MAKE ART FOR WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (MAWA) PROJECT

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Districts: Chiradzulu, Phalombe, Blantyre, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, Zomba

Project Period: 6 January 2020-31 March 2023

ART & GLOBAL HEALTH CENTER
AFRICA

Spotlight Initiative
To eliminate violence against women and girls

UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUND
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

CHARLOTTE THOMAS

Charlotte Thomas Consulting Firm
Consultants in Qualitative and Quantitative Research
C. Malonda and A.Chilembo

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

DISCLAIMER

This Evaluation Report has been developed by an independent evaluator. The analysis presented in this report reflects the views of the authors and may not necessarily represent those of ArtGlo, its partners or the UN Trust Fund.

TABLE OF CONTENT

ACRONYMS

ARTGLO	Art and Global Health Center Africa
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EVAWG	Ending Violence Against Women and Girls
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HCD	Human-Centered Design
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
KII	Key Informant Interviews
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MASA	Make Art for Sustainable Action
MASA	Make Art Stop AIDS
MAWA	Make Art for Women's Activism
MHRC	Malawi Human Rights Commission
MoGCDSW	Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability, and Social Welfare
NPA	National Plan of Action against GBV
NSO	National Statistics Office
PWD	People Living with disabilities
SGBV	Sexual Gender-Based Violence
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNTF	United Nations Trust Fund
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls

VDC	Village Development Committee
VSL	Village Savings & Loans Associations
VSU	Victim support Unit

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Context and Project Outline

Art and Global Health Centre Africa (ArtGlo) with funding from the United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF) implemented a project called Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA) for 3 years and 3 months from 6th January 2020-31st March 2023. The overall goal of Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA) which also means 'tomorrow' in Malawi's Chichewa language) was to end VAWG and improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment. The project aimed at addressing intimate partner sexual and physical violence, non -partner sexual violence and the harmful practice of early and child marriages. The project worked closely with local government authorities and Civil Society Organization (CSO) networks in 6 districts in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, Chiradzulu and Zomba districts in Malawi, to identify CSOs who are well placed to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities but often lack the capacity to do so.

Evaluation Purpose and Objectives

The main objective of the evaluation was to assess the overall performance of the project, evaluate project achievements, and support organizational learning. The results will be used by ArtGlo to assess impact and identify gaps to improve effectiveness of future interventions. The evaluation has further served to identify challenges and best practices in gender programming in Malawi and inform donors, partners and practitioners for purposes of monitoring and learning. The overall evaluation assessed whether it is feasible to scale up the project nation-wide or not considering that this project was only rolled out in six districts.

Specific objectives of the final evaluation were as follows:

- *To evaluate the entire project. against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, knowledge generation, sustainability and impact criteria, as well as the cross-cutting gender equality and human rights criteria.*
- *To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practice in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes.*
- *To evaluate the project and its impact in building capacity for grassroots EVAWG women feminist/ movement.*

Study Methodology

The evaluation followed post-test research design. This is an assessment measure given to participants after they have been given a treatment (project intervention). The results were compared to the pre-test (baseline study) which was conducted before interventions were given to the target group. The study a used mixed methods approach with several quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis methodologies, which obtained information from respondents, key informants, and focus group discussion (FGD) participants.

The study used both qualitative and quantitative methods to collect data in order to achieve the objectives of the study. For quantitative data, a community survey tool and CSO questionnaire with both open and closed questions were administered while for qualitative data KII and FGDs guides were used to collect data from respondents. The study collected data of households from a total number of 413 community members of which 86.2% were women and girls and the rest were men. The study interviewed 6 district officials, 3 Program staff (Artglo), 15 CSOs for offline cohort, 3 online cohorts, and 5 FGDs (a minimum of 6 people per group). Community members and CSOs were randomly selected while for KIIs and FGDs respondents and discussants were purposively selected based on their involvement in the project. Statistical Package for Social Scientists was used to analyze quantitative data while MAXQDA package was used to code, complemented by thematic analysis methods to analyze qualitative data.

Study limitations

The study faced some limitations during data collection but the mitigations put in place were effective. For example, there was a failure to interview the target number of respondents due to limited time and displacement of

communities due to floods. The challenge in physically accessing households due to tropical cyclone Freddy which had affected all target districts made some roads and bridges impassable. The evaluators managed to replace some GVHs with the neighboring villages after discussing with ArtGlo and local stakeholders. This meant that the minimum sample for the study was properly satisfied.

Key Findings

For the communities (primary beneficiaries) when asked as to whether they were engaged by the CSOs in their community, 100% answered Yes (Men;13.8% / women 86.2%). This shows that there was high CSO presence in the communities and that more women were engaged with the CSOs under the MAWA project. On improvement of the GBV situation after the intervention, there is overwhelming evidence that the MAWA project was effective because the GBV situation in the communities has improved after the project. The study found out that 76.5% of community members were of the view that the situation was better after the invention. Only 1.5% felt that the situation was worse. Another significant indicator of the project impact was the low levels of sexual violence prevalence which was reported at 2.4% (Female=1.9%, male=0.5%) while physical violence was reported at 6.8% (Female=5.1% and Male= 1.7%). The study further revealed that (over 80%) considered that the project challenged norms and practices which negatively affect women and girls. This implicitly resulted in a reduction of the harmful practices as shown above. Some of the detailed key findings were as follows:

Study Objective	Key findings
To evaluate the entire project, against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, knowledge generation, sustainability and impact criteria, as well as the cross-cutting gender equality and human rights criteria.	***Impact**-The trend of VAWG cases has gone down and Women are feeling safer in their communities due to understanding of referral pathways and knowledge that they have a safe space to report cases of Violence. Women and girls in most cases were experiencing violence in their communities. However, with the active presence and intervention of MAWA CSO s, this has resulted in increased security due to linkages with referral service providers and VAWG survivors accessing much needed services.* ***Relevance**-The project was designed to address intimate partner violence, sexual and physical violence, non-partner sexual violence, and the harmful practice of early and child marriages and there is evidence that the project worked with local government and CSO networks in 6 districts to address EVAWG, through building their capacity to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities. This addressed the communities' needs.* ***Coherence**-There is evidence that the intervention was a strategic fit for other existing and upcoming EVAWG initiatives at both community and national level. Thereby creating coherence with existing EVAWG work for the community.* ***Knowledge Generation**-The MAWA project pioneered novel operating procedures and introduced certain innovative strategies that other projects ought to imitate at National level. Examples of such innovations include strengthening the project management capabilities of a large number of grassroots organizations, spreading knowledge of EVAWG for local communities using local solutions, and influencing social norms to allow EVAWG principles to be adopted by the community. The end effect of this effort is that feminist and women's rights organizations now function in a setting where they are recognized as belonging to and being supported by the local communities as an integral element of a progressive movement bringing about violence free communities.* ***Sustainability**-The benefits of the MAWA project are sustainable in the long term as there are practical examples identified by the project beneficiaries on how the positive changes will be maintained and scaled up in the near future. However, the Evaluation has established there are some challenges presented that may affect the long-term sustainability of the benefits of the project.* ***Movement building**-The project has helped to build the grassroots feminist and women's movements because there is evidence of numerous initiatives to*

	build movements that have been successfully implemented through networks, strategic alliances, and projects that have spilled over into grassroots women's rights organizations. The project's actions improved CSOs' ability to function as a women's movement in EVAWG.
To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practice in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes.	One of the key lessons learnt from the project is the innovativeness of the implementation approaches e.g., use of online model which was equally effective in delivering content to CSOs even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Use of local CSOs was very effective in delivering EVAWG messages and it was a cost-effective approach in implementation of the project as CSOs were working in their home communities using homegrown language and tools to deliver EVAWG messages.
To evaluate the project and its impact in building capacity for grassroots EVAWG women feminist/ movement.	The project's use of **grassroots-led solutions** and human-centered design approaches proved effective in addressing EVAWG. By involving community members in the development and implementation of solutions, the project ensured that interventions were tailored to the specific needs and realities of the community. For example, use of entertainment such as traditional dances, sporting activities, bonanza, traditional board games etc. ensured that there was little disruption through use of costly activities such as stages, public address systems, conference rooms etc. Communities relied on their own community entertainment and crowd pulling methods, which were not costly for the project.

Conclusion-It is our finding that the project improved the lives of women by providing them the capacity to challenge and further address VAWG in all its forms in their communities as evidenced by an overwhelming >80% response in challenging norms and practices harmful are harmful to women and girls. The project goal was achieved through the leveraging of CSOs and community leaders to increase their capacity and involvement in EVAWG prevention and response. The primary beneficiaries were positively impacted because of their detailed involvement in the project at all stages, thereby informing solutions and taking ownership for their lives in participating in EVAWG initiatives. Overall, there is a possibility of scaling up the project to other Districts in Malawi as key lessons drawn from the project, such as community engagement strategies have the potential of becoming the standard among development practitioners undertaking EVAWG projects.

Recommendations–Based on the findings and conclusion above, the evaluators have made several detailed recommendations, some of the key recommendations are the following:

Recommendation 1: Building upon the success of leveraging CSOs and community leaders, future programming should continue to foster strong partnerships and enhance the capacity of these stakeholders. This collaboration will ensure sustained engagement and a collective approach in addressing Violence Against Women and Girls in MAWA project districts and beyond. The positive impact on primary beneficiaries, underscores the importance of their active involvement in future programming.

Recommendation 2: Engaging beneficiaries should become the standard at all stages of the project, from planning to evaluation, ensuring that their voices and experiences inform the solutions and interventions, leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes.

Recommendation 3: Future programming should prioritize more on capacity building initiatives for CSOs, community leaders, and primary beneficiaries. By providing training and resources so that individuals and organizations can develop the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively address VAWG in all its forms. It is further recommended that empowerment programs should also be implemented to promote self-efficacy and agency among women, enabling them to take ownership of their lives and actively participate in EVAWG initiatives.

Recommendation 4: Women CSOs should be supported to design empowerment programs. These should also be implemented to promote self-efficacy and agency among women, enabling them to take ownership of their lives and actively participate in EVAWG initiatives.

Recommendation 5: *The MAWA Project should popularize its Community Engagement tool kit and HCD Policy through the use of MAWA CSO's so that they get a platform to showcase their skills and be further integrated into other EVAWG initiatives and projects. By popularizing the Community Engagement toolkit so that other organizations can use it for training of more CSOs, this will facilitate integrating gender and GBV issues into existing programs and activities for other organizations working on related sectors, such as health, justice, education, and community development.*

Recommendation 6: All stakeholders should advocate for increased budgetary allocations for gender related work at district level through support for local CSOs, as they have shown that they are capable of undertaking EVAWG work if they are properly trained.

Audience for the report

The audience of this report include but not limited to: UN TRUST FUND, ArtGlo, Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability, and Social Welfare, District Councils, CSOs, Community members, Research institutions and Gender practitioners.

INTRODUCTION

Background and Context of the Project

Malawi social, economic, political and demographic context

Malawi ranks 173 of 188 countries on the Gender Inequality Index (UNDP)[1]. As at 2018, when Malawi last held its Population census, the population of Malawi was at 17.5 million[2]. Currently, it is projected that the population of Malawi is just below 20 million people[3]. Malawi is divided into three administrative regions and has a total of 28 districts. The Northern region has 6 districts, the central region has 9 districts and the Southern Region has 13 districts. According to the last census in 2018, the national statistics office recorded a population of 7.75 million people in the southern region, 7.72 million people in the Central Region and 2.25 million people in the Northern Region.

Malawi's development challenges are significant. In the last two decades, real per-capita gross domestic product (GDP) has remained relatively flat, lagging behind regional peers. Poverty levels have remained largely unchanged with modest reduction from 52.4 percent to 51.5 percent over a ten-year period[4]. Poverty is mainly a rural phenomenon and growth has not translated into shared prosperity, with the vast majority (95 percent) of poor Malawians located in rural areas[5]. Malawi is a predominantly an agricultural economy, which contributes 35-40% of the foreign exchange earnings, employing an estimated 85% of the labour force of whom 80% are women. The agricultural sector accounts for about 90% of exports and contributes about 38% of the GDP[6].

Malawi is a democratic and politically stable country. However, gender inequality is engrained in Malawian society. Malawi Gender Inequality by the Numbers has been reflected in the following figures based on USAID reports[7]:

- ❖ Of girls aged 15-19, 1 in 3 have completed more than primary school
- ❖ In rural areas ,3 in 4 girls have left school and are not likely to re-enroll
- ❖ By age 18, 1 in 2 girls are married
- ❖ By age 18, 1 in 3 women are pregnant.

Malawians consider gender based-based violence the most important women's-rights issue requiring attention from the government and society[8]. Early child marriages are rife coupled by teen pregnancies. World Development Indicators (WDI) show that Malawi has one of the highest rates of adolescent fertility in the world, with 132 births per 1,000 women between the ages of 15 and 19 in 2018. Early marriage is widespread, with 28 percent of adolescent girls reporting that they were currently or previously married. Out of every 100 girls who

---

[1] UNDP. Human Development Report 2019: Inequalities in Human Development in the 21st Century; WEF. 2020.

[2] Malawi data portal at https://malawi.opendataforafrica.org/wogeom/population. 51% female and 48% male

[3] Available at: http://www.nsomalawi.mw

[4] 'The World Bank. Country Partnership Framework of the Republic of Malawi 2021

[5] The World Bank. https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/malawi/overview

[6] Central Intelligence Agency. (2014). Malawi. In The World Factbook. Available at: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mi.html

[7] USAID. (2019). U.S. Assistance in Malawi: Promoting Gender Equality and Girls' and Women's Empowerment

[8] Available at: https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/AD576-Malawians-see-GBV-as-a-top-priority-and-a-criminal-matter-Afrobarometer-22nov22.pdf

begin Standard 1 of primary school, only three will enter secondary education. Of those three, only one will enter university[9].

Due to the deeply rooted problem of VAWG, the Malawi Government adopted the National Plan of Action against Gender Based Violence (GBV) (the NPA) which is a statement of Government priority actions to address gender-based violence in Malawi in the five-year period from mid-2014 to the end of 2020. It was developed to address the Government concern on the consistent prevalence and the high level of non-disclosure or non-reporting of incidences of GBV with particular reference to women and children. The NPA set out a plan of action for a more effective system to prevent GBV. Under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare (MoGDSW), other ministries, Government departments, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and development partners are involved in work relevant to the prevention, early referral and action and alleviation of GBV through efficient responses. This shows that responding to GBV is ideally spearheaded by the Government through its decentralized structures such as the District Commissioner, and other state actors with community presence. Non state actors are expected to complement government efforts. Therefore, the MAWA project was designed in a way that incorporated the inclusion of state actors in the program activities.

In 2019, Malawi held its presidential and parliamentary elections which were disputed due to electoral irregularities. The country was characterized by mass demonstrations and pockets of violence as the elections were challenged through the Courts resulting in the nullification of election results and the holding of a rerun of the presidential elections in 2020. The political developments around such a period, meant that the MAWA project was implemented during a period where there was high citizen awareness of their rights, with mounting pressure on duty bearers to live up to the expectations of the common citizenry. Much as this was a positive aspect, the period was also one where violence in the community was expected.

Malawi was also affected by COVID-19. The first reported case of COVID was announced on 2nd April 2020, and the immediate reaction of Government was to enforce a mass lockdown. However, due to the timing of the lockdown which coincided with the campaign period for the elections rerun, some citizens managed to obtain a Court injunction which restrained the Government from enforcing an outright lockdown. Due to the absence of a lockdown, Malawi is one of the few countries in the world which did not enforce a lockdown during COVID-19. Ultimately, the government had to rely on COVID measures that still allowed free movement of people, however all schools were closed, and restricted gatherings which would increase the spread of COVID were controlled. Companies and organizations enforced stay at home policies to minimize the spread of COVID and migration to virtual working and educational spaces were introduced. The MAWA project was rolled during the COVID period and was implemented in such a restricted environment. This meant that the project had to be resilient to adjust to the requirement to roll out activities in compliance with the restrictions that were imposed because of COVID.

Given the high levels of gender inequality in Malawi, it is not surprising that women and girls are subject to high levels of GBV[10].With this background, Art and Global Health Centre Africa (ArtGlo) with funding from the United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF) has implemented a project named Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA) for 3 years and 3 months from 2020-2023. The overall goal of Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA which also

---

[9] World Bank. (2021). Malawi World Development Indicators. Available at: https://data.worldbank.org/country/mw
[10] National Gender Policy 2015. Malawi Government, National Plan of Action to Combat Gender-Based Violence

means 'tomorrow' in Malawi's Chichewa language) is to end VAWG and improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.

The MAWA Project

Out of the 28 districts in Malawi, the MAWA Project was implemented in 5 districts based in the Southern Region of Malawi, namely Mulanje, Phalombe, Chikhwawa, Blantyre and Chiradzulu. According to National Statistics Office Data, all these five districts are characterized by high poverty rates and low literacy rates among the populations. Literacy rates in Chikhwawa are at 53% and poverty rates is at 65%, for Mulanje Literacy rates are at 60% and poverty rate is at 68%, in Phalombe literacy rate is at 52% and poverty rate is at 61.9%, in Blantyre literacy rates are at 68 % and poverty rate is at 46.5%, and in Chiradzulu Literacy rates are at 67% and poverty rate is at 63%. Another common characteristic in all the MAWA districts is the low enrollment of people from primary school to secondary school. Showing that most people in the communities end their education at primary school and only a few progresses to secondary school and tertiary education.

The offline cohort was implemented in the following five districts of Malawi: Chiradzulu, Phalombe, Chikwawa, Blantyre and Mulanje. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project also had an online cohort from all the districts including Zomba district as a sixth district for online activities. All these districts are located in the Southern region of Malawi. The project justified the choice of districts because the Southern region of Malawi is the most densely populated region of the country and has been disproportionately affected by natural disasters (hurricanes, flooding and drought) which increase women's vulnerability to VAWG. These districts were also selected as they are close to each other yet represent a diverse range of characteristics. These diverse characteristics enabled both ArtGlo and project participants to see how approaches play out in different contexts, providing rich learning experiences. When identifying the participating CSOs, ArtGlo ensured that the cohorts cover rural, urban, and peri-urban/ slum areas. Blantyre district includes Malawi's second largest city, surrounded by significant peri-urban areas, entailing substantial socio-economic division. The other districts are predominantly rural, with diverse ethnic groups and economic drivers. Mulanje is a major tea-growing area, and the Tea-growers Association of Malawi has identified VAWG as an issue within the industry. Chikwawa was one of the worst-affected districts by Cyclone *Idai*[11], which has exacerbated VAWG risks, while Chiradzulu also reports high rates of VAWG. In addition, Phalombe district was identified for a need for further intervention, particularly into VAWG by the post evaluation of ArtGlo's previous project called MASA (Make Art for Sustainable Action).

According to published reports on teen pregnancies[12], **Fig 1**, the five impact districts are in the top 5 out of 10 Districts in the Southern District of Malawi, with high teenage pregnancies.

---

[11] Cyclone *Idai* hit Malawi in 2019. Other tropical cyclones that hit Malawi include *Ana* which landed in Malawi in January 2022, and Cyclone *Freddy* hit Malawi in March 2023.

[12] Ministry of Gender Community Development and Social Welfare. September 2020. Rapid Assessment of Child Marriages and Teenage Pregnancies During Covid-19 in Malawi. This was during the time the MAWA project was starting to roll out.
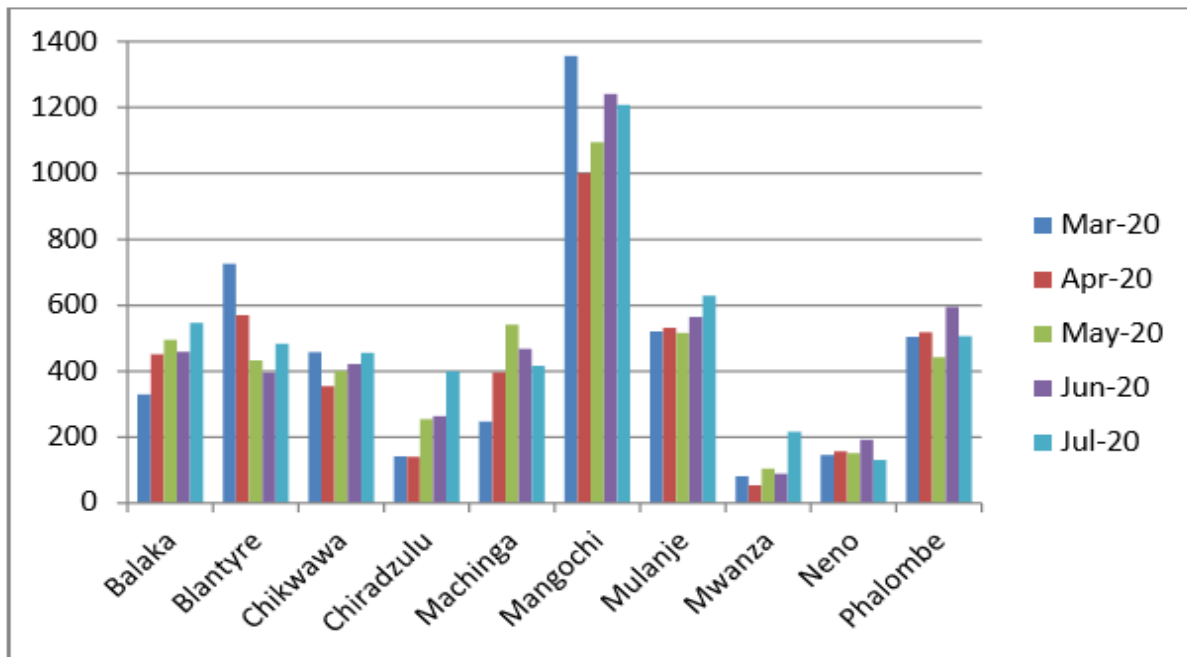
Figure 1: Teen pregnancies in the Southern region 2020, adapted from the Rapid Assessment on Child Marriages and teen pregnancies during COVID.

As for cultural practices, the southern region is characterized with various harmful practices and high percentages of child marriages than the rest of the Country. According to the traditional practices survey, Girls' initiation rituals[13] are far more commonly practiced in Southern Region than the other regions and more common in rural areas than in urban areas, and some cultural practices oppress women and result in increased gender disparities. The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development stepped in to assist in the fight against potentially harmful cultural practices. It facilitated the development of a by-law framework, which is designed to act as a reference document to guide chiefs in the development by-laws that are in tandem with national laws for chiefs in their respective communities. The by-law framework covers early child development centres, primary and secondary education, adult literacy, maternal, child and general health, child and forced marriages, gender-based violence (GBV), sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), harmful cultural practices, inheritance, land rights, child labour, human trafficking and humanitarian issues[14]. Among them, sexual practices are taught during initiations (Chinamwali), and most such practices target girls, and are most prevalent in the Southern region, with Mulanje, Mangochi and Phalombe being the districts were Chinamwali is highly prevalent, see **Fig 2** below, an extract from the Traditional Practices survey[15].

---

[13] Consensual and none consensual sex present in initiation camps
[14] See Survey Report on Traditional Practices in Malawi, March 2019
[15] Fig 2 is adapted from the Traditional Practices survey 2019

Figure 5.4: Prevalence of sexual initiation rituals across districts of Malawi

Note: Share of respondents stating sexual initiation rituals of girls are practiced in their village in different districts of Malawi. Darker shades correspond to a higher prevalence of sexual initiation rituals.
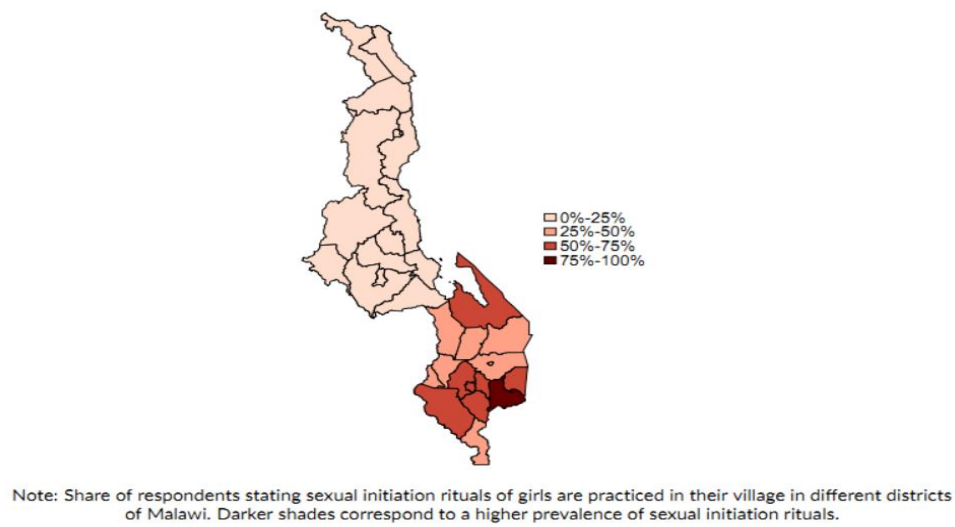
Figure 2: Prevalence of sexual initiation rituals across districts of Malawi

Mulanje and Phalombe were impact areas for the MAWA project hence the choice of the Southern region and the five districts was relevant for this kind of intervention which targeted harmful cultural practices.

The primary focus and overall goal of the MAWA project has been to improve prevention of VAWG in Malawi through changes in behaviour, practices, and attitudes. The project aimed to address intimate partner sexual and physical violence, none partner sexual violence and the harmful practice of early and child marriages. The approach to work with communities both in peri-urban and rural areas addressed the fact that VAWG affects all women regardless of class or social status. Females irrespective of age and economic status may suffer from GBV at all stages of their lives, certain groups are disproportionately affected due to intersectional issues including poverty, illiteracy, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, etc. The project worked closely with the local government and CSO networks in 6 districts to identify CSOs who are well placed to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities but often lack the capacity to do so.

In terms of the overall goal, MAWA project placed high emphasis on challenging negative social norms. The districts chosen for the project are placed highly in terms of low numbers for primary school completion and high cases of early child marriage. Chikhwawa is among the top six districts in Malawi with the lowest rates of primary school completion, while Phalombe has the highest percentage of early child marriages. It is examples of such negative social norms that negatively affect women's status and make them more susceptible to GBV. Hence there are the main obstacles in the regions chosen for the MAWA initiative.

The Evaluation has established that the key partners and stakeholders involved in the project were multi-sectoral and complied with the Government blueprint in terms of GBV response as outlined in the National Plan of Action against GBV (NPA). These stakeholders and partners included the following: 50 CSOs offline cohort (including Community Based Organization, Faith-Based Organizations and Youth Organizations), 7 CSOs online cohort, 175 District Council leaders including: District Social Welfare Officers /Gender /Planning and Youth Officers. At national level, 3 Ministry of Gender officers were involved and at community level community leaders for example mother groups, traditional and religious leaders, and women's or youth groups were involved.

Description of the Project

The primary focus and overall goal of the MAWA project has been to improve prevention of VAWG in Malawi through changes in behaviour, practices, and attitudes. The project aimed to address intimate partner sexual and physical violence, non-partner sexual violence, and the harmful practice of early and child marriages. The project worked closely with local government and CSO networks in 5 districts to identify CSOs who are well placed to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities but often lack the capacity to do so. MAWA project drew on CSOs' existing knowledge and experience, building their expertise and capacities in understanding VAWG and developing and delivering their own responses. CSOs were trained to conduct their own research using Human-Centered Design approaches, using participatory arts in their interventions, as well as received technical GBV and SRHR information, and skills for implementing projects, such as project management, communications and Monitoring and Evaluation. Thereafter, CSOs implemented their projects relevant to their local context and communities and formed supportive networks at district level to help each other overcome challenges in project implementation, with support from ArtGlo. They then jointly strategized about how they can advocate for gender equality and tackling of GBV at a district and national level and collaborated on delivering advocacy campaigns.

The primary beneficiaries of MAWA were women and girls who were positively impacted by the projects the CSOs designed with ArtGlo's support. MAWA targeted to achieve a positive impact for a total of 5000 women and girls, plus a total of at least 50 women with disabilities and 50 women with LGBTI background. As the project focused on changing social norms and knowledge, attitudes, and practices, the CSOs' projects also aimed to target the people who currently hold negative attitudes, behaviours and practices, and perpetuate destructive social norms- including community leaders and authorities, and practitioners and advocates of harmful practices. MAWA trained and supported 57 CSO representatives as secondary beneficiaries throughout the project (50 CSOs including NGOs, Community-Based Organizations, and Faith-Based Organizations and 7 CSOs in the framework of the online cohort). To identify the participating CSOs, ArtGlo worked with District Councils and CSO fora and ensured the cohort included a representation of CSOs focusing on PWD, and LGBTI people, as well as women-led, youth-led, and faith-based CSOs.

