

# Spotlight Initiative

*To eliminate violence against women and girls*

## About us

The European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) have embarked on a global, multi-year partnership to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls by 2030, known as the **Spotlight Initiative**.

**We are the world's largest targeted effort to end all forms of violence against women and girls.**

We are responding to all forms of violence against women and girls, with a particular focus on domestic and family violence, sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices, femicide, and sexual and economic (labour) exploitation.

We are addressing national legislative and policy gaps, strengthening institutions, promoting gender-equitable attitudes, providing quality services for survivors and victims of violence and their families.

Our interventions are also strengthening systems for collecting data on violence against women and girls and empowering women's movements.

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## **1 in 3** women worldwide have experienced physical or sexual violence.

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**Gender-based violence is a major obstacle to the fulfilment of women's and girls' human rights and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

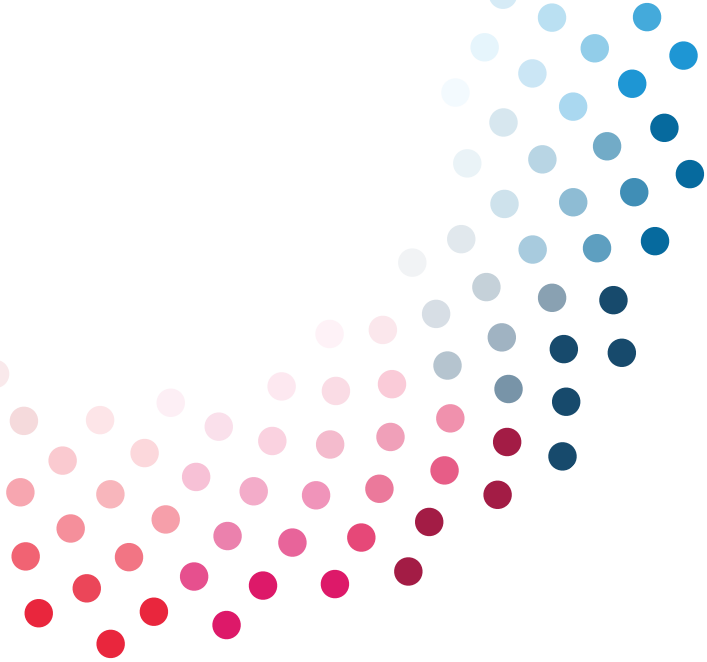
It occurs worldwide, cutting across all generations, nationalities, communities and spheres of our societies.

The 2019-20 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic contributed to an alarming global rise in all forms of violence against women and girls, wiping out previous gains towards gender equality. Women have been trapped at home with their abusers, and survivor support services have been inaccessible to those who need them.

Through the **Spotlight Initiative**, we are spearheading a global movement to ensure women and girls can live a life free of violence, in all its forms.

We will give prominence to prevention, protection and the provision of services, alongside broader efforts to ensure grassroots women's engagement and meaningful participation in the elimination of violence against women and girls.





**Spotlight Initiative** is deploying targeted investments to end violence against women and girls in more than 25 countries across the globe.

#### **Africa**

Africa regional programme, Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Mozambique, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

#### **Asia**

ASEAN regional Safe and Fair programme, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

#### **Caribbean**

Caribbean regional programme, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

#### **Latin America**

Latin America regional programme, Argentina, El Salvador, Ecuador, Honduras and Mexico.

#### **Pacific**

Pacific regional programme, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu.

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**“This Initiative is a crucial contribution to achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.”**

**- UN Secretary-General António Guterres**

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The EU has contributed an initial investment of €500 million to fund Spotlight Initiative. Other donors and partners are invited to join the Initiative to broaden its reach and scope.

As a model fund for the Sustainable Development Goals, Spotlight Initiative has been designed to leverage the collective strengths of the entire UN System.

The Initiative is overseen by the Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General.

Its funds are delivered through a UN multi-stakeholder trust fund, administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office.

Its programmes are implemented by UN agencies, funds and programmes, including UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF.

At country-level, the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator coordinates and oversees the implementation of Spotlight Initiative programmes with UN agencies and partners, including with national governments, civil society and the private sector.

**Each of us has the power to end violence against women and girls.**

We invite everyone to support the **Spotlight Initiative's** goal of making a real and lasting difference in the lives of all women and girls around the world. Join

Website: [SpotlightInitiative.org](https://spotlightinitiative.org)

Twitter: [@GlobalSpotlight](https://twitter.com/GlobalSpotlight)

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