



# FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY TO UNDERSTAND BARRIERS TO REPORTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE PERPETRATED DURING THE KOSOVO CONFLICT

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### 1. Introduction

Violation of human rights, especially sexual violence during armed conflicts, is a deep wound that requires ongoing treatment and support for survivors. The Kosovo conflict between 1998-1999 left behind a large number of sexual violence survivors, who face deep trauma and numerous challenges due to their bitter experiences. This survey report aims to analyze the reasons for the failure to report sexual violence cases and to identify the needs and benefits for survivors seeking justice and support.

The project to research the failure to report Kosovo conflict sexual violence cases was delivered in partnership between Medica Gjakova and the Institute for Research and Human Rights. This project seeks to understand survivors' experiences and identify barriers to reporting sexual violence cases, as well as assess survivors' needs for support and rehabilitation services.

The project management team, in collaboration with an external consultant, developed a detailed questionnaire to collect data from sexual violence survivors who had reported their cases to Medica Gjakova and who were willing to participate voluntarily in the survey. The questionnaire included demographic questions, as well as questions aimed at assessing participants' experiences, attitudes and perceptions regarding sexual violence and institutional support.

This report aims to raise awareness and provide concrete recommendations for effective interventions for Kosovo conflict sexual violence survivors. By providing a detailed analysis of survivor experiences and needs, the report hopes to help create a safer and more supportive environment for them, promoting justice and healing for all persons affected.

# 2. **Summary**

The Kosovo conflict between 1998-1999 has left behind a large number of sexual violence survivors, who face deep trauma and numerous challenges due to their experiences. This report provides a detailed overview of survivor experiences and needs and provides concrete recommendations for effective and sustainable interventions to ensure justice and support for all persons affected. The report aims to analyze the reasons for the failure to report sexual violence cases and to identify the needs and support for survivors seeking justice and support. The survey on barriers to reporting sexual violence perpetrated during the Kosovo conflict was carried out with a systematic approach to understanding the experiences and challenges of survivors of such violence. The target group consisted of 20 sexual violence survivors who had reported their cases to Medica Gjakova and who were willing to participate voluntarily in the survey. The participants were mainly women from rural areas with low education, highlighting the need for focused support in education and psycho-social services.

The participants were mainly in the 40-49 age group (8 persons) and 50-59 (5 persons), with some others over 60 years old. Most of them were women (19), and only one man. As for ethnicity, they consisted mainly of Albanians (12) and the rest from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities (8). The majority live in rural areas (17), while only a minority live in urban areas (3). The level of education was mainly primary (9) and other (9), while a minority had secondary education (2).

All participants confirmed that they experienced sexual violence during the 1999 conflict. Only six out of 20 participants reported their incidents, primarily to neuropsychiatrists and gynecologists. The rest (14) did not report due to various reasons. The main reasons for the failure to report include social stigma and shame, fear of retaliation, lack of confidence in authorities, pressure from family or community, and lack of information. Stigma and social shame were the most common reasons for the failure to report, cited by 14 participants. Five participants mentioned the fear of retaliation or harm to the image in the family and community as a reason for the failure to report, while three participants mentioned the lack of confidence in institutions. Pressure from family or community and lack of information on how and where to report were mentioned by three participants for each reason.

Most participants have little or no confidence in the institutions' ability to effectively handle sexual violence cases. Only a small part have complete confidence in these institutions. Regarding the perception of protection and justice, only four participants believe that institutions provide adequate protection and justice for survivors, while the majority are undecided (10) or have no confidence (6).

Experienced trauma has led to increased mental health disorders, social isolation, difficulty in maintaining relationships, and physical health problems. Most participants (17) report increased risk of mental health disorders. Six participants report social isolation, twelve report difficulty in maintaining relationships, and fourteen report problems with physical health.

Most of the participants are familiar with support mechanisms, including organizations such as Medica Gjakova, Center for the Promotion of Women, Medica Kosova and KRCT, but there is still a gap in obtaining full information. All participants have heard about the "Government Commission on Recognition and Verification of the Status of Sexual Violence Victims", but only half of them know how to approach this

commission, which shows the important role played by NGOs as mediators between survivors and the commission. Survey participants have requested assistance from Medica Gjakova as a support organization.

