

GBV, Transformative approach: Engaging men and boys

Working with Survivors of SGBV

by

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A woman with curly hair, wearing a green tank top and a colorful patterned skirt, is sitting on a wooden bench. She is looking away from the camera, towards the right. The setting appears to be a rustic outdoor or semi-outdoor area with wooden walls and structures. There are some items on the bench in front of her, including a metal bowl and some fabric. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

ARE WE LISTENING TO SURVIVORS?

A qualitative
research summary

*"My life was destroyed because of
what happened to
me. I feel only pain, anger, depression
and loneliness."*

(Colombia)

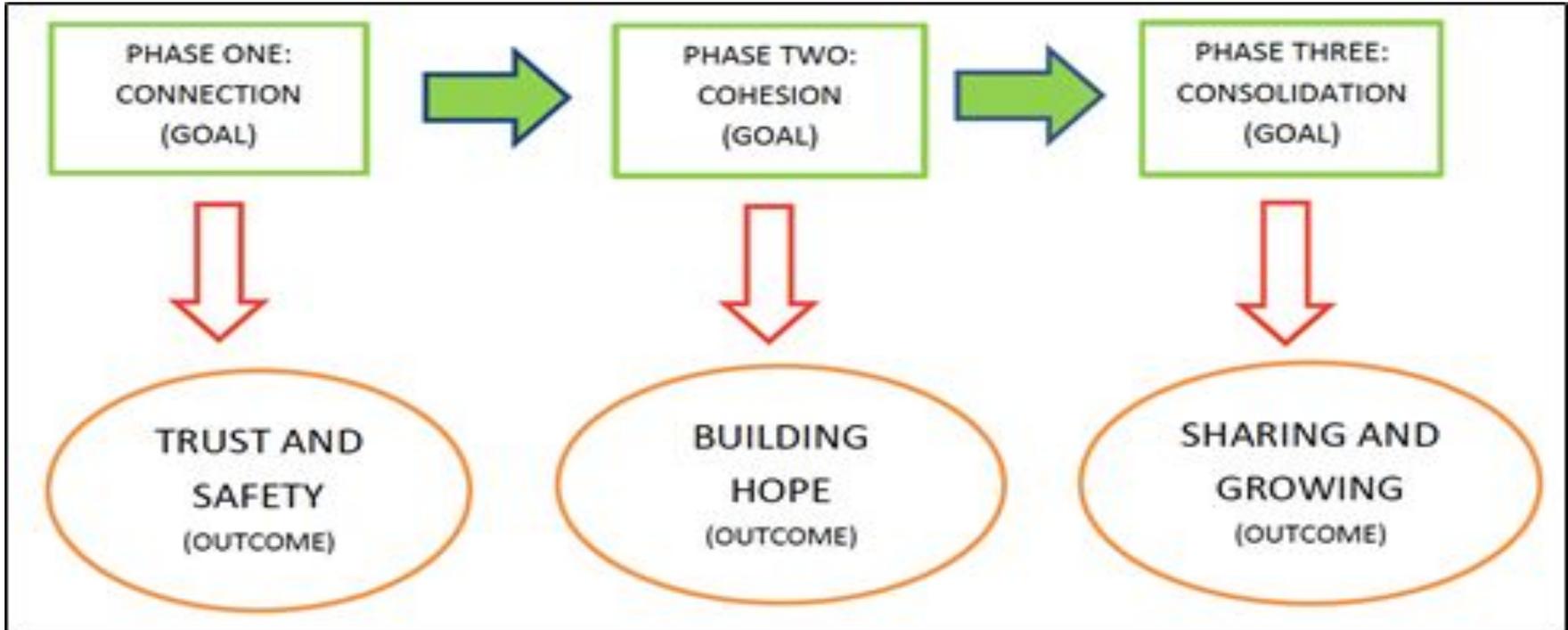
Partnering with survivors

- Our listening exercise/formative research with survivors is the starting point of all our SGBV responses in each country.
- This has been carried out in over 15 countries to-date, and we compiled a synthesis report from 6-countries, with 485 survivors.
- The findings across the countries have similar findings and highlighted the key themes: Stigma and Shame; Rejection, Abandonment and Punishment; Physical and Emotional Trauma.
- The findings also highlight the need for a holistic response, covering legal, financial, healthcare support, and also highlighted the need for a network of survivors and the important role of religious leaders.

Our approach: Journey to Healing

- Focused on survivors of sexual violence, including of FGM/C, and those living with HIV and AIDS too.
- Working with survivors to provide peer-based support
- Building a movement of survivors to shape policy and practice at all levels
- This is being adapted to focus conflict related trauma and also to build a process of community-based psychosocial support in conflict/post-conflict setting.
- Engaging with church leadership and communities make churches safe spaces, free of stigma, shame and blame, and building support and accompaniment for survivors.

Journey to Healing Process



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Summary of the process



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What have we learnt?

- ✓ Speaking out with one voice will fight stigma, violence and impunity
- ✓ Safe spaces for healing is crucial for survivors of SGBV:
Peer support group
- ✓ Supported Survivors can lead a global movement to end SGBV

❓ Gaps at institutional and service provision level

❓ Behaviours Attitudes

❓ Limited funds

Conclusion: Silent No More

“Telling our stories, could prevent such crime from happening to other girls/women: Together we are Stronger”

“Together we will break the silence to prove to the world how often sexual violence destroys humankind as whole”

“There is no shame for us to bear, the shame is for the perpetrator

“Your story is important, your voice is important and needs to be heard”

“You are not to be blamed for what happened to you”

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www.tearfund.org/sexualviolence

Tearfund

The logo for Tearfund, featuring the word "tearfund" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a dark blue, rounded rectangular box. The background of the entire image is a bright yellow color with a faint, stylized world map outline. A white, curved line is visible in the upper right quadrant of the background.

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