General Project Information

Project start date: January 6, 2020
Project end date: March 31, 2023
Project title: Make ART for Women Activism (MAWA) Project

Main objectives of the project:

To improve the lives of women and girls in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, Chiradzulu and Zomba districts in Malawi, by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.

Approach

Building the capacity of CSOs working at grassroots level to design and deliver effective VAWG and SRHR programmes relevant to their local context and communities and advocating for change in district and national levels.

Key assumptions:

- All segments of society and local communities are committed to the elimination of VAWG and the abolishment of patriarchal social norms.
- Committed and capable CSOs engage in designing and implementing projects to address VAWG

Forms of violence addressed

The MAWA project addressed intimate partner violence, sexual and physical violence, non-partner sexual violence, and the harmful practice of early and child marriage.

Total resources allocated for the intervention

The total resources allocated for the intervention was *$380,297.*

Key partners involved in the project and their roles

- The project partnered with 57 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) (50 in the offline and 7 online cohort). The CSOs included faith-based organizations, community-organizations and youth-led organizations. The common characteristic of them was that they were willing to build capacity to design and implement projects and interventions to tackle gender-based violence and VAWG issues.
- The project worked with 175 District Council leaders in all programming Engaged District Council Leaders included District Social Welfare Officers, District Planning Directors, Gender Officers, and District Youth Officers.
- The project worked with 3 Representatives of the Ministry of Gender.
- The role of participating CSOs was that they designed and implemented a project on GBV issues in the framework of the MAWA project. Their projects engaged local leaders, and community groups, e.g., mothers' groups, District Council leaders and national level Ministry officials.

The overall goal of the project was to improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment. The description of the project is as described in the results chain presented below.

Results Chain of the Project

Table 1: Illustration of project goal, outcomes, and outputs

Goal: to improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.		
Outcomes	**Outputs**	**Activities**
Outcome 1: CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiradzulu and other communities at local and national level design EVAWG programmes that are engaging and appropriate for vulnerable women and girls.	**Output 1.1:** CSOs trained within the project have increased capacity to use human-centered design and arts approaches to gather evidence for design of appropriate VAWG programming. **Output 1.2:** CSOs engage vulnerable women and girls in the design of their projects. **Output 1.3:** ArtGlo develops a policy brief on human-centred design and a community engagement toolkit to promote knowledge	**Activity 1.1.1:** Train selected CSOs in technical VAWG programming and how to apply Human-centered design and participatory arts approach effectively. **Activity 1.1.2:** CSOs conduct research in their communities, identifying the current barriers to change in patriarchal attitudes and practices **Activity 1.2.1:** CSOs co-design their projects through stakeholder engagement meetings

	sharing and learning among CSOs and communities at local and national level.	**Activity 1.3.1.** ArtGlo engage and work directly with CSOs and other stakeholders in the development of a policy brief on human-centred design and a community engagement toolkit.
Outcome 2: CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiladzulu deliver high impact contextually relevant projects to improve behaviour, attitudes, and practices of the community on EVAWG by November 2022.	**Output 2.1:** Engage CSOs collaborate with existing strategic players in VAWG to prototype their projects to promote learning. **Output 2.2:** Engage CSOs develop capacity development action plans.	**Activity 2.1.1:** CSOs prototype, iterate and implement their project ideas in their communities. **Activity 2.1.2:** ArtGlo mentorship visit and engagement on GDV and SRHR alongside prototyping, iteration and implementation. **Activity 2.2.1:** Outcome mapping with the CSOs to develop specific capacity development targets and set the strategies appropriate to achieve these.
Outcome 3: CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiradzulu engage with and gather evidence to feed into wider EVAWG networks advocating for change at district and national levels by November 2022.	**Output 3.1:** trained CSOs have space to network and facilitate mutual learning and exchange at district level. **Output 3.2:** Participating CSOs collaborate to design and deliver a national advocacy event. **Output 3.3:** Trained CSOs have an increased visibility in national media and communities.	**Activity 3.1.1:** CSOs gather for district networking meetings/brainstorming sessions to discuss emerging issues/challenges and brainstorm on solutions and provide feedback to ArtGlo. **Activity 3.1.2:** CSOs attend district executive committee and technical working groups meetings to share progress with other district level stakeholders, get input and network. **Activity 3.2.1:** CSOs, ArtGlo and key stakeholders on EVAWG at national level including policy makers, engage at national advocacy participatory event to foster collaboration and sharing of learning from the CSOs work. **Activity 3.2.2:** CSOs, ArtGlo and key stakeholders on EVAWG at district level engage at district advocacy events to foster collaboration, sharing of learning from the CSOs work and coordinated efforts on EVAWG. **Activity 3.3.1:** Production of relevant IEC materials on EVAWG to be used

		by the CSOs and ArtGlo to disseminate clear messages and support behaviour change activities at community, district, and national levels.
Outcome 4: ArtGlo and targeted CSOs are institutionally strengthened to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and any other crises by maintaining or adapting existing interventions on EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.	**Output 4.1:** ArtGlo has put in place mechanisms to improve institutional resilience to crises including Covid-19 that ensures the stability of projects and sustainability of projects and sustainability of the organization in the longer term. **Output 4.2:** ArtGlo and engaged CSOs have improved knowledge, skills, and capacities to maintain or adapt EVAWG interventions and reach the most vulnerable women and girls while responding to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic crises. **Output 4.3:** ArtGlo has developed lasting relationships to increase institutional visibility and secure sustainable resources that ensure the stability of gender programming in the long run.	**Activity 4.1.1:** Increase online/remote working capacity through purchasing of equipment and software to enable enhanced internal collaboration and capacity to engage CSOs remotely. **Activity 4.1.2:** Change management stuff cost analysis of VAWG donor and partner landscape, and how ArtGlo can position our work within this **Activity 4.1.3:** Consultancy to replace pro-bono support. **Activity 4.1.4:** Support for safe travel for essential staff **Activity 4.1.5:** Improve capacity of M&E system. **Activity 4.2.1:** CSOs training (supplementing KPA 1.1.1) **Activity 4.2.2:** Pilot online version of MAWA project (training, brainstorming sessions, networking etc.) **Activity 4.2.3:** Enhanced CSO online engagement **Activity 4.2.4:** Community media on VAWG Covid-19 response **Activity 4.3.1:** ArtGlo actively builds partnerships and engages with potential partner organizations and funders to mobilize resources and establish cooperation for gender programming.

Purpose of Evaluation

The MAWA project ended on 31st March 2023 and the evaluation has been conducted to assess the overall performance of the project, evaluate project achievements, and support organizational learning. The results will be used by ArtGlo to assess impact, identify gaps to improve effectiveness of future interventions. The evaluation has

served to identify challenges and best practices in gender programming in Malawi and inform donors, partners, and practitioners. The overall evaluation has at the end assessed whether it is feasible to scale up the project nation-wide.

Scope of Evaluation

The evaluation has covered the entire project of 3 years 3 months from January 2020 to March 2023 and all activities covered by the project document. Data was collected from 5 districts of Phalombe, Chiradzulu, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Blantyre as well as from Zomba (online cohort). The evaluation engaged key stakeholders, primary and secondary beneficiaries, and other entities. Age disaggregated data has been collected, as well as gender aspects and different forms of GBV against women, girls, women, and girls living with disabilities, LGBTQI (sexual orientation). The evaluation has complied with the policies of UNTF.

Objectives of Evaluation

As provided in the Terms of Reference, the key objectives of the final evaluation were as follows:

- To evaluate the entire project. against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, knowledge generation, sustainability, and impact criteria, as well as the cross-cutting gender equality and human rights criteria.
- To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practice in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes.
- To evaluate the project and its impact in building capacity for grassroots EVAWG women feminist/ movement.

Evaluation Criteria and Key Questions

Table 2: Evaluation criteria

Evaluation Criteria	Mandatory Evaluation Question
Effectiveness A measure of the extent to which a project attains its objectives / results (as set out in the project document and results framework) in accordance with the theory of change.	1. To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes, and outputs (project results) achieved and how?
Relevance The extent to which the project is suited to the priorities and policies of the target group and the context.	2. To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes, and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?
Efficiency Measures the outputs - qualitative and quantitative - in relation to the inputs. It is an economic term which refers to whether the project was delivered cost effectively.	3. To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?
Sustainability Sustainability is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of a project are likely to continue after the project/funding ends.	4. To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?

Impact Assesses the changes that can be attributed to a particular project relating specifically to higher-level impact (both intended and unintended).	5. To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
Knowledge generation Assesses whether there are any promising practices that can be shared with other practitioners.	6. To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?
Gender Equality, Human Rights	7. Cross-cutting criteria: the evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based and gender responsive have been incorporated throughout the project and their effect.
Institutional Strengthening in relation to COVID Adaptation	8. The evaluation will consider the extent to which the project activities adapted to COVID and incorporated any COVID measures/activities throughout the project and their effect.
Movement Building Assess whether the project contributed towards movement building of EVAWG/Feminists organizations or networks during the project life.	9. To what extent has the project contributed to feminist and women's rights movement building in EVAWG in impact areas?

In relation to the above-mentioned questions, the evaluation also considered the following **sub-questions:**

- To what extent did CSO's involved in the project improve their capacities to implement projects to address gender-based violence?
- To what extent did CSO's involved improve their capacity to participate in the women's and feminists' movement to EVAWG?
- To what extent were they able to apply newly gained knowledge in human-centred design and participatory arts in their activities?
- What were the challenges/obstacles to achieving the project objectives and expected accomplishments?
- Were capacity building activities implemented in an efficient manner?
- Was financial support for participating in national events provided in an efficient manner?
- To what extent did the project serve the needs of its main beneficiaries, i.e., community members?
- To what extent were the project outputs relevant to strengthening the capacity of CSO's?

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Overall Evaluation Design

The evaluation followed post-test research design. This is an assessment measure given to participants after they have been given a treatment (project intervention). The results were compared to the pre-test (baseline study) which was conducted before interventions were given to the target group. There was no mid-term evaluation of the project. The study used a mixed-methods approach with several quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis methodologies, which obtained information from respondents, key informants, and focus group discussion (FGD) participants.

Data Sources

Data was sourced from literature review, interviews with the community, key respondents, and focus group discussions, identified together with ArtGlo. The Desk Study & Review of project documentation preceded all data collection methods. We reviewed key project documents such as approved project documents, recent studies, baseline study, monitoring reports, and other information available and provided by ArtGlo. **Annex 2 provides a list of documents consulted.**

The external evaluators continued reading grey literature and conducted further research on relevant documents and data independently sourced as and when required.

Data Collection Methods

The study followed a mixed methods approach, both quantitative and quantitative data was collected using guiding tools like Focus Group Discussion tool, community survey questionnaire, and Key Informant Interview (KII) guiding tool. The Data collection tools were designed using inductive reasoning (open ended questions) and deductive reasoning (closed questions). The following methods were used to collect data:

Community Survey

The study collected data from the community members who are the primary/final beneficiaries of the project. The evaluation interviewed 413 households, comprising 13.8% male and 86.2% female. As guided by the ToR, over 70% of the respondents were women and girls. An individual was randomly selected from the list of beneficiaries and asked both closed and open-ended questions. Inductive reasoning ensured that we captured qualitative data from selected participants, whilst deductive reasoning assisted in capturing the quantitative data.

Key Informant Interviews (KII) (with key stakeholders' representatives) and Individual In-depth Interviews (with CSOs)

Key Informants comprised of subject matter experts who were asked open ended questions and selected closed questions. The evaluation interviewed 9 Key informants. The list of key informants was drawn in consultation with ArtGlo. At CSO's level, Individual In-depth Interviews were undertaken with 15 CSOs from the offline cohort and 3 CSOs from the online cohort. The KII's included a combination of stakeholders in the MAWA districts, and the project team at ArtGlo, and representatives of key government offices. This method boosted a deeper and more open discussion, where some key aspects of the study were not covered by the documentation reviewed. KII's and FGD's provided the qualitative picture to the study.

Focus Group Discussions

To achieve triangulated findings, the consultants conducted 5 selected FGDs comprising of 6 participants each. The discussants mainly comprised of women and included: the Chief, men and women, community police, VDC member, a member of mother group etc. The social economic profile of participants showed that they comprised 12 males, 31 females, cutting across various economic backgrounds.

Case Studies/Change Stories

Case studies (change stories) were derived from the qualitative methods, i.e., KII, Individual In-depth Interviews, Household survey and FGDs. Change stories were documented from community members/beneficiaries who demonstrated that they have been impacted by the project. A few selected individuals with change stories were asked to provide more details of their situation before the project and then after the project to deduce what has changed and how the change has been achieved. We have used the Most Significant Change technique to generate and analyse the accounts of change described by a few numbers of participants and explain why they have registered such change.

For each of these interviews, the consultant used the tools prepared and approved by ArtGlo and UNTF. These were applied to capture the information required from that specific stakeholder, as well as the method to be used in administering the interviews and tabulating the results. Inductive reasoning used in some tools ensured that we captured qualitative data through asking open ended questions. Whilst deductive reasoning assisted in capturing the quantitative data through asking closed questions to challenge or confirm specific hypothesis.

Recruitment and Training of Enumerators

Based on the scope of the sample size, 5 enumerators were recruited. The enumerators were taken through an intensive training that covers, the methodology to be employed in the study and an understanding of the study tools and the manual. The enumerators were also trained on how to use electronic gadgets and applications which were used to collect the data in the field.

Data Analysis, Management and Reporting

This involved data triangulation and analysis to validate evidence and arrive at findings. All the FGDs and interviews were recorded on note pads and audio devices. Informed consent was sought for audio recording. The audio recorded information was transcribed and synthesized with print information. Reports were produced in verbatim format to capture case studies, quotations etc. Data analysis was done using an inductive approach for qualitative data and deductive approach for quantitative data. In this approach, transcripts were annotated with initial codes relevant to the research questions which formed the initial coding frame broadly related to the key themes.

For **qualitative data** collected from the desk study, FGDs and Key Informant Interviews, this data analysis was done using MAXQDA package, followed by thematic analysis methods and summarizing key points from all sources. Thematic analysis is a method of analyzing qualitative data. It is usually applied to a set of texts, such as an interview or transcripts. We closely examined the data to identify common themes, topics, ideas and patterns of meaning that come up repeatedly[16]. Conclusions were drawn and recommendations made based on theoretical frameworks guiding the evaluation. The qualitative data from the respondents was analyzed using theoretical approaches such as the gender mainstreaming approach, survivor centered and human rights-based approach. For **quantitative data**, analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) and Microsoft Excel. Frequencies and cross

---

[16] Available at: https://www.scribbr.co.uk/research-methods/thematic-analysis-explained/

tabulations were run in SPSS to deduce statistics for each variable from the household/community questionnaire. This helped researchers to come up with statistics for the project indicators status. Microsoft excel was used to create graphs which have been used to illustrate level of project indicators for easy interpretation of results.

Theoretical Approaches

This entailed identification of detailed evaluation questions based on the scope of work, methods (mixed methods) and revising instruments for the evaluation. The evaluation was influenced by specific theoretical approaches such as the following:

The Gender Mainstreaming Approach

This is a strategy that aims to bring about gender equality and advance women's rights by building gender capacity and accountability in all aspects of an organization's policies and activities, thereby contributing to a profound organizational transformation[17]. This approach takes cognizance of the fact that there are social and economic differences between men and women which need to be considered to ensure that proposed policies and programs have intended and fair results for women and men, girls, and boys. Gender is the socially defined roles of men and women. The status of both sexes must be considered[18]. Further consideration is taken on how actions contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment. This approach applies a gender lens in its data collection as well as data analysis stages, with a view to documenting the different experiences between men and women and boys and girls relating to different issues being assessed. It establishes the unique needs of women, men, boys, and girls that should inform the case studies selected/change stories.

The Human Rights-Based Approach

The human rights-based approach focuses on those who are most marginalized, excluded or discriminated against. This often requires an analysis of gender norms, different forms of discrimination and power imbalances to ensure that interventions reach the most marginalized segments of the population[19]. The human rights-based approach (HRBA) is a conceptual framework for the process of human development that is normatively based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to promoting and protecting human rights[20]. The main principles of the rights-based approaches are that it informs the design of the study such as: participation, empowerment, promotion of accountability, express linkage to rights, and attention to vulnerabilities. The empowerment and participation principles informed the interrogation of how the existing structures and approaches facilitate or create an enabling environment for the participation of the target groups in various processes (socio-economic, political, and legal), whose outcomes have a bearing on their realization of human rights, including the right to development. This approach provided a critical link for assessing the adequacy of laws, policies, institutions, administrative procedures and practices, and mechanisms in relation to realization of basic human rights. It also gave room for building in the principle of responsibilities and interrogating the role that the individual right holder, the family, the community, and other organizations are playing.

Survivor- Centered Approach

GBV in all its forms has tremendous physical, emotional and social consequences for the person victimized by it, who is often referred to as a "survivor"[21]. A survivor-centered approach means that all those who are engaged in

---

[17] Oxfam. (2013). 'Minimum Standards for Gender in Emergency', Available at:
https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/minimum-standards-genderemergencies

[18] Commonwealth Secretariat. (1995). Plan of Action on Gender and development, A Commonwealth Vision, Women's and Youth Affairs Division, London

[19] Available at: https://www.unfpa.org/human-rights-based-approach (accessed on 26th June 2023)

[20] Available at: https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/human-rights-based-approach (accessed on 26th June 2023)

[21] A survivor is a person who has experienced gender-based violence. The terms 'victim' and 'survivor' can be used interchangeably. 'Victim is often used in the legal and medical sectors, whereas 'survivor' is generally preferred in the

programming prioritize the rights, needs, and wishes of the survivor. Essentially, a survivor-centered approach applies the human rights-based approach to designing and developing programming that ensures that survivors' rights and needs are first and foremost met. The survey put the survivor's needs at the center of everything[22]. This could also include Gender Transformative programming and other program approaches that are used by ArtGlo and its partners. We selected change stories using this approach.

Women's Law Approach

This approach has provided guidance in capturing women's lived realities and using them as a starting point to come up with GBV prevention and response interventions. As part of feminist legal theories[23], the fundamentals of this woman centered legal discipline are taking women's lived realities as a starting point for the analysis of women in law and society. This approach ensures that in research we ask 'the woman question'[24], and capture the experiences of women in their own voices. It further problematizes the law and society's undervaluation of women and their contribution. It also ensures that women's voices are accurately captured and brought to the front of development research.

Sampling of Project Beneficiaries

To select respondents for the community survey, random sampling was used. Traditional Authorities and districts were pre-selected based on intervention areas. A GVH however was randomly selected from amongst the list of GVHs in a particular Traditional Authority. An individual respondent was then randomly selected from amongst the village lists. 86.2% of total sample size were women and girls who are between 20-59-year-old.

KIIs and FGDs respondents were selected purposively because the study is unique and has key people who are knowledgeable on gender roles. For example, district stakeholders and local leaders were purposively selected based on their involvement in the project. For CSOs, (15 from physically trained and 3 from those who were trained online) were randomly selected from the list of all CSOs which the project worked with. From each CSO, two leaders were chosen to respond on behalf of the CSO. ArtGlo commented on the results of the proposed random sampling of CSOs and made suggestions in terms of online or in-person interviews. As a minimum requirement the consultant interfaced and interviewed the following experts and representatives of stakeholders and beneficiaries. Two government stakeholders per district were interviewed, however in some cases, the relevant stakeholder had been transferred or moved to another district. Hence the Evaluation interviewed any other state actor who had worked with the CSO in that district. As for Representatives of the target groups such as Local leaders, selected women, and men e.g., ADC, VDC groups. They participated as discussants during the focus group discussion comprising 6 discussants. As for Representatives of CSOs, 15 Civil Society Organizations i.e., 3 CSO's per 5 Districts and 3 CSO's (Zomba – online cohort) were interviewed.

Finally, community members (final beneficiaries) were interviewed through the community survey. These were randomly selected from the project beneficiaries list of 34,634 individuals. The sample size was determined under the sampling design below. Out of the quantitative sample size, 70% of the sample were women and girls between the age of 20-59 years old. The Evaluation Team further interviewed 3 staff members from ArtGlo i.e., Project Manager, Project Officer, M&E Officer.

---

psychological and social support sectors because it implies resiliency. USAID et al. (2017) Inter-Agency GBV Case Management Guidelines

[22] Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Core Elements and Quality Guidelines. UNWOMEN, UNFPA

[23] Lacey, Nicola. "Feminist Legal Theory." *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, 1989, Vol. 9, No. 3, pp. 383–94.

[24] Cochav Elkayam-Levy. A Path to Transformation: Asking 'The Woman Question' in International Law, Michigan Journal of International Law, Vol. 42, 2021

Sampling Methods

The sampling frame for the project evaluation study was calculated from the implementation areas defined by the project. To deduce the sample size for the study, consultants used multi-stage cluster sampling with three stages of sampling: 1) selection of Traditional Authorities (TA), 2) selection of GVH, selection of households, and 3) selection of individuals within household 4) selection of district stakeholders.

In addition to the household/community study, focus group discussions were conducted in all the five districts. Key informants were purposively sampled and interviewed to get an in-depth understanding of the project design from beneficiaries and specified key informants in *Annex 1.*

The sampling frame for the project was calculated based on information from the Project and provided by ArtGlo. Both random and purposive sampling strategy were used. For individual beneficiaries, random sampling was used to select a respondent from the list while for KIIs and FGDs, purposive sampling was used so that relevant participants are selected to provide right information depending on the project stakeholders.

Based on **MaCorr**[25] sampling techniques, the minimum sample size for the study if we base on the project target of 34,634 beneficiaries, would be **380** individuals and to increase precision the sample was increased to **413.** Proportionate Probability Sampling was used to determine the sample size per district/location. The districts/location with a greater population contributed a greater sample size and vice versa. The consultants collected data for the households from a total number of **413** community members of which 86.2% were women and girls. The study interviewed 6 district officials, 3 Program staff from Art Glo, 15 CSOs for offline cohort, 3 online cohorts, 5 FGD's (minimum of 6 people per group).

Limitations of the Evaluation Methodology

Table 3 below provides details of the data collection techniques that were employed in this endline, their limitations and how they were mitigated.

Table 3: Data collection techniques, Limitations and Mitigation

Data Type	Methodology	Description	Limitations	Mitigation
Quantitative	Beneficiary Survey (*Questionnaire in Kobo collect*)	This survey collected quantitative data from selected households/individual which was analyzed using SPSS and Excel to assess status of the level of indicators for beneficiaries. Knowledge and Practices were assessed.	• Failure to interview target number of respondents due to limited time and displacement and floods. • Challenge in physical accessing households due to tropical cyclone Freddy which has affected all districts to be sampled therefore some roads and bridges were impassible. • Displacement of communities which	• Rescheduling of interviews to an appropriate time after communities have accessed basic needs e.g., food and shelter. • For households that were not reachable due to impassible roads or displacement, enumerators sampled alternate communities that were available. For example, Mulanje had a target sample size of 219 household but the study managed to interview 191 due to broken bridges and impassable roads which prolonged data collection. The remaining sample size was then collected in the

---

[25] Sample size calculator for Market Research Surveys | MaCorr Research

			- participated in the project due to the cyclone. - Unwillingness to participate in survey by respondents due to households affected by Cyclone Freddy. - Some respondents found the data collection tool too long. - Insufficient funds to facilitate data collection to cover the desired sample size based on the target number of beneficiaries.	other districts e.g., Phalombe and Chikwawa, see table 4. - Appropriate information was provided to respondents before interviews. Though at some instances, there was communication breakdown between the CSO's and the field team due to network problems. - CSO's in community were used to identify and mobilise respondents safely. - We explained the purpose of the survey and administered the tool in a time efficient manner, e.g., picking time when they have finished their chores. - We sought consent and approximated how much time it will take to administer the survey, ensuring that the tool is not repetitive. - Data collection and transcription was condensed when the budget was exhausted. The team still ensured that sufficient data was collected so that the quality of the report is not compromised.
Qualitative	Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)	Discussions with selected members of the target group, comprising of project beneficiaries were interviewed in small groups of 6 members from selected Traditional Authorities s and Group Village Headman in all the 5 districts. These included: selected women and men, boys and girls, ADC members, VDC members, Chiefs, Community policing members, HSA's. Data was analysed using thematic analysis methods. Case studies were derived from this data.	- Failure to interview target number of respondents due to displacement and floods. - Challenge in physical accessing households due to tropical cyclone Freddy which has affected all districts to be sampled. - Displacement of communities which participated in the project due to the cyclone. - Unwillingness to participate in survey by respondents due to households affected by cyclone Freddy. - Limitation of the tool is that it only captures qualitative data and not quantitative data which automatically translates into figures. This is a limitation because sometimes people may expect to get numerical values and graphics out	- Rescheduling of interviews to an appropriate time after communities have accessed basic needs e.g., food and shelter. - Virtual interviews were not necessary because all FGD's were conducted as scheduled. - CSO's in the community identified and mobilized respondents safely. - CSO's communicated and managed expectations of FGD participants. - Qualitative data has assisted in providing descriptive data and capturing case studies/change stories, which are critical for the evaluation. This data has complemented the quantitative data from other methods. - After conducting the qualitative analyses, this can potentially facilitate quantification of the data, provided that the qualitative data analysis aligns cohesively with the designated objectives of the research or evaluation. Thereby mitigating the fact that the tool did not capture quantitative data.

		of such kind of data in the absence of analysis.	
Key Informant Interviews (KII)/In-depth Interviews	Per district- District Council social welfare officers Per district -District Council Planning officers Per district -District Council Gender officers Per district -District Council Youth officers Project staff , Etc., Data was analyzed using thematic analysis methods. Case studies were derived from this data.	● Unavailability of key respondents due to participation in assisting cyclone victims or transferred to other districts. ● Limitation of the tool is that it only captures qualitative data and not quantitative data which automatically translates into figures. This is a limitation because sometimes people may expect to get numerical values and graphics out of such kind of data in the absence of analysis.	● Virtual interviews were undertaken as opposed to physical interviews for those who were not available for face-to-face interviews. ● We sent the questionnaire in advance so that respondents should prepare for the interview. ● Rescheduling of interviews to an appropriate time. ● Qualitative data will assist in providing descriptive data and capturing case studies which are critical for the evaluation. This data will still complement the quantitative data from other methods. ● After conducting the qualitative analyses this can potentially facilitate quantification of the data, provided that the qualitative data analysis aligns cohesively with the designated objectives of the research or evaluation.

Note: All interviews have been disaggregated by gender, disability, age, (on CSOs, 15 CSO, (3CSO per district) at least three CSO from the online cohort.

Evaluation Ethics

The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation' and follow the guidelines on how to integrate human rights and gender equality standards and principles in the evaluation process. The consultants referred to the UNEG guidance document, (2011) *"Integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluations", Chapter 3*, and incorporated the WHO's recommendations on the ethics and safety of conducting intervention research on violence against women.

The consultants further referred to the document WHO, *"Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women".*

Participants were asked for their consent to be involved in the study and to use the information they provided for reporting. They were also made aware that they can withdraw their consent at any point during the interview.

The following guidelines on evaluation ethics were used:

a. We abode by the "do no harm principles" and ensure that our evaluation instruments were appropriate to the cultural setting. We designed culturally appropriate data collection tools that did not create distress for respondents.
b. We explained the details of the survey to the potential participants.
c. We sought verbal consent from them prior to administering our research tools. *See Annex 5*
d. For Minors, consent was sought from the guardian, and the Minor further had to give assent to participating in the survey. *See Annex 5*
e. We informed them that consent can be withdrawn at any time during the survey.

f. All persons who are survivors of GBV were interviewed in private.

g. We trained all data collectors in putting the needs of the survivor first.

h. We observed the privacy and confidentiality of all research participants, unless they give their consent to be identified.

i. We ensured that data collectors are well trained in collecting sensitive information and specifically data relating to violence against women.

j. Data collection visits were appropriately timed to minimize risk to respondents.

k. We provided information on how individuals in situations of risk can seek support (referrals to organizations that can provide counselling support). i.e., ArtGlo, provided contacts of their safeguarding person who was to be contacted, and this information was put in the tools.

The study prioritized safety of respondents and research team. In the same vein, the research team avoided being in the field during unsafe hours. All participants and the research team were briefed on security protocols during entry and exit into the community.