To address the identified issues, the report provides several key recommendations, which include improving the implementation of the legal framework, increasing awareness-raising campaigns, increasing access to psycho-social and medical services for survivors, improving the transparency of institutions, continuing coordination between institutions, as well as addressing the stigma and social shame associated with conflict-related sexual violence survivors.

# 3. Research Methodology

Within the project designed to analyze and evaluate the reasons for the failure to report the sexual violence experienced between 1998-1999 in Kosovo, Medica Gjakova in partnership with the Institute for Research and Human Rights (IHDNJ) applied a systematic approach to the conducted survey. This project sought to better understand the experiences and challenges of survivors of such violence.

To develop the questionnaire, the project management team engaged a consultant with experience in public opinion surveys. In cooperation with the consultant, the key issues and topics of the survey were identified, as well as the target group to which the questions would be addressed. Considering the sensitive nature of the topic and the importance of a well-represented sample, participants were selected from sexual violence survivors who had reported their cases to Medica Gjakova and who were willing to participate voluntarily in the survey.

The survey included respondents from all over Kosovo, considering that the organization works with survivors from all over the country. After determining the nature of the questions and the number of targeted participants, the survey focused on 20 participants who were Kosovo conflict-related sexual violence survivors.

The consultant prepared a detailed questionnaire aimed at measuring the level of knowledge, attitudes and experiences of the survivors. The questionnaire collects demographic information, including participants' age, gender, place of residence and ethnicity. It contains questions to understand whether the participants have reported sexual violence and the reasons for the failure to report it, as well as questions to assess their perceptions of institutional and social support. The questionnaire also includes questions to understand the level of confidence of the participants in the institutions that deal with sexual violence cases and to identify the barriers that prevent them from seeking justice and support. Additional questions include assessment of long-term psychological impacts of sexual violence and needs for support and rehabilitation services.

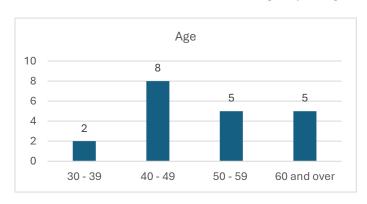
The data was collected through questionnaires distributed during individual meetings with survivors, ensuring complete confidentiality and anonymity of participants. Questionnaires were completed by participants prior to the start of counseling sessions, ensuring that all data was complete and accurate. After collecting the data, the consultant analyzed the responses to draw valid and reliable conclusions. The final report is structured to reflect the survey findings in a clear and readable format, with the aim of raising awareness and encouraging informed discussions on sexual violence perpetrated during the Kosovo conflict.

The report highlights the importance of improving confidentiality in reporting cases, strengthening legal protection for survivors, increasing awareness and education campaigns, and improving support and rehabilitation services. This document seeks to help create a safer and more supportive environment for sexual violence survivors by providing concrete recommendations for effective and sustainable interventions.

### 4. Target Group

This survey seeks to understand the barriers to reporting sexual violence experienced between 1998-1999 during the Kosovo conflict. The target groups for this survey consist of survivors who experienced sexual violence during this period. The following report provides a detailed overview of their demographic data.

The demographic data of the target group show a high presence of women from rural areas with low education, who have faced sexual violence perpetrated during the Kosovo conflict. This demographic overview highlights the need for strategies focused on education, psycho-social support and access to services for these communities to encourage reporting of cases of violence and provide lasting support to

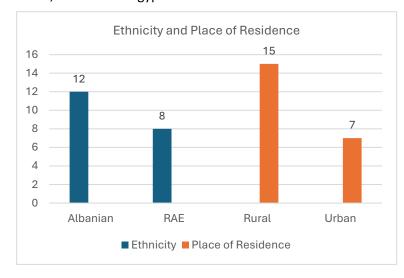


survivors. According to the graph presented, two persons were 30-39 years old, which represents individuals who during the time of the conflict were around 10-19 years old, making them among the youngest participants in this survey. Eight persons were 40-49 years old, which is the largest number of participants in the survey, who during the time of the conflict were around the age of 20-29, a period of life when individuals are

usually active in society and family. Five persons were aged 50-59, which means they experienced the conflict at the age of 30-39, including individuals who may have had family and social responsibilities during the time of the conflict. Five persons were +60 years old and were at least 40 years old at the time of experiencing the violence. This age distribution indicates that the participants in this survey are mostly middle-aged and older adults, with a small number of individuals in early adulthood (30-39 years). Participants aged 40-49, which is a period of life when individuals who may have experienced violence reflect more on past traumatic events, make up the largest group.

