

Helpdesk Research Report: Violence against women and girls in Haiti

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Query: What do we know about prevalence, drivers and perpetrators of violence against women and girls in Haiti, in both rural and urban areas? (Note any available information about trends in violence following natural disasters and other emergencies.)

What organisations are working to reduce women and girls' vulnerability to violence in Haiti? Please summarise their principal programmes and projects.

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1. Overview

No official government statistics are available on the prevalence of violence against women and girls in Haiti (HRS, 2012). Experts acknowledge that NGO reports and small-scale, isolated surveys reveal only a partial picture. Moreover, much of the available analysis is focused on urban areas, and Port-au-Prince in particular, where the likelihood of women and girls having experienced violence is consistently reported as high. Fewer studies document the incidence of domestic violence in rural areas, though some suggest that prevalence is comparably high (Small, 2008). Moreover, women in rural areas may have poor access to basic services to enable them to recover from abuse (d'Adesky, 2012). Available evidence suggests a significant portion of victims of sexual violence in Haiti are children and minors (Gomez et al, 2009; UN, 2012). Criminals and family members are among the more commonly-cited perpetrators, although there are conflicting reports on the likelihood of perpetrators being known to women.

Incidence of violence against women was high in the pre-earthquake period, but there is widespread consensus that it has increased since. This correlates with the insecurity, displacement, poverty, lack of adequate access to basic resources, and loss of livelihoods associated with the disaster (Human Rights Watch, 2011). The post-earthquake period has also been linked with a rise in the number of women and girls engaging in sex work (UNHCR, 2011).

Some experts caution that although violence against women is widespread, its prevalence has been sensationalised and overstated in the news media, and in some cases the 'victimisation' of women has been used by organisations to gain access to aid funding (Horton, 2012). Although rape has been a focus of concern and news coverage, some reports suggest that physical aggression is actually a more common form of violence against women overall (d'Adesky, 2012).

There are various cultural, political and economic drivers of violence against women and girls in Haiti. They include:

- **Gender stereotypes and discrimination against women:** Researchers stress that the incidence of violence in the post-earthquake period should be understood in the context of the longer-term social exclusion, and cultural and legal discrimination against women.
- **Women's economic dependency:** There is some evidence that women who are economically dependent on men are more vulnerable to sexual exploitation.
- **Poverty, displacement and poor conditions in IDP camps:** Studies indicate significant correlations between limited access to adequate food, water, and sanitation, and women and girls' vulnerability to sexual violence in IDP camps.
- **Legacy of state-led violence:** Politically-motivated violence has been used by some regimes in Haiti.
- **Culture of impunity and weak capacity in state justice system:** An acute lack of resources and capacity in the Haitian justice system makes it difficult for the state to prosecute and punish perpetrators, and deters victims from seeking redress.

An array of multi-lateral and bilateral aid agencies, INGOs and local women's associations are engaged in work to address violence against women in Haiti. The main types of activities these organisations undertake include: collecting data on prevalence of violence against women; providing care for victims (medical & legal assistance); providing 'safe spaces' for survivors; running awareness-raising campaigns, and; increasing women's access to economic opportunities. A sample of organisations is provided in Annex 1.

2. Prevalence and perpetrators

According to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Haiti does not have a functioning national system for collecting data on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and **no official statistics** are available (HRS, 2012). **Data from NGO or UN sources is patchy**, and invariably **limited to particular geographic areas**, making it difficult to establish an overall, comprehensive picture of prevalence. Rape cases are inevitably under-reported, partly due to lack of victim awareness of the reporting process, fear of retaliation from perpetrators, and limited access to legal aid (HRS, 2012). There is no comparative data that can show trends over time (Human Rights Watch, 2011). Moreover, some statistics are not made available online.

In spite of the above data limitations, some studies do indicate the prevalence of different types of violence against women and girls across both urban and rural areas. Some differentiate between the experience of women and the experience of adolescents and children. The findings from a sample of recent studies are summarised below.

Overall incidence of sexual and domestic violence

Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) data from 2005 indicated that **18% of 15–24 year old females** in Haiti had experienced **sexual violence** at some point during their lives (Gómez et al, 2009).

