



3. COMMITMENT TO COMBAT GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

“Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms. The long-standing failure to protect and promote those rights and freedoms in the case of violence against women is a matter of concern to all States and should be addressed”.¹ [Beijing Platform for Action]

Violence against women and children is a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, as well a serious public health issue. Several regional and international reports, declarations, conventions and protocols have recognized the need and urgency to eliminate this scourge in all its forms.

The Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women adopted by the General Assembly in 1993 called for states to condemn and eliminate violence against women in all its forms². This was echoed by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995 (see above quote). The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women of 1999 empowers the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women to receive complaints from individuals and groups within its jurisdiction and to investigate gross violations.³ The Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 provides that “States Parties shall take all effective and appropriate measures with a view to abolishing traditional practices prejudicial to the health of children”⁴. Sustainable Development Goal 5 aims to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation (Target 5.2) and calls for the elimination of all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation (Target 5.3) by 2030.

Other key international instruments pertaining to violence against women and children include the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in 2000, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, 2000 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, 2000. Table 3.1 summarizes the status of ratification of four international human rights treaties on violence against women and children.

Table 3.1: Status of ratification of international human rights treaties on violence against women.

Country	CRC	OP on Sale of Children	OP on Children in Armed Conflict	Protocol*
Chad	✓	✓	✓	✓
Guinea	✓	✓	✓	✓
Guinea-Bissau	✓	✓	✓	✓
Liberia	✓	✗ ^s	✗ ^s	✓
Mauritania	✓	✓	✗	✓
Mauritius	✓	✓	✓	✓
Namibia	✓	✓	✓	✓
Niger	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rwanda	✓	✓	✓	✓
ST&P	✓	✗	✗	✓
Seychelles	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sierra Leone	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓
Swaziland	✓	✓	✓	✓
Zimbabwe	✓	✓	✓	✓

Sources: United Nations Treaty Collection.

Notes: *Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. OP = Optional protocol. s = these countries have signed but not ratified the instrument

¹ United Nations (1995: para. 112).

² United Nations (1993: Article 4)

³ United Nations (1999).

⁴ United Nations (1989a: Article 2 (f)).

Within the African continent, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, which was adopted in 2003, is revolutionary as it was the first international instrument to compel member States to take necessary measures to eliminate female genital mutilation⁵. In the 2004 Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, Heads of State and Government of the African Union agreed to mount campaigns against the recruitment of child soldiers, abuse of girl children as wives and sex slaves, and gender based violence⁶.

BOX 3.1 DEFINITION AND COST OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

Article 1 of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women defines violence against women as: “Any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”.

The Declaration goes on to explain in Article 2 that violence against women includes but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- (b) Physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
- (c) Physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

In addition, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa broadens the definition to include economic violence. The *Domestic Violence Act* (2007) of **Sierra Leone** defines economic abuse as “the unreasonable deprivation of any economic or financial resources to which the complainant, or a family member or dependent of the complainant is entitled under any law, requires out of necessity or has a reasonable expectation of use, including household necessities and mortgage bond repayments or rent payments in respect of a shared household”.

Violence against women imposes both human and economic costs on societies. The human cost affects victims and their relations directly and includes pain, grief, fear of violence among women and psychological suffering. The economic cost includes increased spending on health care, social services, civil and criminal justice system, absenteeism from work, and lost productivity and output. In a study undertaken in Chatsworth, a township in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa in 2008, a sample of female victims of domestic violence who sought the assistance of the Community Care Centre was surveyed. The study concluded that the total cost per incident of domestic violence amounted to US\$691 (Dalal and Dawal, 2011).

Sources: United Nations (1993), African Union (2003), Government of Sierra Leone (2007a) and Dalal and Dawal (2011).

Violence against women encompass physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence whether occurring in public or in private life (see Box 3.1). It includes, but not limited to sexual abuse of female children in the household, rape, marital rape, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, trafficking in women and forced prostitution.

This chapter reviews the progress made by the countries covered by this report to fulfil their obligations in the international and regional human rights instruments to address violence against women.

⁵ African Union (2003: Article 5 (b)).

⁶ African Union (2004: Articles 5 & 6).

Practices harmful to women and girls

“States Parties shall prohibit and condemn all forms of harmful practices which negatively affect the human rights of women and which are contrary to recognised international standards. States Parties shall take all necessary legislative and other measures to eliminate such practices, including:

- creation of public awareness in all sectors of society regarding harmful practices through information, formal and informal education and outreach programmes;
- prohibition, through legislative measures backed by sanctions, of all forms of female genital mutilation, scarification, medicalisation and para-medicalisation of female genital mutilation and all other practices in order to eradicate them;
- provision of necessary support to victims of harmful practices through basic services such as health services, legal and judicial support, emotional and psychological counselling as well as vocational training to make them self-supporting;
- protection of women who are at risk of being subjected to harmful practices or all other forms of violence, abuse and intolerance.”⁷ [*Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa*]

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child have defined a set of criteria to identify harmful practices. The defining characteristics of harmful practices are as follows:

- (a) “They constitute a denial of the dignity and/or integrity of the individual and a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the two conventions [the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and Convention on the Rights of the Child].
- (b) “They constitute discrimination against women or children and are harmful insofar as they result in negative consequences for them as individuals or groups, including physical, psychological, economic and social harm and/or violence and limitations on their capacity to participate fully in society or develop and reach their full potential.
- (c) “They are traditional, re-emerging or emerging practices that are prescribed and/or kept in place by social norms that perpetuate male dominance and inequality of women and children, on the basis of sex, gender, age and other intersecting factors.
- (d) “They are imposed on women and children by family members, community members or society at large, regardless of whether the victim provides, or is able to provide, full, free and informed consent.”⁸

Harmful practices may take the form of female genital mutilation, forced marriages, including child or early marriage, exchange or trade-off marriages, servile marriages, and levirate marriages (coercing a widow to marry a relative of her deceased husband), and polygamy⁹. Child marriage and female genital mutilation are discussed in more detail below. Box 3.2 highlights examples of practices harmful to women and girls in the countries covered by this report.