The vast majority of survey participants were women, namely 19 of them, while one was a man. Considering that the overwhelming percentage of survivors are women, this reflects the reality that sexual violence perpetrated during the Kosovo conflict has mainly affected this gender. This is consistent with the known data that women are more often victims of sexual violence during armed conflicts. The participation of a man shows that men can also be victims, although in smaller numbers. However, it should be borne in mind that men may be more reluctant to report sexual violence against them, as a result of the increased stigmatization in such cases against them.

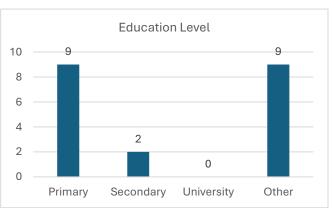
Based on data on ethnicity, 12 survivors were Albanian, while eight survey participants were from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The data show that violence spans a wide spectrum of ethnic



communities in Kosovo, with a high representation of Albanians, but also a significant number of members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The ethnic diversity of the target group reflects the inclusion of different communities affected by sexual violence in Kosovo. Albanians constitute the majority, but the significant participation of members of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities shows the importance of including all ethnic groups in such

studies in order to have a more complete and fairer overview of the situation. The vast majority of survivors were from rural areas, which indicates more concentrated sexual violence in these areas, but may also indicate more limited access to services, as well as a higher need for support for sexual violence survivors in these areas. According to the findings of the survey, only three of the participants were from urban areas, while 17 of them were originally from rural areas. This fact is important to understand where to focus support and interventions for survivors.

Regarding the level of education of the survivors, the survey shows a relatively low level of education. Nine participants had completed primary school and two had completed secondary school. While none of the participants had completed a university education, nine of them had either completed two to four grades of primary school or had not attended school at all. The education of the participants is mainly at the



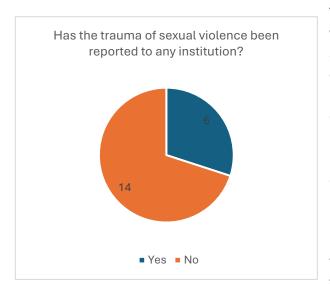
primary level, which indicates a lack of advanced education among sexual violence survivors. This can affect their ability to seek help and navigate the legal system and support services.

# 5. Research findings

# 5.1. Experiencing and Reporting Violence

When asked whether sexual violence was perpetrated against them, all 20 participants of this survey confirmed that they experienced sexual violence during the 1998-1999 Kosovo conflict. This question addresses a critical aspect of the participants' personal experiences regarding sexual violence between 1998-1999 during the Kosovo conflict. According to the answers received, all 20 participants of the questionnaire have declared that they are sexual violence survivors. It should be noted that this survey was developed specifically with persons who reported their cases and the participants are individuals who voluntarily participated in the survey, which means a high level of willingness to share their experiences and contribute to identifying barriers and support needs.

The next question in the survey was when the incident happened. This question was intended to identify the time period when the incidents of sexual violence that the participants experienced occurred. According to the responses received, all reported incidents occurred in 1999. This year is the most intense period of the Kosovo conflict, when sexual violence was used as a means of war against the civilian population, peaking with violence and crimes against humanity that included mass rape.



The question of whether the trauma of sexual violence was reported to any institution/authority addresses the degree of reporting of sexual violence cases to relevant institutions or authorities by the participants who experienced sexual violence during 1999 in Kosovo. From the responses received, only six out of 20 participants (30%) reported their incidents to any institution or authority, while the majority of participants, namely 14 (70%), did not report the incident. This represents a low rate of reporting, which is a clear indication of the many barriers survivors face. This fact highlights the urgent need for interventions focused on education, awareness-building and

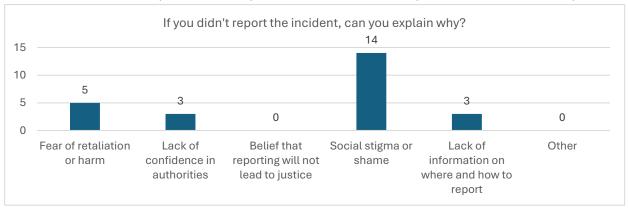
strengthening institutional support for survivors, in order to facilitate the reporting process and ensure justice and protection for them.