A recent study published by a coalition of local women's associations *PotoFanm+Fi* reviewed evidence of trends in sexual violence in post-quake Haiti (d'Adesky, 2012). It found that although rape has been the focus of media attention, **domestic (physical) violence** is an **overlooked** category of abuse, **dwarfing cases of rape by a ratio of 3:1** (p. 33).

Sexual and domestic violence in urban areas

Much of the available analysis on violence against women and girls is focused on urban areas and Port-au-Prince in particular. One study, published in the *Lancet* in 2006, randomly surveyed households in the **greater Port-au-Prince area** to assess the prevalence of human rights violations, including sexual violence (Kolbe and Hutson, 2006). It found that the sexual assault of women and girls was common, with up to 35,000 female victims of assault in the area, more than half of whom were younger than 18 years old. In all, **4.6% of 1260 households** randomly sampled reported that at least one person in the household had been threatened with sexual violence. Further, 1.2% of households reported that both the respondent and another household member had been threatened with sexual violence.

In November 2012, the MDG Fund and the National Observatory of Violence and Crime published the results of a survey of sexual assault and domestic violence against women and girls in **six cities**¹. The survey indicated that **outside Port-au-Prince, most attacks occur in the home**, whereas in **Port-au-Prince, the streets are more dangerous**. Although most women rejected the idea of violence as normal, 10-20% thought it was "completely normal" for a man to beat his wife if she was disobedient (MDGFund, 2012).

Sexual and domestic violence in rural areas

The recent review by *PotoFanm+Fi* highlighted that the problems of **domestic violence** found in the cities were **often worse in rural areas**, where basic provision for victims – such as access to doctors and nurses – was generally inadequate and victims were often left to 'fend for themselves' (d'Adesky, p. 30).

A cross-sectional study in the rural Artibonite valley region, undertaken in 2007, found **violence against pregnant women** to be **pervasive**, particularly violence perpetrated by an intimate partner (Small, 2008). The study found that more than **4 in 10 (44%) pregnant women seeking prenatal care at community dispensaries** reported that they had experienced some form of violence in the **preceding 6 months**. Of this total, 39% reported experiencing sexual violence, and 8% reported experiencing physical violence. Slightly over 1 in 3 (34.5%) women had experienced intimate partner violence (the most common form of violence).²

¹ Port-au-Prince, Gonaïves, Saint-Marc, Les Cayes, Port-de-Paix and Ouanaminthe

² The study also found an association between physical and sexual violence against pregnant women, and women's distress in response to pregnancy symptoms.

Another study in rural Haiti, conducted in Proje Sante Fanm between June 1999 and March 2002, found **54% percent of 749 women** accessing health services had experienced forced sex in their lifetime (Fawzia, 2005).

Incidence pre-earthquake

Human Rights Watch report that **widespread and systemic** rape and other **sexual violence** against women was a major concern during the **2004-2006** political conflicts, particularly in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince. One survey by the UN estimated that up to 50% of girls living in conflict zones had been victims of sexual violence, and that collective or 'gang rape' was common (Human Rights Watch, 2011, p. 17-18).

A report by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) covering the period **2005-2007** reported high incidence of rape cases, with a significant proportion of victims being **girls** (10% between 5 and 12 years). It was in response to this growing threat of violence against women and girls that the Women's Ministry launched the 'National Plan to Fight Violence Done Against Women', in 2005.

Effects of the earthquake

International and local organisations raised concerns about women's increased vulnerability to violence following the earthquake of 2010. Human Rights Watch (2011), for example, noted NGOs reported an **increased number of cases of sexual violence and rape** in the months following the earthquake. For example:

- Solidarity of Haitian Women (SOFA) reported treating 718 female victims of gender-based violence in the 6 months following the earthquake (116 for rape).
- The Commission of Women Victims for Victims (KOFIV) reported treating 640 victims of rape in the year following the earthquake (ibid).