Additional measures following ethical and child protection issues when carrying out the endline:

a. Privacy and confidentiality of participants.

b. Inclusion and non-discrimination for all stakeholders.

c. Protection from Harm

d. Data protection (visual data and information)

e. Withdrawal from interview

Verbal consent was required from all participants, and consent was sought from the representatives of the local communities. ArtGlo secured permission from all the village leaders in the communities where community dialogue sessions, interviews, and FGD were conducted. For purposes of protecting child participants in this study, parents and guardians were requested to provide consent and the minor was required to assent prior to their participation.

The evaluation matrix **Annex 4** guided the evaluators in the evaluation process and in final report writing.

Data Quality Management

The study instituted quality assurance and quality control measures to ensure that the information is of high quality. These measures included:

- Recruitment of highly qualified and experienced data collection assistants
- Comprehensive training of the data collection assistants
- Supervision during data collection

FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS PER EVALUATION QUESTION

Thematic Analysis Framework

Based on a thematic analysis of both the qualitative and quantitative data, the evaluation's analysis is shown in the findings **Table 7** below. Because violence against women and girls is a topic that is more closely related to people's views, beliefs, and emotions, we relied more on qualitative approaches. Furthermore, the project only used qualitative indicators. As a result, we wanted to compare the Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) after the project intervention to the KAP before the intervention.

The following phase was to gather data from sources, and both qualitative and quantitative methodologies were used to do so. The qualitative data was collected from discussants, including interviews with CSOs, 9 key informant interviews, 5 focus groups with six participants each, and 413 household survey respondents. The survey tools included both open-ended and closed-ended questions. **Fig 3**, below, provides a brief picture of how thematic analysis was done.
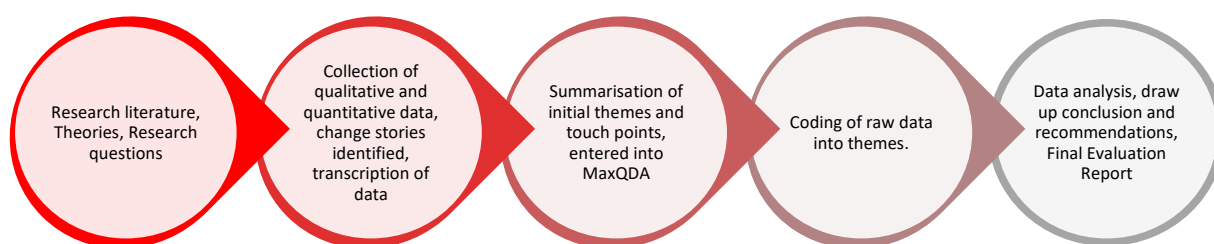
Figure 3: Framework for thematic analysis

Demographics of Study Participants

Table 4: Gender for the study participants

1.Respondent's sex					
		Frequency	**Percent**	**Valid Percent**	**Cumulative Percent**
Valid	Female	356	86.2	86.2	86.2
	Male	57	13.8	13.8	100.0
	Total	413	100.0	100.0	

The study collected data from 86.2% female respondents which is above the 70% recommended by the study ToR.

Table 5: District and Respondent's Sex Cross-Tabulation

<table>
<tr><th colspan="9">District * 1. Respondent's Sex Cross-Tabulation</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td colspan="2">1.Respondent's sex</td><td>Total</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Female</td><td>Male</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="15">District</td><td rowspan="3">Blantyre</td><td>Count</td><td>29</td><td>6</td><td>35</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>82.9%</td><td>17.1%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>7.0%</td><td>1.5%</td><td>8.5%</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Chikwawa</td><td>Count</td><td>68</td><td>17</td><td>85</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>80.0%</td><td>20.0%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>16.5%</td><td>4.1%</td><td>20.6%</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Chiradzulu</td><td>Count</td><td>47</td><td>2</td><td>49</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>95.9%</td><td>4.1%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>11.4%</td><td>.5%</td><td>11.9%</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Mulanje</td><td>Count</td><td>164</td><td>27</td><td>191</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>85.9%</td><td>14.1%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>39.7%</td><td>6.5%</td><td>46.2%</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">Phalombe</td><td>Count</td><td>48</td><td>5</td><td>53</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>90.6%</td><td>9.4%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>11.6%</td><td>1.2%</td><td>12.8%</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2" rowspan="3">Total</td><td>Count</td><td>356</td><td>57</td><td>413</td></tr>
<tr><td>% within District</td><td>86.2%</td><td>13.8%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
<tr><td>% of Total</td><td>86.2%</td><td>13.8%</td><td>100.0%</td></tr>
</table>

Table 5: District and Respondent's Sex Cross-Tabulation

Table 6: Age disaggregation for study participants

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
2. How old are you?					
Valid	15-19yrs	32	7.7	7.7	7.7
	20–24yrs	71	17.2	17.2	24.9
	25-59yrs	277	67.1	67.1	92.0
	60 Above	33	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	413	100.0	100.0	

Most of the study participants (67.1%) were between 25 and 59 years of age.

Qualitative data

The interviews were recorded in three ways, audio, written and entries to some questions were directly entered into the Kobo tool. Thereafter the interview transcripts were assigned codes based on the responses given to each open-ended questions using MAXQDA which is a data analysis software which is useful in cleaning and analyzing qualitative data. The responses were further categorized according to themes, and subsequently, each response was classified under the relevant theme. We adopted a hypothesis-generating approach, and resultantly conclusions presented here have been drawn based on patterns of the themes in the interview data.

The Evaluation will also share change stories which are derived from discussants and the household survey. The Evaluation has further captured women's voices and their lived realities and their views on how the MAWA project was designed and implemented. Including women's voices has ensured that the evaluation captures their experiences, needs, and challenges related to GBV. Women are often the primary victims of GBV, and their perspectives provide valuable information for assessing the project's effectiveness in addressing GBV and promoting gender equality. Additionally, women's voices contribute to ensuring that interventions are relevant, sensitive, and responsive to the diverse realities and contexts in which GBV occurs. Their participation fosters empowerment, accountability, and the creation of sustainable solutions.

Thematic Map based on Evaluation criteria

Effectiveness

"Drama was the most effective because of the approach we used such as Theatre for development. People participated fully".
CSO Fambauone, Chikhwawa

Community led solutions
Effective Use of Human Centered Design
Effective use of participatory Arts in sharing EVAWG messages.
Multiple stakeholder involvement, through collaboration, networking.
Capacity building of the community and its leaders (CSO's) to identify and address GBV
Timely intervention for VAWG cases by duty bearers with community involvement.
 Improvement of GBV situation after the intervention: there are clear indications that the MAWA project was effective because the GBV situation in the communities has improved after the project.
Increased empowerment of women

Knowledge generation

"In our community, a number of CSOs are lacking proposal development skills and techniques. We were lucky as Namulenga CBO to have been trained by ArtGlo on proposal development. A number of our sister CBOs have taken an interest in acquiring the same skills as well". **CSO Namulenga, Mulanje**

Increasing CSO Capacity in Project Management
MAWA Project Influencing EVAWG Policies and By-laws
Global Learning Because Of Online Platform
Local Solutions and Low Cost EVAWG Programming, Art Is Acceptable, Useful and Affordable in EVAWG Programs
Community Involvement in Design, Response and Reporting
Use Of Established, And Establishing Additional Structures to Participate in EVAWG Prevention and Response
Women's Movement Building, Economic Empowerment and Creation of Agency in Women

Efficiency

"The project was working on ending early marriages and violence and it did a good job." **Chiradzulu, Household**

what went well: Cost effectiveness as CSO's were able to meet their targets with the resources they were given.

There is increased capacity in project management and project ownership by CSO's

The project created safe space to report VAWG cases by the community and increased community knowledge about GBV, and reporting mechanisms

The project encouraged use of existing community structures and collaboration with state stakeholders which increased the community confidence in the MAWA project

The CSO's managed to exceed target beneficiaries with budgeted funds because of use of low budget community solutions such as music, drama, and sports among other solutions

The project has helped in the community coming up with positive norms redefining harmful cultural practices

Elements of the project have brought about economic independence and empowerment of women.

The project reached hard to reach and often not accommodated in development projects

what did not go well: Limited human and financial resources resulting in lack of survivor centered approaches to budgeting for EVAWG projects

Sustainability

"Maula CBO worked with existing structures such as Mother Groups, Community Policing which were given necessary training and have an understanding of GBV and Early Child Marriages, these structures will continue to work towards ensuring that the work of MAWA project continue."
FGD Chiradzulu

Strengthened reporting mechanisms and accountability structures.

Increased confidence and capacity to do EVAWG work independently.

CSO have gained community and resource mobilization skills.

Sustainable networks and strategic collaborations with state entities

Community led solutions resulting in community ownership to benefits of the project

Relevance

"People are now afraid of engaging in violence acts because of reporting mechanisms put in place by this project." **Household, Mulanje**

- Mindset change, change in social norms and GBV reporting behaviors
- Reduction in harmful cultural practices
- Reduction in GBV occurrences
- Ending early child marriages and promoting girls' education
- Creation of safe spaces for women through village banks, women's/Girls' organisations
- Increased feelings of security and reporting mechanisms
- Key populations aware of GBV reporting mechanisms
- Economic security
- Sexual autonomy and bodily security
- Increased capacity of state and state actors to participate in EVAWG prevention and response
- Gender mainstreaming in community structures

Coherence

"Maula CBO has been our stakeholders, before the ArtGlo MAWA project begun, they worked with the youth and ending violence against women and girls. So, when the Mawa project came, we just like continued what was already started." **Key Informant, Police - Chiradzulu**

- Continued participation in EVAWG programs
- Scaling up of past EVAWG projects
- Co-ordination and participation in national level EVAWG events

Movement building

"We encourage partnerships with other organizations dealing with similar issues that we address so as to collaboratively fight VAWG. We do this knowing that we cannot independently work alone in ensuring that victims have attained the justice they deserve" **Voices, Chikhwawa**

Networks, collaborations and partnerships
Community based women's groups grounded on feminist principles

Institutional Strengthening

"There was solely an online cohort. This helped to push some of the activities and we didn't have to sit down waiting for the pandemic to end. The adaptation through the online platform helped" **KII-ArtGlo**

Enhanced skills in use of ICT through online learning tools
Creation of sustainable online products i.e., songs, documentaries of EVAWG
Use of ICT for IEC, resulting in increased advocacy, visibility and awareness
Observation of COVID measures i.e., PPE, social distancing

Gender Equality and Human Rights

"We now know that, what a man can do a woman can do too."
Household, Blantyre

Evolving gender roles of men and women
Human centered design
General awareness of human rights

Results Per Criteria of Evaluation

Table 7: Summary of results per criteria of evaluation

Evaluation criteria	Effectiveness
Evaluation question	To what extent were the intended project goals, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and how?
Response to Evaluation Question	**Project goal**: The overall goal of the project was to improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment. The primary beneficiaries of the project were women and girls who were positively impacted by the projects the CSOs designed with ArtGlo's support. The secondary beneficiaries of the project were the 57 CSO representatives (including community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and CSOs in the framework of the online cohort).
	It is our finding that overall; the project improved the lives of women by providing them the capacity to challenge and further address VAWG in all its forms. The project goal was achieved through the leveraging of CSO's and community leaders to increase their capacity and involvement in EVAWG prevention and response. As a result, the findings demonstrate that women and girls feel safe in the community as they can freely report cases of violence to relevant authorities. Furthermore, women and girls know where to report for example the police or community leaders, and the kind of remedies that are available to them should they face any form of violence in the community, for example that the perpetrator can be arrested, or the survivor will receive health or social support. Prior to the intervention, beneficiaries who faced violence especially in the family would report to other family members even when some forms of violence required police intervention. Now beneficiaries are able to reach out to MAWA CSOs who accompany them to other duty bearers so that cases of violence are addressed.
	The primary beneficiaries were positively impacted because of their detailed involvement in the project at all stages. Before activities were identified, brainstorming sessions and research was undertaken by CSOs to appreciate the most common problems of the community. Project activities were then tailor made to fit in the problems identified by the community, thereby the community played a role in informing solutions and taking ownership for their lives when it came to participating in EVAWG initiatives.
	The primary beneficiaries demonstrated some knowledge and awareness of VAWG. This shaped their own perceptions on how they can respond and address VAWG in their respective communities. Consequently, there was a direct correlation between the project and the positive social-norms that end GBV. Secondary beneficiaries demonstrated increased capacity to manage an EVAWG project at all stages and using HCD and participatory arts in promoting ideas of gender equality and ending violence against women and girls.
	At the CSO, community and district level there was evidence of ownership for VAWG activities and active community engagement in delivering EVAWG products, through the project established reporting structures in coordination with state established structures.
	For the community (primary beneficiaries) when asked if they engaged with the CSO in their community? 100% answered **Yes (Men;13.8%/women 86.2%). This shows high CSO**

presence in the community and that more women were engaged with the CSO under the MAWA project.

When asked whether the CSO work challenged various forms of GBV such as IPV, child marriages, various forms of violence in the family, GBV and women empowerment, the primary beneficiaries related the CSO's to challenging mostly IPV (81%), and violence in the family (81%). The least form of GBV the CSO challenged was financial control and economic abuse (68.5).
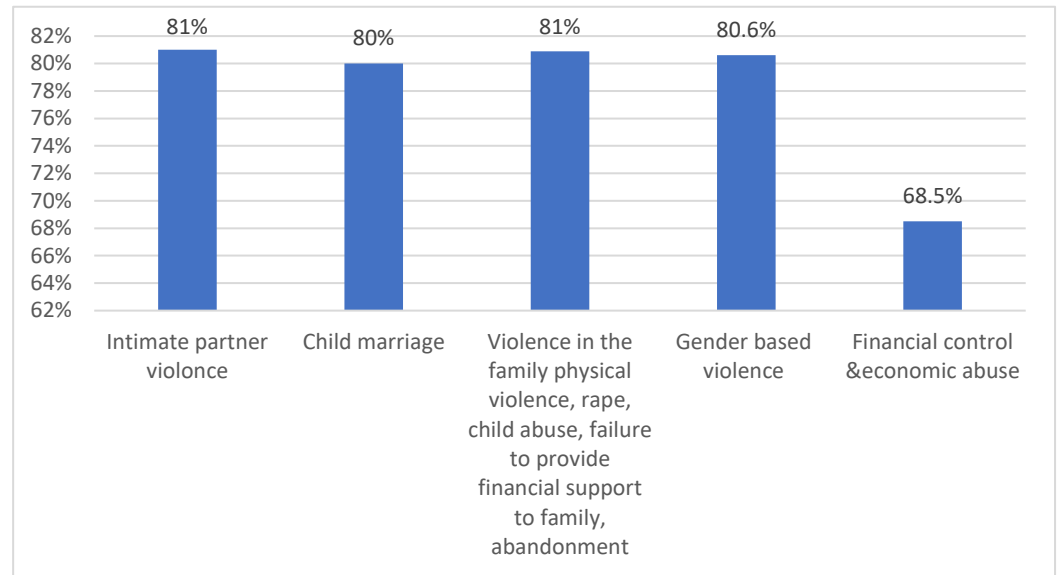

Figure 4: Forms of violence which the project challenges

Community leaders played a pivotal role in the MAWA project in terms of sharing EVAWG messages. This conclusion is drawn based on the fact that 59.3% of the communities heard EVAWG messages mostly at community meetings mobilized by leaders and the least mode of hearing EVAWG messages at Bawo (board games).
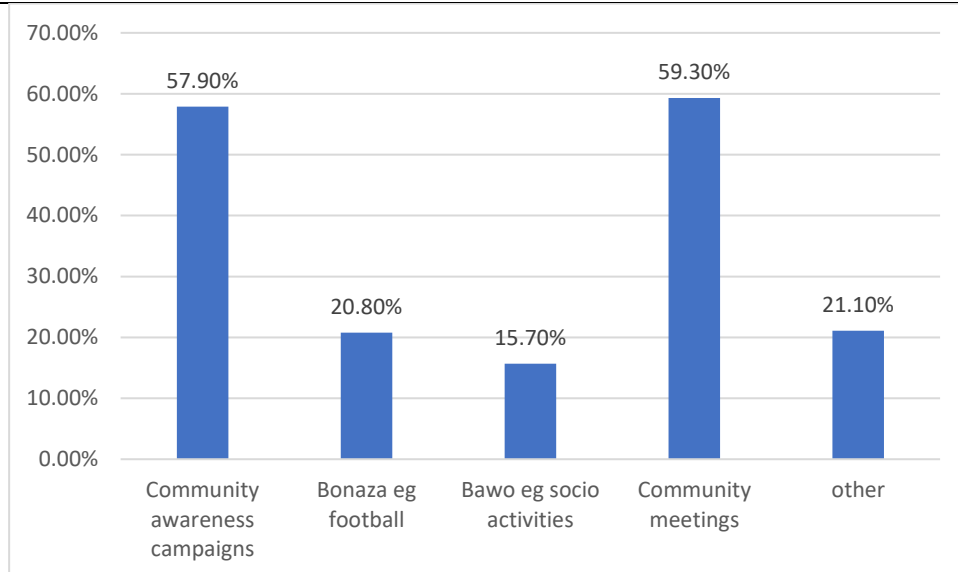
Figure 5: Approaches used to challenge violence

| Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above | **a. Project by the people for the people**

The project has been effective due to the involvement of the community such that they became part of the project.

> *"This project identified what our main problem was. It did not come to implement what worked in other districts or areas, but it worked with the people in this village." Focus Group Discussion- Chiradzulu*

There is evidence that there was community involvement at multiple stages, i.e., at Planning, Implementation, Evaluation, which made the project effective: When asked at what stage the organization engaged women and girls in their work, the study found out that community members were engaged mostly at the implementation stage, and the least at evaluation stage. In terms of gender disaggregation, mostly women were involved at every stage showing that the MAWA project was gender sensitive as it worked mostly with women.

   i.   Planning- before the EVAWG activities started (research) 33.9% (Female=29.1%/Male=4.8%)
  ii.   Implementation – during EVAWG activities roll out 45%(Female=38.7%/Male=6.3%)
 iii.   Evaluation- after the EVAWG activities were undertaken (*kalondolondo*) 1.5% (Female=1.5%/Male=0%)
 iv.   Other 3.1% (Female=2.9%/Male=0.2%). These are 13 (12 females and 1 male) respondents who indicated that they were engaged during activities which were not part of the three stages above for example they were engaged at the following stages e.g., general village meetings taking place in the villages, during funerals and church sessions and others said that they were not engaged by the CSO. |
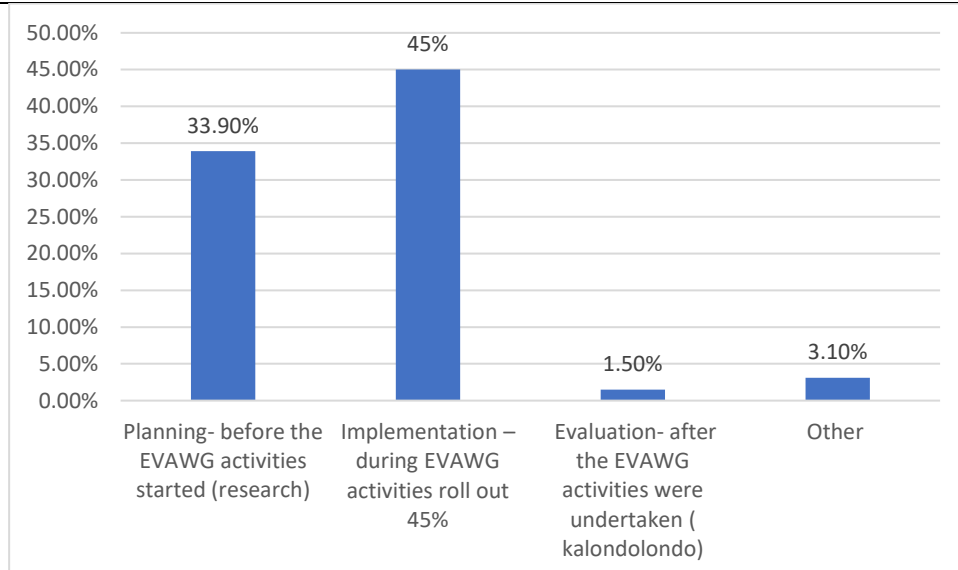|---|---|

Figure 6: Form of community involvement

b. Use of Human-Centered Design made the project effective

The Evaluation has established that CSOs were trained in concepts of human rights, gender, and Human-Centered Design. Further to that there was training on how to integrate human rights in designing projects. As a result, due to the increase in understanding of human rights, CSOs were able to undertake research at the beginning of the project taking into consideration human rights principles. Subsequently, the communities' unique needs were corresponded with tailor made activities for the specific community the CSO is operating in. In communities where early child marriages were rife, activities target ending such marriages for example in Phalombe district which is the district with very high child marriages. In communities were initiation ceremonies (*Chinamwali*) cause high teen pregnancies and high school dropout among primary school going children, the CSOs such as Youth for Change (MAWA CSO in Chiradzulu) tailor-made activities by coming up with by-laws to change the negative social norms that define the curriculum at initiation ceremonies. This approach was effective because the activities directly responded to the needs of the communities in real time making the project highly effective. The following are some of the examples of how the HCD was useful:

> *"We used the human centered design approach which helped us to discover that child marriages are the major issues at hand and need to be addressed holistically."* **CSO, Namulenga, Mulanje**

> *"We used a Human-Centered Design (HCD) tool that helped us to implement our project activities. The HCD approach has three areas also applied, Image theatre, Forum theatre and Invisible theatre. So, we were meeting community members and try to identify their social pressing issues and best locally available practices that can be used to address the issues in question."* **CSO, CAYODE, Phalombe**

> *"We have developed a policy brief on use of HCD and how can it be effectively used."* **Key Informant Interview, Sharon Nkwazi, ArtGlo**

"We used a tree symbolically because it bears fruit. We also used symbols of communicating without words or sound." CSO, SAPOF- Blantyre

c. Use of participatory Arts made effective the sharing of EVAWG messages

Violence against women often carries some stigma and shame in rural communities and survivors may be hesitant to come forward and share their experiences due to fear of retaliation from perpetrators and social isolation. In the context of the MAWA districts, effective communication required messages to be conveyed in local languages and tailored to the specific cultural context of the community. Language barriers were easy to overcome and EVAWG concepts properly packaged to address cultural sensitivities and traditions of the districts. Both primary and secondary beneficiaries found the use of arts effective in sharing EVAWG messages for various reasons including the fact that EVAWG messages were easy to understand due to the way arts performances spread the messages:

"Theatre for development is the most effective way because people love to be entertained. Because not everyone can afford buying tv or radios." Middle aged Male Casual labourer, Blantyre- Household Survey

"Drama performances help community members understand what is happening on the ground and how best they can address their social pressing issues. In addition to this, sports activities for example football bonanza attract a lot of people in the community and this gives us a podium or a better platform to share messages of EVAWG or any other GBV related information to the masses." CSO-NAMULENGA, Mulanje

"Forum theatre attracts a lot of people. People could come from faraway places and appreciate what we were doing and eventually disclosing what they were going through." CSO-CAYODE, Phalombe

"Drama was the most effective because of the approach we use (Theatre for development) People participate fully". CSO-FAMBAUONE, Chikhwawa

"Drama and Pictures assisted the people to independently make meaning of what they are seeing while the plays allowed people to change some scenes to their liking. This helped us to identify gaps in our messaging." CSO-Voices, Chikhwawa

"The best way are drama, music and sports activities and tell them about all forms of violence's. We asked the deputy head teachers about girls dropping of school and found out it was high. So, we started doing dramas and other activities to encourage girls not to drop out of school. Now the rate of girls dropping out of school has minimised because of the encouragements and activities we do." CSO-River of Life, Phalombe

"Drama was the best because at our office my colleagues and the students we worked with knew how to perform and that helped us attract the community as well as broadcasting and/or delivering violence messages to them." CSO-Mzati, Blantyre

d. There is evidence of the effectiveness engagement through multiple stakeholder involvement, collaboration, and networking

The UNFPA essential services package provides that a survivor of GBV should be provided with health services, social services, police and justice services, thereby meeting all the needs

of the survivor. The evaluation has established that the Project involved various actors, such as CSOs, community leaders, community members, One Stop Center, Police, Social Welfare, District Officials (Youth, Gender), the MAWA project created a holistic and comprehensive response to VAWG. For state actors such as the Police, District and Government offices, collaboration was in various ways, and it proved effective in getting duty bearers involved and committed to the project goal.

> *"We the police and the MAWA Project conducted meetings in the communities together with the Local village headmen and teach them about ending violence against women."* **Key Informant Interview -Police, Chiradzulu**

> *"They came to us and explained to us what the project will be doing, I even attended the meetings they had plus the policemen were even engaged."* Key Informant Interview - **Social Welfare, Chiradzulu**

> *"They invited us when there were cases e.g., rape, child marriages, we participated. we would arrest those who raped children and sexual harassment."* **Key Informant Interview -Police, Mulanje**

As for none state actors, including other CSO's, mother groups, local groups. There was high involvement and collaboration in the project activities, which helped the project make inroads into the communities.

> *"Some are learning from us, we were working together with mother groups, Policemen, Teachers, local village heads. So, I would say working with us would benefit the organisation."* **CSO-River of Life, Phalombe**

e. Capacity building of the community and its leaders (CSOs) to identify and address GBV

There is evidence that there is increased capacity of CSO members to manage and implement VAWG Project and activities. There is also evidence that the communities were taught on identification of VAWG by community members how CSO's can assist in taking corrective action. CSO members are based in the communities and near the beneficiaries. As a result, they became part of the frontline staff that interact with a survivor of violence. The community was taught on how to identify VAWG, which is one of the response and prevention:

> *"Among other things, we were taught the different types of, violence and its causes.*" *Focus Group Discussion, Blantyre*

> *"We have worked well with the CSO, here were different forms of violence, and we were taught how to reduce this kind of violence. Now we have peace in the village."* *Focus Group Discussion, Phalombe*

When asked, how the CSOs interacted with the community, sample responses showed that CSOs enhanced reporting mechanisms for VAWG and gave the community frontline support when faced with VAWG. CSOs were receiving cases of VAWG and in some cases they were running a VAWG helpline to receive calls from survivors:

"We established some reporting systems that people were using to report cases of VAWG" **CSO-CAYODE, Phalombe**

"There is a phone number that was shared to everyone in case they faced an issue to call them (the CSO)." *Male subsistence Farmer, Chikhwawa*

f. VAWG was addressed on the spot and most interventions were timely

The project ensured that there was real-time intervention for VAWG cases by duty bearers with community involvement as can be seen in excerpts below:

"We would move around to the ground and trace children, if they are married, we would tell them that the marriages, we have ended them now because we would follow the law and the children should go back to school." ***Key Informant Interview, Police-Mulanje***

"On behalf of Mbalame village, our interaction with Maula CBO was very good. It helped me as a person a lot and the community at large. Through Maula CBO and MAWA project, we have managed to bring young girls from marriages to school. (Mother Group Chair) "We were working together to follow up known cases or plans of child marriages. Sometimes we could receive tips from members of the community that a certain family has approved marriage of their daughter who is under aged. We could go and intervene before the marriage happens by letting both parties understand how bad it is." ***Focus Group Discussion-Chiradzulu***

"Marriages are happening at the wrong time. Government put the age of marriage at 18 years, that's when a person is an adult. any marriage below that age, it means the person does not know. Here in Nazombe, the chief does not like early child marriages. I am a teacher and I check how education is going. especially if children are not going to school. Mzati is helping children and parents to know what is best for children" ***Focus Group Discussion-Blantyre.***

"For us we have ended child marriages and send them back to school." ***CSO, Chitapata - Mulanje***

"For example, we have seen married women coming to report about the violence they face in marriages. We also had a case whereby a woman from another village, came to report that her husband violated her rights to do business, but we gathered them and resolved the issue. Even girls reported why they were not doing well in school, and we resolved the issues." ***CSO, Mzati- Blantyre***

g. Improvement of GBV situation after the intervention: there is overwhelming evidence that the MAWA project was effective because the GBV situation in the communities has improved after the project

When asked, what is the situation of various forms of GBV after interacting with the CSO, 76.5% of the community were of the view that the situation was better after the invention. Only 1.5% felt that the situation was worse.

