Vietnam 2022: Prosecuting Cases of Domestic and Sexual Violence, A Survivor-Centered Approach to Prosecution Training

GLOBAL RIGHTS for WOMEN *Justice for Victims of Violence*

Training designed to increase the capacity of prosecutors to apply a survivor-centered approach to prosecution of domestic and sexual violence cases.

What is survivor-centered prosecution?

The goal of this training package is to increase the capacity of prosecutors to apply a survivor-centered approach to prosecution of domestic and sexual violence cases. A survivor-centered approach prioritizes victim safety and autonomy and recognizes that the primary role of prosecutors is to seek justice for victims of violence, and hold perpetrators accountable for the harm they have caused.

GRW Guiding Principles

This training package was prepared by Global Rights for Women for the UN Women Regional Office in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The training package is intended to supplement existing United Nations and international guidance on good practices in prosecution of violence against women and girls cases. In particular, the materials have been created to supplement (and will reference) the following sources:

Handbook on effective prosecution responses to violence against women and girls

Essential services package for women and girls subject to violence, Module 3: Justice and Policing

The Trial of Rape: Understanding the criminal justice system response to sexual violence in Thailand and Viet Nam

The foundation of this approach is the recognition that gender-based violence is a manifestation of gender inequality and is deeply rooted in patriarchy.

Rather than focusing on specific procedural practices, this training package aims to:

- Engage prosecutors in examining their own deeply-held beliefs and the impact of these beliefs on their professional practices.

- Develop a survivor-centered and woman-centered theoretical approach to the prosecution of gender-based violence cases.

May Workshop

Learning Objectives Module #1:

- Participants examine their own beliefs about the role of prosecutors in violence against women and girls (VAWG) cases, as well as their beliefs and biases about victims and perpetrators of VAWG.

- Participants learn about the roots of VAWG and the role of patriarchy and male entitlement in perpetuating this social problem.

- Participants begin examining their role in holding perpetrators accountable for violence. Participants will also reflect on the criminal justice system's accountability to victims for changing the climate of tolerance for VAWG.

June Workshop

Learning Objectives Module #2:

- Learn the difference between survivor-centered prosecution and case-centered prosecution
- Reflect on which aspects of current approaches to prosecution are grounded in a survivor-centered approach, and which aspects could be adapted to better serve victims
- Apply a survivor-centered approach to each stage of the prosecution process

By the Numbers

Southeast Asia defined by UN Women includes

34

countries from Afghanistan to Vietnam.

The Prosecutor Training Package will affect

325

million women.

37%

Of women in South Asia, and

40%

of women in South East Asia, and

68%

of women in the Pacific have experienced violence from intimate partners.

Workshop Partners & Supporters

Many organizations and individuals came together to support the development of the South East Asia Prosecutor Training Package.

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To learn more about Global Rights for Women, please visit our website at: www.globalrightsforwomen.org. For specific questions about this project or about future workshops, please contact Melissa Scaia, International Training Director at mscaia@grwomen.org.