The post-earthquake period has also been linked with a rise in the number of women and girls engaging in **sex work**. In May 2011, UNHCR conducted several focus groups with women and adolescent girls in a selection of IDP camps. Based on the testimonies of participants, the study found that the practice of women and adolescent girls engaging in 'transactional sex' in Port-au-Prince was 'widespread' (UNHCR, 2011). In some camps, it has been reported that women were **sexually exploited by members of camp committees** and others who controlled the distribution of goods and services. Women were reportedly forced to negotiate sexual favours with these committees to obtain access to basic supplies (Horton, 2012; CHRGI, 2012)³. The women's rights NGO MADRE reports that since post-earthquake aid distribution was reduced, men have begun using **weapons**, as opposed to access to essential resources, to force women to have sex.⁴

The MDG Fund acknowledges that although reported cases of gender-based violence (in particular cases of rape) appear to have risen sharply in the last ten years, this could to a degree reflect a greater willingness of victims to come forward, rather than an increase in prevalence.⁵

³ See also: Marginalisation & Sexual Vulnerability in the IDP camps of Port-au-Prince <http://www.urd.org/Marginalisation-Sexual>

⁴ See: Sexual violence against women, including domestic sexual violence; in particular <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,QUERYRESPONSE,HTI,,4feaceb62,0.html>

⁵ See: Reducing violence against women in Haiti <http://www.mdgfund.org/country/haiti/story/ReducingviolenceagainstwomeninHaiti>

The latest available report from the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) (UN, 2012) identifies five high-risk and two medium-risk **areas in IDP camps** where women are particularly vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. Four of these locations (Jean-Marie Vincent No. 1, Jean-Marie Vincent No. 2, Petionville Club and Corail) are secured by a 24-hour security presence, either by MINUTASH or the national police.

Violence against girls and children in particular

The review by *PotoFanm+Fi* found that adolescents and younger girls constitute the ‘hidden majority’ of victims of sexual violence, making up a significant portion of all reported rape cases (up to 60%) (d’Adesky, 2012). It argued that whereas women suffer physical aggression from intimate partners, **adolescents are more likely to suffer sexual aggression.**

Another small-scale survey indicated that sexual violence⁶ was common among **both male and female youth** in Haiti (Gomez et al., 2009). Using data collected in 2006-2007, it found that 18% of the young people sampled had experienced sexual violence during their lifetime. In all, 15% of males reported experiencing sexual violence during their lifetimes, compared with 22% of females. The mean age among respondents was 20 years.

NGO and news media reports since the earthquake have also suggested a significant portion of victims of sexual violence are children and minors, some as young as 3 years of age.⁷ The latest available report from MINUTASH notes that during the reporting period – 29 February 2012 to 31 August 2012 – there were 128 reported cases of **child rape** in Haiti (UN 2012, p. 11).

Perpetrators

There are conflicting reports about the perpetrators of violence against women. Some NGO reports on cases of rape indicate that the perpetrators are often **unknown to victims**: for example, one report by the NGO SOFA suggested that 69% of perpetrators were non-family civilians.⁸ Another by MSF similarly suggested that the majority of victims (67%) did not know their attacker (Human Rights Watch, 2011, p. 18). However, in 2012, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human reported that violent crimes against women in **IDP camps** are frequently committed by people **known to the victim**, including men living within the neighbourhood (HRS, 2012).

In their study of violence in the greater Port-au-Prince area, Kolbe and Hutson (2006) identified ‘criminals’ as the most likely perpetrators of sexual assaults, with officers from the Haitian National Police accounting for 13.8%, and armed anti-Lavalas groups accounting for 10.6%. However, d’Adesky (2012) reviewed the cumulative evidence and found that more rapes are committed by persons known to victims – such as friends and neighbours – than by unknown attackers. Moreover, cases by uniformed officers (soldiers and police) represent a very small minority.

⁶ Defined in this study as being physically forced or raped at first sex, or having sex because of threats or physical force.

⁷ See: Sexual violence against women, including domestic sexual violence; in particular

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,QUERYRESPONSE,HTI,,4feaceb62,0.html>

⁸ See: Refworld ‘Sexual violence against women, including domestic sexual violence’

<http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,,,QUERYRESPONSE,HTI,,4feaceb62,0.html>

3. Drivers

Gender stereotypes and discrimination against women

Researchers stress that the experiences of women in the post-disaster phase should be understood in the context of longer-term, **structural gender inequality** (Horton, 2012; Nolan, 2011). A report submitted by Haiti to the Human Rights Council in July 2011 noted that 'gender stereotypes continue to trigger discriminatory behaviour that sometimes ends in violence against women' (HRS, 2012). In addition, it noted that the weak representation of women in all layers of government reinforced the gender stereotyping present in Haitian society (ibid). *PotoFanm+Fi* similarly argues that cultural norms, spiritual traditions, and social attitudes shape views towards sexual violence, which in turn are reflected in Haiti's laws (d'Adesky, 2012).

