

CSW62 Advocacy Report

Commission on the Status of Women 2018 Ministerial Level Roundtable #2

Part 3

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Topic: Good practices in the empowerment of rural women and girls through prevention of GBV and access to justice, social services and healthcare

Peru: 1 in 3 women experience violence. Civic authorities encouraged to implement prevention and care strategies in their own communities. Civic authorities are provided with road-map of their functions and obligations. Schools, community officers, grassroots organizations form a united front for rural women and girls. A roundtable for indigenous women produces input from women themselves.

Canada: There are laws against discrimination against women. Difficulties in implementation vary by region. Support for Work and Family Life and strategy of equality between women and men is being mobilized that will bring economic empowerment to rural women. Trying to get 100,000 people out of poverty.

France: 20% of French population lives in rural areas and 40% of the country's violence takes place in rural areas. Women's financial autonomy is important to escape violence. Therefore, support provided for women farmers including maternity leave, shelters and an array of services by law enforcement, local officials, service providers. Cyber violence and street harassment which also affect rural women and girls is condemned.

Zimbabwe: Information on GBV and harmful practices is disseminated to community leaders, young people, schools, colleges, workplaces. The Domestic Violence Act criminalizes violence as well as the potential for violence. Women-friendly courts and police units prevent and prosecute. Registered nurses have become mandated reporters and can testify in court. Training manuals are provided to all frontline staff of all social services including education and healthcare.

Honduras: Legislation, policies and programs form the basis of the national plan against GBV which incorporate treatment and promotion of rights – healthcare and economic participation. Protocols in place for shelters. Special Committee against GBV in schools to prevent sexual harassment as well as community networks. Social rehabilitation of victims, strong families' programs, workshops on empowerment and addiction for young people and parks and recreation for a better life.

Seychelles: Small island and has no distinction between urban and rural and no harmful practices. Conducted baseline study of GBV and its national plan is in development. Plan has 2 prongs – prevention

and education. Prevention includes sensitization and empowerment and education includes victim outreach coordination of partners and government and awareness of legislation and policies, hotlines and counselling services.

Sierra Leone: There is a lack of infrastructure for social services in rural areas. Country focuses on protection laws and inclusive governance – ward committee includes 50% of women. National id card for protection and gender desk officers at all ministries. Ministries have gender- responsive budgets. Sitting magistrates to accelerate cases, Saturday court, free legal services, family units at all police stations, free healthcare for pregnant women and new mothers and children under 5 and creating awareness of hospitals as the sites for treatment and one stop centers for care.

Somalia: Conflict and fragile economy /country leading to increase in violence and 1st national development plan in 30 years and dedicated legislation to address sexual violence and emphasis on gender equality in development – all stake holders. Increasing availability of data on rural areas which is required by development partners. Large investments needed in the prevention of conflict and climate change and in acknowledgement of victims' environments.

Algeria: Promotion of women in cultural and economic environments. Legislation specifically family law is ratified. GBV is now a crime – anywhere – in the home, in public spaces, at work. Fund to study status of divorced women and alimony payments. Legislation supports children of divorce. Development of database in progress to promote gender parity.

Japan: Empowers women farmers through coordinated activities between companies and farmers. Farmers social networks, online agribusiness school, technical assistance, new market development, improvement in productivity, horticulture and livestock with ICTs. Involvement of local governments and national campaign on GBV. One stop center for victims of GBV – 41 centers established. Spousal violence counselling available at 278 locations.

To be continued...

Sincerely,

Geeta