- Situation is better after the intervention 76.5% (F=65.6%/M=10.9%)
- Situation is the same after the intervention 12.8%(F=11.4%/M=1.5%)
- Situation is worse than before the intervention 1.5%(F=1.5%/M=0%)

- Other 9.2%. This comprised of 38 (32 F, 6 M) respondents who had different responses, such as "I don't know", "I don't even know the CSOs"; some reported that change was location specific, meaning that in some location there was reduction while in others areas there was no reduction.
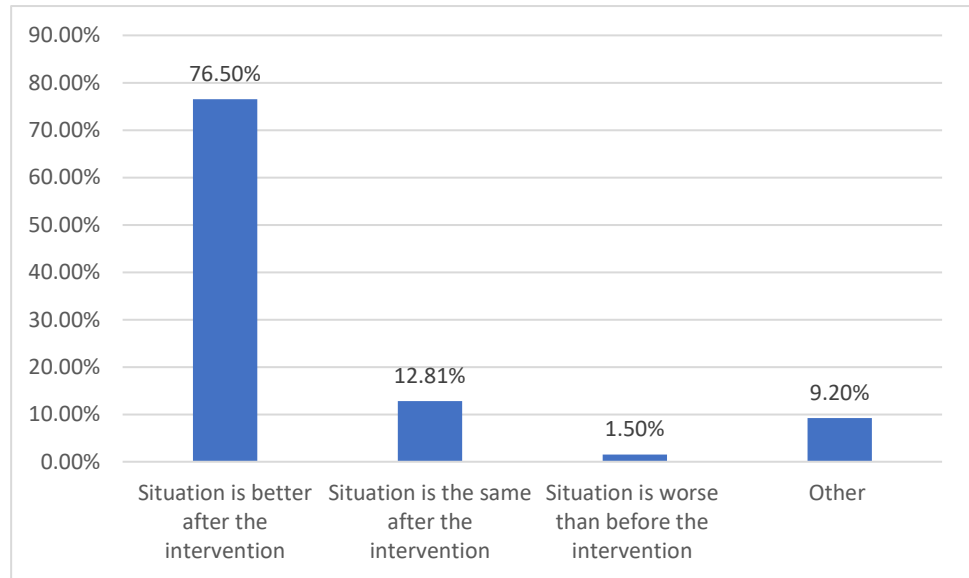

Figure 7: Community perception on GBV after project implementation

Some members of the community were unable to register the effectiveness of the project because in some cases, they had heard about VAWG from the radio with little interaction with the CSO. Therefore, a part of the community, due to lack of involvement in any activities related to the MAWA project could not comprehend an improvement in the GBV situation in their communities. Furthermore, the Evaluation has established that there was an increase in awareness about GBV in MAWA districts. It is possible that the 3-year project increased awareness and reporting of GBV incidents, leading to a higher number of reported cases. This could create an impression that GBV is still prevalent, even if the actual incidence rate may have decreased. It is therefore our view that increased reporting is a positive outcome, as it indicates that more people are willing to come forward and seek help, but it may give the impression that GBV is still widespread to some people who were interviewed.

It is our finding that the rolling out of the MAWA project was staggered and all activities were not rolled out in all five projects at the same time. Therefore, there is various level of contact with the project across all MAWA districts.

> E.g., *"we worked district by district, the last districts had insufficient time to implement their activities and for us to measure fully the time allocated for implementation."* **Key Informant Interview, Sharon Nkhwazi, ArtGlo**

Therefore, some districts implemented project activities for a shorter period than others. However, EVAWG is closely related to knowledge, attitudes and practices or perceptions of people. It is expected in some communities for some community members to desire for the project to run longer than the project life. As some sentiments quoted below:

	"The Duration of the project was short and as you know change takes time. We hope that next time it will be better". Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu
	"When things were going well, the time was not enough for people to learn a lot of things. the meetings to learn new things, we did not have everything we need. we could have learnt more. so only a few people have the knowledge and skills. so, there was not enough time to sensitize people, maybe three years would have been enough." Focus Group Discussion, Phalombe
	Some respondents may have a view that the GBV situation has not changed as the project should have run for a longer period. Changing deeply entrenched social norms and addressing complex issues like GBV requires sustained efforts over an extended period. Some individuals might have had higher expectations and anticipated faster results, leading to their perception that the situation has not improved.
	h. The project increased empowerment of women
	When asked to share examples of how the activities brought about positive change in your community? CSOs identified how women have been empowered and related examples:
	"For instance, people are now able to come to the open to report abuses. This has helped reduce the cases since perpetrators also know the reporting structure at everyone's disposal, hence a deterrent to the vice." CSO, Voices- Chikhwawa
	"Women and girls have been empowered in our community. For example, we had a case of this other girl who was forcibly told by her father to enter marriage. This broke our hearts and pushed us to insanely go to extra strength and come up with our by-laws and enforced them which resulted in successfully addressing the issue in question. As we are talking, the girl had gone back to school." CSO, Namulenga- Mulanje
	"The project activities brought change to our community. Now people can report cases related to sexual VAWG, they also know some forms of sexual VAWG which were initially normalized in the communities. With this project, people are now cautious about issues of VAWG. To challenge these social norms, we have facilitated the arrest of some culprits, for instance, a man who was sleeping with his daughter is now in the hands of the police." CSO, Arise Youth - Chikhwawa
Comprehensive insights and conclusion	The MAWA project has been effective in addressing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in 5 districts based on the key findings provided above. The project's effectiveness is attributed to the following:
	1. Ownership and active engagement of many CSOs in EVAWG
	The project fostered ownership and active engagement at the CSO, community, and district levels. This was facilitated through established reporting structures and coordination with state-established structures such as the police, victim support units, community victim support units. The project worked with a record number of 150 CSOs which is a high number. This translated in high presence of EVAWG CSOs in the community. This also increased engagement of women as most of the CSOs were women and youth centered

CSOs who were given sufficient skills to actively engage in VAWG response and prevention.

2. *Community leaders' involvement*

Community leaders played a pivotal role in the project, actively participating in planning, implementation, and evaluation stages. Community leaders that were involved included traditional and faith leaders, CSO leaders, VDC and other informal groups leaders. Their active engagement helped ensure that EVAWG messages reached a wider audience and were effectively communicated because in some cases after religious meetings, EVAWG messages were shared, and after some community meetings mobilised by traditional leaders, EVAWG messages were shared by involving community leaders, the project tapped into existing power structures and leveraged their influence to promote positive change.

3. *Grassroots-led solutions and human-centered design*

The project's use of grassroots-led solutions and human-centered design approaches proved effective in addressing EVAWG. By involving community members in the development and implementation of solutions, the project ensured that interventions were tailored to the specific needs and realities of the community. For example, use of entertainment such as traditional dances, sporting activities, bonanza, traditional board games etc. Ensured that there was little disruption through use of costly activities such as stages, public address systems, conference rooms etc. Communities relied on their own community entertainment and crowd pulling methods, which were not costly. This approach likely increased the relevance and acceptance of the project's initiatives because communities could easily relate to the way the EVAWG messages were being delivered.

4. *Participatory arts for conveying messages*

The project utilized participatory arts as an effective means of conveying EVAWG messages. Participatory approaches allowed the audience to participate in the activities through engaging with the person delivering the content. Audiences could ask questions, and share their experiences and examples of VAWG. In some cases, people opened up about VAWG and were able to be assisted. This approach made the messages easily understandable and relatable to the community members. By employing creative methods, the project captured attention, engaged emotions, and effectively communicated the importance of addressing VAWG.

5. *Multi-stakeholder involvement, collaboration, and networking*

EVAWG requires a multi-sectoral approach because a survivor-centred approach requires meeting all the needs of the survivor of GBV to be met. The project demonstrated the effectiveness of engaging multiple stakeholders, fostering collaboration, and building networks thereby making strides in meeting the essential services package. This approach likely enhanced the project's impact and sustainability.

6. Capacity building and empowerment

The project invested a lot in capacity building. Especially the CSOs were equipped with various project management skills. Considering that the educational levels of the CSOs were different, ordinarily this should have been a daunting task to train 150 CSOs in project management. Some members of the CSOs had tertiary education and some had no formal education but held leadership positions in the CSOs. However, the design of the MAWA project e.g., the HCD Policy Brief and the Community Engagement Toolkit enabled transfer of skills to CSOs and other community leaders empowering the community and its leaders to identify and address gender-based violence in a structured way. By equipping community members with knowledge, skills, and resources, the project enabled them to act and contribute to the reduction of VAWG using homegrown solutions. The emphasis on empowerment likely led to increased confidence and agency among women, enabling them to assert their rights and seek support.

7. Timely interventions and improvements

The project's implementation led to timely interventions on the spot, resulting in improvements in the GBV situation in the communities. Most if not all cases of VAWG, when reported, were addressed on the spot because the project enabled the community to use live GBV reporting mechanisms. For example, if a mother group received a report of a child marriage, they would immediately mobilise the traditional leader, the police officer and other relevant stakeholder, and visit the concerned household to terminate the marriage on the spot. There is also evidence of involvement of law enforcement officers to intervene in cases where arrests were the proper action. This suggests that the project was responsive to emerging issues and effectively addressed them in a timely manner. The ability to address GBV incidents by the community promptly likely contributed to the overall positive change observed in the communities.

8. Increased empowerment and positive change

The project's efforts resulted in a significant improvement in the GBV situation and increased empowerment among women. The statistics show that women and girls feel much safer as they can report GBV. Furthermore women's movement have grown through sustained networks of like-minded women's rights organisations. Finally, there are reduced rates of school dropouts, negative social-norms which increase GBV have been condemned by the society e.g., *Chinamwali* messages are now age appropriate. This indicates that women feel more confident, are aware of their rights, and better equipped to address and prevent VAWG. The project's success in achieving these outcomes suggests that the strategies and interventions implemented were effective in promoting positive change.

Overall, the MAWA project's effectiveness can be attributed to its focus on community engagement, multi-stakeholder collaboration, grassroots-led solutions, participatory approaches, and capacity building efforts. By addressing VAWG holistically and empowering communities, the project demonstrated its ability to create meaningful and sustainable change in the communities it served.

Evaluation Question	To what extent were the intended project, outcomes, and outputs (project results) achieved and how?
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	From the project monitoring data reviewed, it was understood that the project reached to over 34,634 of the beneficiaries which is far much higher than the target of 5000 which was projected at planning stage. **This is an overachievement**. *When asked whether the CSOs under the project* worked to end violence against women and girls in this community? 100% of the primary beneficiaries answered **Yes. (Men;13.8%/women 86.2%).**
Conclusion	The project outcomes were therefore achieved.

Evaluation criteria	Relevance
Evaluation question	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes, and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?
Response to Evaluation Question	**Project Goal:** to improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment. The project strategy of using various art forms to ignite bold conversations had high relevance to needs of women and girls in all the five districts. This strategy ensured that women and girls opened to constructively engage in discussions and activities that uncovered EVAWG in their communities. The project was designed to address intimate partner sexual and physical violence, none-partner sexual violence, and the harmful practice of early and child marriages and there is evidence that the project worked with local government and CSO networks in 5 districts to address EVAWG, through building their capacity to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities. The MAWA project worked with CSOs who work on women's empowerment. The CSOs were trained to conduct research using Human-Centered Design approaches, using participatory arts in their interventions, as well as received technical GBV and SRHR information, and skills for implementing projects, such as project management, resource mobilization, communications, monitoring and evaluation and basic computer skills to navigate on the virtual learning platform. Subsequently the CSOs implemented their projects relevant to their local context and communities and formed supportive networks at district level to help each other overcome challenges in project implementation, with support from ArtGlo. Collaborations and campaigns were also undertaken at district and national level and some collaborations are still going on after the end of the project. According to our data, the MAWA project mostly benefited women, and it also resulted in a decline in VAWG cases. When asked what some of the examples of the benefits brought about by the project are, the primary beneficiaries indicated the following:

a. Reduced number of incidences of VAWG 68.8% (Female=58.4%/Male=10.4%)
b. Women are participating more in community activities 32.4% (Female=27.8%/Male=4.6%)
c. Increased use of art in sharing messages 12% (10.7%/1.7%)
d. Increased reporting of GBV cases 42.6%(Female=37.5%/Male=5.1%)
e. Increased knowledge of what to do in cases of VAWG 39.5%(Female=33.4%/Male=6.1%)
f. Others 24%(Female=20.6%/Male=3.4%)
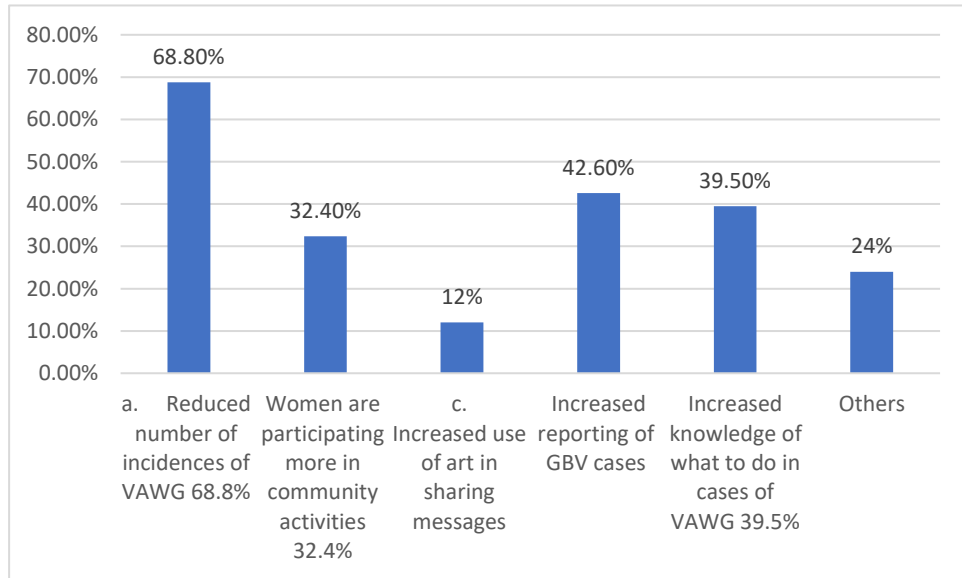
Figure 8: Project impact

| Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above | Inquiries about the project's impact on women and girls in the community were made to the primary and secondary beneficiaries. The primary responses demonstrated that the intervention was extremely pertinent to their communities since it strengthened CSOs', government, and non-state actors' ability to provide EVAWG services. The following factors made all these possible:

Outcome 1:

    a. ***The project structured engagement with CSOs, stakeholders and communities on how to address EVAWG in their communities***

There is evidence that from the onset the project did not go directly into the community, however they set out to identify and work with CSOs in a structured way because the CSOs were the entry points into the community. Hence there was need for them to do their inward facing and outward facing work in a systematic way.

As for CSO engagement, the project successfully developed a toolkit[26] for CSOs on community engagement, and the policy brief[27] developed under the project provided a blueprint on how to engage a high volume of CSOs, with different capacity levels and resources. With the designed tools and training, this made the CSOs very relevant to the communities when it came to VAWG response.

Many stories were shared of how CSOs became central to the referral pathways for VAWG victims as the community relied on the CSOs to report cases and bridge them with required support services. |

---

[26] MAWA CSO- Community Engagement Toolkit, MAWA Toolkit
[27] MAWA Project, Human Centered Design – Policy Brief

The Evaluation has established that CSO roles included: training and raising awareness so that the community can identify VAWG thereby reporting cases to relevant authorities, mentoring women in the community to start women's groups, receiving complaints from the community when there are cases of GBV, reporting cases and providing liaison with law enforcement such as the police, health service providers, accompaniment of GBV survivors when they need to access services, providing their contact telephone numbers to the community running and sort of a helpline to receive complaints and cases of GBV, following up on VAWG cases to their logical conclusion, dissolving early child marriages on the spot together with relevant authorities.

> *"We as the police also have that office where victims would come and report issues but ever since the project came, we work hand in hand with them to fight or end violence against women and girls."* **KII, Police- Chiradzulu**

> *"There was a high demand, as you know the LGBTI people have their own network and once they hear there is an organization that is offering service on protection, promoting the health rights, many were coming from even Chilobwe and Chitawira (neighborhoods outside their location) so we told them to stop coming because we could only manage those in the surrounding areas."* **CSO, YOCADE- Blantyre**

CSOs also mentored women to form women's groups which became safe spaces for women to pursue economic empowerment projects and share their experiences if they face GBV.

> *"The women we approached formed a group that works like a village bank, they borrow each other money to support their businesses. The women meet every Tuesday, the group creates a safe space to share what is happening in their homes and because of these other women are interested to join the groups because of the change seen in homes and lives of the beneficiaries and even other villages wants projects like these."* **CSO, SAPOF-Blantyre**

CSOs trained the community on how to identify VAWG, and they went a further step to resolve cases on the spot, for example in cases of early child marriages, the CSO would mobilise the traditional authorities and the police to help withdraw children from early child marriages. An example is shown below:

> *"Yes, the project has helped a lot through the CSO. in the village we have a lot of chisawawa (immoral behaviuor), these children they just fall in love anyhow and take each other as partners. For example, you don't even know what happens between these children. My sister has a child, he fell in love. The boy was 15-years-old and the other one was 10 years old (the girl). They took each other into marriage. Our's was the boy, we forced him and pulled him out of the marriage. He was brought to the CSO, and that's how the marriage ended. This CSO has helped a lot. Now this behaviour of promiscuity and early marriages has cooled off in this community."* **Focus Group Discussion, Mulanje**

The following case study from Chikhwawa is just an example of the many roles that CSOs are now playing in training and teaching communities to ably identify VAWG cases:

The case study of Arise Youth Organisation – CSO Chikhwawa

AYO is a youth-based organization based in Chikhwawa. They participated in the MAWA project. Together with other CSO's they participated in brainstorming sessions. Arise Youth Organization (AYO) came up with a project named *Phindu Lathu* which addressed adolescent girls on Sexual Reproductive Health challenges. They also worked closely with mother groups to reach out the girls in school both in primary and secondary school and registered several achievements during the project including how to use MAWA tools on how to engage the community and they applied the same to their activities. They also managed to have sufficient skills to follow up on VAWG cases and collaborate with other CSO's in the project. As a result, at the end of the project, they were able to explain that "*now women are safe and empowered to the extent that they are now able to report cases involving them, they know where to report and are being protected in the community structures where they are assisted. A certain woman who was facing various forms of violence and learnt about the same during one of our activities, managed to report her story to us, we referred it to police who arrested the perpetrator. A young girl also came to us to report about his father who was sleeping with her, we took the matter to police and the man is in custody. We believe that all these are fruits of the project where the communities have been made aware and empowered. Even though the project has phased out, people are still aware about where to report cases related to VAWG.*" ***CSO Interview-AYO, Chikhwawa***

These findings support the relevance of the project by demonstrating that CSOs, stakeholders, and communities are actively involved in addressing EVAWG. Structured engagement allowed for the development of targeted interventions that are responsive to local contexts and dynamics, ensuring relevance and effectiveness and by engaging these groups, the MAWA project was able to understand the specific needs and challenges faced by women and girls in different communities.

b. *Increasing capacity of CSO to design and roll out VAWG programs*

The project built the capacity of CSO members to understand and use the human-centered project design, monitoring and evaluation, Research in GBV and effective use of participatory arts. This facilitated the role of CSOs in EVAWG project management which yielded positive results for the overall project.

> "*CSOs went to communities to inquire on VAWG manifestations in communities. CSOs sat down to brainstorm on possible solutions.*" ***Key informant Interview, Florence Simbota, ArtGlo***

> "*I designed the Phindu lathu Project, our first and the Nyatwa yamala extension project. Through these projects, we have seen communities understand VAWG; they also reported the cases happening in their respective communities; we have seen different stakeholders working together to fight VAWG. We have built the capacity of community structures and the adolescents are now aware of the forms of violence against them. This is what we have achieved so far.*" ***CSO-AYO, Chikhwawa***

These findings show that by equipping CSOs with the skills and knowledge to design effective programs, the project ensured that interventions are contextually appropriate, evidence-based, and aligned with the evolving needs of women and girls.

c. ***At every stage of the project, including project planning, project implementation, and project evaluation, the MAWA project actively engaged the community***

There were varying levels of community engagement in the project and the likely effect is that the community will have varying levels of appreciation of the project and its benefits. 45% of the community respondents responded that the highest level of engagement was at implementation stage and the least engagement was at evaluation stage, at 1.5%**.** in between 33.9.% were engaged at planning, 45% stage.

The active engagement of the community at every stage of the project is crucial for ensuring ongoing relevance and effectiveness in addressing EVAWG. By involving the community, the MAWA project was able to identify emerging issues, adapt interventions to changing circumstances, and address the evolving needs of women and girls throughout the project life. This approach ensured that the project remained responsive to the priorities and concerns of the community, promoting ownership, sustainability, and long-term impact.

Outcome 2:

a. ***Mindset shift and socio-norms change***

The evidence suggests that mindset change, has been among the greatest achievement of the MAWA project. This is because, the community was able to identify positive changes in the community, which are related to rejection of harmful cultural practices e.g., *Chinamwali* (initiation ceremonies) has changed their way of undertaking initiation ceremonies, cultural beliefs that fuel GBV and early child marriages are changing, and Intimate partner violence is reported to authorities with no fear of stigma amongst others. Consequently, there has been a registered decrease in negative social norms, and an increase in positive social norms. There is an improvement in social behaviors and women and girls are moving towards living a violent free life. When asked to share examples of how women and girls in the community benefitted from the project, most of the responses were similar to the ones below:

> *"There is now peace. Maybe we have ended 15 child marriages who have finished school because of us. We traced them and advised them. Some are even in college."* ***Key informant Interview, Police- Mulanje***

> *"The needs of the beneficiaries have been met. People had no peace, some committed suicide, drop out of school, divorce. The project has helped people to live a life free of violence, some things we just can't explain. We have even gotten people arrested for rape, VAWG, we are now resting. VAWG is now less and dropout rate for girls has gone down".* ***Key informant interview, Social Welfare - Chikhwawa***

> *"In terms of children and early marriages, now we have learnt that some of the socio-norms we just inherited from our parents, but they are not entirely good for children. Look at Chinamwali (initiation ceremonies) children think they are mature. in some cases, early marriages are perpetrated by parents and some by children. Now we know that anyone can come and complain and condemn early child marriages, even a child can complain to the CSO. If it is the child who is not well behaved, as CSO's we visit them and advise them. we don't have time for development because we are looking after children born out of these early marriages because the marriages are not strong. we end up getting involved in looking after children born in those marriages. Now we all know, as society that some*

socio-norms we just do inherit them from parents made children get attracted to early marriages. now we know those things are wrong". **Focus Group Discussion- Mulanje**

b. *Increase in feeling of security, and autonomy of women and girls, LGBTQI, including increased cases of girls going back to school, reduction in GBV cases, women and girls engaging in economic activities*

When asked, to what extent do women and girls now feel safe in the community and in the family? The following examples were shared by the community:

"The situation with our women and girls has changed with the coming in of voices, there is security now." **Male businessperson, Chikwawa**

"People are now aware of gender-based violence and women feel protected. Most men understand what violence is and whenever they experience it, they report." **Male subsistence farmer, Mulanje**

"Women & Girls feel safe now because the tough actions/measures that are put in place by the village heads and other authorities including the police". **Young Female businessperson, Mulanje**

"Before the project I can share, I used to handle 3-5 cases a day of GBV, but to date its 2-3 cases per week. In TA Maseya the figures have gone down." **Key Informant Interview, Social Welfare - Chikhwawa**

"Our reports indicate that even rape cases were high, but afterwards the rates went down. The trend has gone down, even physical violence, GBV, IPV." **Key informant Interview, Florence Simbota, ArtGlo**

As for **sexual autonomy, sexual and reproductive health rights**, women are able to fend off unwanted sexual advances showing some autonomy in making decision about their bodies because they know their rights, as in the following example*:*

"Women are now aware of their rights, for example women are now able to say NO whenever they're forced to make love with their husbands. At first, we could just follow our man's demands." **Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu**

There is a deterrence effect that has been achieved due to functioning VAWG reporting mechanisms, men also fear the negative consequences that come with being reported of VAWG. Therefore, the project has also managed to deter men from further committing VAWG. An older man during an **FGD in Chikhwawa** shared that:

"They now know where to report. Now men fear that when they do violence, women will go to the police, Victim support unit and the traditional leader. Men know that they will get reported, so they have stopped violence."

During the same **FGD women** shared that

"As for women - teen pregnancies were associated with complications because children were having babies when their bodies are not yet mature to have pregnancy. Voices (CSO) have

helped us to be more aware, to have children at the right age and to know the right age for childbearing." Focus Group Discussion, Chikhwawa

As for cases such a **rape, sexual harassment and defilement women feel safe to participate fully is social activities without fear for their security**:

> *"Women and Girls are safe now as compared to the previous years. Previously, we wouldn't walk or do farming freely because perpetrators would threaten to rape us. Walking alone would pose a serious threat to us women and girls. But as of now, we feel safe and protected." Female subsistence farmer, Mulanje*

> *"Now girls know where to go when they have faced abuses like sexual harassment". Male subsistence farmer, Chikwawa*

c. *Inclusion of key populations and LGBTQI in GBV work ensured that the project was inclusive of minorities:*

For key populations, particularly LGBTQI, there was increased feeling of security and some specific CSO's worked directly with them to raise awareness about VAWG and IPV which is also common in their community. LGBTQI persons are not included in most community programs, however, the demand for inclusive programming is there considering that sexual minorities are affected by Violence especially in their relationships and in society in general. For example:

> *"There was a high demand, as you know the LGBTI people have their own network and once they hear there is an organization that is offering service on protection, promoting the health rights, many were coming from even Chilobwe and Chitawira so we told them to stop coming because we could only manage those in the surrounding areas." CSO, Yocade- Blantyre*

The community felt safer after the project because people became aware of the established reporting structures for cases of VAWG and used them more effectively.

> *"We just hear that there are organizations helping with going back to school so I can say it's safe now because there is a place to go and report issues." Older male, subsistence farmer, Chikwawa*

The findings show that the MAWA project has had a significant impact on the safety and well-being of women and girls in the communities where it was implemented. These findings highlight the relevance and effectiveness of the project in addressing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG).

The project's focus on creating awareness and promoting gender-based violence prevention measures has led to an increased sense of security among women and girls. The quotes above reflect a shift in community perceptions, with respondents acknowledging that women and girls feel protected and are more aware of their rights. The project's emphasis on community engagement, capacity building, and awareness-raising activities has contributed to this positive change. This indicates the relevance of the project in addressing the immediate safety concerns of women and girls and fostering a protective environment.

The reduction in reported cases of gender-based violence, as mentioned by key informants indicates the project's impact in reducing the prevalence of violence. The decrease in reported cases of GBV,

including physical violence, intimate partner violence, and rape, suggests that the project's interventions, such as promoting reporting mechanisms and strengthening support systems, have been effective. This underscores the relevance of the project's strategies in addressing the root causes of violence and providing survivors with the necessary resources to seek justice and support.

The inclusion of key populations, particularly LGBTQI individuals, in the project's efforts is a significant aspect of its relevance. The findings indicate that the project recognized the specific vulnerabilities and experiences of LGBTQI individuals and worked towards inclusive programming to address violence and promote their rights. By engaging with LGBTQI communities and raising awareness about VAWG and intimate partner violence, the project has demonstrated its commitment to addressing violence in all its forms and ensuring inclusivity. This highlights the importance of tailoring interventions to specific populations and recognizing intersectional factors in addressing VAWG.

Change Story – Improved Reporting structures and survivor centered approaches in GBV cases in Mulanje

Namulenga CBO is based in Mulanje and has been working on ending child marriages and women empowerment. Before the CSO project, the respondents at baseline conceded that early child marriage is a problem in their community. In case of reporting

> *'Namulenga CBO helped us women to be independent. For example, I for one, I joined a Village Savings group and got a loan and started my own business. This helps me not to entirely rely on my husband alone. I can do a number things at home without asking my husband to help me. I have also seen a number of women starting some small-scale businesses. Girls as well have started to realise their dreams as they have been told that they can go back to school after delivery. There was another case of this other girl who came to me asking for school fees. I took an initiative and paid for her tuition fees and she had gone back to school.' **CSO Namulenga, Mulanje***

cases at baseline it was reported that if a community member experienced abuse or violence, victims can seek help from marriage counsellors, traditional leaders, and village chiefs[28]. The evaluation has established that the MAWA CSO made inroads into their community through strengthening reporting structures by ensuring that there is a multi-sectoral response to VAWG cases and that a survivor receives all the support that is required. For instance, the police and health focal person said that when a girl is raped, they are supposed to go to the police for a statement then to the hospital. They have also strengthened the relationship between formal and non-formal justice structures and currently the communities they work in have appropriate by-laws which have input from the magistrate and traditional leaders. This ensures that a survivor is assisted with all essential services by the appropriate service providers when they report a GBV case as opposed to only receiving services from the traditional leaders and marriage counsellors only who were the only source of assistance for the community. Duty bearers have now taken responsibility in the VAWG fight and the Traditional leaders are enforcing by-laws in all the Group Village Headmen under him. There is evidence of collaboration among all stakeholders and the CSO is the VAWG champion in the community. The CSO has gone further to provide survivor centered services by undertaking economic empowerment initiatives as part of survivor support. Hence showing a change in the kind of services that women and girls are now receiving after the rolling out of the MAWA project.