The next question, if you reported the incident, to whom you reported it, was intended to identify the institutions or professionals from whom the participants who reported sexual violence sought help. According to the responses received, the six participants who reported their incidents did so to medical professionals, including general practitioners, neuropsychiatrists and gynecologists. Reporting to a neuropsychiatrist suggests that survivors have sought help managing the psychological trauma caused by

sexual violence and that they understand the importance of their mental health. They also have knowledge about the importance of professional help to cope with the consequences of trauma.

The continuation of this question was about the reasons why they did not report the incident and aimed to identify the main reasons why sexual violence survivors did not report their incidents to any institution or authority. According to the answers received, the main reasons are stigma and social shame, fear of retaliation or harm to the image in the family and community, lack of confidence in the authorities, pressure from the family or community, and lack of information on how and where to report. Survey participants were able to choose more than one answer to this question, whereby stigma and social shame were chosen by 14 of them, which makes this the most frequent reason for the failure to report. Survivors fear that they will face prejudice and exclusion from their community and family if they go public with their experiences of sexual violence. This highlights a major societal problem where survivors feel blamed and stigmatized for something that is not their fault, which prevents them from seeking justice and support. Fear of retaliation or harm to family and community image was selected by five responders, which suggests that a significant number of survivors fear retaliation or physical harm from perpetrators of violence or their accomplices. This fear based on real or perceived threats is a major barrier to reporting. This fear may also be related to the lack of confidence in institutions to provide adequate protection to survivors who report incidents.

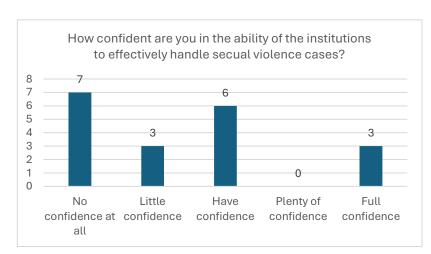
Three participants chose lack of confidence that the authorities will handle their case effectively and fairly. This is a serious obstacle that requires improving the transparency and effectiveness of institutions to gain the trust of survivors. Likewise, three participants chose pressure from the family and the community as a reason for the failure to report, which may also include the reason to preserve the honor and reputation.



Such pressure can be particularly strong in small, tight-knit rural communities, where reputation and public perception matter greatly. The same number of participants, namely three, also chose the lack of information on how and where to report, which shows that some survivors do not know the ways and places where they can report sexual violence cases. This indicates a lack of information and difficult access to support and institutional services.

### 5.2. Perceptions and Behaviors

The question: On a scale of 1 to 5, how confident are you in the ability of institutions to effectively handle sexual violence cases, aimed to assess participants' level of confidence in the ability of institutions to effectively handle sexual violence cases. The data shows a significant spread of responses, with the majority of participants having little or no confidence in these institutions. "I have no confidence at all" was chosen by seven participants, which means that a large part of them have no confidence at all in the institutions' ability to handle sexual violence cases. This indicates a deep lack of confidence in institutional systems, which may stem from past negative experiences, lack of effective action, or lack of necessary support. Three participants in the survey stated that they have little confidence in the institutions, showing moderate and low confidence in the institutions' ability. This may indicate that although there are some elements of confidence, they are still insufficient to encourage participants to fully rely on these institutions.

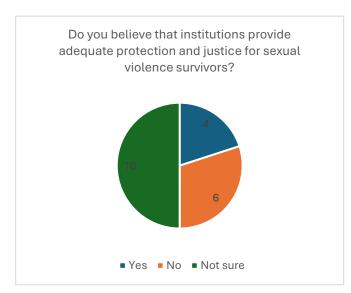


"I have confidence" was declared by six participants, showing moderate confidence in the institutions' ability. This suggests that they have had a mix of positive and negative experiences with institutions and feel there is room for improvement. No participant in the survey has high confidence in institutions, while three of them have full confidence. However, only a small

number have high or full confidence in the capacity of institutions. This may indicate that these individuals have had positive and supportive experiences with institutions or may be more optimistic about institutional capacities.

The next question, whether you believe that state institutions provide adequate protection and justice for sexual violence survivors, aimed to understand the perception of the participants regarding the provision of protection and justice for sexual violence survivors by institutions. The responses received show a mix of opinions, with a significant proportion of participants being undecided or not believing that the institutions provide adequate protection and justice.