Horton (2012) notes that gender-based exclusion, cultural and legal discrimination, and sexual and gender-based violence have been **long-term problems** in Haiti. Even though women often serve as heads of household and exercise relative independence, they are generally considered socially inferior. Women's secondary status in society dates back to the pre-independence period, and until 1979, married women were considered legal minors (Nolan, 2011).

Female victims of sexual and gender-based violence reportedly often face **familial and social stigma**, as well as complex, intimidating, and sometimes hostile procedures in **Haiti's judicial system** (Horton, 2012 p. 8). Social stigma and shame are obstacles to women seeking care after experiencing rape (Human Rights Watch, 2011).

Women's economic dependency

According to Human Rights Watch, women in Haiti generally have fewer economic opportunities than men, leading some to engage in relationships for economic reasons (Human Rights Watch, 2011). Many women who were engaged in small commerce lost their resources during the earthquake, and therefore also their financial independence. Some lost husbands or family breadwinners. All of these factors, it is argued, have led women to become more vulnerable to sexual exploitation (ibid).

In her study of women's experiences of forced-sex in rural Haiti, Fawzia (2005) found that the strongest risk factors associated with a woman encountering domestic violence were: age, length of time in a relationship, occupation of the woman's partner, STD-related symptoms, and economic vulnerability. The majority of women sampled were farmers (55%) and a significant portion were domestic servants (18%). Fifty-one percent of the women reporting forced sex had attended school, compared with 48% of those who did not report forced sex. Women's partners generally had a higher level of education (65% overall had attended school) were older (mean age of 33) and were mainly farmers (83%). Women whose partners were construction workers were two times more likely to have experienced forced sex. The authors argue that this is because construction work is one of the more stable occupations in the area, and women whose partners engage in this type of work are more likely to be economically dependent on men. The authors conclude prevention requires more than information and education – women who are vulnerable to forced sex need income-generating opportunities (ibid).

Poverty, displacement and conditions in IDP camps

In 2011, one year after the earthquake, UN Women reported that: 'The earthquake deepened gaps in gender equality and women's empowerment. Many of these are related to structural obstacles, such as attitudes and institutions that prevent progress for women'.⁹ The report called for both **long-term prevention measures**, to change attitudes and behaviours towards women, **alongside short-term protection for survivors** of violence to enable them to recover and seek justice. More broadly, the report highlighted a need for investments to promote **women's voice in political processes** and to support **women's livelihoods** (e.g. by financing microenterprises), particularly given that 42% of households are headed by women.

In 2011, UNHCR reported that the **living conditions in IDP camps** were **exacerbating women's vulnerability to violence**. It noted: 'the primary and secondary displacements and subsequent loss of traditional community, family structures and mechanisms, combined with the loss of livelihoods and impunity for perpetrators have increased the vulnerability of many women and girls' (UNHCR, 2011, p. 4).

Similar findings were made in a study undertaken by the Centre for Human Rights and Global Justice, which found significant correlations between limited access to adequate food, water, and sanitation, and increased vulnerability to sexual violence in IDP camps (CHRGJ, 2012). It found that in 14% of the households surveyed, at least one person had been a victim of rape or sexual assault since the earthquake. Seventy percent of respondents said they were more fearful of sexual violence since the earthquake (CHRGJ, 2012). The report concluded that the people most vulnerable to sexual violence were likely to be young and female, to reside in a household with three or fewer members, to have limited access to food, water, and sanitation, and to live in a camp without participatory governance (ibid).

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights argued that high SGBV incidence in IDP camps coincided with **high crime rates in the surrounding neighbourhood**. Thus, rather than seeing camps situations in isolation, they should be seen as 'a more visible example of a systemic and structural problem in Haitian society' (HRS, 2012).