⁷ African Union (2003: Article 5).

⁸ United Nations (2014: para. 16).

⁹ United Nations (2014: para. 19-25).

BOX 3.2 EXAMPLES OF PRACTICES HARMFUL TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

- **Chad:** “[The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women] expressed serious concern about the persistence of entrenched harmful cultural norms and practices, including feminine genital mutilations, early marriages, sororate (a widower marries the sister of his deceased spouse), and levirate (“wife inheritance”, in which a man takes on in marriage the widow of his deceased brother).”
- “[The Committee on the Rights of the Child] recommended that **Guinea** enforce existing legislation prohibiting [female genital mutilation] FGM and promote change with regard to the levirate, sororate, repudiation, polygamy and other practices.”
- According to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, “wahaya” a form of slavery including sexual slavery persists in **Niger**. “The Special Rapporteur on slavery noted that the practice of *wahaya* or “fifth wife” entailed the purchase of a woman or a girl as a slave under the guise of “marriage”.”
- **Sierra Leone:** “The Committee against Torture noted the persistence of harmful traditional practices inflicted on elderly women in relation to allegations of witchcraft. It was concerned about reports of the commission of ritual crimes and the lack of effective investigations, the alleged interference of traditional leaders and the reliance on out-of-court settlements in such cases.”
- **South Africa:** “The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was concerned at the persistence of harmful cultural or traditional practices against women and girls, such as *ukuthwala*, which could be tantamount to forced child marriage. ... The Committee on the Rights of the Child was concerned at the high prevalence of harmful practices, including virginity testing, witchcraft, female genital mutilation, violent or harmful initiation rites and intersex genital mutilation.”
- **Zimbabwe:** “The Committee [on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women] also expressed concern about customary and religious laws and practices that discriminated against women (...), such as polygamy and bride price (*lobola*). (...) The Committee on the Rights of the Child expressed concern about forced and early marriage, polygamy, *lobola* and, in certain regions, virginity testing and witch hunting.”

Sources: United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017a), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2013a: para. 23), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2014a: para. 31), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015a: para. 23), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015b: para. 30), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2016: para. 19-20) and United Nations, Human Rights Council (2017: para. 57-58).

[To update] Overall countries scored themselves high on law, followed by policy commitment, development of plan and involvement of civil society for harmful practices on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard (Table A3.1). The weakest areas were targets, monitoring and evaluation, capacity enhancement and accountability/transparency. Of the countries where harmful practices covered by the report exist, **Niger** and **Rwanda** scored themselves at least 85 percent and above while **Guinea** scored itself lowest at 62 percent.

Child marriage

“Child marriage and the betrothal of girls and boys shall be prohibited and effective action, including legislation, shall be taken to specify the minimum age of marriage to be 18 years and make registration of all marriages in an official registry compulsory.”¹⁰

“That a minimum legal age of marriage for girls and boys, with or without parental consent, is established at 18 years. When a marriage at an earlier age is allowed in exceptional circumstances, the absolute minimum age must not be below 16 years, the grounds for obtaining permission must be legitimate and strictly defined by law and the marriage

¹⁰ Organization of African Unity (1990).

must be permitted only by a court of law upon the full, free and informed consent of the child or both children, who must appear in person before the court.”¹¹

Child marriage is any marriage where at least one of the parties is under 18 years of age¹². Although boys are also affected, the overwhelming majority of child marriages involve girls¹³. For example, in **Niger** five percent of men aged 20 to 49 years were married before the age of 18 compared to 77 per cent of women in the same age group¹⁴.

Table 3.2: Legal age of marriage (2015), measures to end child and forced marriages (2012), and prevalence of child marriages, 2003-2015.

	Legal age of marriage (1)			Law prohibits or invalidates child marriages (2)	Women aged 20-24 married by age 18 (3)	
	Girls	Boys	Exception		Percent	Source
Chad	21	21	✓	✓	68	MICS 2010
Guinea	21	21	✓	✓	52	DHS 2012
Guinea-Bissau	18	18	✓	✓	22	MICS 2010
Liberia	18	21	✓	✓	36	DHS 2013
Mauritania	18	18	✓	✗	34	MICS 2011
Mauritius	18	18	✓	✓
Namibia	18	18	✓	✗	7	DHS 2013
Niger	21	21	✓	✓	76	DHS 2012
Rwanda	21	21	✓	✓	8	DHS 2010
ST&P	18	18	✓	✓	34	DHS 2008/09
Seychelles	18	18	✓	✓
Sierra Leone	18	18	✗	✓	39	DHS 2013
South Africa	18	18	✓	✓	6	DHS 2003
Swaziland	21	21	✓	✗	7	MICS 2010
Zimbabwe	18	18	✓	✓	34	MICS 2014

Sources: World Bank (2015) for notes (1) - (2) and UNICEF database (2016) (note (3)).

Notes: A tick (✓) indicates that there are exceptions to legal age of marriage and measures are in place to end child and forced marriages. A cross (✗) indicates that there are exceptions to legal age of marriage measures are not in place to end child and forced marriages. (..) means no data is available. DHS = Demographic and Health Survey; MICS = Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey; and ST&P = Sao Tome and Principe.