Only four of the participants in the survey stated that they believe that institutions provide adequate protection and justice for sexual violence survivors. This suggests that there are some positive experiences or perceptions that institutions have made improvements in handling sexual violence cases. Six



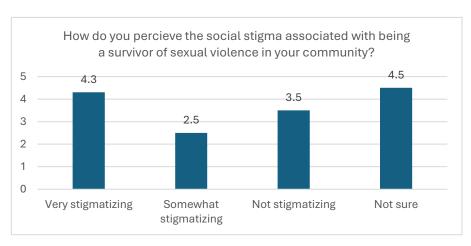
participants believe that institutions do not provide adequate protection and justice for sexual violence survivors. This may stem from their negative experiences with institutions, lack of effective action, or lack of necessary support. Most of the participants, namely 10 of them, are undecided if the institutions provide adequate protection and justice. Such indecision may indicate a mixture of positive and negative experiences, or a lack of sufficient information to make an accurate assessment. This shows that institutions may have made some efforts to improve services, but it should be borne in mind that incident cases are

treated confidentially, and as a result survivors may not have access to information regarding the support process offered to other survivors.

The next question was how you perceive the social stigma associated with being a survivor of sexual violence in your community. This question aims to assess the participants' perception of the social stigma faced by sexual violence survivors in their community.

The responses received show that the vast majority of participants feel that social stigma is a huge problem. The vast majority of participants, 15 of them, perceive social stigma as very severe. This shows that sexual violence survivors face great prejudice and social isolation in their communities. This high perception of stigma has negatively affected their decision to report violence, seek support, and participate in social and economic activities. On the other hand, a smaller number of participants, three

of them, feel that the social environment somewhat stigmatizing. This group may have mixed experiences where, although stigma is present, it is not strong enough to completely prevent survivors from seeking help. None of the participants perceive their community

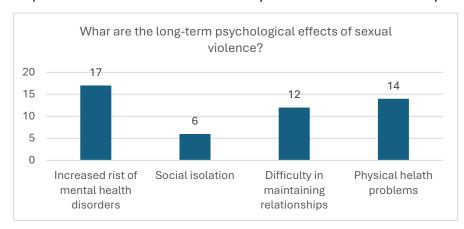


stigmatizing. This shows that social stigma is present in all communities included in this survey. A small

number of participants, namely two of them, are uncertain about the degree of social stigmatization. This may indicate a lack of information or direct experiences with stigmatization, or a desire not to take a clear stance on the issue.

The next question was about the long-term psychological impacts of sexual violence, aimed at identifying the long-term psychological impacts experienced by sexual violence survivors, based on their perceptions. The data obtained show a wide range of impacts that these individuals experience, including mental health disorders, social isolation, difficulty in maintaining relationships and physical health problems. Increased risk of mental health disorders was the option chosen by the majority of participants, namely 17 of them. Experienced trauma can have profound and lasting effects on survivors' psychological well-being, affecting their quality of life and ability to function normally. Some of the participants, six of them, mentioned social isolation as a long-term impact of sexual violence. Survivors may feel ashamed or afraid of being stigmatized, which causes them to avoid social contact and withdraw from social life.

In turn, social isolation can exacerbate mental health problems and lead to feelings of loneliness and complete isolation from society, which puts survivors in a vicious circle. Twelve of the participants highlighted difficulties in maintaining interpersonal relationships as a long-term impact. The trauma experienced has affected survivors' ability to build and maintain healthy relationships with partners, family



and friends. A large part of the participants, namely 14 of them, mentioned problems with physical health as a long-term impact of sexual violence. These problems can include chronic pain, gynecological problems, sleep disorders and other physical ailments that are related to the stress

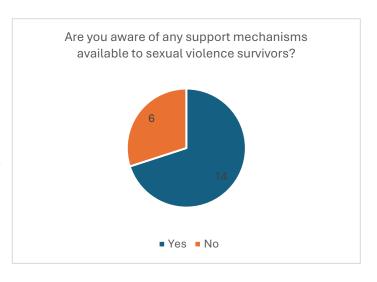
and trauma experienced. While in the "other" option, the participants did not supply any other specific answer.