Horton (2012) argues that **gender stereotypes** that portray men in the camps as criminal gang members, and women as prostitutes, along with the widespread representation of women in post-earthquake Haiti as 'victims', risk reproducing socio-economic inequalities. Based on interviews with leaders of Haitian women's organisations, women grassroots activists, and women working in NGOs, she found that women's associations strongly reject this stereotyping. She calls for greater recognition of the strengths and capacities of Haitian women in times of crisis, including the informal, often invisible work they have done in organising, networking, caretaking, and ensuring basic survival.

Focus groups in IDP camps have found that a **lack of employment opportunities for men**, which led to boredom, depression and increased alcohol consumption, were drivers of increased domestic violence and rape incidents (UNHCR, 2011 p. 18).

A study published in late 2012 by the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (CHRGJ) referred to so-called 'survival sex' as an adaptation mechanism in response to the breakup of family and

⁹ See 'UN Women on the Ground: Haiti's Women a Year after the Earthquake'
<http://www.unwomen.org/2011/01/un-women-on-the-ground-haitis-women-a-year-after-the-earthquake/>

community structures, the loss of safety nets and lack of effective economic opportunities (CHRGJ, 2012).

The upsurge in violence in IDP camps is thought to be driven by lack of economic opportunity, crowded conditions, lack of secure shelter, and in some cases, the failure of the Haitian police and UN troops to provide adequate security (Horton, 2012).

Several reports cite the **generally poor security** situation as an underlying cause of violence against women. Some reports from the field suggest security patrols around the 1,150 camps in and around Port-au-Prince are inadequate (Nolan, 2011). Lack of consistent electricity or lighting at night in some camps has been associated with reduced security (Human Rights Watch, 2011). On the other hand, one report by the small arms survey found that more rape cases occurred during the day than at night, because younger women and girls were often left alone in the day whilst their parents went out to seek work (Kolbe and Muggah, cited in d'Adesky, 2012).

Legacy of state-led violence

A legacy of state-sanctioned violence is also considered among of the underlying causes of violence against women in Haiti. Nolan (2011) notes that successive regimes since the 1950s have used rape to silence opponents. According to Human Rights Watch (2011), there is some evidence that politically-motivated sexual violence was used under the dictatorships of François and Jean-Claude Duvalier (between 1957 and 1986) and during the Cédras regime and post-coup period (from October 1991 to May 1993). Under these regimes, Human Rights Watch documented cases of rape and assault being used as a form of political oppression (HRW, 2011).

Horton (2012, p. 5) similarly notes: 'under the Duvalier regime in the 1980s and more recent military regimes, women were the targets of state violence, which included the systematic rape of women as means to terrorise and punish them for political activity'. She argues the Haitian state has since reproduced gender-based discrimination through legal codes, policies, and programmes.

Culture of impunity and weak capacity in state justice system

In a report based on interviews with Haitian experts, Nolan (2011) draws attention to the **impunity for perpetrators** of sexual and gender-based violence as an underlying cause of its prevalence. She notes that up until 2005, rape was defined as a 'crime against morals', sentencing was lenient, and there was no witness or victim protection. In 2005, article 278 of the Criminal Code regarding rape changed the categorization of rape from a crime against morals to a crime against the person (HRS, 2012).

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in 2012 noted that although the Constitution provides for equal protection before the law, Haiti still does not have **national legislation** prohibiting and punishing discrimination against women. A draft bill on the prevention, punishment and elimination of violence against women drawn up by the MCFDF remains at a standstill (HRS, 2012).

Some reports argue a **lack of resources and capacity** in the Haitian justice system, which makes it difficult for the state to prosecute and punish perpetrators, deters victims of gender-based violence from seeking redress (UNHCR, 2011). In late 2011, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights-Haiti (HRS) conducted a study of rape cases reported to five police stations in the Port-au-Prince area between June and August 2010, to see how the cases had been managed by the criminal

justice system. Just one case out of a total of 62 reported cases during this period had reached the prosecution stage, and was pending trial. No cases have actually been tried. In addition, the study found that police records were generally not well kept, and police did not always explain to victims the importance of obtaining a medical examination within 72 hours of the rape. Without a medical certificate, it is highly unlikely that a case will go to trial (HRS, 2012). The report concluded that 'state responsibility with regard to rape and other forms of sexual violence must be seen in the light of the overall inadequacies of accessing and delivering justice in Haiti'.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights-Haiti (HRS) described the Haitian National Police (HNP) as 'seriously under resourced', lacking staff and basic equipment, including cars, computers, telephones, and electricity, severely impede to carry out investigations and arrests.