According to UNICEF, less than 10 percent of women between 20 and 24 years of age in **Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa** and **Swaziland** had been married or had entered into a union before reaching 18 years of age (Table 3.2). The figures for **Liberia, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone** and **Zimbabwe** were between 30 and 50 percent, while it was 52 percent in **Guinea**, 68 percent in **Chad** and 76 percent in **Niger**. **Niger** has the highest overall prevalence of child marriage in the world, with **Chad** and **Guinea** also among the top 10 countries with the highest rates of child marriage¹⁵.

Legal reform to introduce a minimum age at marriage is one of the strategies that can be used to prevent child marriage. The legal age of marriage for all countries with data covered by this report is either 18 or 21 (Table 3.2). In **Liberia**, the age for girls is 18 compared to 21 for boys. In **Rwanda**, the legal age of marriage is 21 years for both men and women (Law N⁰32/2016). According to the AGDI Report for **Rwanda**, this age limit is meant to allow informed decision making and to prohibit any form of coercion and full development of the reproductive capacities of women to avoid complications at child birth.

¹¹ United Nations (2014: para. 55(f)).

¹² United Nations (2014: para. 20).

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ UNICEF (2014).

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

All countries permit exceptions to the legal age of marriage usually with parental consent (see Box 3.3 for some examples). In **Mauritania, Namibia and Swaziland** there are no legal provisions that either prohibit or invalidate child marriages (Table 3.2).

BOX 3.3 EXCEPTIONS TO THE LEGAL AGE OF MARRIAGE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES.

- In **Guinea**, the *Children's Code* allows the marriage of boys and girls under 18 years with the consent of their parents or legal guardians.
- Under Article 145 of the *Civil Code* any minor aged above 16 years may get married with the consent of his/her parents in **Mauritius**.
- In **Namibia**, although the *Married Persons Equality Act* set the minimum age of marriage at 18 years, this did not apply to customary marriages.
- In **Niger**, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted that “most child marriages are conducted under customary law, which does not require the consent of the future spouses for marriage or a minimum age for marriage”.
- In **Sierra Leone**, the *Child Rights Act* (2007) in Section 34 states that for the minimum age of marriage is 18 years. Although the *Registration of Customary Marriage and Divorce Act* (2007) also stipulates a minimum age of marriage of 18, it provides that if a child below the age of 18 and his or her parents' consent to a marriage, a marriage may be lawfully concluded.
- In **South Africa**, the *Children's Act* (2005) set the minimum age for marriage at 12 years for girls and 14 years for boys. The *Marriage Act* (1961) and the *Recognition of Customary Marriages Act* (1998) set different conditions for marriages for girls and boys under 18 years of age. The Minister of Home Affairs' consent is required for boys aged between 14 - 17 years to enter in customary or civil marriages. Girls aged 12 - 14 years that wish to enter into civil marriages require the consent of the Minister of Home Affairs, while those aged 15 - 17 years only require the consent of their parents. Girls aged 12 - 17 years may enter into customary marriages only with the consent of the Minister of Home Affairs.

Sources: AGDI Mauritius Report 2017, AGDI Sierra Leone Report 2017, Child Rights South Africa (2017), United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017: para. 42(a)); United Nations, Committee on the Rights of the Child (2016), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2014a), United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015c) and United Nations, Human Rights Council (2017).

The factors that lead to child marriage include poverty, a lack of educational and employment opportunities for girls, and social and cultural norms that assign specific gender roles to men and women¹⁶. The custom of paying bride prices – payments by the groom to the bride's family – practiced in some countries, may also contribute to child marriage especially for girls from poor households. In a joint general recommendation, the Committees on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and on the Rights of the Child noted that “bride prices ... could constitute a sale of children”¹⁷ under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, 2000 (see below).

Girls who marry early tend to have earlier and more frequent pregnancy and childbirth, resulting in higher than average child and maternal morbidity and mortality rates (see Chapter 5 for further details). Marrying as a child also significantly reduces the likelihood of enrolling and completing secondary school, especially among girls, and contributes to forced exclusion from school and an increased risk of domestic violence¹⁸ (see also Chapter 4 for further details).

¹⁶ Woden et al. (2017).

¹⁷ United Nations (2014: para. 24).

¹⁸ United Nations (2014: para. 22) and Woden et al. (2017).

Female genital mutilation

“Female genital mutilation, female circumcision or female genital cutting is the practice of partially or wholly removing the external female genitalia or otherwise injuring the female genital organs for non-medical or non-health reasons. ... Female genital mutilation ... within some cultures, is a requirement for marriage and believed to be an effective method of controlling the sexuality of women and girls. It may have various immediate and/or long-term health consequences, including severe pain, shock, infections and complications during childbirth (affecting both the mother and the child), long-term gynaecological problems such as fistula, psychological effects and death.”¹⁹

The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommends that State parties to CEDAW take steps to eradicate the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM)²⁰. In response, countries have endeavored to eliminate the practice. **Chad** has banned the practice²¹. **Guinea** enacted the *Law on Reproductive Health* (2000) that prohibits all forms of FGM supported by the Strategic Plan against FGM (2012–2016)²². **Guinea-Bissau** has adopted the *Law to Prevent, Fight and Suppress Female Genital Mutilation* (2011) and the 2010–2015 National Action Plan to Combat Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting²³. Although there is no explicit law on FGM in **Sierra Leone**, Section 33 (1) of the *Child Right Act* (2007) states that: “No person shall subject a child to torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment including any cultural practice which dehumanizes or is injurious to the physical and mental welfare of a child”²⁴. There is no law prohibiting FGM in **Mauritania**²⁵.