## 5.3. Knowledge of Available Resources and Mechanisms

The question "Are you aware of any support mechanisms available to sexual violence survivors" was intended to assess participants' level of awareness of support mechanisms available to sexual violence survivors. The data show that most of the participants are aware of these mechanisms, however, a

significant part of them still do not have sufficient information.

Fourteen of the participants are aware of the support mechanisms available to sexual violence survivors. This shows that efforts to inform survivors about these mechanisms have had some success. However, it should be borne in mind that in the survey participated survivors who have reported their cases and are in contact with Medica Gjakova. During this interaction with the organization, they have been able to be informed about the institutional support and



mechanisms that are available to them. A significant part of the participants, namely six of them, which is about 30% of them, are not aware of the support mechanisms. This shows that there is still a gap in the information and awareness of survivors about assistance resources available to them.

This lack of information may be the result of geographic, social or educational barriers, as well as the lack of sufficient outreach efforts in rural and isolated communities.

The participants that answered yes to the above question were further asked which mechanisms are they familiar with, in order to identify specific support mechanisms that participants are familiar with. The participants mentioned only non-governmental organizations such as Medica Gjakova, the Center for the Promotion of Women, Medica Kosova and KRCT as mechanisms they are familiar with. Whereas no survivor has mentioned any institutional mechanism that provides support to them.

This series of questions was intended to assess whether they are aware of any institution that offers support to sexual violence survivors. The data shows that none of the participants are aware of any institution that offers such support. This shows a complete lack of information or access to information about institutions that can help survivors. This result is disturbing and points out that there is a big gap in awareness and information of survivors about the resources and possible help they can receive from institutions.

The next question was whether the respondents have heard about the "Commission on Recognition and Verification of the Status of Sexual Violence Victims", all the participants answered with YES. This question aimed to assess whether the participants have heard about this commission, which is an important institution for the recognition and support of Kosovo conflict sexual violence survivors. This result shows

the success of efforts to inform and educate survivors about their rights and opportunities for support and compensation.

The next question, "Do you know how to approach this commission", aimed to assess the level of



knowledge of the participants about ways to approach the Commission on Recognition and Verification of the Status of Sexual Violence Victims.

The responses show a mix of knowledge, with most participants knowing how to approach the commission, but also a significant proportion who do not. Twelve of the participants answered that they are familiar with the methods of access to the "Commission on Recognition and Verification of the Status of Sexual Violence Victims". This shows a

good level of information and awareness about the access process and the services that the commission offers.

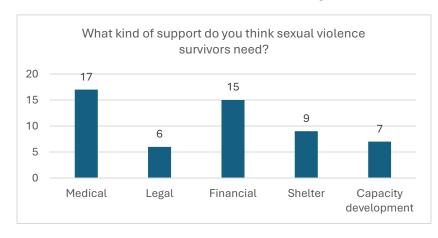
However, a significant number, namely eight participants, are not informed about the methods of access to the commission. This shows a gap in the full information and awareness for all sexual violence survivors. While all the respondents have heard about the commission, some of them are still not informed about how to approach it (without the help of non-governmental organizations).

The next question was whether they knew any organizations that provide support to sexual violence survivors and was intended to measure the level of knowledge of the participants about organizations that provide support to sexual violence survivors. All participants stated that they are familiar with organizations that provide support for sexual violence survivors. Answers to this question indicate a thorough knowledge of organizations.

The next question was: If yes, have you ever sought help from such organizations? This question was intended to assess whether the participants sought help from organizations that provide support to sexual violence survivors. All participants, 20 of them, have sought help from organizations that provide support to sexual violence survivors. This indicates a high level of use of support services provided by non-governmental organizations by survivors.

# 5.4. Recommendations / Solutions

The first question of this category was "what kind of support do you think sexual violence survivors need", which was intended to identify the specific types of support that participants think are most needed for sexual violence survivors. The data shows a wide range of needs that include medical, psycho-social, legal,

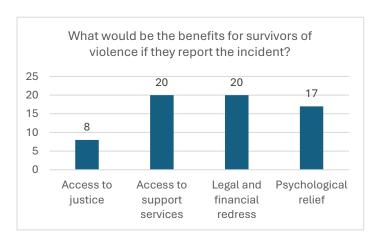


financial, housing and development training support.