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http://www.urd.org/IMG/pdf/SGBV-UNHCR-report2_FINAL.pdf

Additional resources:

GSDRC, (2011), Helpdesk Research Report: Impact evaluations of programmes to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, University of Birmingham
<http://www.gsdrc.org/docs/open/HD789.pdf>

GSDRC, (2012), Helpdesk Research Report: Evaluation of programmes related to violence against women and girls, University of Birmingham
<http://www.gsdrc.org/docs/open/HDQ853.pdf>

Key websites:

- United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUTASH)
www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minustah/
- IOM, Haiti <http://www.iomhaiti.info/en/accueil.php>
- KOFIVIV (Komisyon Fanm Viktim pou Viktim) <http://www.kofaviv.org/>

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About Helpdesk research reports: This helpdesk report is based on 3 days of desk-based research. Helpdesk research reports are designed to provide a brief overview of the key issues, and a summary of some of the best literature available. Experts are contacted during the course of the research, and those able to provide input within the short time-frame are acknowledged.

Annex 1: Selected organisations working on violence against women in Haiti

Organisation	Specific programme/s	Key activities (as listed on website)	Website/Source
MULTILATERAL AID AGENCIES			
International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	<i>Protecting the Most Vulnerable</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collecting disaggregated data for displaced women victims of violence. Training camp committees on Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV), prevention, referral and monitoring. 	http://www.iomhaiti.info/en/accueil.php http://www.iomhaiti.info/en/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=8&Url=
UNHCR	<i>Various</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training for MINUSTAH personnel and Haitian national police. Information campaign on the prevention of and response to rape. Conducted study into transactional sex as a survival strategy in Port-au-Prince IDP camps. 	http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=35900 http://www.unhcrwashington.org/atf/cf/%7Bc07eda5e-ac71-4340-8570-194d98bdc139%7D/SGBV-HAITI-STUDY-MAY2011.PDF
UNICEF	<i>Various</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a referral system for survivors of violence, including plastic-coated referral cards instructing victims on where to go for medical care and support developed in collaboration with the Haitian government, the International Rescue Committee and UNFPA. Prevention of future violence through establishment of child-friendly spaces, with activities designed to educate girls and boys about gender-based violence and help them develop life skills needed in the new and challenging camp settings. 	http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/haiti_53204.html

UNFPA	<i>Concertation Nationale Contre les Violences Faites aux Femmes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data-collection system on GBV; training local partners in data collection and analysis. 	http://www.unfpa.org/webdav/site/global/shared/documents/publications/2013/finalUNFPA_CSW_Book_20130221_Data.pdf
United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)	<i>Joint working group on community violence reduction</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborates with the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Women's Rights to run 'safe spaces' for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in three IDP camps and at seven national police stations. • Works in close collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Civic Action, on measures to reduce community violence. Because women are particularly vulnerable to violence in urban areas, MINUSTAH ensures that 30 per cent of the beneficiaries of each of these projects are women. • Collaborates with the International Organization for Migration to organise training sessions for national police officers on responding to sexual and gender-based violence, in addition to training legal professionals on legal recourse for victims. • Trains community leaders as part of a "zero violence" platform which helps community networks raise awareness of how to prevent sexual and gender-based violence. 	www.un.org/en/peacekeeping/missions/minustah/
UN Women	<i>Various. Support for Asosyasyon Famn de Boy/Women's Association of Le Borgne (AFB)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting AFB (in the Northern Coastal region) to help survivors of gender-based violence access medical and legal care. • Supporting a network of Safe Houses for victims. 	http://www.unwomen.org/2012/09/haiti-efforts-at-the-local-level-to-improve-womens-access-to-justice-and-security/ http://car.unwomen.org/ne_new_cf_m?ID=139