Chart 3.1: Percentage of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone FGM/C, 2004-2015 (%).

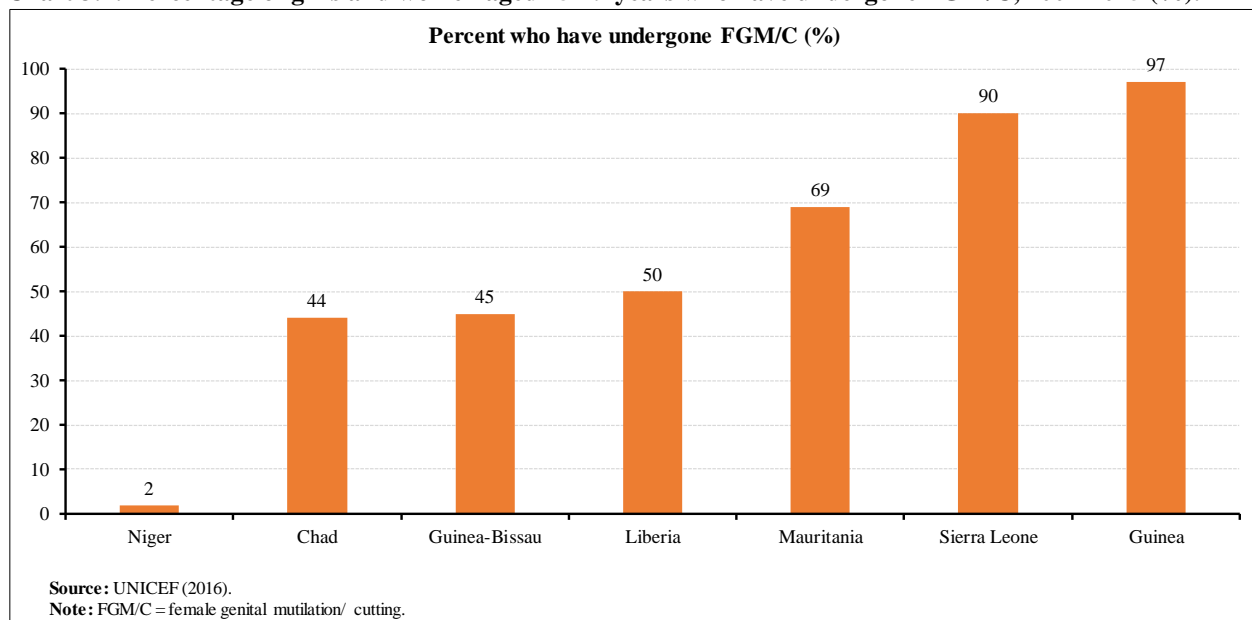


Chart 3.1 shows that at least half of girls and women aged 15 to 49 had undergone FGM in **Liberia** (50 percent), **Mauritania** (69 percent), **Sierra Leone** (90 percent) and **Guinea** (97 percent). The figures for **Chad** and **Guinea-Bissau** were 44 percent and 45 percent respectively. However, the practice is a deep-rooted social custom and still persists despite efforts to eliminate it (see Box 3.4 for the case of **Liberia**). Furthermore, the laws are seldom effectively enforced.

¹⁹ United Nations (2014: para. 19).

²⁰ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (1990).

²¹ United Nations, Human Rights Council (2013b; para. 43).

²² United Nations, Human Rights Council (2014a; para. 31).

²³ United Nations, Human Rights Council (2014b; para. 21).

²⁴ Government of Sierra Leone (2007b).

²⁵ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2015d; para. 24-25).

BOX 3.4 THE PERSISTENCE OF HARMFUL PRACTICES IN LIBERIA.

Cultural societies such as the *Sande* (for women) and *Poro* (for men) form an important part of Liberian society. They have historically provided training for young adults in the absence of formal educational structures. However, some traditional and cultural practices common to many Liberian ethnic communities have a significant negative impact on the enjoyment of fundamental human rights. These include female genital mutilation, forcible initiation into secret societies, trial by ordeal, accusations of witchcraft, and ritualistic killings. These practices have particularly affected certain groups, such as women, children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, and the poorest Liberians.

These harmful practices are sustained by certain legal provisions including the Hinterland Regulations and Article 5(b) of the Constitution promoting “positive culture”. Adopted in 1949, the Hinterland Regulations created separate legal and administrative structures for “civilized” and “native” Liberians, placing the latter under customary or tribal law jurisdiction with “native courts”. Article 5(b) of the Constitution calls for the preservation, protection and promotion of “positive Liberian culture” with the aim of “ensuring that traditional values which are compatible with public policy and national progress are adopted and developed as an integral part of the growing needs of the Liberian society.”

The Government has faced significant challenges in fighting these practices as they are deeply rooted in Liberian society. Attempts to curtail them are often strongly resisted by local communities, which perceive government intervention in this area as an attack on their cultural heritage. Additionally, it is often difficult to engage in discussion on these topics, as they are linked to the practices of secret societies and therefore may not be considered suitable for discussion with non-members.

Sources: UNMIL and OHCHR (2015) and United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015d: para. 54).

Domestic violence

“Ensure that all forms of gender-based violence against women in all spheres, which amount to a violation of their physical, sexual, or psychological integrity, are criminalized and introduced, without delay, or strengthen legal sanctions commensurate with the gravity of the offence as well as civil remedies.”²⁶

Women are more likely than men to be victims of domestic violence. For example, the AGDI Report for **Mauritius** notes that, out of 1,680 cases of domestic violence reported at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare in 2014, nearly 90 percent were against women.