---

[28] MAWA Baseline report – Mulanje

Table 8: Sexual violence prevalence

24.Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months? * 1. Respondent's sex cross-tabulation					
			1.Respondent's sex		Total
			Female	Male	
24.Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months?	N/A	Count	48	10	58
		% Within 24. Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months?	82.8%	17.2%	100.0%
		% Of Total	11.6%	2.4%	14.0%
	No	Count	300	45	345
		% Within 24. Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months?	87.0%	13.0%	100.0%
		% Of Total	72.6%	10.9%	83.5%
	Yes	Count	8	2	10
		% Within 24. Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months?	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%
		% of Total	1.9%	.5%	2.4%
Total		Count	356	57	413
		% within 24. Have you ever experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months?	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%
		% Of Total	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%

The findings suggest that there is very low prevalence of sexual violence in the impact districts as shown in table above that only 2.4% of the respondents reported to have experienced sexual violence in the past 12 months. This implies that there is a visible impact of the EVAWG project which has been implemented in the immediate past three years. However, it is important to acknowledge that

these percentages are independent of data from other sources as there is no up to date published report of the extent of GBV in each district in Malawi[29]. The Evaluation cannot conclude that this change is exclusively because of the MAWA project alone, however as triangulated with data from key informants, the MAWA project contributed to some extent to this achievement.

Table 9: Physical violence prevalence

23.Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months? * 1. Respondent's sex cross tabulation					
			1.Respondent's sex		Total
			Female	Male	
23.Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months?	N/A	Count	48	10	58
		% within 23. Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months?	82.8%	17.2%	100.0%
		% Of Total	11.6%	2.4%	14.0%
	No	Count	287	40	327
		% within 23. Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months?	87.8%	12.2%	100.0%
		% of Total	69.5%	9.7%	79.2%
	Yes	Count	21	7	28
		% within 23. Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months?	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
		% Of Total	5.1%	1.7%	6.8%
Total		Count	356	57	413

---

[29] There is currently little consolidated published up to date data on the extent of GBV in each district in Malawi, though there is growing evidence on the scope of the problem of different forms of GBV in Malawi and this has been presented in various reports such as the World Bank Group Gender Based Violence Assessment, Malawi 2022. However various reports have been published including the Violence Against Children and Young Women in Malawi Survey (VACS) 2013, Malawi Government, Traditional Practices in Malawi Survey 2019, Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, UNICEF Malawi (2020) Ending violence against women and girls in Malawi: What do we know? United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2020, Lilongwe, Malawi, Spotlight, UNICEF Malawi (2020) Ending violence against women and girls in Malawi.

% within 23. Have you ever experienced physical violence in the past 12 months?	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%
% of Total	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%

At baseline level, Chiradzulu district recorded that women and men experience a very similar level of violence at 44% and 47% respectively, for Phalombe district 46.34% of the respondents to the violence in the family survey revealed that they had experienced violence before, for Blantyre District 58% of the respondents had experienced some form of violence in their family before, for Mulanje District 40% of the respondents had experienced some form of violence before, and for Chikhwawa district 64.29% respondents have experienced forms of violence before. The violence situation in the districts has reduced, **Based on Table 8 above, at endline, physical violence is now at 6.8% amongst community members. This is lower than what was reported during the baseline study in the impact districts.**

Outcome 3:

   a.   Integration, collaboration of EVAWG work into other state and none state actors

Some aspects of the project such as sensitization meeting, awareness activities, supporting survivors who report VAWG, among other activities have been well integrated into existing permanent structures. The project also engaged other stakeholders and their EVAWG work is feeding into the mainstream district based and national based EVAWG efforts e.g., Government departments, and this increased the state actors to incorporate GBV work in their day-to-day work.

> *"As a ministry, we have a target to end child marriages, but as you know we have less child protection workers in the district. So, this project helped us reach a larger population at once. So, I'd say this enhanced our capacity and helped us echo the message through the existing structures." Key Informant Interview- Phalombe, Ministry of Gender -Protection Officer*

> *"As govt our role is to make sure that people are aware of GBV. If people have peace they contribute to development. The gap in this area was lack of knowledge. now they used a lot of methods. In govt there are no funds, the project helped to complement govt efforts raising awareness." Key Informant Interview, Social Welfare Officer – Chikwawa, Ministry of Gender*

   b.   Increased visibility of local CSO's

There is evidence of media coverage of the project throughout the project 30. Local news agencies such as Malawi News Agency (MANA) covered activities undertaken by ArtGlo and CSOs under the project on 3 December 2021, The Nation newspaper covered a news story on 16 February 2023, Times newspaper covered an event in 2021, among published news articles. The news articles made the CSOs known both to local and global audiences as the news articles were also published on the internet. The CSO's also participated in local and national programs and events:

---

[30] Available at: https://www.leymanck.com/project-targets-cbos-in-ending-gender-based-violence/, https://allafrica.com/stories/202110280396.html, https://www.blayaco.org/make-art-for-women-activism-mawa/

	"On National Level, we took part in a meeting, and we did drama in ending violence against women and girls". **CSO, River of life – Phalombe** *"The impact has been good because community members are aware of violence cases. Hence the project also made our CBO well known in schools and even community."* **CSO, MAULA-Chiradzulu**
Conclusion	The MAWA project made sure that communities acquired the necessary skills to take part in EVAWG prevention and response. The greatest advantage has been the development of violence-free communities where women can live in safety, freedom, and independence. A mindset change has also led to more GBV reports being made and less of it happening overall. The encouragement of girls' education and the abolition of harmful cultural practices and child marriages, are three further examples of progressive socio-norm transformation.

Table 10: Evaluation Criteria- Coherence

Evaluation criteria	**Coherence**
Evaluation question	To what extent has the intervention supported or undermined other EVAW/G initiatives, and vice versa.
Response to Evaluation Question	There is evidence that the intervention was a good strategic fit for other existing and upcoming EVAWG initiatives at both community and national level. Thereby creating coherence with EVAWG work for the community.
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	**Outcome 3:** a. **Mainstreaming and scaling up EVAWG work** There is evidence that CSO's were able to mainstream gender and GBV in their existing work or activities they had delivered under different projects. In one case a respondent explained that: *"We have a club that deals with cholera (health related) and so on and forth. We shared pictures of different kinds of violence and let them tell us what they see in the picture, that was one of the strategies we used."* **CSO, River of Life, Phalombe** *"Maula CBO has been our stakeholders, before the ArtGlo MAWA project begun, they worked with the youth and ending violence against women and girls. So, when the MAWA project came, we just like continued what was already started."* **Key informant Interview, Police- Chiradzulu** *"Before ArtGlo Mawa, there was another Project called Let the girls Learn, where we used to go in schools and teach girls about violence and we started a club as well which we called Bwalo la tsikana, so that we could further teach them and guide them. This project also helped us in paying girls school fees. So, we have a good relationship with a lot of schools. sadly, the project is coming to an end."* **CSO, Mzati- Blantyre**

*"Within CAYODE we also have a drama group with girls only as members. This group is trained on performances. We use them to spread messages of VAWG and we are also negotiating with CRECOM (another CSO) staff who have shown keen interest to use the group for their GO BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGNS". **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe***

b. Increased visibility, networking and collaboration

There is evidence of visibility, extensive networking and collaboration in delivering towards national level EVAWG events and participating in district level EVAWG events. Events such as Commemoration of 16 Days of Activism against GBV are hosted by the Ministry of Gender and launched at a National event and District event. In such cases it is the practice that all organizations who are working on EVAWG are invited to the event to participate in the deliberations providing them a platform to network with likeminded institutions, show case, and influence EVAWG policy using their work. Participation in such events make organizations to be visible and for their work to be recognized as contributing to EVAWG. The respondents provided the following explanations on how they felt more visible as CSOs working on EVAWG:

*"Our knowledge about Human Centered Design and Participatory Arts facilitated by ArtGlo made us well-known at the district level. We have been invited to various activities that were aimed at educating people through using participatory arts. For the national level, ArtGlo invited us to share best practices and lessons at a national event". **CSO, VOICES- Chikhwawa***

*"We participated in the national event of the 16 days of activism where we participated with all the MAWA organizations." **CSO, Yocade- Blantyre***

The project has established the MAWA CSO network, which is used to discuss emerging issues. There is also evidence of collaboration with other NGOs to use skills obtained from MAWA projects for other EVAWG projects in the future:

*"Within CAYODE we also have a drama group with girls only as members. This group is trained on performances. We use them to spread messages of VAWG and we are also negotiating with CRECOM staff who have shown keen interest to use the group for their GO BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGNS." **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe***

*"We participated in different launches of policies and national 16 days of activism (a national and district level event). This has equipped us with knowledge on how we can do technical issues and how we can relate with other partners." **CSO, FAMBAUONE- Chikhwawa***

Other networks have been established and there is evidence that they are used for ease of communication, coordination of GBV cases, sharing of ideas and approaches when dealing with VAWG. The benefits of such networks are that there is uniform approach by CSOs in how they understand GBV, and the best strategies to EVAWG. It also benefits them to share knowledge so that they can self-correct if they were not following best practices in specific issues. The following examples of functioning networks were shared:

"Working with community structures. We designed a community network called spider network which was an urgent response to the community members. For instance, within the

	*project we had a case whereby a step daughter was being molested by her step dad. with the help of the spider network the man was arrested." **CSO, MAULA- Chiradzulu*** *"We worked with CSO's network where they would guide us on how to approach situations."* **CSO, River of life- Phalombe*** *"We formed a network among the CSOs of the MAWA project like in Blantyre, we were a group of 10 CSOs where we would meet and share ideas. The system we formed among our beneficiaries, there's a structure that continues to give us some tips on WhatsApp which we follow up on and they come for meetings so that structure is still in place."* **CSO, YOCADE-Blantyre**
Conclusion	The MAWA project's activities aligned with and strengthened other EVAWG initiatives. It provided CSOs with opportunities to integrate gender and GBV issues into their existing work, expanded their visibility and collaboration at various levels, and facilitated the formation of networks that enhanced communication, coordination, and knowledge sharing. The project's approach complemented and supported the broader efforts especially of Government to address violence against women and girls, contributing to a more comprehensive and cohesive approach to ending VAWG as anticipated by the National Action Plan to Combat GBV in Malawi. The findings demonstrate positive interactions and collaborations with other EVAWG initiatives, indicating support rather than undermining of existing efforts. This was achieved through: 1. *Increased visibility, networking, and collaboration created an enabling environment for mainstreaming and scaling up EVAWG work.* For example, CSOs were exposed to larger audiences through the online cohort which is using a platform called Omprakash. Another example is the facilitating of CSOs to participate in national workshops giving them valuable exposure to be recognized that they are doing EVAWG work. It is evident that CSOs utilized strategies such as incorporating discussions on VAWG into health-related clubs that were discussion Cholera and leveraging established relationships with schools to continue educating girls on violence prevention. Thereby creating coherence with other projects. 2. *Human-Centered Design and Participatory Arts increased the recognition of CSOs at the district level*, leading to popularity in communities and in some cases invitations to various workshops and sharing of best practices at national events. This shows that there was support of existing EVAWG activities which were not directly part of the MAWA project. 3. *Collaboration and networking were facilitated through the establishment of the MAWA CSO network, spider network,* and *other informal networks online* and offline, enabling discussions on emerging issues and coordination among organizations. CSOs involved in the MAWA project collaborated with other NGOs outside the MAWA project. The sharing of skills and knowledge obtained from the project such as drama and music for the implementation of additional EVAWG projects such as the *GIRLS* return to school project by a different project shows the strengthening of an existing project through use of skills gained in the MAWA project. As for networks, some of these networks formed play a crucial role in responding to urgent cases of GBV and ensuring the availability of referral services for survivors are available. CSOs benefited from collaboration within networks, receiving guidance on

approaching different situations related to GBV. Networks among CSOs within the MAWA project allowed for the sharing of ideas, knowledge, and best practices. This promoted a uniform approach in understanding GBV and implementing effective strategies.

Table 11: Evaluation Criteria-Efficiency

Evaluation criteria	Efficiency
Evaluation question	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?
Response to Evaluation Question	**The project did well in more aspects, than areas which they did not do well.** The findings demonstrate the following several positive outcomes of the project: a. Cost effectiveness, b. Increased capacity in project management and ownership by CSOs, c. The establishment of safe spaces for reporting VAWG cases and increased community knowledge about GBV and reporting mechanisms, d. Collaboration with existing community structures and state stakeholders, e. Exceeding target beneficiaries with budgeted funds through low-budget community solutions, f. The promotion of positive norms and redefining harmful cultural practices, g. Economic independence and empowerment of women, and h. Reaching marginalized populations often excluded from development projects. These findings highlight the project's effectiveness in achieving its goals and its positive impact on various aspects of the community. The MAWA project's cost-effective implementation was driven by its ability to leverage community resources, build local capacity, and foster collaboration with existing structures and stakeholders. By strategically allocating limited resources, the project achieved optimal outcomes in reaching target beneficiaries, establishing safe spaces, promoting positive norms, empowering women, and including marginalized populations. This cost-effective approach not only ensured the project's sustainability but also maximized its impact in addressing gender-based violence within the given budgetary constraints. However, the Evaluation established several areas that did not do well because they did not meet the expectations, nor did they perform as desired by the beneficiaries. The following were identified as areas that the project **did not do well**: a. The financial resources were not enough for the CSOs and their partners to do all the activities they wanted to do, b. Some stakeholders expected more IEC materials such as hats, chitenje (cloth) and public address systems which were not fully funded by the project, c. Some stakeholders for example in Chikhwawa wanted to reach all VSL's in their community to train them but they could not do that because there were insufficient funds to train ALL VSL's,

| | d. Some collaborations with other stakeholders were limited because they expected to be given allowances to participate in activities and the allowances were not budgeted for,
e. Delayed disbursement of funds to CSOs affected their performance as they relied on the project funds to do their work,
f. For the online cohort delays in disbursement of airtime for them to access internet delayed their work,
g. For the online cohort challenges in connectivity due to the internet not working well negatively affected how they worked as they relied on the internet for them to work properly,
h. Staggered rolling out of the MAWA project in all the districts affected the last districts the most as they did not have enough time to do all their activities and considering the subject matter of EVAWG it required people to do the activities over a longer period for them to change their practices,
i. Some women who participated in the MAWA project as participants for activities expected allowances every time, they attended an event which was not planned in the budget for the project,
j. The budgets for the project were to some extent strained due to inflation which affected the prices of goods and services. The prices of goods and services went up, meaning that the project staff had to ensure that expenditure was within the budget, yet the prices of the goods had gone up. This strained the staff as they had no contingency to cover such changes in the prices.
k. Insufficient time and insufficient resources to deliver the work as planned.
l. Some beneficiaries expected the project to provide some basket funding for Village savings and Loans groups and bursaries for girls who return to school, which is something that was not budgeted for in the project.
m. Some respondents were of the view that male involvement was minimal, yet since men are the main perpetrators of GBV, they were of the view that there was need for the project to have a design that specifically trains men in EVAWG. |

The identified factors above contributed to suboptimal outcomes for the MAWA project in several ways. The insufficient financial resources for CSOs and their partners limited their ability to implement all the planned activities. This lack of funding affected their performance and hindered the full realization of project objectives. The delayed disbursement of funds and challenges in accessing the internet for online cohorts further exacerbated these limitations, hampering their work and causing delays in progress.

The limitations in collaboration with stakeholders due to the absence of allowances (money paid to people to facilitate attendance to activities such as meetings and workshops) impacted the engagement and participation of key actors. The expectation of allowances as a form of incentive for involvement led to limited collaborations, which could have enhanced the project's reach and impact. Additionally, the staggered rolling out of the project in different districts resulted in some areas having insufficient time to execute all activities effectively. This constraint, coupled with the subject matter of EVAWG requiring sustained engagement to bring about behavioural change, impeded the project's ability to achieve optimal outcomes.

	The strain on budgets caused by inflation and increased prices of goods and services affected the project's financial planning. This strain limited the flexibility to adapt to price changes and created challenges in adhering to the planned budget, potentially compromising the quality and scope of activities. The project's inability to meet certain expectations, such as providing funding for Village Savings and Loans groups and bursaries for girls returning to school, may have also led to a perception of unmet needs and limited the project's overall impact. Overall, the combination of limited financial resources, delayed disbursements, connectivity challenges, restricted collaborations, insufficient time, and strained budgets contributed to suboptimal outcomes for the MAWA project. These factors hindered the full implementation of planned activities, compromised stakeholder engagement, and impacted the project's ability to address the diverse needs and expectations of the beneficiaries, ultimately affecting the overall effectiveness of the project.
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	In terms of **what did not go well**, the following were examples of the issues raised: **Limited human and financial resources resulting in lack of survivor-centered approaches to budgeting for EVAWG projects** For the few of the CSOs that indicated that some aspects of the project did not go well. This was attributed to insufficient funds and some peculiar needs arose which were not budgeted for e.g., school fees, accommodation, assessment fees. In some cases, targets were not reached, and there was insufficient time to roll out all planned activities. Some examples include the following: *"No, we did not achieve our target because the resources were limited and dealing with LGBTI, a lot of issues can come in like someone has been attacked because the project has exposed him you are supposed to have a mechanism to help him and taking that person to police so because of the lack of resources we didn't want to engage a lot of people. Some were coming from Chitawira, Chirimba so with that geographic setup, we needed enough resources. The interventions we do are not done in an open space so will have to book a room at a lodge for example and that also requires resources, with the limited resources it was a big blow to us to operate effectively."* **CSO, YOCADE- Blantyre** *"The women were expecting that as soon as we start the training, we will give them money for starting a business. The women were also expecting allowance any time we are meeting which were not given."* **CSO, SAPOF- Blantyre** Women in an *FGD in Mulanje* shared their challenges that*:* *"If you pull out a child from marriages, the girls would ask for fees and we didn't have any bursaries. We need help of fees to support such cases."* On the other hand, men during the same *FGD* reported that*:* *"There are some rules in schools, and policies which created hurdles for girls to be readmitted in schools. The school would say they need us to pay this or that for assessments. we need help so that we interface with the Ministry of Education to overcome these hurdles."* *"What we did not put in our plan was paying school fees for children, yet we received many cases of school dropout especially girls due to lack of fees. As an organization, we supported several girls by paying fees for them."* **CSO, Chitapata- Mulanje**

In cases of GBV, survivor centered approaches are required because the needs of a survivor are different from case to case. Hence some needs arose in different cases which the project had not anticipated, for example no funds for Village Savings and Loans groups, no educational support such as bursaries to support girls after they have been pulled out of child marriages. Failure to meet social expectations with regards to loans, per diems, and allowances, has been attributed to the low performance in some activities.

In other instances, the community felt that the initiative did not succeed because the project's financial support exclusively targeted CSOs and offered few events for male participation, despite the fact that GBV perpetrators are typically male. Only 20.8% of the messages were heard at the community events since football and *Bawo* (a board game) are the most popular male-centered hobbies.

EVAWG messages were primarily heard at the community level at 57.9% during community awareness campaigns, 20.8% during bonanza events like football games, sports activities, 15.7% during *Bawo* events like social gatherings, 59.3% during community meetings by leaders, and 21.1% during other events.

A few who responded indicated that their project was affected by the late disbursement of funds so for example they could not access the internet because of the three-month delay in disbursement of funds.

In terms of **what went well**, the most common responses were along the following themes:

a. Cost effectiveness

63.2% of CSO's responded that they were able to meet their target with the resources they were provided with. Whilst 36.8% felt that they did not reach their targets with the resources they were given, and they wish they were given more resources.

> *"No, we did not achieve our target because the resources were limited and dealing with LGBTI, a lot of issues can come in like someone has been attacked because the project has exposed him you are supposed to have a mechanism to help him and taking that person to police so because of the lack of resources we didn't want to engage a lot of people. Some were coming from Chitawira, Chirimba so with that geographic setup, we needed enough resources. The interventions we do are not done in an open space so will have to book a room at a lodge for example and that also requires resources, with the limited resources it was a big blow to us to operate effectively."* **CSO, YOCADE- Blantyre**

b. There is increased capacity in project management and project ownership by CSOs

> *"We included the in the planning stage. We did a Research of violence against women and girls. We asked sex worker, girls who married early and married women if receive any form of violence. We decided to deal with girls who are facing violence."* **CSO, River of life, Phalombe**

> *"We trained CSOs on M and E. we trained them on monitoring tools, and they were sending us data through reports"* **Key Informant Interview, Sharon Nkhwazi, ArtGlo**

> *"The project is cordial, we are still working, we do proposal writing in some projects. The relationship is still there, we work with other organizations which were together in this project too."* **CSO, Mzati, Blantyre**

c. The project created safe space to report VAWG cases by the community and increased community knowledge about GBV, and reporting mechanisms

Due to the discreet nature in which some of the incidences of GBV occurred women and girls often face some challenges when they want to report GBV as such reports are associated with stigma. Women must overcome barriers such as unequal power relations between men and women which make it difficult to report GBV because for example reporting structures are controlled by men who are biased towards men and find GBV normal. In some cases, survivors have no knowledge on who to report to, or the society promotes victim-blaming attitudes. In all these cases, there is little or no help seeking behaviour from survivors. However, with the change in Knowledge, attitudes, and practices in society towards GBV, women and girls who are survivors of GBV are equipped with information different forms of GBV, where to report, and further interact with responsive duty bearers when they want to report GBV. Through the MAWA project, the evaluation has established that due to high awareness of GBV, survivors have several safe spaces such as CSOs, women's groups, and mother groups for them to discuss freely about GBV, resultantly GBV cases are easily escalated for appropriate action.

"Before the project we didn't know who could help us, but now we know where to go when faced with any problem" **Focus Group Discussion, Chikhwawa**

"They give safe space for people to report cases of violence" **Male subsistence farmer, Mulanje**

"What I would say they did well is the bringing of the law against child marriages because even the chiefs are scared to allow child marriages in the village for fear of these organizations." **Older Male, subsistence farmer, Chikhwawa**

"Now women also know the referral pathways when they are victims of violence, even the chiefs know their roles." **FGD, Mulanje**

"One can report to the police, the village head, we also have community policing where one can report if they have experienced violence." **Female unemployed, Blantyre**

"I know people can report at the police or neighbourhood" **Female subsistence farmer, Blantyre.**

"Yes, mother group, namulenga (MAWA CSO), religious leaders." **Young female subsistence farmer, Mulanje**

"One can report at the village headman who gives you a letter to go report to Police." **Female Businessperson, Blantyre**

"Yes, we know the police forum (community protection unit)" **Female Casual Labourer, Mulanje**

"We can report to the village headman, police, any organization including SAPOF (MAWA CSO)" **Female businessperson, Blantyre.**

"We can go to people who advocate for Human rights." **Female subsistence farmer, Chikhwawa**

"We are encouraged to go to CBO organisation so that we get help." **Female, Businessperson, Chiradzulu**

"I would advise someone going through this to go to Tiwasunge (MAWA CSO) and the police." **Female, Unemployed, Chiradzulu**

"If I was to be Violated, I would go to Cayode (MAWA CSO) offices and meet the chairperson and explain what has happened." **Female Farmer, Phalombe**

"Reporting the matter to the local village headman, chief, police, CAYODE (MAWA CSO". **Female farmer, Phalombe**

"I can go to Cayode (MAWA CSO) because I know I will be assisted quickly." **Young female farmer, Phalombe**

d. The project encouraged use of existing community structures and collaboration with state stakeholders which increased the community confidence in the MAWA project

The project utilized individuals who were already established within the community and took into consideration diverse perspectives, especially women's groups and women centered CSOs. This ensured that women, the youth, people with disabilities, men, key populations among others were included in the MAWA project. The collaboration with all stakeholders and existing community structures, made it easy for stakeholders to work together. Due to the Human centered design and gender responsive approaches, we have reason to believe that gender biases and discrimination were addressed, and the project actively promoted gender. As a result, the MAWA project did not have to set up new structures requiring time and money, making it cost effective.

"They used the already existing people." **Key Informant Interview, Police-Chiradzulu**

"The project worked well because we were working with all stakeholders and existing community structures which made it easy for us to work together." **Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu**

"Firstly, there is Child protection group, Policing committee, mother group, Chiefs, and church leaders. Firstly, we have worked with DYO, Police, and social welfare department." **CSO, SAPOF-Blantyre**

"We worked together with different structures of this area such as Mother group, GVHs, and Church leaders." **CSO, Chitapata- Mulanje**

e. The CSO's managed to exceed target beneficiaries with budgeted funds because of use of low budget community solutions such as music, drama, and sports among other solutions

When conducting community activities, most projects spend resources hiring venues such as halls, paying for well-known artists to perform as crown pullers, use of modern equipment and methods such as TV or radio programs, billboards, posters and brochures. However, the MAWA project used traditional music performances, drums, *bawo* (local board games), well known sports games and teams etc., to be crowd pullers for community meetings. Eventually more activities were undertaken with less resources, making it an efficient way of rolling out EVAWG activities.

"Theatre for development is the most effective way because people love to be entertained. Because not everyone can afford buying television or radios." **Male casual laborer, Blantyre**

"We expected to reach out to 5000 people, but we reached higher numbers over 30 000 people." **Key Informant Interview, Florence Simbota- ArtGlo**

"The community engagement and approach, awareness raising, use of low costs resources, e.g., football bonanza, campaigns. Use of creative engagement they were able to achieve more." **Key Informant Interview, Sharon Nkhwazi, ArtGlo**

"Firstly, we exceeded our target with at least 150 individuals. Of course, this affected our budget, but we were not worried provided they get the help they were looking for. This pushed us to work with limited resources available and at the same time achieving our intended goals." **CSO, CAYODE, Phalombe**

"We have achieved our target according to the support we received." **CSO, Chitapata, Mulanje**

"Participatory arts such as drama, music and dance were more effective than the others throughout our project implementation." **CSO, ARISEYOUTH, Chikhwawa**

"We learnt that we can spread the message through image theatre, we learnt about project management and violence, how to budget." **CSO, River of life, Phalombe**

"Dramas do help as well as music because they all easily draw people's attention." **Male businessperson, Chikwawa**

f. **The project has helped in the community coming up with positive norms redefining harmful cultural practices**

The evaluation has learnt that at baseline prior to the project starting the community valued *Chinamwali* (initiation ceremonies) as a way of life. The most mentioned form of normalized violence was *Chinamwali*. A tradition whereby young girls are initiated into sex after they have just begun menstruation. The practice often involves *Kusasa Fumbi*, whereby the girl is forced to have sex in a cleansing ritual. During such ceremonies children especially, girls would be taken through sexual initiation, even though the girls were minors. Some of the lessons taught were not appropriate for their ages as they would be encouraged to try out some of the things, they learnt at *Chinamwali*.

However, for example, what children are taught at initiation ceremonies has changed and wards are being taught age-appropriate behaviours. For example, a MAWA CSO, *Youth for Change*, worked in their community for the introduction of written by-laws, including a new Chinamwali/Unamwali curriculum. It is reported in the monitoring reports that a committee was set in place and there is a special curriculum. In terms of leadership, the Group Village Headman is the chairman of the committee. Consequently, there has been sensitization of the new curriculum by-laws in all the 4 villages that the CSO was working in Phalombe, and communities are now aware of what should be taught at Chinamwali.

Some other positive norms include desisting in harmful cultural practices that keep children out of school and rejection of harmful cultural practices.