World Bank	<i>Women and Girls in Haiti's Reconstruction: Addressing and Preventing Gender Based Violence</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public education, including capacity building • Technical assistance to KOFAVIV in its education campaign; • Supporting KOFAVIV visits to GBV survivors; purchase and distribution of first response kits; organising capacity building workshops for KOFAVIV staff. 	http://www.genderaction.org/publications/haitigbvcs.pdf
Various: UNFPA, UNESCO, IOM, UNDP, UNIFEM	<i>Joint programme on Prevention and social cohesion through Local Community Empowerment and Institutional Capacity Building</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development, job-creation, and training for violence-prone communities. • Creation of a National Observatory of Violence and Crime, which is conducting victimization surveys and studies on the dynamics of violence. • 'Listen and care centers' for victims of violence, supporting more than 1,000 women victims of violence. 	http://www.mdgfund.org/program/conflictpreventionthroughlocalcommunityempowermentandinstitutionalcapacitybuilding
BILATERAL AID AGENCIES			
CIDA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No programmes specifically aimed at preventing violence against women; current (2011-12) priorities are education, health, food security, economic growth, governance (civil registration), and humanitarian assistance. 	http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/En/JUD-12912349-NLX

USAID	<i>Various, including Women Empowered to Lead and Advocate for Development (WE-LEAD) + PROJUSTICE</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving security by: building the capacity of the Haitian National Police (HNP); Calling for increased female representation and leadership within the HNP. • Supporting survivors through: access to services; training to identify GBV cases; legal aid in low-income and marginalized communities; protecting displaced women and girls • Improving legislation and capacity through: strengthening legal protection; enforcing existing legislation; promoting multilateral coordination • Creating economic opportunity by: providing vocational training; training out-of-school youth; linking women to capital • Raising awareness by: promoting new social norms; supporting an innovative emergency response approach to GBV; training women mediators in Cité Soleil. 	http://www.usaid.gov/haiti/gender-equity-and-womens-empowerment
INGOs			
American Bar Association	<i>Rule of Law Initiative</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted a workshop on SGBV for judges, justices of the peace, investigative magistrates, prosecutors and police officers, with a focus on effective investigation, prosecution and adjudication, covering local and international laws. 	http://www.americanbar.org/advocacy/rule_of_law/where_we_work/latin_america_caribbean/haiti/news/news_haiti_justice_sector_operators_trained_to_combat_sexual_gender_based_violence_0412.html
American Jewish World Service Fanm Viktim Leve Kanpe/Women Victims Get Up, Stand Up (FAVILEK)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating safe spaces and undertaking advocacy for policies to protect women and children from GBV, through outreach, human rights training, and accompanying victims through the legal process 	http://ajws.org/where_we_work/americas/haiti/fanm_viktim_leve_kanpe_favilek.html

ActionAid Haiti		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised a day of sensitisation on violence against women in the Philippeaux and Mariani camps. 	http://www.actionaid.org/haiti/2011/03/ending-violence-against-women-together
Oxfam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with local partners Action Communautaire Solidarite Intervention Sociale (ACSIS), Fonds de Reseaux d'Aide pour le Developpement Economique et Social (FRADES) and the Santo Network to combat GBV, including by launching welcome centres. 	http://www.oxfamblogs.org/lac/young-haitians-taking-a-stand-against-gender-based-violence/
Médecins Sans Frontières		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opened a small clinic in the Pacot district of Port-au-Prince in 2007 dedicated to providing medical and psychological care to victims of sexual violence. Services are now provided at the new (2011) MSF hospital in Drouillard and by MSF staff working in the Choscal state hospital. 	http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/news/article.cfm?id=2135&cat=voice-from-the-field http://www.msf-azg.be/fr/pays/ha%C3%AFti
NATIONAL NGOS			
Association Femmes Soleil d'Haiti AFASDA Haitian Women's Sun Association		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grassroots group working closely with the women's ministry and approved medical to provide services for referred clients. AFASDA is among the groups involved in the long-running safe house in Cap Haitien (Northern Haiti) 	http://www.haitimedical.com/afasda/
Centre Diocésain de Développement Intégré et de Secours (CEDDISEC) Episcopal Relief and Development		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training CEDDISEC's Youth Brigade in gender-based violence issues, to enable them to work with camp leaders to conduct surveys and launch an education programme. 	http://www.erd.org/HaitiYouthBrigadeGBV