Table 3.3: Proportion of ever-partnered women aged 15-49 years experiencing physical and/or sexual intimate violence in selected countries.

Country	Lifetime physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence (%)	Physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence in the last 12 months (%)
Chad	30	18
Liberia	39	36
Namibia	25	20
Rwanda	34	21
Sao Tome and Principe	28	..
Sierra Leone	45	29
Zimbabwe	35	20

Source: UN Women Global Database on Violence against Women.

²⁶ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017b: para. 29).

For countries where data is available, the proportion of ever-partnered women between 15 and 49 years who have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence over their lifetime ranges from 25 percent in **Namibia** to 45 percent in **Sierra Leone** (Table 3.3). In **Liberia**, 36 percent of ever-partnered women between 15 and 49 years have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence in the last year.

The countries under review have developed pieces of legislation and other measures to address domestic violence to meet their obligations as State parties to various international and regional human rights treaties. These measures are discussed below organized around the framework recommended in the *United Nations' s Handbook for legislation on violence against women*²⁷.

Does legislation on domestic violence exist?

According to the *World Bank's Women, Business and the Law*, **Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania** and **Niger** do not have separate legislation that deals specifically with domestic violence (Table 3.4). **Liberia** is considering a domestic violence bill²⁸. *The Domestic Violence Act* (1998) of **South Africa** acknowledges that domestic violence is a form of discrimination against women and specifically refer to international human rights instruments. The preamble states that “having regards to the Constitution, and in particular, the right to equality and to freedom and security of the person, and the international commitments and obligations of the state towards ending violence against women and children, including obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child”.

Table 3.4: Legislation on domestic violence, marital rape and sexual harassment, 2015.

	Domestic violence				Marital rape	Sexual harassment		
	Separate domestic violence legislation exists	Covers all four types of domestic violence*	Clear criminal penalties exist	Protection orders exist	Explicitly criminalized	Legislation on harassment in employment	Legislation on harassment in education	Legislation on harassment in public spaces
Chad	x	N/A	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x
Guinea	x	N/A	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x
Guinea-Bissau	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓
Liberia	x	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x	x
Mauritania	x	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x	x
Mauritius	✓	x (PSE)	x	✓	x	✓	✓	x
Namibia	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Niger	x	N/A	N/A	x	x	✓	x	x
Rwanda	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x
ST&P	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Seychelles	✓	x(E)	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓
Sierra Leone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
South Africa	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x
Swaziland	x	N/A	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x
Zimbabwe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x

Source: World Bank (2015).

Notes: ST&P = Sao Tome and Principe. * = physical (P), sexual (S) and emotional (E) (see Box 3.1). N/A = Not applicable.

Does the legislation include a comprehensive definition of domestic violence?

Of the countries having separate domestic violence laws, those of **Guinea-Bissau, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa** and **Zimbabwe** cover all four types of domestic violence mentioned in Box 3.1 (Table 3.4). The *Protection from Domestic Violence Act* in **Mauritius** does not cover

²⁷ United Nations, Division for the Advancement of Women (2010).

²⁸ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2015b).

economic violence. **Seychelles** is developing new domestic violence legislation to replace the *Family Violence (Protection of Victims) Act* (2000) which covers only physical violence.

Does the legislation take a holistic approach to domestic violence?

In addition to criminalization of domestic violence, laws in **Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone** and **Zimbabwe** set clear criminal penalties for transgressions (Table 3.4). Complainants/survivors of domestic violence can obtain protection orders in all countries having domestic violence laws except in **Rwanda**. In **Namibia**, the *Combating of Domestic Violence Act* (2003) provides for protection orders that may allow for “no-contact” provisions, removal of the perpetrator from the joint residence, directing the perpetrator to pay rent on behalf of the complainant and granting temporary custody of a child, among other provisions.

Countries have set up a number of specialized mechanisms to protect victims and deal with cases of domestic violence and sexual violence (discussed below). **Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa** and **Zimbabwe** have either specialized courts or procedures to deal with domestic and sexual violence²⁹. According to the AGDI Report for **Mauritius**, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence Committee was set up in 2015 to reduce and prevent the incidence of domestic violence and provide guidance on cases of domestic violence and ensure that victims receive appropriate treatment and care. In addition, the Family Protection Unit of the National Police interviews victims in privacy and ensure sufficient emotional support. **Swaziland** has established Domestic Violence and Victim Support Centres in all police stations³⁰. **Niger** plans to build 140 “Safe centres” for victims of domestic violence.

Box 3.5 shows the interventions adopted by **Liberia** to address sexual and gender-based violence.

BOX 3.5 INTERVENTIONS AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN LIBERIA

The problem: The incidence of sexual and gender-based violence is alarmingly high. Rape remains one of the most frequently reported crimes. Survivors of sexual assault face stigmatization and are often pressured by their family members or communities not to pursue formal charges against perpetrators (a practice known as “compromising” rape).

Plan: Gender-Based Violence Action Plan/ National Action Plan to implement Resolution 1325.

Institutional mechanisms:

- The Gender-Based Violence Inter-Agency Taskforce coordinates the implementation of the Gender-Based Violence Action Plan.
- The Sexual and Gender-based Violence Crimes Unit of the Ministry of Justice oversees the prosecution of Sexual and Gender-based Violence Crimes at Criminal Court “E” a specialized court for sexual offenses. The Unit also provides support to victims of gender-based violence, including access to medical treatment, psychosocial services, temporary protective shelter at safe homes, education and empowerment packages, and start-up grants for small business and farming activities.
- The Women and Children Protection Unit established in the police service in 2009, investigates sexual and gender-based violence crimes.
- One-stop centres for victims of sexual and gender-based violence in 7 of the 15 counties.