"Nowadays Chinamwali has changed, anankhungwi (advisers) we worked with them, and they teach them age-appropriate things. Last time girls feel mature after Chinamwali, now they behave their age, and you can tell that Chinamwali has changed." **Focus Group Discussion, Mulanje**

"Woman- kulowa kufa and chokolo was common, wife inheritance was common and this brought us problems. Now after learning, chokolo and kutsatsa fumbi, those things have ended. When a man died, they would bring his relative. **Focus Group Discussion, Chikhwawa**

"Woman- some advice at Chinamwali had to do with things that were appropriate for married people. Now the past two years, lessons at Chinamwali are age appropriate….as for men what has changed is especially the low rates of VAWG, marriages are preserved and in peace, less DV and IPV. Children are no longer getting married early, and children are going to school. people are now aware of where to report. Less disputes. we are progressing. Because of increased awareness of referral pathways, we know where to report each different type of dispute. Now people know whether it is a police case or not." **Focus Group Discussion, Chikhwawa**

"Chinamwali is not good, videos are not good. These are obscene things. We want kids to be well behaved and to go to school. Unamwali has now stopped because of CSOs and now people realise it. The Medical people now come and orient the children from the hospital. That is enough." **Key Informant Interview, Police, Mulanje**

"Especially, a lot of children did not want to go to school. They were not encouraged. But now with Mzati (a MAWA CSO), us and the chiefs as parents we all want education. Now as parents we are happy that these teen pregnancies are reducing. Everyone wants their child to go to school and everyone, we agree all Mzati (MAWA CSO) and the community, now children have an interest in school." **Focus Group Discussion, Blantyre**

g. **Elements of the project have brought about economic independence and empowerment of women**

"Women are now able to engage in different businesses. For instance, a certain woman is supplying food in schools because of the same project." **CSO, FAMBAUONE- Chikhwawa**

"We have designed one where we were giving women small loans of up to MK100,000 and helped them by building houses." **ONLINE CSO, CECOWDA**

"The project has changed social behaviours because women are now empowered as VSL's, their lives have improved. Early child marriages have reduced. Another woman is single and unmarried, and she has managed to take her girl child on her own to university, Mzuzu University. It's a good example (Mrs. xxxxx in that community), she left her cruel husband and alone she is empowered as a woman." **Key Informant Interview, Social Welfare, Chikhwawa.**

"We had a few volunteers but now the number of girls has increased. We are receiving numerous calls to train other people about the village banks in their already existing groups. This shows how our intervention has been relevant in the community." **CSO, VOICES- Chikhwawa**

	Namulenga CSO in Mulanje also showcases economic empowerment.
	Namulenga CBO based in Mulanje, focuses on reducing child marriages because they found out that children marry early because they have impregnated each other whilst young and the man is refusing his responsibilities. Early child marriages was also attributed to parents not fulfilling their parental responsibilities like provision of writing materials, school uniform, both parents and the children are interested in gambling than school. So the intervention by this CBO touched on economic empowerment because of involvement of women in VSL's resulting in them having providing solutions for vulnerable children who were found in early marriages. *"Namulenga CBO helped us women to be independent. For example, I for one, I joined a Village Savings group and got a loan and started my own business. This helps me not to entirely rely on my husband alone. I can do a number things at home without asking my husband to help me. I have also seen a number of women starting some small scale businesses. Girls as well have started to realise their dreams as they have been told that they can go back to school after delivery. There was another case of this other girl who came to me asking for school fees. I took an initiative and paid for her tuition fees and she had gone back to school."* **CSO, Namulenga- Mulanje**
	h. The project activities stretched to remote areas of the district which are hard to reach, hence the same areas have in the past been isolated from development projects and now feel involved in activities of the district
	"The project has managed to reach remotest areas. The communities that were usually not considered as having role to play towards ending Child marriages or trafficking. These people have been reached and how they can go about GBV especially Women and Girls." ***Key Informant Interview, Protection Officer, Phalombe***
	"Before the project started, our villages were stigmatized. now a lot of people are coming to teach us and raising awareness about a lot of things happening in the world." ***Focus Group Discussion, Phalombe***
Conclusion	The project was successful in far more aspects than they were unsuccessful in. The MAWA project achieved substantial success across multiple aspects, highlighting its positive impact and effectiveness. The project demonstrated cost-effectiveness by effectively utilizing limited resources and implementing low-budget community solutions. This approach allowed the project to exceed its target beneficiaries, reach marginalized populations, and promote economic independence and empowerment of women. By leveraging existing community structures and collaborating with government stakeholders, the project fostered ownership and sustainability, increasing the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in project management. These achievements reflect the project's ability to optimize its resources and generate meaningful outcomes within the given constraints.
	Another significant success of the MAWA project was the establishment of safe spaces for reporting VAWG cases and increasing community knowledge about gender-based violence (GBV) and reporting mechanisms. This achievement contributed to a shift in social norms and the rejection of harmful cultural practices. Through awareness-raising activities and engagement with local leaders, the project

successfully promoted positive norms, empowering women, and fostering an environment that supports survivors of violence (survivor centered approaches.

Moreover, the MAWA project's success can be attributed to its comprehensive approach that tackled various dimensions of VAWG. By addressing the economic, social, and cultural factors that contribute to violence against women, the project demonstrated a holistic understanding of the VAWG. It empowered women economically, increased their knowledge and agency, and engaged men as potential agents of change. This multifaceted approach aimed at long-term behavior change and created a solid foundation for sustainable impact.

Despite these significant successes, the project encountered several challenges and limitations. The insufficient financial resources constrained the implementation of desired activities and affected the performance of CSOs and their partners. Delays in fund disbursement, connectivity issues for online cohorts, and limited collaboration due to the absence of allowances further hindered the project's progress. The staggered rolling out of the project and strained budgets due to inflation posed additional obstacles, impacting the timeliness and quality of activities. These challenges demonstrate the need for adequate financial planning, streamlined processes, and flexibility to adapt to social and economic changing circumstances.

While the limitations highlight areas that fell short of expectations, it is important to note that the overall success of the MAWA project outweighs these challenges. The project's achievements in terms of cost-effectiveness, capacity building, safe spaces, collaboration, and empowerment of women showcase its positive impact on the community. By addressing multiple aspects of VAWG and reaching marginalized populations, the project has laid the foundation for sustainable change and contributed to the overall well-being and safety of women and girls in the impact districts.

Table 12: Evaluation Criteria-Sustainability

Evaluation criteria	Sustainability
Evaluation question	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?
Response to Evaluation Question	**The benefits of the MAWA project are sustainable in the long term as there are practical examples identified by the project beneficiaries on how the positive changes will be maintained and scaled up in the near future. However, the Evaluation has established there are some challenges presented that will affect this long-term sustainability of the benefits of the project.** Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the EVAWG project in rural communities is important. Projects need to account for community ownership, capacity building, and the integration of interventions into existing systems for long-lasting impact and the MAWA project provided the safeguards to ensure that the project is sustainable after they exit. However, the challenges identified

	for the long-term sustainability need to be addressed by all stakeholders and recommendations have been made on how to ensure the long-term sustainability.
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	When asked how the project results can be sustained, Key informants, primary and secondary beneficiaries were able to identify several ways on sustaining the gains made by MAWA project.

When asked how the project results can be sustained, Key informants, primary and secondary beneficiaries were able to identify several ways on sustaining the gains made by MAWA project*.*

   a. ***Working together with established district and community structures for the sustainability of the project sustains the benefits of the project after the project has ended***

Formal and informal structures that the project worked with include, Mother groups, Community Policing, District Government offices, DEC, NEC, Religious leaders, village banks, Networks and Traditional authorities. The evaluation is of the view that these are key lessons that can be used to extend the work to other districts who have not benefited under the MAWA project since there have demonstrated ways of working that bring some synergy between state and none state actors. There is also an intention to continue to co-ordinate and network especially regards EVAWG:

   "A project comes and goes. When they work with established government structures, we are permanent. We continue to encourage and remind them of the project work. We need to work together for sustainability of the project especially government structures which are permanent in the districts." ***Key Informant Interview, Social welfare- Chikhwawa***

   "Like I said, Maula CBO worked with existing structures such as Mother Groups, Community Policing which were given necessary training and have an understanding of GBV and Early Child Marriages, these structures will continue to work towards ensuring that the work of MAWA project continue." ***Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu***

   "Yes, we will continue because we will be networking with fellow colleagues in the fight, sharing best practices, ideas, and innovating ways of addressing VAWG. Although we have limited resources like airtime and data bundles, we will still work with the available resources." ***CSO, ARISEYOUTH- Chikhwawa***

   "*First of all is the coordination which was there will continue to work together and also as a CSO we do business which helps us manage other activities."* ***CSO, SAPOF – Blantyre***

Some different views were more related to continued survivor support such as continuing support for girls and the sense of security brought about by the project. These views should not be undermined however they can be used as starting points in future scaling up efforts for the same districts and other districts because the concerns are valid and require more gender transformative programming:

   "The project has encouraged a lot of girls to go back to school yes, but this is not sustainable. It can only be sustained if these girls are given their needs." ***Male Casual Labourer- Mulanje***

   "These interventions should not stop but be ongoing to promote the peace that we are enjoying." ***Female Subsistence farmer- Chikhwawa***

   "It is the first time in our village to have a CSO like that so if they go there might not be another CSO bringing change so they should continue to make change like they have, even

*though there is committee in the village established by them so that the committee is encouraged." **Female widow, Subsistence farmer- Blantyre***

b. ***Mindset and social norm change in cultural practices and strengthened reporting mechanisms. The duration of the project was sufficient to create the new norm of ending VAWG***

*"By mindset change. When people hear and own something that it is helping them, it's a good starting point for the development to continue. People should take ownership." **Key Informant Interview, Social Welfare -Chikhwawa***

*"We should continue teaching each other to sustain the change." **Female subsistence Farmer- Chikwawa***

*"I will continue being a member of the village bank to boost my business, I have managed to buy my own private piece of land." **Female businessperson -Chikwawa***

*"Since it has been well-rooted in this village, I believe it can still survive. Now people are used to the new norm." **Male subsistence farmer -Chikhwawa***

c. ***Cascading of GBV Knowledge- CSOs have passed on knowledge to the communities they work in and this has resulted in sustainable community led solutions when cases of violence arise***

*"I designed the Phindu lathu Project, our first and the Nyatwa yamala extension project. Through these projects, we have seen communities understand VAWG; they also reported the cases happening in their respective communities; we have seen different stakeholders working together to fight VAWG. We have built the capacity of community structures and the adolescents are now aware of the forms of violence against them. This is what we have achieved so far." **CSO, ARISEYOUTH- Chikhwawa***

*"We focus on women and girls, and it has helped them a lot because they are ones that get violated a lot. Now they are able to come to our offices and report any form of violence they have met; it still doesn't matter if the projects ended but we still receiving violence cases at our office." **CSO, Mzati- Blantyre***

*"Sustainability is there because we engaged key stakeholders. The project ended some months ago, but we are still liaising with the health workers, police officers. We have also trained the beneficiaries on how to protect themselves and we feel that the knowledge and skills they got from the trainings is still in them and so far, we have had less cases of violence being reported to us as before." **CSO, YOCADE- Blantyre***

However, the support of CSOs is still required by the communities, because the CSOs have become an integral part of the social fabric when it comes to VAWG prevention and response. When asked if the benefits will continue, some primary beneficiaries responded their need for CSOs to continue:

*"Yes, if CSOs are willing to continue helping us." **Employed, Male-Blantyre***

d. *There is a considerable element of Community ownership for EVAWG work, especially using the skills imparted. CSOs also received all requisite skills to work independently both for the MAWA project and future projects*

There is increased confidence in CSOs to take on an EVAWG initiative. CSOs have skills to do resource mobilization and run a project from planning, implementation to evaluation.

When CSOs were asked, how confident they were in taking on an initiative on EVAWG, 26.3% said they were confident, 73.7% said they were very confident. For the online cohort when asked, how confident are you taking an initiative on EVAWG online? 100% answered that they were very confident to take on an EVAWG initiative online.

> *"We worked from the beginning; we have been given skills to continue working. We are continuing to work."* **Focus Group Discussion – Mulanje**

> *"We have given them all the skills that they can recommend and work with other CSOs in another project.* **Key Informant Interview, Florence Simbota- ArtGlo**

> "*We work with the village people so even if the funding is not here, we still working against ending violence until the other funding is here."* **CSO, River of life- Phalombe**

> "*We will continue building the communities with the knowledge that was given to us."* **Young male, Casual labourer-Blantyre**

> *"We will continue doing what we have been doing during the implementation of these project activities. (The community meetings and other face to face interactions where we share issues related to EVAWG)."* **Female businessperson- Mulanje**.

There is still a demand for project activities and chances to scale up EVAWG work:

> *"In our community, a number of CSOs are lacking proposal development skills and techniques. We were lucky as Namulenga CBO to have been trained by ArtGlo on proposal development. A number of our sister CBOs have taken an interest in acquiring the same skills as well."* **CSO, NAMULENGA- Mulanje**

> "*We call upon all well-wishers to keep funding our project activities and strengthen our partnerships. We also need to keep using the approaches we have learnt to keep advancing these courses of action."* **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe**

> *"We work with the village people so even if the funding is not here, we still working against ending violence until the other funding is here."* **CSO, River of life- Phalombe**

> *"We focus on women and girls, and it has helped them a lot because they are ones that get violated a lot. Now they can come to our offices and report any form of violence they have met; it still doesn't matter if the projects ended but we still receiving violence cases at our office."* **CSO, Mzati -Blantyre**

Conclusion	Overall, the findings reflect that the MAWA project has significant potential for sustainability and continuity of activities undertaken by different stakeholders, and these can also be scaled up to other districts. However, there are several limiting factors such as the following:
	
	    a. Limited financial and human resources to continue some of the activities.
	    b. Lack of support from influential individuals or organizations in the community due to no funding which can hinder the EVAWG projects progress.
	    c. Transfer or progression of trained CSO to other areas or communities resulting in scarce EVAWG trained CSOs.
	    d. All the districts under MAWA project were affected by Cyclone Freddy which resulted in displacement of community members resulting in geographical dispersion and rural communities being scattered across large areas. This will likely make it difficult for trained CSO's to reach all individuals and ensure uniform service delivery as they provided under the project.
	    e. Limited infrastructure and destruction of bridges by Cyclone Freddy resulting in long distances between villages and can increase logistical challenges, should communities want to continue working on EVAWG.
	
	These limitations can hinder the continued delivery of services after the MAWA project especially the much popular community meetings, awareness programs, and support systems required for an effective EVAWG intervention and they will have to be factored in, in future programming.
	
	To mitigate the limitations and ensure the sustainability of the MAWA project, the following strategies can be considered especially for scale up:
	
	    a. Enhancing financial and human resources through securing additional funding and resources to continue the activities beyond the project duration. This can be achieved through various fundraising initiatives and proposal writing by CSOs and ArtGlo for sustained funding that can also help address the resource limitations.
	    b. Building support in the broader EVAWG community and encouraging partnerships with organizations in the community to undertake EVAWG projects. This can be done through awareness campaigns, meetings, and popularizing the results of the MAWA project which demonstrate the positive impact of the project and its relevance to the community.
	    c. Continuous capacity building for CSOs to mitigate the impact of CSO transfers or progressions, efforts should be made to establish a pool of trained CSOs and build their capacity continuously. This way, even if some staff members of CSOs leave, there will still be a pool of trained individuals to sustain the project's activities.
	    d. Adapting to post-disaster challenges to address the challenges posed by the relocations caused by natural disasters like Cyclone Freddy, future projects should explore CSOs to provide mobile outreach services or digital platforms for remote engagement. The Online cohort has shown the feasibility of use of digital products, and these can continue and be piloted with other CSOs in other districts.
	
	By implementing these strategies, the MAWA project can enhance its sustainability and even scale up to other districts. Through addressing the limitations posed by limited resources, lack of support, CSO transfers, geographical dispersion, and infrastructure challenges, the MAWA project can become a national level project and not a regional based project. Continued engagement, partnerships, and

Evaluation criteria	Impact
	adaptation to changing circumstances will be crucial for the project's long-term success and its ability to create lasting change in addressing gender-based violence.

Table 13: Evaluation criteria- Impact

Evaluation criteria	Impact
Evaluation question	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
Response to Evaluation Question	**To a large extent the project had a positive impact on the lives of women in the impact districts because VAWG incidences reduced, increasing feelings of safety for women.**
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	**Positive intended:** The trend of VAWG cases has gone down and Women are feeling safer in their communities due to understanding of referral pathways and knowledge that they have a safe space to report cases of Violence. Women and girls in most cases were experiencing violence in their communities, however with the active presence and intervention of MAWA CSOs, this has resulted in increased security due to linkages with referral service providers and VAWG survivors accessing much needed services: When asked, what has been the trend of VAWG incidences (e.g., early child marriages, IPV, norms) in your community from 2020 to 2023? 1- The same =0 2- Gone up=0 3- Gone down= 94.7% 4- None of the above=5.3% ***Women are safe at last!*** *"Now women are safe and empowered to the extent that they are now able to report cases involving them, they know where to report and are being protected in the community structures where they are assisted. A certain woman who was facing various forms of violence and learnt about the same during one of our activities, managed to report her story to us, we referred it to police who arrested the perpetrator. A young girl also came to us to report about his father who was sleeping with her, we took the matter to police and the man is in custody. We believe that all these are fruits of the project where the communities have been made aware and empowered. Even though the project has phased out, people are still aware about where to report cases related to VAWG."* ***CSO- Arise Youth, Chikhwawa*** There is also evidence that the community has increased knowledge of the referral pathways because they are able to properly identify the different services and mandates of VAWG service providers. When asked the question, where one would go if they faced violence in the community, sample responses included: *"It would depend on the issue itself because if it is something that can be handled at the village head then we will go there or church, even police."* ***Young Male student, Chikwawa***

Increased visibility and capacity of CSO to participate in GBV response and prevention: there is evidence of increased participation of CSO and VAWG referral service providers in collaborating when it comes to response. More so, the role of the CSO's has become so pronounced, such that they have become an integral part of the referral services.

Increased awareness about VAWG thereby ably challenging negative socio-norms and asserting individual rights: There are several examples of the positive impact of the project which has resulted in increased levels of awareness of VAWG.

> *"In our community there were a lot of cases of school dropouts. Since this project started, we negotiated with the school heads and to work with the in helping these kids go back to school which was a success. Further, most women didn't realise that being forced to sleep with their husbands is another form of sexual abuse. Our awareness campaigns helped a remarkable number of women to realise that they have been sexually abused before and they are now aware of what to do if they encounter such abuses and how to deal with the perpetrators of the same.''*
> *CSO, NAMULENGA- Mulanje*

> *"Project activities have helped us identify patriarchal norms happening in our community. For instance, during a stakeholder meeting where the mother group and the chiefs were in attendance, we managed to establish some of the underlying causes of sexual VAWG. During community meetings, we saw some of the community members come through to tell us some of the contributing factors with regard to sexual VAWG and some contributed solutions on the same."*
> *CSO, ARISEYOUTH- Chikhwawa*

Change story: Challenging Intimate Partner Violence

> *"I was being violated at home by my husband, I was being beaten, humiliated. So, when I started coming to the club and heard the lessons about violence, I went home and told my husband about the club and what they do, he stopped. Now we live peacefully"*
>
> *A married young female subsistence a farmer (Phalombe)*

Negative unintended:

On the negative side, there is Community overreliance on the roles of CSOs in VAWG response because the community is now used to the CSOs being available receive their complaints, accompanying GBV survivors to access services, referral services among other services that CSOs provided. Now that the MAWA project has ended, some CSOs may not be able to provide these services because they do not have the financial support they received through the project. This may create complacency in the community considering that CSOs' activities are not permanent and have a specific lifespan mostly linked to specific projects. The community needs to integrate the CSO efforts into permanent community structures which are more sustainable, and which do not require any outsider financing.

The overreliance on CSOs in VAWG response within the community can be seen because of the MAWA project's success in establishing effective support systems and services. While this was not the initial objective of the project, the visible presence and active involvement of CSOs in addressing VAWG concerns led the community to rely heavily on their support. CSOs became trusted entities that

	community members turned to for assistance, including receiving complaints, accompanying survivors to access services, and providing referral services.
	However, the challenge arises when the project ends and the financial support that CSOs received through the project is no longer available. This can significantly impact their ability to sustain the same level of services they provided during the project period. The CSOs may face limitations in terms of human resources, financial capacity, and infrastructure to continue offering comprehensive support to survivors and addressing community needs related to VAWG.
Conclusion	The CSOs confirmed that the MAWA project has improved the Community's status with regard to VAWG. Only 5.3% of CSOs disagreed with the 94.7% who believed the project had a positive impact because of its relevance to VAWG in all its forms in the community.

Effectiveness and knowledge creation are closely related. This is because the majority of the unique approaches utilized throughout the MAWA project increased the project's effectiveness and resulted in the development of a MAWA best practice model.

Table 14: Evaluation Criteria-Knowledge Generation

Evaluation criteria	**Knowledge Generation**
Evaluation question	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?
Response to Evaluation Question	**The MAWA project pioneered novel operating procedures and introduced certain innovative strategies that other projects ought to imitate at national level**. Examples of such innovations include strengthening the project management capabilities of many grassroots organizations, spreading knowledge of EVAWG for local communities using local solutions, and influencing socio-norms to allow EVAWG principles to be adopted by the community. The end effect of this effort is that feminist and women's rights organizations now function in a setting where they are recognized as belonging to and being supported by the local communities as an integral element of a progressive movement bringing about local growth. The evaluation established the following key lessons identified by the respondents:
	i. Use of local art forms as a medium for raising awareness about VAWG has proved to be highly effective in bringing about changes in knowledge and attitude.
	ii. Cascading training was a cost efficient and effective method, further it institutionalized good governance and project management practices which are necessary for an organization to outlive a project cycle. Training in Project management, M&E, Resource mobilization, and research, are among the core areas required for an organization to run properly.
	iii. Use of role models and model families in communities had an impact on community members as it encouraged communities to adopt positive socio-norms that reduce VAWG and harmful cultural practices.
	iv. Engaging the community throughout the project life cycle, especially prior to implementation has proved highly impactful as the project design had input from the beneficiaries, so activities

	responded well to the problems relating to VAWG that the communities faced. This made the project relevant as all activities fitted well into each community.
	v. Capacity building for CSOs, complemented with grassroots women's movement building to achieve lasting change in communities where VAWG is entrenched. The creation of women's, girls, youth groups provided safe spaces for women to talk about VAWG and became foundations for women's movements to sprout hence these groups are playing a significant role in EVAWG, women's economic empowerment and cementing agency which women now have in the communities.
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	**a. Leveraging of local CSO's to cascade lessons learnt to their communities** When CSOs were asked, do you think the project work generated some knowledge/practices or information that should be documented and shared with other practitioners? All CSOs were able to share the following practices and strategies which are worth emulating: *"Our work through Mawa project was done perfectly because we were working as pioneers."* **CSO, TIWASUNGE- Chiradzulu** *"One thing we can advise other people to use is to include the community in the project and not do all the work themselves because the community have answers."* **CSO, VFD-Chiradzulu** *"They can emulate from us the practice that we did for instance we did not just give women loans but we taught them skills of doing business to ensure that they are finding benefits."* **CSO, Sapof- Blantyre** *"This project we had activities like teaching them how to do businesses e.g., baking because we heard that a lot of women are violated because they have nothing to do."* **CSO Mzati, Blantyre** *"There was a case which involved this a man who was denying his children food. We managed to get of him and talked to him (demonstrated the evils of doing such things to his own children). Fortunately, he is a changed man now."* **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe** CSOs are playing a role in changing social behaviours through bringing the law to the people and bridging members of the community with referral service providers. *" I have a young brother who stays in Nazombe. His daughter was going to school and her school was disrupted because she was in a relationship with a man. She moved in with the man, and we discussed as a family. At the family meeting I told my sister in law, the mother, that this was a police case and that we should go to a CSO called Mzati. I shared their number with the family. We all went to the police, and a family meeting was called, including the man's mother. We voiced out that we did not want the marriage to continue. As we speak, the girl returned home and she is now in form three.* **Focus Group Discussion- Blantyre (Older Male)**

b. **Use of art forms is cost effective for communities especially when targeting women and girls**

The use of various art forms and sports has proved innovative and effective in terms of creating an enabling environment for appropriate messaging that addresses EVAWG and the crowd puller effect.

"We asked the deputy head teachers about girls dropping of school and found out it was high. So, we started doing dramas and other activities to encourage girls not to drop out of school. Now the rate of girls dropping out of school has minimised because of the encouragements and activities we do." **CSO, River of life- Phalombe**

"Drama performances have helped us to realise that there are indeed a notable number of cases of VAWG. On the other hand, our performances helped them to understand the evils of VAWG hence taught of how they can address these issues and where to report to when they experience any forms of violence. **CSO, River of Life - Phalombe**

Drama performances help community members understand what is happening on the ground and how best they can address their social pressing issues. In addition to this, sports activities for example football bonanza attract a lot of people in the community and this gives us a podium or a better platform to share messages of EVAWG or any other GBV related information to the masses." **CSO, NAMULENGA- Mulanje**

c. **Engagement of grassroots structures and use of Human-Centered Design provided ease in implementation**

This was a useful method of mainstreaming human rights and gender into the project, and it gave the communities a sense of importance and involvement in coming up with solutions to their problems within their own space.

"Firstly, I urge other CSOs to use the Human-Centred Design approach. They should go to the community and find out what masses need and discuss with them how best they can address the issues at hand with the limited resources at their disposal." **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe**

"We made sure that people understand their rights and responsibilities. In our work we made sure that the people we worked with their rights were not infringed." **ONLINE CSO-YFC**

The MAWA project has demonstrated that it is possible to use any platform to spread EVAWG messages and build awareness by using a variety of tools and the proper knowledge:

"As traditional and religious leaders, for example I am a bishop, we all learnt on how to deal with VAWG. Even at church after our meetings at church, we share message on how to end VAWG. We all use our various platforms to share messages, even the youth." **Focus Group Discussion, Chikhwawa**

d. **Listening to women's voice**

The Evaluation has established that women have a voice in the community's efforts to change societal norms. As a result, the MAWA project strategy for community involvement at all stages of project execution produces results and offers long-term solutions because women are heard as part of coming up with community solutions:

"The best knowledge was engaging women and girls, in the planning stage." **Key Informant Interview, Social Welfare- Chiradzulu**

"Community engagement at the early stage of the project is a key lesson worth emulating." **Online CSO- Phalombe**

"This project identified what our main problem was, it did not come to implement what worked in other districts or areas, but it worked with the people in this village." **Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu**

"We included the in the planning stage. We did a research of violence against women and girls. We asked sex worker, girls who married early and married women if they received any form of violence. We decided to deal with girls who are facing violence." **CSO, River of life- Phalombe**

"Planning was one of the strategies we used in this project, we even worked hand in hand with the village heads and they guided us on how to approach the people." **CSO, Mzati- Blantyre**

e. **Use of art forms was also strategic in grassroots women's movement building. Communities were able to congregate and talk about difficult life situations such as GBV experience and examples through art**

"We firstly did community mapping which helped us to identify girls that were the champions of this project. We then came up with a Pamtondo drama group and Ndado games that helped women gather and share experiences and issues affecting their day-to-day life." **CSO, CAYODE, Phalombe**

f. **Increased capacity building of local CSO's in project management**

Under the MAWA project there was constant engagement between CSOs, ArtGlo and the community through meetings, brainstorming sessions. This is not common to work with a large volume of CSOs under one project, but it showed the possibility of working with a high volume of CSOs. MAWA project also had appropriate oversight safeguards for the partners they were working with and the community they were serving. Some ways of working were more beneficial to CSOs than others such that when asked, to what extent were networking meetings/brainstorming sessions, executive committee, and technical working groups meetings beneficial to the work of CSOs in the community, 89.5% found networking sessions very important whilst only 10.5% found them important. None found them not important. As for project meetings both online and offline, 84.2% found them very important, whilst 15.8% found them important. None of the CSOs found project meetings not important.

g. **Community partnerships both online and online are possible**

The MAWA project showed the possibility of community partnerships and the benefits of working online because CSOs had access to more information on the internet and could connect with other like-minded institutions within and outside Malawi. The online platform is still active even after the project has ended:

	"Online learning and engagement have benefits. Engagement is at international level and there is more in the tech world than the physical space. so online are good learning platforms" ***Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka, ArtGlo*** h. **To change socio-norms, there is need to work with local communities for influencing work**. *"We have developed a policy brief on the use of HCD and how it can be effectively used. Community engagement itself, how to effectively engage the community, we developed a toolkit for the CSOs."* ***Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka, ArtGlo***
Promising and emerging practices	The MAWA project has provided valuable lessons learned through its unique aspects and the involvement of various organizations. These lessons contribute to understanding the effective strategies and approaches in addressing VAWG and promoting sustainable change within communities. The following factors highlight the specific lessons learned: a. *VAWG messages are well understood when disseminated with the use of local art forms as a medium for raising awareness about VAWG*: The project's utilization of local art forms, such as music including traditional music, drama, and visual arts, proved to be highly effective in bringing about changes in knowledge and attitudes. These culturally relevant forms of communication resonated with the community as the packaging and messages were in vernacular languages, making the messages more relatable and impactful. The use of local art forms facilitated a deeper understanding of VAWG which were localized and fostered community engagement and participation. The community also considered some of the activities as part of their entertainment thereby encouraging them to participate more. This serves as a key lesson because most VAWG activities rely on messages such as billboard, fliers, brochures that are produced elsewhere and simply distributed in the community. In some cases, the messages are not in the local language or require translation. However, by using local art forms, there was no need to use external service providers which would have been costly for the project and not resonate well with the local context. b. *Cascading training and institutionalizing good governance and project management practices among local CSOs makes project delivery cost efficient and effective*: The cascading training approach employed by the MAWA project proved to be cost-efficient and effective. By training selected individuals within the community who then trained others, the project maximized its reach and impact. The CSOs became so well trained such that they have the capacity to train others even after the project has ended because they have horned skills to enable them to effectively run an EVAWG project. Moreover, this approach institutionalized good governance and project management practices, equipping local organizations with essential skills required for their long-term sustainability beyond the project cycle. The training was in topics that covered project management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), resource mobilization, and research contributed to building the capacity of organizations and enhanced their ability to effectively address VAWG. This is key lesson because projects find it a challenge to pass on skills to communities especially considering that most MAWA districts are characterized by communities that are not educated beyond primary school. However, there was participation is CSOs by people with different levels of education from tertiary education to secondary school education, and they were all trained in project management. This is attributed to the fact that the CSOs were engaged in a way that was

	structured. Hence the key lesson is that the MAWA project has proved that it is feasible to pass on project management skills to community based civil society organisations.
	c. ***Behavioral change in communities with high prevalence of VAWG can be achieved through the use of role models and model families***: The project's engagement of role models and model families in communities had a significant impact on community members. By showcasing positive examples of individuals and families who reject harmful cultural practices and promote gender equality, the project encouraged communities to adopt positive socio-norms that reduce VAWG. This approach inspired behavioral change and contributed to the transformation of harmful gender norms and practices within the community.
	d. ***For interventions to achieve long term change, engaging the community throughout the project life cycle is critical:*** The MAWA project's emphasis on community engagement, particularly during the pre-implementation phase, proved highly impactful. By involving beneficiaries in the project design and planning process, the activities aligned well with the specific VAWG issues faced by each community. This participatory approach ensured relevance and ownership, enhancing the effectiveness of the interventions. Engaging the community throughout the project life cycle also fostered a sense of responsibility and sustained commitment, contributing to long-term change.
	e. ***In communities where VAWG is entrenched building the women's movement building is necessary so that women can be agents of change, speak with one voice, and challenge patriarchy***: The project's focus on capacity building for CSOs and grassroots women's movement building played a crucial role in achieving lasting change in communities where VAWG is entrenched. By providing training and support to CSOs, the project enhanced their effectiveness in addressing VAWG issues and strengthened their overall capacity. Additionally, the creation of women's, girls', and youth groups provided safe spaces for women to discuss and address VAWG, fostering empowerment and agency. These groups became foundations for women's movements, driving change and advocating for women's rights, economic empowerment, and social change within their communities.
Conclusion	In conclusion, the emerging practices implemented in the project have not only contributed to its success but also hold significant potential for knowledge generation in future projects addressing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). These practices have proven to be highly effective in bringing about changes in knowledge, attitudes, and community behavior, thereby creating a strong foundation for sustainable impact.