<p>Groupe Concertation des Femmes Victimes</p> <p>Dialogue Group for Women Victims (GCFV)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting victims of GBV; advocating for women's rights. 	<p>http://groupedesfemmesvictimes.blogspot.co.uk/p/presentation-gcfv.html</p>
<p>KOFAVIV (Komisyon Fanm Viktim pou Viktim)</p> <p>The Commission of Women Victims for Victims)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opened medical centre in March 2005, partnering with the Organization d'Entraide pour la Promotion Sociale (ODPPS) to provide medical assistance to victims. KOFAVIV staff (called Community Human Rights Workers (CHRWs)), reach out to women in many distressed communities to encourage them to seek medical help and counseling to get through their trauma. 	<p>http://www.kofaviv.org/</p>
<p>Kódinasyon Solidarite Fanm Djanm Sid (KOSOFADS)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised a three-month awareness-raising campaign distributing posters, banners, and pamphlets to the population and local authorities, and airing radio and television broadcasts 	<p>http://urgentactionfund.org/2012/06/the-haiti-earthquake-stop-violence-against-women-and-girls/</p>

<p>MADRE</p>	<p><i>A Haven for Haitian Girls</i></p> <p><i>International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict;</i></p> <p><i>Digital Democracy</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting KOFVIV Women's Centre to meet the critical needs of Haitian girls so they do not need to exchange sex for basic provisions, and to provide sanctuary; • Teaching about health and human rights and encouraging girls to engage in outreach to others in camps • Establishment of '572' sexual violence emergency response telephone line, including training women and documenting cases of sexual violence. 	<p>http://www.madre.org/index/meet-madre-1/where-we-work-53/haiti-168.html</p> <p>http://www.madre.org/index/meet-madre-1/our-projects-20/haiti-a-haven-for-haitian-girls-282.html</p> <p>http://kofaviv.blogspot.co.uk/</p> <p>http://www.rememberoursisterseverywhere.com/notes/Support_Women_and_Girls_in_Haiti</p> <p>http://www.madre.org/index/meet-madre-1/our-partners-6/haiti-kofaviv--zanmi-lasante-36.html</p> <p>http://digital-democracy.org/2011/09/21/announcing-572-the-first-emergency-response-system-for-sexual-violence-in-haiti/</p>
<p>Observatoire National de la Violence et de la Criminalité (ONAVC)</p> <p>National Observatory on Violence and Crime</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joint initiative of the State University of Haiti and UNDP which undertakes institutional capacity building and research on violence and crime, including violence against women. A recent (November 2012) study on violence against women in five cities indicates widespread insecurity and high rates of domestic violence. 	<p>http://www.onavc.ueh.edu.ht</p>

PotoFanm+Fi		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global solidarity initiative launched by Haitian, Diaspora and global advocates of women's rights to support the needs, voices, and leadership of Haitian women and girls, and grassroots organizations in Rebuilding Haiti after the earthquake. • Advocacy, reporting, monitoring, fundraising, and networking with community and multisector partners to accelerate delivery of priority services to Haitian women and girls. 	http://www.potofanm.org/p/about-us_24.html
SOFA (Solidarite Fanm Ayisyen) Haitian Women's Solidarity	<i>Se Ra, Se Ta (Later is too late)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grassroots feminist organisation • Runs clinics for rape victims • Outreach workers travel by foot to find clients or escort them to clinics • Campaigns to change permissive cultural attitudes that enable the subjugation of women in their private lives. • Campaigns to make use of print, radio, and popular theatre to change cultural attitudes that enable the subjugation of women 	http://www.grassrootsonline.org/news/blog/sofa%E2%80%99s-violence-against-women-campaign-haiti-one-year
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT			
Ministry for the Status of Women and Women's Rights (MCFDF)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary responsibility within government for the definition and implementation of policies on SGBV • Mandated to regulate services provided to women and girls. • In 2005, launched the <i>Concertation Nationale contre les Violences Faites aux Femmes</i>, a partnership between State ministries, civil society, and international partners including UN agencies to implement the national plan of action on violence against women and girls. 	http://www.haitivisions.com/mcfd/