²⁹ World Bank (2015).

³⁰ SADC (2016: p. 60).

Awareness-raising/information and dissemination:

- President Sirleaf launched the National Anti-Rape Campaign in 2013 condemning rape and sexual and gender-based violence through radio programmes, community fora, dialogue with traditional leaders, and other activities, and also educated the public on the rape law.
- The Law Reform Commission published simplified versions of the rape law.

Sources: United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2015d) and United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015e).

[To update] Overall, countries scored themselves high on involvement of civil society followed by development of a plan on domestic violence on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard, and low on targets, monitoring and evaluation and accountability/transparency (Table A3.2). **Namibia** and **Rwanda** scored themselves highest at 92 percent while **Guinea** scored itself lowest at 38 percent.

Sexual violence: Rape, marital rape and statutory rape

[To update] Overall countries scored themselves high on ratification and institutional mechanism, followed by law, policy commitment, and involvement of civil society for actions against rape on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard (Table A3.3). The weakest area was capacity enhancement, followed by human resources, research, monitoring and evaluation and accountability/transparency. **Namibia** and **Rwanda** scored themselves 92 percent while **Mauritius** scored itself lowest at 27 percent.

South Africa, Swaziland and **Zimbabwe** have enacted separate acts to address sexual violations and sexual abuse of women and children to enact all matters relating to sexual offences in a single statute³¹. The *Judicial Matters Second Amendment Act* (2013) in **South Africa** allows for the designation of courts as sexual offences courts to hear sexual offences, while Victim Friendly Courts in **Zimbabwe** deal with sexual abuse cases involving children³². **Sao Tome and Principe** has set up a Counselling Centre against Domestic Violence³³. Marital rape is explicitly criminalized in **Guinea-Bissau, Namibia, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa** and **Zimbabwe** (Table 3.4).

Statutory rape refers to sexual activities where one participant is below the age required to legally consent to the behaviour. [To update] Overall countries scored themselves high on law and policy commitment on measures undertaken to address statutory rape on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard, followed by involvement of civil society (Table A3.4). The weakest areas were targets, budget, research and monitoring and evaluation. **Niger** and **Rwanda** and **Seychelles** themselves above 85 percent while **Mauritius** scored itself lowest at 54 percent.

Sexual harassment

“There is sexual harassment when a person, in circumstances in which a reasonable person would have foreseen that the other person would be humiliated, offended or intimidated, either (i) makes an unwelcome sexual advance, or an unwelcome request for a sexual favour, to another person, or (ii) engages in any other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature towards another person.”³⁴

³¹ SADC (2016: p. 58).

³² *Ibid.*

³³ United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015f).

³⁴ Equal Opportunity Commission [Mauritius] (2014).

[To update] Overall countries scored themselves high on law, policy commitment and involvement of civil society, and low on accountability/transparency, budget, research and monitoring and evaluation on measures to deal with sexual harassment on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard (Table A3.5). **Rwanda** scored itself highest at 92 percent while **Seychelles** scored itself lowest at 54 percent.

Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, South Africa and Zimbabwe have legislation against sexual harassment in the workplace, according to the World Bank’s *Women, Business and the Law* (Table 3.4). **Niger** amended the *Labour Code* in 2012 to prohibit sexual harassment in the workplace. However, the prohibition is limited to individuals exercising authority and does not include co-workers³⁵. **Mauritius** has legislation against sexual harassment in schools, while **Guinea-Bissau** and **Seychelles** have legislation prohibiting sexual harassment in public spaces.

Protocol to the Suppression and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, 2000

The Protocol to the Suppression and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children requires governments to adopt legislative measures, establish criminal offences relating to trafficking and to assist and protect victims of trafficking. All countries covered by this report has ratified the Protocol (Table 3.1). [To update] Overall countries scored themselves high on ratification and institutional mechanism, followed by policy commitment, law and involvement of civil society on measures on trafficking in persons on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard (Table A3.5). The weakest areas were accountability/transparency and setting targets. **Niger, Rwanda** and **Seychelles** scored themselves 80 percent and above while **Swaziland** scored itself lowest at 67 percent.

Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritius, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe have specific legislations to combat trafficking in persons (Table 3.5). **Namibia** and **Rwanda** are developing bills on trafficking in persons. **Liberia** has launched the Anti-Human Trafficking Action Plan (2014–19)³⁶, while **Niger** established the National Coordinating Committee and the National Agency for Combating Trafficking in Persons, with an associated action plan (2014-2018)³⁷.

Table 3.5: Legislation to address trafficking in persons

Country	Legislation specifically addressing trafficking in people
Guinea-Bissau	Law on Prevention and Fight against Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children (2011)
Liberia	Act to Ban Trafficking (2005)
Mauritius	Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act (2009)
Namibia	No specific legislation to address trafficking in persons; draft bill under development
Rwanda	Bill on trafficking in persons is under development.
Seychelles	Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons Act (2014)
Sierra Leone	Anti-Human Trafficking Act (2005)
South Africa	Prevention of Combating of Trafficking Persons Act (2013)
Swaziland	The People Trafficking and People Smuggling (Prohibition) Act (2009)
Zimbabwe	Trafficking in Persons Act (2014)

Sources: SADC (2016: Table 6.4); United Nations, Human Rights Council (2014b); United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015b); United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017c).

³⁵ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017a: para. 30(b)).

³⁶ United Nations, Human Rights Council (2015e).

³⁷ United Nations, CEDAW Committee (2017a: para. 24).

