



**FINAL REPORT FORM
for
WACC-SUPPORTED PROJECT**

This document is for end-of-project reporting. It has two parts: a) Narrative Report; b) Financial Report.

You will need to refer to your Project Application Form, the Agreement with WACC, and your bank statement when completing this form. Please return it with supporting documents and materials to WACC. Please answer the questions as fully as possible.

THE NARRATIVE REPORT

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|---|---|
| 1. Project Title: (as appeared in the Agreement) | Domestic Violence Public Awareness Media Campaign in Fizi, DR Congo |
| 2. Project Reference Number: (as appeared in the Agreement) | 751 |
| 3. Full Name of Project Holder: | Umoja Wa Akina Mama Fizi |
| 4. Full Address: | PO Box 58 Kigoma, Tanzania |
| 5. Name of Country: | D R Congo |
| 6. Period the project was implemented: (from month/year to month/year) | July 2009 to July 2010 |
| 7. Project Grant received: [You must include any bank charges deducted] | Amount in local currency: 13087585.28TSh (Exchange rate of 1305.5 on 16.06.2009) Amount in Euros or US\$ (circle as appropriate): 10024.96 USD |
| 8. Date(s) Project Grant(s) were received: (as in your bank statement) 1 st remittance 2 nd remittance | 16.06.2009 |

9. Activities

Q9. Give a summary of the major activities carried out during the reporting period in comparison with those planned. In case of changes from the original objectives, please explain the reasons.

A9. *The Domestic Violence Public Awareness Media Campaign in Fizi, DR Congo* was a programme that aimed at providing a way for Fizi people to learn to live peace and make peace through the organisation of activities targeting the general public: Radio advertisements; appearances on TV; linking the notion of ‘involving men’ in combating violence against women with campaigns to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS; asking well-known men such as actors, musicians, writers, sports figures, to support the campaign by taking part in media campaigns; responding to current affairs related to violence against women; partnering with local NGOs to help promote their work; going into schools and discussing the campaign; organising a poster campaign in public transport areas; events in the workplace, such as the setting up of a stand where men can sign up to pledge never to commit violence against women; a march led by men, promoting male involvement in combating violence against women (start at a parliament and end at a public place).



We aimed to raise awareness of domestic violence by means of campaigns and talks. We hoped to be a first port of call for anyone seeking information on dealing with domestic violence, including details of the various support services available in Fizi, and to take action when such services are inadequate, underfunded or entirely absent.

Please describe in detail the activities of the project that were implemented such as content of production, programmes, workshops or training

9.1 If the project is a workshop, seminar, or consultation, please attach the list of participants, the themes/topics of their speeches/papers, and any statement, declaration, or book published.

9.2 If the project is primarily purchase of equipment, please describe what kind of impact / change the equipment is bringing to the beneficiaries.

A9.1 &2 ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT PER CATEGORY OF THEME DURING THE PROJECT YEAR

BREAKING THE CHAINS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Education and Public awareness was in 2009-10, the most effective way of promoting respect for women’s human rights and creating a women’s human rights culture in the territory. The education programme sought to raise awareness in Fizi about the status of women with the aim of increasing the flow of information between women’s groups and

relevant politico-administrative authorities, religious leaders, tribal elders and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) representatives.



During this period under review, programmes regarding how to break the chain of violence against women were held all over Fizi territory.

Baraka: 8-9/03/10 UWAFI has networked with other local women organisations to celebrate the international woman's day. The network held a series of successful workshops covering many important issues: gender equality, education, political violence against women, AIDS awareness to name a few. This event was the first of its kind for the Fizi women and all participants were pleased with the response it generated.

Yungu: women activists embarked on an awareness-raising campaign and were able to create a forum on basic women's human rights and issues relating to abuse, torture and detention without trial.

As said in our previous reports, human rights situation in Fizi is in chaos. Many victims continue to suffer from the effects of war violence consequences particularly those happened to women and children. Women have been victims of torture and other forms of ill-treatment including sexual violence. During our visit at Baraka, we have met or visited a couple of women who were victims of sexual violence. This case has been found in the village of Kalundja, Mwambango and Emo. Interviews with the victims have made us cry bitterly. Traumatic results are visible. There were some scattered cases of men being used also as sexual partners by the militia and the force of occupation. Women have been suffering from vaginal pains, symptoms of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) including HIV/AIDS. They are depressed, others are physically handicapped, some more are widows and children who have been orphans. It's true that this situation is not strange to UWAFI, however, the only worry is that those women victims are left on their own. Only a wee bit of this social group benefits of the urgent assistance (medical care, psychological care) by few organisations like UWAFI, Medecin Sans Frontiers and FEPADE. All together we made a network structure called: "Drop In Centre "at Kazimia which welcomes and listens to women victims for emergency need. But regretfully, the number of cases is far away more than our actual ability to care about all meaningful situations. In fact, victims are being taken care by social carers who have been trained by UWAFI. The only awkward situation is due to a poor follow-up action by qualified staff from specialist services. Sick women lack appropriate medical attention and a total absence of both gynaecological and psychiatric tests. A lack of local labs undermines any quick intervention over patients. The accommodation of the poorly ill mental patients

