. The results of the group work on GBV response will be used as basis for future work under the lead of the Federal Unit of Combating Violence Against Women (CVAW) and the GBV sub-sector. The GBV sub-sector will also provide other sectors with knowledge and tools to conduct risk analysis. The humanitarian Donors Working Group remains open to the GBV sub-sector to present specific GBV information. Finally, the health cluster expressed interest in enhancing their involvement.

Bangkok, Thailand – 25 September 2018

This regional workshop welcomed 44 participants. The Rohingya crisis was chosen as a focus of discussion during the workshop. During the presentation of the Call to Action, participants raised questions in terms of available mechanisms for the field to provide feedback or raise on issues from the ground, as well as GBV accountability more broadly. Also the importance of GBV risk mitigation was raised. Subsequently, presentations were given in the context of sharing of successes and challenges in GBV: GBV in disaster and crisis contexts; GBV considerations in nutrition and WASH; integration of protection in GBV (case of Bangladesh and Myanmar); remote case management tools; and GBV in the Rohingya crisis. The second half of the workshop was group work focussing on strategies to prevent and respond to domestic violence, sexual violence, early marriages and trafficking in the Rohingya crisis.

Overall the workshop drew some main conclusions regarding the Rohingya crisis. Firstly, participants highlighted that there is a crisis of masculinity. As mobility restrictions are in place and inaccessibility to employment opportunities, the normative role of men being the provider/protector is not fulfilled. Therefore, men express their male dominance in the form of violence against women and children. It was questioned how GBV programming or mainstreaming considers the balance in designing interventions for women in the context of their mobility restrictions, culturally and physically, whilst also addressing the issue of crisis in masculinity faced by men. Secondly, there is also the issue of an alternative accountability mechanism in the absence of a legal protection framework. Where there is an absence of a legal protection

framework, how programmes would consider another alternative accountability mechanism to address GBV effectively. It was discussed how informal social structures could be used as alternative in the absence of formal legal framework. Thirdly, the importance of integrating risk mitigation actions across sectors (health, livelihoods, nutrition, WASH, education and shelter), based on strong overarching shared protection risk in gender analysis. Lastly, the need for effective communication strategy towards individuals, leaders and community as a whole, to ensure that common GBV messaging (prevention and response) are effective across the sector. Aside from introducing many participants to the Call to Action for the first time, the workshop served to 'inspire' actors in their work towards improving and strengthening GBV prevention and responses.

Gaziantep and Ankara, Turkey – 16 and 19 November 2018

DG ECHO and the GBV sub-working group in Turkey organised a technical workshop (35 participants in Gaziantep) and a states and donors briefing (15 participants in Ankara). For many participants, this workshop was a first-ever introduction to the Call to Action. Turkey-specific coordination efforts, of which not all donors were aware, were highlighted from at the beginning.

Four main topics were discussed with particular focus on context-specific challenges, recommendations, and promising practices, i.e. domestic violence; child, early and forced marriage; engagement with men and boys; and LGBTIQ. Examples of promising practices include specialised case management and solidarity groups that could at a later stage grow into refugee committees (for domestic violence), as well as community-based activities, focused on mobilisation and working with community leaders. It was also mentioned that committees should be able to conduct basic referrals to increase coverage (for child, early and forced marriage). Participants agreed that many victims continue to be invisible, and that further targeting of specific groups (particularly children, men and boys, and LGBTIQ) is needed, ensuring that services are available to all. Peer support groups and anonymous services (for male survivors) and the sensitisation of staff (including translators – for LGBTI individuals) were highlighted as promising practices.

Both events allowed for fruitful discussions on important topics in the Turkey context and involvement of diverse stakeholders. The workshop was a good opportunity to discuss specific topics that were also raised during the GBV sub-working group meetings, while raising their profile and enhancing accountability. Donors were encouraged to follow-up with the EU and Canada (next lead). Participants expressed interest in having a second workshop in 2019. Any partner of the Call to Action could propose to organise such a meeting. As the workshop was organised under the umbrella of the GBV Working Group, the knowledge and discussions will be used to inform future GBV discussions in Turkey.

Dakar, Senegal – 12 December 2018

This regional workshop was attended by 35 participants, representing international NGOs, United Nations Agencies, as well as donor agencies. The day started with a focus on the Call to Action global initiative and the pilot projects implemented in Nigeria and Democratic Republic of Congo. The GBV AoR Strategy for 2018-2020 was also presented. During the discussions, partners raised questions on the Call to Action membership and the absence of partners from the South, highlighting that states and donors are mainly from Europe and North America. They also questioned how Nigeria and Democratic Republic of the Congo, two countries where the pilot projects are taking place, are engaged at the global level. Challenges flagged by participants included limited funding opportunities for protection and GBV interventions, lack of capacities on the ground and coordination issues (between donors, actors, and humanitarian and

development strategies). Afterwards, participants worked in four groups in two rounds to discuss specific topics around the general theme of reinforcing the provision of basic services and coordination. The groups addressed long term mental health consequences of GBV; reintegration of survivors (and their children); disclosure mechanisms; and, how to bring child protection and GBV together.

The recommendations stemming from the workshop, include for instance the need to reactivate the GBV Regional Working Group in Dakar (UNFPA will lead) and for donors to increase their interest, coordination and investment in the prevention and response to GBV in emergencies. The workshop highlighted that actors should increase their proposals for cross-sectoral and interagency-coordinated interventions. GBV capacity building of humanitarian teams needs to be further strengthened. It was also recommended that DG ECHO keeps an active role amongst donors in the coordination of efforts against GBV. Working on the nexus was highlighted as an important step forward. As a deliverable, each working group concluded the day with a Road Map. This work will need to be consolidated.