The use of local art forms as a medium for raising awareness about VAWG has demonstrated its effectiveness in engaging communities and fostering transformative change. By tapping into the cultural fabric of the communities, these art forms have the power to resonate deeply with individuals, leading to increased awareness and a shift in attitudes towards VAWG. This practice provides valuable insights into the power of culturally relevant communication strategies, highlighting the importance of tailoring interventions to specific contexts.

Secondly, cascading training has emerged as a cost-efficient and effective method, enabling the institutionalization of good governance and project management practices. By extending training beyond project staff to a wider network of stakeholders, knowledge is shared and disseminated, ensuring the sustainability of project outcomes even beyond the project cycle. This practice emphasizes the significance of capacity building in core areas such as project management, monitoring and |

evaluation, resource mobilization, and research, which are essential for the long-term success of any organization.

Thirdly, the use of role models and model families in communities has proven to be a powerful strategy for fostering positive socio-norms and reducing VAWG and harmful cultural practices. By showcasing individuals and families who embody the desired values and behaviors, community members are inspired and motivated to adopt similar practices. This approach highlights the importance of social modelling and the potential of community-driven change, providing valuable insights into the dynamics of social influence and the role of community leaders in promoting positive change.

Furthermore, engaging the community throughout the project life cycle, particularly during the design phase, has yielded highly impactful results. By involving beneficiaries in the decision-making process, the project activities are aligned with the specific needs and challenges faced by the communities. This participatory approach ensures that interventions are relevant, culturally appropriate, and tailored to the unique circumstances of each community. This practice underscores the importance of community ownership and collaboration, offering valuable lessons for future projects seeking to address complex social issues.

Lastly, the capacity building of CSOs and grassroots women's movement building has demonstrated its potential for achieving lasting change in communities where VAWG is deeply entrenched. By empowering CSOs and creating safe spaces for women to discuss VAWG, these initiatives have not only strengthened the collective agency of women but also fostered women's economic empowerment and social cohesion. This practice sheds light on the significance of grassroots mobilization and the role of women's movements in creating sustainable change at the community level.

Overall, the implementation of these emerging practices has contributed to the generation of valuable knowledge and insights for future projects addressing VAWG. The use of culturally relevant communication strategies, cascading training, role modelling, community engagement, and capacity building have all proven to be effective approaches with the potential for wider application and adaptation. By harnessing the lessons learned from these practices, future projects can build upon this knowledge and work towards more impactful and sustainable outcomes in the field of ending VAWG.

Table 15: Movement Building

Evaluation criteria	Movement Building
Evaluation question	To what extent has the project contributed to feminist and women's rights movement building in EVAWG in impact areas?
Response to Evaluation Question	The project has helped to build the grassroots feminist and women's movements because there is evidence of numerous initiatives to build movements that have been successfully implemented through networks, strategic alliances, and projects that have spilled over into grassroots women's rights organizations. The project's actions improved ability of CSOs to function as a women's movement in EVAWG.

Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	When CSOs were asked what challenges and opportunities, if any, were faced when working on movement-building for EVAW/G. 15.8% identified the best opportunity was the fact that organizations had a greater say in the community as they spoke with one voice. The biggest challenge that was identified was COVID-19, 36.9%, because of the challenges associated with the need for social distancing affected interaction among CSOs and the CSOs' interaction with the community.

When CSOs were asked what challenges and opportunities, if any, were faced when working on movement-building for EVAW/G. 15.8% identified the best opportunity was the fact that organizations had a greater say in the community as they spoke with one voice. The biggest challenge that was identified was COVID-19, 36.9%, because of the challenges associated with the need for social distancing affected interaction among CSOs and the CSOs' interaction with the community.

   a. Resistance from the community 5.3%
   b. Resistance from other CSO's 0%
   c. COVID-19 affected our meetings 36.9%
   d. We were called bad names by the community 0%
   e. Working together gave us a louder voice 5.3%
   f. We had more power because we were working together 15.8%
   g. Other specify 36.8%

94.8% of the CSOs felt that project activities strengthened their capacity in EVAWG work, only 5.2% did not have a strengthened capacity due to the project activities.

Similarly, 94.7% of the CSOs believed that the project activities strengthened your capacity to work as a women's movement in EVAWG, and only 5.3% felt that the project activities did not help movement building.

CSOs increased their skills in several areas. It is important to highlight that, of all skills, most CSOs (82.4%) felt highly confident in visibility and working with other EVAWG organizations as a movement the most. As for the skill they are least confident in, CSOs felt least confident in working with National stakeholders (e.g., Government Ministries.)

Table 16: CSO capacity building status

Area of skill	*Low*	*Moderate*	*High*
Resilience/adapt to COVID and other natural disasters e.g., Floods	10.5%	36.8%	52.7%
On-line engagement	15.8%	31.6%	52.6%
Confident to use art forms	5.3%	15.8%	78.9%
Monitoring and evaluation	15.8%	26.3%	57.9%
Visibility /Working with other EVAWG organizations as a movement	5.3%	10.5%	84.2%
Working with District stakeholders (e.g., District office)	5.3%	21.1%	73.6%
Working with National stakeholders (e.g., Ministries)	47.4%	36.9%	15.7%

a. **There were innovations in establishing Networks and collaborations with community structures. Strategic collaborations based on equal partnership between organizations**

"*Working with community structures. We designed a community network called spider network which was an urgent response to the community members. For instance, within the project we had a case whereby a step daughter was being molested by her step dad. with the help of the spider network the man was arrested.*" **CSO, MAULA- Chiradzulu**

"*We established CSO networks (MAWA CSO networks), to discuss emerging issues.*" **Key Informant Interviews, Sharon Kalima Nkhwazi -ArtGlo**

"*We encourage partnerships with other organizations dealing with similar issues that we address so as to collaboratively fight VAWG. We do this knowing that we cannot independently work alone in ensuring that victims have attained the justice they deserve.*" **CSO, Voices-Chikhwawa**

"*We worked with CSO's network where they would guide us on how to approach situations.*" **CSO, River of life- Phalombe**

b. **Establishment of Women's Groups grounded on feminist theories**

During the course of the MAWA project women set up various groups and projects to bring likeminded women together and advocate for issues that affected them as women. There is overwhelming evidence that women are working together more, in a consolidated way, with common purpose.

> *We designed amayi yakhulani (which means , women speak out) project to amplify women's voices for women who are abused or harassed in any sort of way . We were also teaching women to be independent. We have also designed another project get called beyond the barriers focusing on of adolescents . The project was to reduce school drop outs and give them business opportunities and we are yet to design a youth center to enable community youths to be innovative enough* CSO, Fambauone, Chiradzulu

"*I was being violated at home by my husband, I was being beaten, humiliated. So, when I started coming to the club and heard the lessons about violence, I went home and told my husband about the club and what they do, he stopped. Now we leave peacefully*" **Young female subsistence farmer, Phalombe.**

"*Girls got together as a group to make pads, the also set up a football team and use it as a platform to mentor each other, taking forward VAWG messaging.*" **Focus Group Discussion, Mulanje**

"*We firstly did community mapping which helped us to identify girls that were the champions of this project. We then came up with a Pamtondo drama group and Ndado games that helped women gather and share experiences and issues affecting their day-to-day life. Following what we were doing, some girls that were not in our groups were being influenced and they were spreading the news to other people a thing that boosted morale amongst members and also inspired others to do the same.*" **CSO, CAYODE, Phalombe**

	"At first, we were using the already existing groups like VSL but now we also have girls club. The women we started a group with were not only taught about gender-based but also how to run a business and how to manage their homes and develop their families as a group." **CSO, Sapof- Blantyre**
	"We called for girls from different communities and schools and created their own clubs." **CSO, Chitapata- Mulanje**
Conclusion	In conclusion, the project has made significant contributions to feminist and women's rights movement building in the impact areas of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG). Through its actions, the project has not only improved the ability of CSOs to function as a women's movement but also demonstrated a commitment to feminist theories and principles.
	The project has fostered innovations in establishing networks and collaborations with community structures. These strategic collaborations, based on the principles of equal partnership between organizations, have resulted in strengthened collective action and a more unified approach to addressing EVAWG. By bringing together diverse stakeholders and fostering a sense of shared responsibility, the project has facilitated the growth and resilience of the feminist and women's rights movement in the impact areas.
	The establishment of women's groups grounded in feminist theories has been a pivotal outcome of the project. By providing a platform for women to come together, share experiences, and mobilize for change, these groups have become crucial pillars of the women's rights movement. By centering feminist principles, such as gender equality and women's empowerment, these groups have amplified the voices of women, strengthened their agency, and worked towards dismantling systems of violence and oppression.
	Overall, the project's contributions to feminist and women's rights movement building in EVAWG impact areas are evident through its emphasis on collaborative networks, equal partnerships, and the establishment of women's groups grounded in feminist theories. These outcomes have not only improved the functioning of CSOs as a collective force but have also fostered a sense of solidarity, empowerment, and agency among women in the communities. The project's commitment to feminist principles and its efforts to create lasting change have laid a strong foundation for the continued growth and advancement of the feminist and women's rights movement in the context of EVAWG.

Table 17: Gender Equality and Human rights

Evaluation criteria	Gender Equality and Human rights
Evaluation question	Cross-cutting criteria: The evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based, gender responsive have been incorporated throughout the project and their effect.
Response to Evaluation Question	The Evaluation has established that there was promotion of gender equality and a human rights-based approach to a large extent in the MAWA project. This was especially inspired by the Human-Centered Design and approaches to project management. Most primary and secondary beneficiaries were able to articulate both how human rights and gender

	principles have been applied and evolved in their day to day lives. The application of gender and human rights principles enabled the gender roles of women and men to evolve resulting in a society where gender biases are challenged, and women play a more prominent role in development and decision making. The main effect of application of these two approaches has been that gender inequalities have lessened in impact districts.
Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	**a. Increased awareness in gender equality and human rights principles across the impact districts** The promotion of human rights-based approaches is evidenced by increased awareness in gender equality and human rights principles as most of the community responses were as follows: *"The project incorporated Human rights to a greater extent because since inception we were doing gender work, our tools even at baseline level we bring out gender questions e.g., gender disaggregated data, we also use human rights as we considered at every stage issue of human rights. We ensured that we worked with law enforcement to make sure that human rights are integrated in our work. we ensured that human rights of all people should be upheld. the project was clear, and we had reporting mechanisms for human rights violation reports. We worked with multiple actors so that people can report."* **Key informant interview, Sharon Kalima Nkhwazi, ArtGlo** *"We used the human centred design approach which helped us to discover that child marriages is the major issue at hand and needs to be addressed holistically".* **NAMULENGA, CSO- Mulanje** With regards to gender equality, when asked how the project reduced gender inequalities, samples of the community response showed that the project brought about gender awareness, creating space for women to lead and for both women and men to peacefully co-exist outside the confined socially defined gender roles. *"In the past there was bias in choosing members to hold positions in village committees but now it is 50 -50."* **Male subsistence farmer, Mulanje.** *"We have been taught to live and do things together as men and women of the community and they should continue to make us work together even when they come in for talks in the village, both men and women should take part."* **Male subsistence farmer, Chikwawa** **b. Evolving gender roles of men and women** The project has also opened employment opportunities, and decision-making positions for women which were previously reserved for men. There is evidence of evolving gender roles between men, women, boys, and girls. And the evolution is for the benefit of both sexes. Some of the interesting and key responses were as follows: *"Women are independent now and like explained earlier a number of women are now indulging in some small-scale businesses. Further, women are now aware of some*

sexual abuses that were previously not considered as bad practices." **CSO, NAMULENGA- Mulanje**

"Men are giving women chances to take lead. For example, as you can see, I am peeling potatoes. For example, men are also doing house chores, men no longer beat up their wives unnecessarily." **Male casual labourer, Mulanje**

"Realisation of the importance of women. For example, women are also taking lead in their families." **Male, Young adult, Mulanje**

"I was a victim of violence. But the coming in of this project made my grandmother realise that what she was doing was not right…freedom of expression was encouraged, and women now realise that they can do men's work and the other way round." **Female subsistence farmer, Mulanje**

"Women used to be sidelined at (mentions name of company) but now we are working side by side with men as general labours. Women are no longer sidelined when employment opportunities arise." **Female, subsistence farmer, Chikwawa**

"Men used to deny women permission to work as general labourers at the estate but now this is no more. Now men are able to take children to the hospital in case their wife is not around or not able to. Some men used to physically abuse their wives when they hear that they have gone to work claiming that they will have affairs. This has now changed because women also have the responsibility to generate money for the family." **Male, subsistence farmer, Chikwawa**

"I can say everything is better now, some men looked at women as useless but now we are seen as important as them." **Female widow, subsistence farmer, Phalombe**

"Everything is going well even in the committees; women are being appointed to participate." **Male commercial farmer, Phalombe**

"We did not know how to do business but they enlightened us and now we are doing small businesses, plus men weren't allowing women to do businesses but when the Cayode (MAWA CSO) project started and taught us about rights, men allowed us women to start businesses and be independent." **Female, businessperson, Phalombe**

"I think it changed. For example, there is a lady here who is into welding. Growing up I wanted to be a soldier, but people always said it was a male thing, but nowadays we have seen women becoming police officers or soldiers. I remember when I was a girl, when I started my menstrual period, my mother beat me and chased me away from her house because I did not tell her that I had started my periods therefore I should be excused from cooking." **Female, businessperson, Blantyre**

"In my experience, my husband used to stop me from doing business but since the involvement of the CSOs there has been a change, there is also child spacing in many households in our village from the counsel that we received from SAPOF (MAWA CSO). We now have freedom to do business and feed our families unlike before when

	*husbands never used to allow their wives to do anything." **Female, businessperson, Blantyre***
Conclusion	The project has demonstrated a significant incorporation of human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches throughout its implementation, resulting in notable effects on increased awareness of gender equality and human rights principles across the impact districts. Furthermore, the project has contributed to the evolving gender roles of men and women, indicating positive changes in societal norms and perceptions.

The project's emphasis on a human rights-based approach has played a crucial role in raising awareness of gender equality and human rights principles. By integrating these principles into project activities, such as awareness campaigns, training sessions, and community engagements, the project has effectively disseminated information and knowledge about the rights of individuals, particularly focusing on women's rights. This has resulted in increased awareness among community members, stakeholders, and beneficiaries, fostering a deeper understanding of gender equality and human rights issues.

The project's gender-responsive approach has contributed to the evolving gender roles of men and women within the impact districts. Through targeted interventions aimed at challenging traditional gender norms and stereotypes, the project has fostered a shift towards more equitable and inclusive gender roles. This can be seen in the increased participation of women in decision-making processes, the engagement of men in activities related to gender equality, and the recognition of the importance of shared responsibilities in promoting gender equality and human rights. These evolving gender roles indicate a positive change in societal attitudes and behaviors, leading to more balanced power dynamics and increased opportunities for both men and women.

In conclusion, the project's incorporation of human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches has had a significant impact on the target communities. The increased awareness of gender equality and human rights principles signifies a positive change in knowledge and attitudes, laying the foundation for transformative action. Moreover, the project's focus on evolving gender roles has contributed to a more inclusive and equitable society, challenging traditional norms, and promoting gender equality. By incorporating these approaches throughout the project, the initiative has demonstrated its commitment to advancing human rights and gender equality, ultimately paving the way for long-term sustainable change in the impact districts. |

Evaluation criteria	**Institutional strengthening and COVID Adaptation**
Evaluation question	To what extent the project adapted to COVID and incorporated changes to remain relevant and effective during COVID.
Response to Evaluation Question	The project ably adapted to challenges posed by the COVID 19 pandemic and incorporated relevant changes to ensure continuity of activity. As a result, COVID activities only slowed down, but adaptations were made to deliver project outputs. Overall institutions were

	strengthened and developed systems that will help them to endure other shocks such as natural disasters.

Quantitative and/or qualitative evidence gathered by the evaluation team to support the response and analysis above	**Outcome 4:**
	
	    a. **Production and distribution of IEC materials (plays, songs, documentary)**
	
	The project came up with various IEC materials, including an EVAWG documentary targeting key populations, an EVAWG song which was released during COVID and other communication products which the community benefited from. The messages in the songs and documentary covered issues of EVAWG and COVID.
	
	    b. **Online learning and virtual learning platform**
	
	The project, with support from Omprakash (an organization based in Canada)[31] set up a virtual learning platform, and the project recruited an online cohort of CSO's to start the project with. 20 Online CSO's benefitted from enhancement of skills in use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) through Online learning tools[32]. CSOs who were recruited for the online module was provided with tablets (gadgets) and internet allowance to enable them to engage actively online. The online platform is still active to date, and it is called Omprakash Edge. It can continue to be used for future projects.
	
	"Our partner Omprakash, they operate remotely (Canada). We spoke to Willy and we developed the online training using their platform. I created a MAWA edge classroom. We came up with a curriculum, modules, and asked prompt questions. We trained them on HCD, Gender, EVAWG. Every topic was covered, and we developed slides. At the end of the unit, they were given questions. Every slide had a reflective question where they would interact with each other. We supplemented with zoom sessions, at the end of the topic. We gathered on zoom for reflection and discussed or shared what we discussed in the classroom. We had one on one sessions with those who needed help to navigate through the platform and showed them how to work, e.g., tablets, data, to allow them to access the session." **Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka, ArtGlo**
	
	"*We were given monthly data bundles which also helped us to facilitate some project activities easily (in as far as media and communications issues are concerned). The only challenge was that some of the planned activities were not fully attained because some prices of the commodities we were opting for skyrocketed and affected our budget. Hence, we fell short of attaining some of our desired objectives.*" **CSO, NAMULENGA- Mulanje**
	
	"*Yes, ArtGlo provided us with airtime, tablets and support for these online sessions*" **CSO, VOICES- Chikhwawa**

[31] https://www.omprakash.org/edge (accessed on 18th July 2023)
[32] Spotlight Annual Narrative Programme Report, 17 July 2019 – 31 December 2023. Available at:
https://www.spotlightinitiative.org/sites/default/files/publication/2023-
06/Spotlight%20Initiative%20UN%20Trust%20Fund%202022%20Annual%20Report.pdf (accessed 18 July 2023)

c. **Creation of sustainable online products i.e., songs, documentaries on EVAWG. Production of Information Education and Communication materials for EVAWG campaigns**

Some of the best awareness products from the MAWA project came out of the COVID pivot and the online project. For key populations, a documentary was produced and is circulated to them, highlighting the unique forms of violence faced by key populations.

"Some of the strongest products came out of the online project because of the COVID funds, e.g., Youth For Change worked on Harmful cultural practices in Zomba and managed to revamp Chinamwali curriculum so that it is not harmful to girls. This would not have happened. Alive Malawi, worked with Transgender women and they did a documentary where they showcased the intimate violence they faced in their homes and communities, how they live their lives and violence they faced. This emerged through the COVID funds." **Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka- ArtGlo**

"Production of radio plays, MAWA song by Faith Mussa and Nandi (Chichewa)". **Key** *Informant Interview, Sharon Kalima Nkhwazi, ArtGlo*

Use of ICT for IEC, resulted in increased advocacy, visibility and awareness during COVID and strengthened CSOs as they adapted to the disruptions brought about by pandemics and disasters.

d. **Observation of COVID Precautions through practicing social distancing and observing government and WHO COVID guidelines, distribution and provision of PPE to CSOs**

The evaluation has established from both primary and secondary beneficiaries that the project complied with all COVID precautions as provided for by the Malawi Government. It is also clear that activities were adjusted to comply with all COVID measures.

"Yes, funds were there and tablets and monthly data bundles. We also had personal protective gears during covid pandemic period. The like of hand sanitizer and hand washing soap were provided for use during the project implementation period." **CSO, CAYODE- Phalombe**

"We followed the COVID 19 prevention measure like wearing masks and social distancing but we never stopped working." **Key Informant Interview, Police-Chiradzulu**

"During COVID we were no longer gathering in doors but open spaces. And social distance was observed. We were also encouraged to wash our hands each time and put on masks". **Focus Group Discussion, Chiradzulu**

e. **Institutions became stronger and resilient due to systems that were built in to help them adapt to the challenges of the COVID pandemic**

	CSOs who participated in the MAWA project had systems built into them to ensure that they continued to deliver activities during COVID and the overall outcome was that CSOs capacity to do other work beyond and above the MAWA project is now obvious. *"I'm happy that CSOs are now able to navigate the internet on their own. These are people who had never used the internet. They are able to find proposals, connect with each other, and collaborate. It strengthened organisations systems because the information was more comprehensive since it is online. All content was there, and they had rich information, as opposed to offline. They still have access to the online platforms, use of messages, do placards, resource mobilisation. They still can make an impact in the communities. HCD are now used even if they are not doing MAWA work. We helped them to be strong institutions and the organisations are sustainable."* **Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka, ArtGlo** Another outstanding CSO that has benefitted more than others from the MAWA project is the CSO that worked with key populations, because they were able to undertake activities with hard-to-reach populations who are often ostracized in society due to their sexual orientation: *See Change Story below:* **Institutional strengthening/COVID.** *"For trans organizations. It was the last organization we did because we did not want them to be influenced. The org required you to improvise, we had to adjust and wait for them to have an activity and they are all there, then we integrate into that activity. We had to improvise a lot and it took longer to work with them. Using online was not an option for them as they said they had difficulties; we would not know who we are talking to because of anonymity. We wanted authenticity and they wanted secrecy. They don't have access to open communications and most communications were through other people. So eventually we managed to work with them. They did a documentary on their own. We just went for the screening, and we advised the messaging. Yes, the organization benefitted a lot as they will share their stories even after the project. The documentary will create awareness and it's a tool. The documentary talked about Intimate Partner Violence, and they are also victims."* **Key Informant Interview, Carol Luka, ArtGlo**
Conclusion	In conclusion, the Project's response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic not only enabled it to adapt and continue its project but also resulted in a significant strengthening of its overall capacity. By diligently observing COVID guidelines and transitioning to remote work, the Project demonstrated its resilience and commitment to the well-being of its staff and stakeholders. The development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise awareness about Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) showcased the project's ability to innovate and disseminate crucial information even in challenging circumstances. The design and implementation of an online working platform exemplified the project's agility in embracing digital solutions, facilitating collaboration, and ensuring uninterrupted project progress. By providing comprehensive training on online tools, the institution

empowered its workforce with new skills, fostering their professional growth and adaptability in the face of future disruptions.

Furthermore, the proactive procurement of COVID Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) demonstrated the MAWA commitment to maintaining a safe working environment, prioritizing the health and well-being of its team. Equally important was the provision of tablets and internet connectivity, ensuring that staff working under the MAWA project remained connected with the world and could continue their work remotely. This investment not only facilitated seamless communication but also expanded individual CSOs' capabilities for remote project implementation, thereby increasing the project reach and impact.

Lastly, the Project's embrace of virtual meetings and virtual learning enabled efficient and effective decision-making, showcasing the adaptability of its communication practices. This virtual format not only reduced the need for physical gatherings but also enhanced accessibility for participants, allowing for broader and more inclusive engagement.

Overall, the ArtGlo and CSO's who worked in the MAWA project were able to overcome the challenges brought about by COVID-19 through the implementation of various measures and adaptations demonstrates its resilience, innovation, and commitment to its mission. The strengthened capacity in using digital tools and remote working, coupled with the institution's dedication to health and safety, positions it well for future challenges, ensuring its continued success in EVAWG programming in a rapidly changing world.

Conclusions and recommendations

The objectives of evaluation were the following:

a) To evaluate the entire project, against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and impact criteria, as well as the crosscutting gender equality and human rights criteria;
b) To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practices in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes.
c) To evaluate the project and its impact in building capacity for grassroots EVAWG women feminist/ movement.

Based on an analysis of the findings discussed above, the evaluation has drawn the following Conclusions and Recommendations to inform future programs and addressed to relevant stakeholders.

Table 18: Conclusions and Recommendations

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Question	Conclusions	Recommendations
Overall	All	It is our finding that overall; the project improved the lives of women by providing them the capacity to challenge and further address VAWG in all its forms. The project goal was achieved through the leveraging of CSO's and community leaders to increase their capacity and involvement in EVAWG prevention and response. The primary beneficiaries were impacted at various levels by the project as some engaged with the project before implementation, during implementation and after implementation. Those who had direct contact with CSOs in their communities or those who participated in more activities for a longer period, were positively impacted, whereas those that had little interaction with the CSO and for s shorted duration, could not identify any benefits from the project possibly because of their attitude towards GBV created a perception that the project yielded no change in their	Building upon the success of leveraging CSOs and community leaders, future programming by **MAWA project team and Donors** should continue to foster strong partnerships with CSO's and CBO's and enhance the capacity of these stakeholders. This collaboration will ensure sustained engagement and a collective approach in addressing Violence Against Women and Girls. The positive impact on primary beneficiaries, as highlighted in the conclusion, underscores the importance of their active involvement in future programming. **MAWA CSOs** should continue engaging beneficiaries at all stages of the project, from planning to evaluation, ensuring that their voices and

| | | communities. The fact that the project duration was not identical across the five districts, for example Chiradzulu was among the first districts for roll out, whilst Chikhwawa was among the last districts for roll out, means that some beneficiaries had activities spread through the three-year project duration. Whilst some of the beneficiaries had activities for a shorter duration, so they feel that the project was actually for a shorter period than the three years.

For those who were able to identify benefits of the MAWA project, the evaluation attributes this to their involvement or participation in project activities at various stages, thereby they feel that they now own the changes that the project has brought about. | experiences inform the solutions and interventions, leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes.

MAWA Project team, Development partners, UNTF should target future programming which will prioritize capacity building initiatives for CSOs, community leaders, and primary beneficiaries.

Donors should provide training workshops and allocate resources so that individuals and organizations can develop the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively address VAWG in all its forms.

