

National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence, 2010-2014

Final Review and Proposals for New Strategy

Introduction

- ✓ Please complete the questions below which relate to your area of work or experience.
- ✓ Be specific in your answers referring to particular actions under the National Strategy and to data, evaluations and reviews where possible.
- ✓ A key section of the questionnaire asks you to say what you can do under the next strategy. Actions need to be feasible, do-able and ambitious. Any wish lists under this heading should be labelled as such.
- ✓ The questions are purposefully open-ended. Please be as specific and as comprehensive as possible in your answers.
- ✓ Please remember specific developments or actions in relation to vulnerable or high risk groups, including Travellers, people with a disability, older people, migrants, young people, pregnant women and those involved with substance abuse.
- ✓ Do not expect to fill in each and every subheading; the subheadings are meant to prompt your memory.
- ✓ It is better to spend time developing the comment than agonising over which subheading it should go under.
- ✓ Do not get lost with all the subheadings; there are basically five questions:
 - 1. What was good about the strategy?**
 - 2. What was not good?**
 - 3. Have you any evidence either way?**
 - 4. What do you want to do in the next strategy?**
 - 5. What should others do?**
- ✓ Your submission will be published on the Cosc website with the final review.

Name of your organisation: AkiDwA

Positive developments

As a result of actions under the current Strategy what, if any, positive developments have occurred in relation to domestic, sexual or gender-based violence under the following headings:

- 1.1 Victims' experience of state services
Most of migrant women have become aware of the existence of State services on DSGBV especially reporting to the Gardi and social workers whenever incidents occur. However, Men who have engaged with our organisation have been reporting that they do not trust State services when they are victims of DSGBV as they are not believed and little or no actions are done to protect them.
- 1.2 Victims' experience of voluntary sector services
Migrant women have positive experience of voluntary organisations with the support they receive from them, including counselling and rehabilitation
- 1.3 Accountability of perpetrators
Migrant men have started becoming more accountable as they do understand now DSGBV which may be a new concept that interfere with cultures in their country of origin...
- 1.4 Awareness and attitudes
AkiDwA, under the current strategy, has raised awareness on GBV and on DV with both women and Men. As stated above, most migrant women have changed their submissive attitude imposed by "cultures" from countries of origin and have been trying to fight for freedom and equality. Equally, migrant men are becoming aware of how Gender and Domestic Violence is a crime and cannot be tolerated because of the acceptance of its practice in the native culture. AkiDwA has worked extensively, raising awareness on Female Genital Mutilation and through its work, FGM has been banned in Ireland and migrants are being aware of the danger that the practice present for the life of the victims.
- 1.5 Prevention
The FGM law, in particular, has been a big achievement as it will prevent migrants from practicing communities to perform it either here in Ireland or abroad.
- 1.6 Policy making or service planning
- 1.7 Research or data collection

- 1.8 Structures or processes to support the strategy (consultation, meetings, six monthly review reports etc.)
- 1.9 **Outside the Strategy** what, if any, have been the positive developments in relation to domestic, sexual or gender-based violence, generally or under any of the categories above, in the period 2010-2014?

Undesirable developments

As a result of actions or inaction under the current Strategy what, if any, undesirable developments have occurred in relation to domestic, sexual or gender-based violence under the following headings:

- 2.1 Victims' experience of state services
- 2.2 Victims' experience of voluntary sector services
- 2.3 Accountability of perpetrators
- 2.4 Awareness and attitudes
- 2.5 Prevention
- 2.6 Policy making or service planning
- 2.7 Research or data collection
- 2.8 Structures or processes to support the strategy (consultation, meetings, six monthly review reports etc.)
- 2.9 **Outside the Strategy** what undesirable developments, if any, have occurred in relation to domestic, sexual or gender-based violence, generally or under any of the categories above, in the period 2010-2014?

The Evidence

- 3.1 What actions did you take to evaluate or review the impact of any of the actions under the National Strategy? Please forward copies of any relevant publications or documents.

AkiDwA worked intensively addressing GBV and Domestic violence experienced by migrant women. Apart from direct support given to

women seeking its support, either mediating with perpetrators and victims, AkiDwA supported victims in bringing cases to the attention of the authorities, referred clients to specialist services for support and published related research and reports. Furthermore, AkiDwA engaged migrant men in addressing GBV and Domestic violence through different roundtable discussions.

- 3.2 Are you aware of evaluations or reviews by others of the impact of any actions under the Strategy? Please forward copies of any relevant publications or documents, or contact details of those who undertook the evaluation.

What can be done better in the future?

By you

What specific actions is your organisation proposing to undertake in the context of a new national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence, in the period 2015-2019, under any of the following categories.

- 4.1 State services for victims
- 4.2 Voluntary sector services for victims
- 4.3 Accountability of perpetrators
- 4.4 Awareness and attitudes
- 4.5 Prevention
- 4.6 Policy making or service planning
- 4.7 Research or data collection
- 4.8 Structures or processes to support the strategy (consultation, meetings, six monthly review reports etc.)
- 5. What specific actions is your organisation proposing to undertake for victims generally which will also apply to victims of domestic, sexual or gender-based violence, in the period 2015-2019, under any of the above categories?

By others

What other specific actions should be undertaken in the context of a new national strategy on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence, 2015-2019, under any of the following categories?

Who should undertake these actions?

Please also state, with your reasons, if you believe that there should be no further action by anyone under any heading.

- 6.1 State services for victims
- 6.2 Voluntary sector services for victims
- 6.3 Accountability of perpetrators
- 6.4 Awareness and attitudes
- 6.5 Prevention
- 6.6 Policy making or service planning
- 6.7 Research or data collection
- 6.8 Structures or processes to support the strategy (consultation, meetings, six monthly review reports etc.)
- 7.1 What specific actions should be undertaken for victims generally which will also apply to victims of domestic, sexual or gender-based violence, in the period 2015-19, under any of the above categories?
- 7.2 Who should undertake the actions mentioned above?

And finally

- 8. Please make additional comments, if any, here.