is not ensured apart from the transfer service by UWAFI to send those who need special care to Uvira for further treatment. During the period under review, UWAFI has taken the responsibility to send 5 women critically ill to Uvira where 3 among them were diagnosed HIV positive and the other 2 had STDs.

After the reflection days on the plight of the rights of women organised at Nundu, Baraka and the training of new activists of women's rights at Kazimia, UWAFI has held two more workshops in November respectively on 10th and 12th Dec. 2009 at Malinde and Sebele. These two workshops concerned with a deep analysis on the prevailing situation of violence and women's human rights abuse taking into account the gender specificity aspect in some targeted villages. Women exclusion in the process of finding solutions for their well fare has been debated as one of grave violation of their rights. Participants in the meeting have recommended the following from UWAFI:

- Show them new and practical tools for the prevention and minimisation of violence against women.
- Gender sensitisation.
- Sensitise women and men to live in sexual harmony.
- Vulgarise women's human rights.
- Schooling advocacy for girls.
- Lobby for women to hold high rank positions in local government (tribunal, municipal, security, etc)
- Assistance to small group of influence in different villages.
- Gather all necessary means to help the small groups of influence to be able to make a difference in their villages.

Let's remind it that during those sessions, women from different villages have brought with them very meaningful and sensitive images illustrating the types of violence women are subject. These images were very powerful tools in putting the message across as you can see here below.



[Violence against women must stop!](#)

HIV/AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Although the issue at stake was domestic violence eradication in this project, there raised many other complicated issues that the campaign could not close eyes on. Just to listen to the stories of women victims of violence was very stressful. Many of them have been raped, others wrongfully jailed for many months. Many are those who find

themselves widowed or else their husbands are in jail. They are left with a family to feed and have to travel to the jail every day to bring food to the prisoner. Some of these women have had to resort to prostitution and now they find themselves HIV-positive. For them emotions are hard to find – eyes have long since run out of tears. Ten years after the war broke out in this territory, there is still a lot of unfinished business. How can the body relax, how can life get back to normal? To try to find out some responses to this question, we initiated some counselling services. We have decided that the healing process touches love through a befriending structure and through Reflexology. This could help them at this time. Words would only sound hollow. Their bodies as well as their minds and spirits are so traumatised. Through Reflexology they could experience a new kind of touch – having their feet massaged as their bodies healed. As they learned the skills of Reflexology themselves, they in turn went out to do it to others in their communities. On 11 June, a workshop was held to relate to skills learnt from the training session of April. So far we have trained four groups. There are fourteen women in each. It is wonderful to watch the joy on their faces as they relate how Reflexology has helped in their villages.



At Baraka, we have distributed loin clothes to some of the depressed women as a sign of solidarity and de-traumatisation. 36 women have benefited from this action even though we should have given more had we had enough.

Q.10. Was the project successful? (If possible, please give measurable indicators.)

A.10: The Domestic Violence Public Awareness Media Campaign in Fizi, DR Congo was a really success. The Campaign has drawn up a 10 point action programme which outlines the reforms which we believe must be implemented in order to tackle domestic violence.

We campaigned to ensure that our 10 points are incorporated into the government's strategy to end violence against women:

- Secure funding and expansion of facilities and services for women experiencing domestic violence, such as help-lines, refuges, specialist courts and women's advocates.

- Expansion in quality provision of refuges and housing, including a pool of emergency housing.
- More support for children who have been affected by domestic violence, including childcare provision for under threes and support services for children.
- Employers to provide paid time off and redeployment for women fleeing domestic violence.
- Preventative education in schools about domestic violence. Programmes for male perpetrators in all areas.
- Nationally coordinated programme of domestic violence awareness training and good practice for all relevant staff i.e. housing, health, education, police, legal, social services, etc.
- Legal aid threshold to be raised so that all women can afford legal action in relation to domestic violence.
- Safeguards for women and children in court welfare meetings and contact situations.
- Review of all cases of women in prison for killing violent partners and all other women in prison where domestic violence was a factor. Change the law on provocation and self-defence to take account of cumulative violence and abuse.
- Government to publish an annual report of the impact of all aspects of legal changes and service reforms related to domestic violence.