Seventeen participants have emphasized the need for medical and psycho-social support. This includes medical treatment for physical injuries, psychological counseling, trauma management therapy, and other health care services. Six participants emphasized the

importance of legal support. This includes help to understand their legal rights, legal representation in court and support to pursue justice. Financial support was identified as a critical need by 15 participants. Survivors often face economic difficulties due to the effects of sexual violence and need financial assistance to cover the costs of medical treatment, living and reintegration into society. Some participants, nine of them, highlighted the need for housing support, such as providing safe shelters for survivors who may be at risk or who need a safe place to live while they recover. Development Training was mentioned by seven participants as important for empowering survivors. These trainings can include vocational training, education and personal development, to help survivors rebuild their lives and be economically independent. On the "other" option, survivors did not specify any other need for support.

The next question was "what would be the benefits for survivors of violence if they report the case". This question aimed to identify the benefits that participants think sexual violence survivors will receive if they report their case. The data shows some key benefits include access to justice, support services, legal and financial redress, and psychological relief.

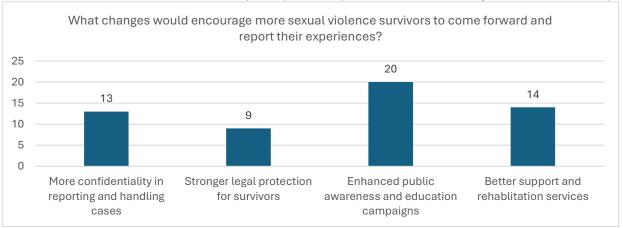


A significant part of the participants, eight of them, emphasize that reporting the case will provide survivors with access to justice. This includes the legal prosecution of the perpetrators of the crime and obtaining justice for the crimes committed. All participants emphasized that reporting the case will enable survivors to access support services, including psychological counseling, medical support, legal services, and social support, which can be essential to the

survivor's healing and rehabilitation process, offering them the help and support they need to cope with the consequences of violence. Also, all participants emphasized the importance of legal and financial compensation that they can benefit from in case of reporting the incident. The majority of participants, namely 17 of them, highlighted psychological relief as an important benefit of reporting cases. Reporting and receiving psychological support can help survivors cope with the trauma, improve their mental health, and rebuild their self-confidence and emotional well-being.

The survey also asked participants about changes needed to encourage more sexual violence survivors to come forward and report their experiences.

This was intended to identify changes that participants felt would encourage more sexual violence survivors to come forward and report their experiences. The data shows some key changes including greater confidentiality, stronger legal protections, more awareness campaigns and improved support and rehabilitation services. Thirteen of the participants emphasized the need for greater confidentiality in



reporting and handling sexual violence cases. This indicates that fear of exposure and stigmatization are major barriers to reporting cases. A significant number of participants, or nine of them, call for stronger legal protections for survivors and legal protection for survivors during court proceedings. All participants emphasized the importance of a greater number of public awareness and education campaigns, which would help in changing public perceptions and attitudes towards sexual violence, reducing the level of stigma and encouraging more survivors to come forward to report their cases. Fourteen participants request improvement of support and rehabilitation services. This includes psychological counseling, medical treatment, legal support and other programs that help survivors recover and integrate into society.

### 6. Recommendations

- Provide additional training to the personnel of institutions and organizations on handling sexual violence cases with full confidentiality and sensitivity.
- Improve the implementation of existing laws to better protect sexual violence survivors.
- Ensure criminal prosecution of the perpetrators of sexual violence.
- Deliver extensive awareness campaigns to change public perceptions on the consequences of sexual violence and to combat the stigma associated with it.
- Implement youth awareness-building projects to address from an early age the issue of stigmatization of conflict-related sexual violence survivors.
- Enhance access and quality of psycho-social services for survivors, including psychological counseling and trauma therapy.
- Provide medical and financial support to survivors to cope with the physical and economic consequences of sexual violence.
- Provide safe shelters for survivors who have housing or care problems.
- Improve the transparency and accountability of institutions that deal with sexual violence cases to restore the confidence of survivors.
- Promote the positive experiences of survivors who have received help and justice to encourage others to report.
- Deliver information campaigns to inform survivors about the support mechanisms that are available and ways of accessing these mechanisms.
- Distribute educational and information materials in communities and public institutions to increase awareness and access to services.
- Continue good coordination between central and local institutions and non-governmental organizations to ensure an integrated and coordinated approach to supporting survivors.
- Encourage communities to support survivors and create a supportive and non-stigmatizing environment.