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, 2000

1. Each State Party shall ensure that, as a minimum, the following acts and activities are fully covered under its criminal or penal law (...):

(a) (i) Offering, delivering or accepting, by whatever means, a child for the purpose of:

- a. Sexual exploitation of the child;
- b. Transfer of organs of the child for profit;
- c. Engagement of the child in forced labour; (...)

(b) Offering, obtaining, procuring or providing a child for child prostitution;

(c) Producing, distributing, disseminating, importing, exporting, offering, selling or possessing for the above purposes child pornography.”³⁸

This Optional Protocol obligates State Parties to prohibit the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. All countries have ratified the Optional Protocol except for **Liberia** and **Sao Tome and Principe** (Table 3.1). [To update] Overall, countries scored themselves high on ratification, law and policy commitment, followed by institutional mechanism and development of plan on measures undertaken to meet their obligations under the Protocol on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard (Table A3.6). The weakest areas were monitoring and evaluation and accountability/transparency, followed by research. **Niger**, **Rwanda** and **Seychelles** scored themselves 80 percent and above while **Swaziland** scored itself lowest at 63 percent.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts, 2000

“States Parties shall take all feasible measures to ensure that members of their armed forces who have not attained the age of 18 years do not take a direct part in hostilities. States Parties shall ensure that persons who have not attained the age of 18 years are not compulsorily recruited into their armed forces.”³⁹

All countries have ratified the Optional Protocol except for **Liberia**, **Mauritania** and **Sao Tome and Principe** (Table 3.1). [To update] Overall, countries scored themselves high on law, policy commitment and development of plan on the measures they have undertaken to integrate the provisions of the Protocol (Table A3.7). The weakest area was capacity enhancement, followed by budget, research, monitoring and evaluation and accountability/transparency. **Rwanda** and **Seychelles** scored themselves above 80 percent while **South Africa** and **Swaziland** scored themselves lowest at 60 percent and 63 percent respectively. Box 3.6 highlights **Chad**’s efforts in meeting its obligations under the Protocol.

BOX 3.6. CHAD AND THE “CHILDREN, NOT SOLDIERS CAMPAIGN”

The campaign “Children, not soldiers” was launched in 2014 by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict with UNICEF, formally ended in December 2016. Chad was one of the eight countries involved in the campaign which involved each country signing action plans with the United Nations. In a prepared in 2017, the Special Representative reported that Chad, along with the Democratic Republic of the Congo have met the benchmarks set out in their action plans to end and prevent the recruitment of children in their armed forces.

Source: United Nations (2017).

³⁸ United Nations (2000c: Article 3).

³⁹ United Nations (2000d: Articles 1-2).

Concluding remarks

This chapter looked at the progress made by the countries covered by this report in meeting their commitments set in global and regional human rights instruments on gender-based violence. Gender-based violence encompasses physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence whether occurring in public or in private life. It includes, but not limited to sexual abuse of female children in the household, rape, marital rape, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, trafficking in women and forced prostitution. The chapter also discussed the performance of the countries in implementing the provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

Harmful practices. Countries have undertaken a number of measures to eliminate discriminatory stereotypes and practices that are harmful to and discriminate against women. These practices include female genital mutilation, forced marriages, including child marriage, exchange or trade-off marriages, servile marriages, levirate marriages (coercing a widow to marry a relative of her deceased husband), and polygamy. However, as such practices are deep-rooted social customs they still persist despite efforts to eliminate them. Furthermore, the measures are usually not effectively enforced and implemented.

Child marriage and genital mutilation. Early marriage and female genital mutilation are prevalent in some of the countries under review, in particular those from Central and West Africa. In addition to social customs and poor enforcement and implementation of measures, child marriages are facilitated laws that permit exemptions to the legal age of marriage and the absence of laws that invalidate child marriages.

Domestic and sexual violence. In general, the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence is high in the countries under review. In response, countries are enacting separate legislation to deal specifically with domestic and sexual violence. Domestic violence laws increasingly cover all forms of domestic violence. In addition to the criminalization of domestic and sexual violence, some laws impose clear penalties and permit protection orders to protect complainants and victims. Some countries have set up a number of specialized mechanisms to protect victims and deal with cases of domestic violence and sexual violence including specialised courts, committees, special protection units and “safe houses”. Some countries have now made marital rape a criminal offence.

Sexual harassment. The majority of countries have legislation prohibiting sexual harassment in the workplace. However, few countries have legislation banning sexual harassment in schools and in public places.

Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. All countries covered by this report have ratified the Protocol.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. Liberia and Sao Tome and Principe have not ratified the Protocol.

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict. Liberia, Mauritania and Sao Tome and Principe have not ratified the Protocol.

Scoring on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard. Overall, countries score themselves well on enacting legislation, policy commitment, developing plans and involvement of civil society organizations in terms of meeting their international and regional commitments on gender-based violence. Weak areas were monitoring and evaluation and accountability/transparency, as well as setting targets, budget and research.

Recommendations

Governments should undertake the following interventions to eliminate gender-based violence.