Q. 11. Project Beneficiaries

Please describe the actual direct beneficiaries and indicate the number of women and men. Please also mention any indirect beneficiaries.

A.11. The campaign was open to any man or woman from Fizi territory that was opposed to violence against women, who subscribed to equality between man and woman. The project as a whole reached out 200 women from Fizi and 160 men from all sorts of background.

- We collected signatures on the petition in support of the action programme.
- We asked student union, community / women's organisation to support our action programme.
- We wrote to/lobbied our local MP asking them to support the action programme.
- We wrote to relevant government ministers urging support for the programme.
- We participated in local and national activities to promote the action programme.
- We welcomed the support of as many organisations and individuals as possible to help us achieve our aims.

Q.12. How have the beneficiaries reacted to the programme activities? What were the impacts of the project and different effects on women and men in the project?

A. 12.

One of the biggest impacts of the training programme over domestic violence was an understanding by the beneficiaries that domestic violence affects women regardless of class, race, age, disability or lifestyle. It is a threatening anti social behaviour that affects victims of abuse physically, emotionally, sexually or mentally and it takes place mainly in a close relationship. Most abuse is by men over women and was rooted in the idea of male dominance and control within the family. It has to be combated in all its forms.

The project was very welcomed by the beneficiaries. Their reaction was to say that they wish such a campaign to be on-going and involve more men and policy makers in the fight against domestic violence. For the campaign to have positive results, more people need to be informed and educated about strategies to inhibit domestic violence again and again. Over the course of the domestic violence awareness training, the beneficiaries have been able:

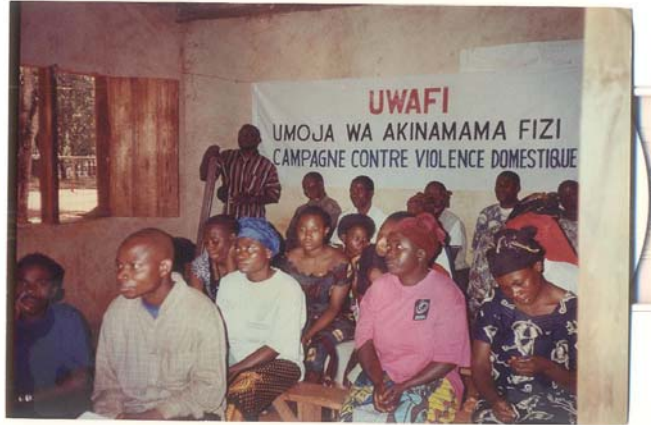
- To have a clear definition of, and background statistics in relation to, Domestic Violence
- To carry out an analysis in identifying Domestic Violence
- To gain an understanding of the barriers to leaving abusive relationships
- To receive accurate information over the different services within Fizi territory and the surrounding to be signposted for appropriate support mechanisms
- To gain an understanding of the wider impact of Domestic Violence on children
- To gain an awareness in raising the issues of Domestic Violence with women
- To examine how to carry out risk assessments in relation to Domestic Violence and to provide advice on information sharing protocols between agencies

Q. 13. Outcome and Outputs of the project: What has your project achieved and what has changed?

If your project produced media, please send a sample copy of audio/video cassettes, CD, VCD, or DVD and label it with title, duration, language used, and date of production. If you can, please send photos with informative captions (digital photos, if possible), newspaper/radio clips, homepage links, etc.

A.13

The project has seen positive outcomes. Visible indicators prove this. After the implementation of the programme, 10 schools in the territory have adopted and scripted messages in their curriculum to support the domestic violence campaign. There is now a considerable amount of police officers, women activists and moderate men in the territory who have pledged commitment to protect women against domestic violence. They have created a forum called “*Refuge*” to debate, discuss and act on issues related to domestic violence. The forum will look at the impact of domestic violence on the lives of victims and which concrete actions should be taken to support them.



In trying to achieve this, a number of mechanisms have been put in place:

1. **Advocacy**

Independent Domestic Violence Advocates will

- Work with high risk victims of domestic violence.
- Organise Pre-Trial visits to the court.
- Explain the procedures and language of the court.
- Organise Childcare.
- Arrange for the victims to enter the court separately from the defendant.
- Arrange travel costs.

2. **Counseling**

Uwafi's counsellors will put clients first and will demonstrate respect and value to all our service users. All counsellors will make it clear that each hourly session provides space and time for clients to talk confidentially about their problems. Our aim is to empower women to help them to move on with their lives.

Case study

Julia (not her real name)

A mother of four children, Julia was referred by social services to Uwafi for support. She was a victim of domestic violence at the hands of her husband for more than 19 years. Julia's ten-year-old daughter summoned the police after their father threatened to kill both Julia and her eldest daughter. The father threw the eldest daughter down on the ground when she tried to stop her father violently beating their mother.

Uwafi helped Julia through court and her husband was successfully charged with three counts of assault and was sentenced to 24 weeks in custody. Julia and her family received counseling and specialist help to cope with her financial difficulties.

Q.14. Evaluation

A14. During the year of the project, UWAFI has evaluated its effectiveness and commitment. Based on results, we are pleased to say that our work on behalf of battered women of Fizi has been somehow completed as planned in spite of political and economic instability in the region. We have achieved as much as we had hoped.

14.1 What were the results of evaluating the project?

A14.1:

When asked about the project and the work of Uwafi as a whole in tackling domestic violence:

- 96 per cent (n=68) respondents stated that they understand the importance of tackling domestic violence from the early stage and the sessions attended have been very useful and strategic in achieving this.
- 82 per cent (n=58) believe that the training sessions will contribute to better responses to domestic violence. Many were extremely supportive of the Project, and showed a strong awareness of the importance of early intervention, as the following extracts suggest.
- Having someone on site who is aware of the help available to these women and can help women access, this will be very good – they will then be more likely to disclose domestic violence.
- The project has given immediate help and advice to victims without immediate threat of police involvement.
- Knowing where and who to refer to, has been the key for beneficiaries
- Talking to Uwafi team has made it all less daunting. The victims deserve help as human beings and they may not be in a position to help themselves.
- Early intervention on any serious issue, especially domestic violence, can prevent, contain, address the matter before it can have far-reaching effects on the abused and the extended family unit long-term.
- Beneficiaries of the project think Uwafi does a very good service for the women of Fizi, as up until now they don't think they have been very pro-active in identifying and helping women suffering from domestic violence.
- Women beneficiaries were very positive about this Project. Feedback received from them showed that this was a long-awaited improvement in services to women.
- The project was an immediate help for the sufferer and a safe haven. It has made beneficiaries feel able to help in a very positive manner.
- It is a first port of call. Women support workers at Uwafi could be contacted by victims of domestic violence when they wanted, at a convenience time.
- Anyone in need of protection from domestic violence was encouraged to take the first steps in finding help and support.
- Up to date and expert information, advice and general listening time related to domestic violence were made available by Uwafi thanks to kind assistance from WACC.
- Eighty-six per cent (n=61) respondents anticipated no difficulties in liaising with Uwafi.

When asked to comment more generally at the end of the questionnaire, many more respondents made this point, which is clearly a significant concern.

- A much needed service, which should have good funding for a 24-hour service.

When given the opportunity to comment openly, (taken by 37 respondents) many were very positive about the training provided on eradicating domestic violence, its impact on their knowledge about domestic violence, but also felt that it was too short and called for further sessions.

- Training was excellent in time given. However we just skimmed over things because of time constraints. This subject should be taught as a one or two-day course, plus more emphasis put on helping patients disclose and what services are available.
- The training and other awareness raising sessions gave beneficiaries more confidence / awareness of domestic violence. Beneficiaries find it equally a lot easier to talk about HIV, Hep B, drugs and sexually transmitted diseases – because they have had much more instruction – as a result of this project.
- Many people who attended the training thought the training was very useful and important and should be repeated so that women can refresh knowledge and practice case studies etc.
- It was amazing looking at the numbers quoted during training and awareness raising sessions about all aspects of domestic violence. It also made women aware how many women they must have come across that were suffering from some form of abuse as many were totally unaware.
- Some of the beneficiaries said that they have not had to deal with clients experiencing domestic violence, i.e. I have not encountered anything to make them suspicious of domestic violence. They imagine dealing with it for the first time could be daunting. This project's activities have given them the confidence should they encounter it.
- Some others think the project was informative in the time given and they were able to take away the practical. The project has allowed for more discussion and sharing of experiences when dealing with domestic violence. The training helped to identify and explore issues which may act as a barrier to disclosure. Having the opportunity to share these things with colleagues was instructive.