- **Ratification of human rights instruments.** For countries that have not yet done so, expedite the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.
- **Harmonize age of marriage.** Harmonize existing legislation to remove any discrimination between boys and girls by setting a uniform age of marriage.
- **Legislation.** Expedite the enactment of laws that comprehensively covers all forms of gender-based violence in particular marital rape, statutory rape and sexual violence where they do not exist, and strengthen the enforcement of existing laws, in line with the provisions of international and regional human instruments. In particular, ensure that there are separate legislation dealing with domestic violence, sexual violence and trafficking in persons.
- **Operationalizing legislation.** Put in place mechanisms including the development of action plans, creation of specialized institutions and the provision of support services to victims, to implement existing legislation.
- **Capacity enhancement.** Provide training for judges, prosecutor, the police and law enforcement officers on the application of the punitive and enforcement measures in the laws prohibiting gender-based violence to ensure that perpetrators are effectively investigated, prosecuted and punished and that victims are provided with assistance and rehabilitation.
- **Awareness-raising.** In collaboration with civil society organizations, undertake education awareness programmes targeted at both men and women about the need to eliminate female genital mutilation, with special emphasis on the health risks of the practice.
- **Dissemination.** Continue to disseminate the contents of the laws addressing gender-based violence, including translating them into local languages.
- **Resources.** Allocate adequate organizational, human, technical and financial resources for the effective enforcement of laws, implementation of policies and the operation of institutions involved in the fight against gender-based violence.
- **Data.** Enhance the collection, analysis and dissemination of comprehensive data, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, location and type of offence and relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, which should be used to monitor progress achieved towards the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence.

Annex

Table A3.1: Scores for harmful practices on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard.

	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and evaluation	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad															26	
Guinea	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Guinea-Bissau															26	
Liberia															26	
Mauritania															26	
Namibia	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	19	26	73
Niger	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	22	26	85
Rwanda	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	26	92
Sao Tome and Principe															26	
Sierra Leone															26	
South Africa	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	19	26	73
Zimbabwe															26	

Source: AGDI National Reports. No scores provided for Seychelles and Swaziland.

Table A3.2: Scores for domestic violence on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard.

	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and evaluation	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad															26	
Guinea	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	10	26	38
Guinea-Bissau															26	
Liberia															26	
Mauritania															26	
Mauritius	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	25	26	96
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	20	26	77
Niger	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	16	26	62
Rwanda	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	26	92
Sao Tome and Principe															26	
Seychelles	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	23	26	80
Sierra Leone															26	
South Africa	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	19	26	73
Swaziland	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	17	26	65
Zimbabwe															26	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

Table A3.3: Scores for rape on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard.

	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and evaluation	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad															26	
Guinea	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	0	13	26	50
Guinea-Bissau															26	
Liberia															26	
Mauritania															26	
Mauritius	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	7	26	27
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	24	26	92
Niger	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	19	26	73
Rwanda	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	26	92
Sao Tome and Principe															26	
Seychelles	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	17	26	65
Sierra Leone															26	
South Africa															26	
Swaziland	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Zimbabwe															26	

Source: AGDI National Reports. Notes: Seychelles need to clarify scoring.

Table A3.4: Scores for statutory rape/defilement on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard.

	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and evaluation	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad															26	
Guinea	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Guinea-Bissau															26	
Liberia															26	
Mauritania															26	
Mauritius	2	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	14	26	54
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	20	26	77
Niger	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	23	26	88
Rwanda	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	26	92
Sao Tome and Principe															26	
Seychelles	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	2	1	2	2	16	26	62
Sierra Leone															26	
South Africa	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Swaziland	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Zimbabwe															26	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

Table A3.5: Scores for sexual harassment on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard.

	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and evaluation	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad															26	
Guinea	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Guinea-Bissau															26	
Liberia															26	
Mauritania															26	
Mauritius	2	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	0	16	26	62
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18	26	69
Niger	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Rwanda	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	26	92
Sao Tome and Principe															26	
Seychelles	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	14	26	54
Sierra Leone															26	
South Africa	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Swaziland	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	16	26	62
Zimbabwe															26	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

Table A3.6: Scores for Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially in Women and Children, 2000 on the African Women's Progress Scoreboard.

	Ratification	Reporting	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional mechanism	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad																	30	
Guinea	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	22	30	73
Guinea-Bissau																	30	
Liberia																	30	
Mauritania																	30	
Mauritius	2	0	2	2	1	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	21	30	70
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22	30	73
Niger	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	28	30	93
Rwanda	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	28	30	93
Sao Tome and Principe																	30	
Seychelles	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	25	30	83
Sierra Leone																	30	
South Africa	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	22	30	73
Swaziland	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	30	67
Zimbabwe																	30	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

Table A3.7: Scores for Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, 2000 on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard.

	Ratification	Reporting	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional mechanism	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad																	30	
Guinea	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	22	30	73
Guinea-Bissau																	30	
Liberia																	30	
Mauritania																	30	
Mauritius	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	23	30	77
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22	30	73
Niger	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	24	30	80
Rwanda	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	28	30	93
Sao Tome and Principe																	30	
Seychelles	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	25	30	83
Sierra Leone																	30	
South Africa	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	23	30	77
Swaziland	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	30	63
Zimbabwe																	30	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

Table A3.8: Scores for Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts, 2000 on the African Women’s Progress Scoreboard.

	Ratification	Reporting	Law	Policy commitment	Development of a plan	Targets	Institutional mechanism	Budget	Human resources	Research	Involvement of civil society	Information and dissemination	Monitoring and	Capacity enhancement	Accountability/transparency	Total	Maximum score	Percentage (%)
Chad																	30	
Guinea	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	1	1	22	30	73
Guinea-Bissau																	30	
Liberia																	30	
Mauritania																	30	
Namibia	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22	30	73
Niger	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	23	30	77
Rwanda	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	2	26	30	86
Sao Tome and Principe																	30	
Seychelles	2	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	25	30	83
Sierra Leone																	30	
South Africa	2	2	2	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	18	30	60

Swaziland	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19	30	63
Zimbabwe																		30	

Source: AGDI National Reports.

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