14.2 What were the challenges, difficulties, and/or failures in carrying out the project? Please explain how you addressed these issues.

A14.2: Though this period has given a hope to the whole population of Fizi with the campaigns against domestic violence across the territory, both the political and social situations did not enable UWAFI to totally materialise its activities as initially foreseen. The reasons are here below explained:

- Weak mobilisation of local and external resources due to political instability;
- Massive displacement of the population out of their villages running for their safety;
- Threat, terror, persecution of human rights activists by both mai-mai and rebels;
- Limited financial resources to face a huge amount of needs;
- Weak networking system with other human rights activists leaving a great amount of work to UWAFI to carry out this kind of activities on her own;

SOLUTIONS

1. UWAFI will continue to work with other human rights activists to consolidate their efforts for change.
2. In relation to our end of the project results, this coming year's programme activities will focus on:

- Reinforcing analysis capacity, negotiation, lobby and planning for activists of the *Refuge forum*.

- Awareness raising, synergy promotion and reinforcement, networking and complementarities between *Refuge forum* and local authority in a sense that common programs may make a difference at all levels.

- Support the emergence and reinforce a culture of a participative approach and more democratic which could put together local authorities and women's human rights organisations in the planning of important activities seen to be of priority over the period under review. This means, in some of UWAFI programs see local authorities be part of the planning staff, resource mobilisation, carrying out, follow-up etc.

15. Other comments, if any.

Based on the results of our campaign and the comments gathered from beneficiaries during the period of the project evaluation, this coming year's programme activities will focus on 5 areas of strategic intervention which the "Refuge Forum" has been mandated and commissioned to do:

a) Area of Strategic Intervention 1 – Inform, Sensitise, and Educate

The prevention of Domestic Violence demands promoting values of equality and citizenship that reduce social tolerance and the acceptance of a culture of violence. Eliminate stereotypes and myths, change gender representations and the values that have perpetuated the existence of unequal relationships in the family, school, and social environment, are the main challenges the Forum proposes to achieve. The sensitisation actions and mobilisation of civil society emerge as a crucial strategy, directed at schools and communities, in the sense of changing practices and behaviours.

b) Area of Strategic Intervention 2 – Protect the Victims and Prevent Revictimisation

In this area, the appropriateness of the social responses to the victims' specificities is privileged so that safety is a priority, without compromising their quality of life. This is the case of the widening of the social network of protection, as well as other integrated responses with a community basis, geared at reducing the negative effects of victimisation. On the other hand, insofar as prevention of revictimisation, the forum could highlight experiments of new methodologies of criminal control that enable reducing and changing the abusive behaviours of the aggressors. The safety of the victims should be preserved without minimising, however, the criminal responsibility of the aggressors, promoting, on the one hand, the efficiency of the legal-criminal mechanisms, and, on the other, strengthening the credibility of the victims.

c) Strategic Area of Intervention 3 – Capacitate and Reintegrate the Victims of Domestic Violence

This area of intervention emphasises the promotion of personal and social competences of victims of domestic violence, given their increased empowerment, self-determination, and social reintegration. Application of measures of positive discrimination to the victims of domestic violence in access and mobility in employment and vocational training also assumes particular relevance in this Strategic Area of Intervention.

d) Strategic Area of Intervention 4 – Qualify Professionals

Intervention, in cases of domestic violence, demands, more and more, qualification and vocational specialisation. To capacitate the technical personnel most involved in assisting victims and aggressors, endowing them with appropriate competences to intervene in a professional manner is a crucial task for this Plan's strategy. On the other hand, the integration of these themes within the curricula of the courses and training is indispensable, and should be specially geared towards developing activities in this area of intervention.

e) Strategic Area of Intervention 5 – Deepen knowledge of the Domestic Violence Phenomenon

There are various recommendations which encourage the Member-organisations of the Forum to adopt indicators and methodologies that make it possible to analyse gender associated to this phenomenon. A multidimensional problem that is so complex as Domestic Violence demands the participation and exchange of knowledge between the scientific community, Non-Governmental Organisations, and the various competent organisms within the various transversals to this phenomenon. Intervening efficiently requires a profound knowledge of the mechanisms, contexts, circumstances, and actors involved in the production of this type of social phenomenon. The central object of this Area is to develop mechanisms that enable motorising the phenomenon and establishing comparisons on a national, community, and international level, so as to make the intervention more and more qualified.

16. Name of the person submitting the report:

Position: Director

Date: 19.11.10

Signature: Mme Russi Alema,