Women's CSOs should design empowerment programs. These should also be implemented to promote self-efficacy and agency among women, enabling them to take ownership of their lives and actively participate in EVAWG initiatives. |
| **Effectiveness** | To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes, and outputs (project results) achieved and how? | The MAWA project has proven to be highly effective in addressing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in the five districts it operated in. Several key factors contributed to its success, and these include the following: the project fostered ownership and active engagement of a large number of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in EVAWG, resulting in high presence and increased engagement of women and youth-centered CSOs within the community. The involvement of community leaders, including traditional and faith leaders, played a pivotal role in planning, implementation, and evaluation stages, ensuring wider reach and effective communication of EVAWG messages. Additionally, the project's use of grassroots-led solutions, human-centered design, and participatory arts facilitated | Due to the community centered approach of the project, there is a need to strengthen and sustain ownership of the gains made by the project.

The evaluation recommends that ***MAWA Project team*** should approach government and CSO leaders to develop a long-term sustainability plan that ensures financial and institutional support for CSOs working on EVAWG beyond the project cycle.

It is further recommended that ***MAWA Project team*** should popularize its Community Engagement toolkit and HCD Policy Brief through the use of MAWA CSOs so that they get |

community involvement and enhanced the relevance and acceptance of the initiatives. Moreover, multi-stakeholder involvement, collaboration, and networking created a comprehensive and holistic response to VAWG, meeting the essential services package and enhancing impact. The Project's emphasis on capacity building and empowerment equipped CSOs and community leaders with the necessary skills and resources to identify and address gender-based violence effectively. Finally, timely interventions and improvements, along with increased empowerment and positive change observed among women, demonstrate the significant improvement in the GBV situation and overall success of the MAWA project.

In summary, the MAWA project's effectiveness can be attributed to its inclusive and community-centered approach, active engagement of CSOs and community leaders, grassroots-led solutions, participatory arts, multi-stakeholder collaboration, capacity building, and empowerment efforts. These factors have resulted in tangible improvements in the GBV situation, increased empowerment among women, and the creation of sustainable networks and movements within the communities. The project's success highlights the importance of comprehensive strategies, community involvement, and collaboration in addressing VAWG and promoting lasting change.

a platform to show case their skills and be further integrated into other EVAWG initiatives and projects. This will foster collaboration and knowledge-sharing among CSOs to leverage their collective impact and promote continued engagement in EVAWG initiatives.

MAWA CSOs should also document and disseminate the project's successful interventions, lessons learned, and promising practices through comprehensive reports, case studies, and practical toolkits. *ArtGlo* should support for the online to be used to broadcast and share success stories with global platforms, encourage sharing of success stories at national workshops, conferences, or webinars to exchange best practices in ending VAWG, involving key stakeholders from different districts and organizations.

To secure long-term funding and institutional support, *ArtGlo, CSO Leaders, Government stakeholders* should advocate for increased budgetary allocations for gender related work at *district level* (**District executive committee**) and *national level* (through **Members of Parliament and relevant parliamentary committees**). Due to the fact that there is a need for continuation of essential services for VAWG survivors, advocating for increased funding can secure commitments from government and development partners particularly in the areas of health, justice, social welfare, and gender.

Now that the CSOs have skills in monitoring and evaluation, it is recommended that CSO leaders and Government District

		Officials should establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess VAWG situation in their communities. Regular collection and analysis of data will help to track progress and identify areas for improvement. This data should be feed into the national data hub, for the districts to be included in future interventions at national level.
Relevance	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?	The MAWA project prioritized equipping communities with the essential skills to actively participate in preventing and responding to Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG). As a result, the project's greatest achievement has been the establishment of violence-free communities, where women can live with safety, freedom, and independence. This significant outcome is accompanied by a noticeable shift in mindset, leading to increased reporting of gender-based violence (GBV) incidents and a decrease in their overall occurrence. Additionally, the project has successfully promoted girls' education, challenged harmful cultural practices, and advocated for the elimination of child marriages. These examples highlight the transformative nature of the project, fostering progressive socio-norm and societies where women enjoy their human rights.	*MAWA project team* in collaboration with *media, CSOs, and relevant government agencies* should continue promoting positive gender norms and challenging gender stereotypes through targeted campaigns, media engagement, and community dialogues. This will ensure the sustenance of violent free societies.

CSO leaders should strengthen advocacy efforts to address harmful cultural practices, including child marriage, through engaging religious and community leaders, conducting awareness campaigns, and keeping the discussion on positive social norms alive in public debates.

Government through the *Ministry of Gender and Ministry of Education* should integrate comprehensive gender-based violence prevention and response education into the school curriculum. This will ensure a systematic approach to addressing violence against women and girls. |
| **Coherence** | To what extent has the intervention supported or undermined other EVAW/G initiatives, and vice versa. | The MAWA project's activities aligned with and strengthened other EVAWG initiatives. It provided CSOs with opportunities to integrate gender and GBV issues into their existing work, expanded their visibility and collaboration at various levels, and facilitated the formation of networks that enhanced communication, coordination, and | For proper alignment of EVAWG initiatives among stakeholders, the Government should strengthen collaboration and knowledge sharing through development of a comprehensive database or online platform to facilitate information sharing and best practice exchange among CSOs, |

knowledge sharing. The project's approach complemented and supported the broader efforts especially of the Government to address violence against women and girls, contributing to a more comprehensive and cohesive approach to ending VAWG as anticipated by the National Action Plan to Combat GBV in Malawi.

The findings demonstrate positive interactions and collaborations with other EVAWG initiatives, indicating support rather than undermining of existing efforts. This was achieved through:

1. *Increased visibility, networking, and collaboration created an enabling environment for mainstreaming and scaling up EVAWG work*. For example, CSOs were exposed to larger audiences through the online cohort which is using a platform called Omprakash. Another example is the facilitating of CSOs to participate in national workshops giving them valuable exposure to be recognized that they are doing EVAWG work. It is evident that CSOs utilized strategies such as incorporating discussions on VAWG into health-related clubs discussing Cholera, and leveraging established relationships with schools to continue educating girls on violence prevention. Thereby creating coherence with other projects.

2. *Human-Centered Design and Participatory Arts increased the recognition of CSOs at the district level*, leading to popularity in communities and in some cases invitations to various workshops and sharing of best practices at national events. This shows that there was support of existing EVAWG activities which were not directly part of the MAWA project.

government agencies, and stakeholders working on EVAWG in Malawi. This will provide information of who is working on EVAWG in Malawi and what they are doing, strengthening collaboration, and preventing wasting of resources through duplication of efforts.

CSO leaders must establish regular knowledge-sharing forums or workshops at the national and district levels, where CSOs, government representatives, and other stakeholders can share experiences, challenges, and lessons learned in EVAWG initiatives. This can be done within the first six months of the end of the project.

ArtGlo should popularize the Community Engagement toolkit so that other organizations can use it for training of more CSOs. The capacity Building and Training should facilitate integrating gender and GBV issues into existing programs and activities for other organizations working on related sectors, such as health, justice, education, and community development.

MAWA project team in collaboration with the *MAWA CSO network members*, **and** *Ministry of Gender* should ensure participation in existing Gender Technical working groups which are present at District and national level. This will ensure that MAWA CSOs remain relevant and are aware of specific emerging issues or challenges related to EVAWG.

		3. *Collaboration and networking were facilitated through the establishment of the MAWA CSO network, spider network,* and *other informal networks online* and offline, enabling discussions on emerging issues and coordination among organizations. CSOs involved in the MAWA project collaborated with other NGOs outside the MAWA project. The sharing of skills and knowledge obtained from the project such as drama and music for the implementation of additional EVAWG projects such as the *GIRLS* return to school project by a different project shows the strengthening of an existing project through use of skills gained in the MAWA project. As for networks, some of these networks formed play a crucial role in responding to urgent cases of GBV and ensuring the availability of referral services for survivors are available. CSOs benefited from collaboration within networks, receiving guidance on approaching different situations related to GBV. Networks among CSOs within the MAWA project allowed for the sharing of ideas, knowledge, and best practices. This promoted a uniform approach in understanding GBV and implementing effective strategies.	*MAWA CSO network members* should collaborate with government agencies to advocate for the effective implementation and enforcement of existing policies and legislation related to EVAWG, including the National Action Plan to Combat GBV, National Gender Policy and other GBV related laws. This will ensure that MAWA CSOs participate effectively in influencing work and getting their voices heard in important GBV related topics.
Efficiency	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?	The project was successful in far more aspects than they were unsuccessful in. The MAWA project achieved substantial success across multiple aspects, highlighting its positive impact and effectiveness. The project demonstrated cost-effectiveness by effectively utilizing limited resources and implementing low-budget solutions. For example, the year three financial report showed 106.34 % burn rate for the budget which means that there was a slight over-expenditure with about 6% of the planned budget which was commensurate with the overachievement	For future programs, *UNTF and MAWA* project teams should ensure that funds are dispersed on time. They should further design effective budget monitoring mechanisms to ensure efficient utilization of available funds.

CSO leaders should build social capital and strengthen Collaboration with all stakeholders to ensure that they cooperate when approached to participate in activities. This |

of the outcome targets. This approach allowed the project to exceed its target beneficiaries, reach marginalized populations, and promote economic independence and empowerment of women. By leveraging existing community structures and collaborating with government stakeholders, the project fostered ownership and sustainability, increasing the capacity of CSOs in project management. These achievements reflect the project's ability to optimize its resources and generate meaningful outcomes within the given constraints.

Another significant success of the MAWA project was the establishment of safe spaces for reporting VAWG cases and increasing community knowledge about gender-based violence (GBV) and reporting mechanisms. This achievement contributed to a shift in social norms and the rejection of harmful cultural practices. Through awareness-raising activities and engagement with local leaders, the project successfully promoted positive norms, empowering women and fostering an environment that supports survivors of violence (survivor centered approaches).

Moreover, the MAWA project's success can be attributed to its comprehensive approach that tackled various dimensions of VAWG. By addressing the economic, social, and cultural factors that contribute to violence against women, the project demonstrated a holistic understanding of the VAWG. It empowered women economically, increased their knowledge and agency, and engaged men as potential agents of change. This multifaceted approach aimed at long-term behavior change and created a solid foundation for sustainable impact.

Despite these significant successes, the project encountered several challenges and limitations. The insufficient financial resources

will ensure that stakeholders participate, and the project meets the expectations of the beneficiaries.

Project Donors should allow for flexibility and Adaptability of a project budget especially when faced with situations like COVID or Inflation. Adapting to changing social and economic circumstances, such as inflation and project roll-out delays will ensure that during project implementation, there are plans to accommodate unforeseen challenges.

constrained the implementation of desired activities and affected the performance of CSOs and their partners. Delays in fund disbursement, connectivity issues for online cohorts, and limited collaboration due to the absence of allowances further hindered the project's progress. The staggered rolling out of the project and strained budgets due to inflation posed additional obstacles, impacting the timeliness and quality of activities. These challenges demonstrate the need for adequate financial planning, streamlined processes, and flexibility to adapt to social and economic changing circumstances.

While the limitations highlight areas that fell short of expectations, it is important to note that the overall success of the MAWA project outweighs these challenges. The project's achievements in terms of cost-effectiveness, capacity building, safe spaces, collaboration, and empowerment of women showcase its positive impact on the community. By addressing multiple aspects of VAWG and reaching marginalized populations, the project has laid the foundation for sustainable change and contributed to the overall well-being and safety of women and girls in the impacted   districts.

Sustainability	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?	Overall, the findings reflect that the MAWA project has significant potential for sustainability and continuity of activities undertaken by different stakeholders. However, there are several limiting factors such as the following: a. Limited financial and human resources to continue some of the activities. b. Lack of support from influential individuals or organizations in the community due to no funding which can hinder the EVAWG projects progress.	*CSOs, and MAWA project team* in collaboration with *Government* should actively seek additional funding and resources to address the financial and human resource limitations for the continuity of EVAWG activities beyond the project duration. This can be done through proposal writing, and partnerships to secure sustained funding. *MAWA project team, CSOs, community leaders* should conduct awareness campaigns, meetings, and dissemination of the MAWA project's positive results to build support and

		c. Transfer or progression of trained CSO to other areas or communities resulting in scarce EVAWG trained CSOs. d. All the districts under MAWA project were affected by Cyclone Freddy which resulted in displacement of community members resulting in geographical dispersion and rural communities being scattered across large areas. This will likely make it difficult for trained CSO's to reach all individuals and ensure uniform service delivery as they provided under the project. e. Limited infrastructure and destruction of bridges by Cyclone Freddy resulting in long distances between villages and can increase logistical challenges, should communities want to continue working on EVAWG. These limitations can hinder the continued delivery of services after the MAWA project especially the much popular community meetings, awareness programs, and support systems required for an effective EVAWG intervention and they will have to be factored in, in future programming. To mitigate the limitations and ensure the sustainability of the MAWA project, the following strategies can be considered: a. Enhancing financial and human resources through securing additional funding and resources to continue the activities beyond the project duration. This can be achieved through various fundraising initiatives and proposal writing by CSOs and ArtGlo for sustained funding that can also help address the resource limitations. b. Building support and partnerships with organizations in the community to build support for EVAWG projects. This can be done through awareness campaigns, meetings, and popularizing the results of the MAWA project which demonstrate the positive impact of the project and its relevance to the community.	partnerships with Government, development partners and other international donors. The campaigns should highlight the relevance and impact of EVAWG projects to enable the work to secure new funding. *CSO leaders continue* building capacity of their members in EVAWG program management. By implementing continuous capacity building programs, this means that the CSO will not be affected if their staff members or volunteers go on transfer, resign or move out of the community. The need to regularly train and empower CSOs to sustain the project's activities and maintain a skilled workforce is important for the sustainability of the work of the MAWA project.

		c. Continuous capacity building for CSOs to mitigate the impact of CSO transfers or progressions, efforts should be made to establish a pool of trained CSOs and build their capacity continuously. This way, even if some CSOs leave, there will still be a pool of trained individuals to sustain the project's activities. d. Adapting to post-disaster challenges to address the challenges posed by the geographical dispersion caused by natural disasters like Cyclone Freddy, future projects should explore CSOs to provide mobile outreach services or digital platforms for remote engagement. The Online cohort has shown the feasibility of use of digital products. By implementing these strategies, the MAWA project can enhance its sustainability and address the limitations posed by limited resources, lack of support, CSO transfers, geographical dispersion, and infrastructure challenges. Continued engagement, partnerships, and adaptation to changing circumstances will be crucial for the project's long-term success and its ability to create lasting change in addressing gender-based violence.	
Impact	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?	The majority of CSOs (94.7%) agreed that the MAWA project has significantly improved the community's response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), emphasizing its relevance in addressing various forms of VAWG. Only a small percentage (5.3%) of CSOs disagreed with this consensus, highlighting the project's overall positive impact on the community's position against VAWG.	To ensure the sustainability and scaling up of project outcomes. *The MAWA project team, CSO leaders, UNTF, government ministries, rural women organizations, human rights institutions (Human Rights Commission)* should collaborate to integrate the successful strategies into policies, programs, and services addressing VAWG at national level. Such collaboration can be through wide circulation and publication of MAWA Project key lessons and sharing them as best practices to influence government policy. *UNTF* should broadcast the success strategies of the MAWA project

			in order to attract potential funding for nationwide scaling up of the MAWA project. *UNTF* and *MAWA project team* should promote survivor centered programming that incorporates providing all the needs of a survivor of GBV. This will make the future projects have more impact as community response systems will be designed in a way that there are no gaps in services.
Knowledge generation	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?	The MAWA project has provided valuable lessons learned through its unique aspects and the involvement of various organizations which can be emulated at national level. These lessons contribute to understanding the effective strategies and approaches in addressing VAWG and promoting sustainable change within communities. The following factors highlight the specific lessons learned: a. *VAWG messages are well understood when disseminated with the use of local art forms as a medium for raising awareness about VAWG*: The project's utilization of local art forms, such as music including traditional music, drama, and visual arts, proved to be highly effective in bringing about changes in knowledge and attitudes. These culturally relevant forms of communication resonated with the community as the packaging and messages were in vernacular languages, making the messages more relatable and impactful. The use of local art forms facilitated a deeper understanding of VAWG which were localized and fostered community engagement and participation. The community also considered some of the activities as part of their entertainment thereby encouraging them to participate more. This serves as a key lesson because most VAWG activities rely on messages such a	*MAWA project team and CSOs* especially *youth-led CSOs* should identify local artists, and community leaders to brand as EVAWG champions. By doing so, this will incorporate local art forms, such as music, drama, and visual arts to gain popularity as a medium for raising awareness about VAWG. *Local artists* should support and encourage the use of vernacular languages and culturally relevant messages to enhance community engagement and understanding of EVAWG. *Donors* should set aside compulsory funding in project approved budgets, for capacity building for CSO staff so that they are always equipped in all aspects of project management. *NGO Board, Council for Non-Governmental Organizations in Malawi, and CSOs* should make it a compulsory for CSO staff to be trained in good governance practices and project management skills before starting a new project. This will ensure that CSOs have the required skills to roll out EVAWG projects at any given time.

billboard, fliers, brochures that are produced elsewhere and simply distributed in the community. In some cases, the messages are not in the local language or require translation. However, by using local art forms, there was no need to use external service providers which would have been costly for the project and also not resonate well with the local context.

b. *Cascading training and institutionalizing good governance and project management practices among local CSOs makes project delivery cost efficient and effective*: The cascading training approach employed by the MAWA project proved to be cost-efficient and effective. By training selected individuals within the community who then trained others, the project maximized its reach and impact. The CSOs became so well trained that they have the capacity to train others even after the project has ended because they have horned skills to enable them to effectively run an EVAWG project. Moreover, this approach institutionalized good governance and project management practices, equipping local organizations with essential skills required for their long-term sustainability beyond the project cycle. The training topics covered project management, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), resource mobilization, and research contributed to building the capacity of organizations and enhanced their ability to effectively address VAWG. This is a key lesson because projects find it a challenge to pass on skills to communities especially considering that most MAWA districts are characterized by communities that are not educated beyond primary school. However, there was participation in CSOs by people with different levels of education from tertiary education to secondary school education, and they were all trained

EVAWG trainers and educational institutions should design and run project management training programs on a rolling basis for CSOs, especially for those based in rural communities.

Donors and CSOs should prioritize for all EVAWG projects, community engagement throughout the project life cycle, involving beneficiaries in the design, planning, implementation, and evaluation stages. This will foster a participatory approach that aligns interventions with specific VAWG issues faced by each community, ensuring relevance, ownership, and sustained commitment.

MAWA project team should produce a documentary to share the success stories of the MAWA project. The documentary can use local artists and national celebrities and be widely circulated through various platforms. This will ensure that the best lessons from the MAWA project benefit a wider audience and possibly attract funding for scaling up at National level.

in project management. This is attributed to the fact that the CSOs were engaged in a way that was structured. Hence the key lesson is that the MAWA project has proved that it is feasible to pass on project management skills to community based civil society organisations.

c. *Behavioral change in communities with high prevalence of VAWG can be achieved through the use of role models and model families*: The project's engagement of role models and model families in communities had a significant impact on community members. By showcasing positive examples of individuals and families who reject harmful cultural practices and promote gender equality, the project encouraged communities to adopt positive socio-norms that reduce VAWG. This approach inspired behavioral change and contributed to the transformation of harmful gender norms and practices within the community.

d. *For interventions to achieve long term change, engaging the community throughout the project life cycle is critical:* The MAWA project's emphasis on community engagement, particularly during the pre-implementation phase, proved highly impactful. By involving beneficiaries in the project design and planning process, the activities aligned well with the specific VAWG issues faced by each community. This participatory approach ensured relevance and ownership, enhancing the effectiveness of the interventions. Engaging the community throughout the project life cycle also fostered a sense of responsibility and sustained commitment, contributing to long-term change.

e. *In communities where VAWG is entrenched building the women's movement building is necessary so that women can be agents of*

		change, speak with one voice, and challenge patriarchy: The project's focus on capacity building for CSOs and grassroots women's movement building played a crucial role in achieving lasting change in communities where VAWG is entrenched. By providing training and support to CSOs, the project enhanced their effectiveness in addressing VAWG issues and strengthened their overall capacity. Additionally, the creation of women's, girls', and youth groups provided safe spaces for women to discuss and address VAWG, fostering empowerment and agency. These groups became foundations for women's movements, driving change and advocating for women's rights, economic empowerment, and social change within their communities.	
Movement building	To what extent has the project contributed to feminist and women's rights movement building in EVAWG in impact areas?	The project has made significant contributions to feminist and women's rights movement building in the areas impacted by Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG). By establishing strategic collaborations and networks with community structures, the project has strengthened collective action and fostered a unified approach to addressing EVAWG. Women's groups grounded in feminist theories have emerged as key outcomes, providing a platform for women to mobilize, share experiences, and advocate for change. These groups have amplified women's voices, empowered them, and worked towards dismantling systems of violence and oppression. Overall, the project's emphasis on collaborative networks and the establishment of feminist-based women's groups has improved the functioning of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and promoted solidarity, empowerment, and agency among women in the communities. The project's commitment to feminist principles has laid a strong foundation for ongoing growth and	*CSOs and women community leaders* should facilitate regular knowledge-sharing platforms, joint advocacy efforts, and coordination mechanisms to strengthen solidarity and build a cohesive feminist movement. *Donors* should provide technical assistance for women's groups. The technical assistance can be through exchange programs, sponsorship opportunities, leadership training, funding for workshops. This will give women's organizations exposure and learning opportunities on how to sustain a women's movement. *Women community leaders* should conduct resource mobilization through proposal writing to secure funding for training in feminist ideologies.

		progress in the feminist and women's rights movement within the context of EVAWG.	**CSOs** should empower women's groups through providing training and resources. The training and resources should be to feminist-based women's groups, and the training content should focus on feminist theories, leadership skills, advocacy strategies, and organizational capacity building. Support to these groups can also be through mentorship, and funding opportunities to strengthen their sustainability and effectiveness in advancing women's rights and challenging systems of violence and oppression which worsen VAWG.
Gender equality and Human rights	Cross-cutting criteria The evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based, gender responsive have been incorporated throughout the project and their effect.	The project's implementation has showcased a strong integration of human rights-based and gender-responsive approaches, leading to notable outcomes in terms of increased awareness of gender equality and human rights principles in the target districts. The project effectively disseminated information through various activities, raising awareness among community members and stakeholders. Additionally, the project's gender-responsive interventions challenged traditional gender norms, resulting in evolving gender roles and more equitable participation. This signifies positive changes in societal norms and perceptions. Overall, the project's incorporation of these approaches demonstrates its commitment to promoting human rights and gender equality, paving the way for sustainable change in the impacted districts.	**MAWA Project team, CSOs, advocacy organizations, and community leaders** should form partnerships and collaborations with local and national advocacy organizations working on gender equality and human rights especially the **Malawi Human Rights Commission**. This will ensure that MAWA CSO and communities are engaged in joint advocacy campaigns and initiatives that address human rights, discriminatory norms, laws, and practices. **Malawi Human Rights Commission, CSOs** and **local government stakeholders** should work together to amplify the voices of women and marginalized groups in the districts. Hence advocating for policy changes and legal reforms to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights and gender equality.
Institutional strengthening	To what extent the project adapted to COVID and	In conclusion, the project's response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic not only enabled it to adapt and continue its project but also resulted in a significant strengthening of its overall	Collaboration and learning in virtual platforms should be encouraged. **MAWA Project team and CSOs** should organize quarterly or bi-annually virtual meetings, webinars, and

| **and COVID Adaptation** | incorporated changes to remain relevant and effective during COVID. | capacity. By diligently observing COVID guidelines and transitioning to remote work, the Project demonstrated its resilience and commitment to the well-being of its staff and stakeholders. The development of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise awareness about Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) showcased the project's ability to innovate and disseminate crucial information even in challenging circumstances.

The design and implementation of an online working platform exemplified the project's agility in embracing digital solutions, facilitating collaboration, and ensuring uninterrupted project progress. By providing comprehensive training on online tools, the institution empowered its workforce with new skills, fostering their professional growth and adaptability in the face of future disruptions.

Furthermore, the proactive procurement of COVID Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) demonstrated the MAWA commitment to maintaining a safe working environment, prioritizing the health and well-being of its team. Equally important was the provision of tablets and internet connectivity, ensuring that staff working under the MAWA project remained connected with the world and could continue their work remotely. This investment not only facilitated seamless communication but also expanded individual CSOs' capabilities for remote project implementation, thereby increasing the project reach and impact.

Lastly, the project's embrace of virtual meetings and virtual learning enabled efficient and effective decision-making, showcasing the adaptability of its communication practices. This virtual format not only | workshops to maintain engagement, share experiences, and facilitate learning. This will ensure strengthen the individual CSOs to continually be exposed to new and better ways of managing an EVAWG project.

MAWA project team and Donors should promote a culture of digital fluency and adaptability to ensure uninterrupted remote operations. This should be incorporated in all programming for budgets to accommodate provision of necessary equipment, such as laptops, tablets, and internet connectivity, to project staff and partners. All program staff must be trained in virtual platforms that are free and easy to use e.g zoom, google meet etc. This will enable program activities to continue even in situations where there is disruption with access to physical workspaces.

MAWA project team should continue to provide ongoing technical support as needed for the virtual platform used by the online cohort. This will ensure that CSOs continue work in EVAWG programs. |
|---|---|---|---|

		reduced the need for physical gatherings but also enhanced accessibility for participants, allowing for broader and more inclusive engagement. Overall, the ArtGlo and CSOs who worked in the MAWA project were able to overcome the challenges brought about by COVID-19 through the implementation of various measures and adaptations demonstrating its resilience, innovation, and commitment to its mission. The strengthened capacity in using digital tools and remote working, coupled with the institution's dedication to health and safety, positions it well for future challenges, ensuring its continued success in EVAWG programming in a rapidly changing world.	

ANNEX 1- LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS

	Organization	District	Name Of Respondent	Position
1.	Artglo	Zomba	Sharon Kalima Nkhwazi	Gender Lead and Manager of MAWA Project
2.	ArtGlo	Zomba	Florence Simbota	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
3.	ArtGo	Zomba	Caroline Luka	Project Assistant
4.	Social Welfare	Chiradzulu	Chrissy Bitoni	Child Protection Worker
5.	Police	Mulanje	Adamson Malizani	Police
6.	Ministry Of Health	Blantyre	Gravel Kandodo	HIV Diagnostic Assistant
7.	Social Welfare	Chikhwawa	Jim Chikwasha	Social Welfare Officer
8.	Police	Chiradzulu	Mark Munama	Community Policing Coordinator
9.	SAPOF	Blantyre	Gloria Kalilombe	Field Officer
10.	YFC	Zomba	Malizani Phiri	Acting Executive Director
11.	YACODE	Blantyre	Anderson Mhango	Project Manager
12.	Chitapata	Mulanje	Bright Katole	Member
13.	CEWCODA	Blantyre	David Banda	Programs Manager
14.	Mzati	Blantyre	Lawrence Kumpama	Executive Director
15.	River Of Life	Phalombe	Collings Khalipwina	Field Officer
16.	Chitapata	Mulanje	Mike Mheya	Chairman
17.	Namulenga	Mulanje	Osman Abdul	Chairperson
18.	Cayode	Phalombe	Frank Mmeyiwa	Executive Director
19.	Maula	Chiradzulu	Harmiton Namala	Coordinator
20.	Fambauone	Chikhwawa	Tiyese Mhango	Executive Director

21.	Arise	Chikhwawa	Francis Sithole	Executive Director
22.	Voices	Chikhwawa	John Alufandika	Executive Director
23.	VFD	Chiradzulu	Emmanuel Liwonde	M & E
24.	Tiwasunge	Chiradzulu	Justin Phiri	Director
25.	Takondwa Youth	Mulanje	Joseph Smith Chikweya	Executive Director
26.	Maso Athu	Phalombe	Weston Maganga	Executive Director
27.	PYAO	Phalombe	Stanford Chidule	Programs Manager
28.	Social Welfare	Phalombe	Wilson Matenda	Child Protection Worker

ANNEX 2- LIST OF DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

MAWA Project Documents

1. MAWA Annual reports
2. MAWA Baseline reports
3. MAWA Brainstorming session reports
4. MAWA CSO- Community Engagement Toolkit, MAWA Toolkit
5. MAWA CSO project plans and activity reports
6. MAWA Logical framework
7. MAWA Project, Human-Centered Design – Policy Brief
8. MAWA Project proposal
9. MAWA Semi-annual reports
10. MAWA Training curriculum
11. Monitoring visit reports

Other literature

12. A Path to Transformation: Asking 'The Woman Question' in International Law, Michigan Journal of International Law, Vol. 42, 2021,
13. Central Intelligence Agency. (2014). Malawi. In The World Factbook. Available at https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mi.html
14. Commonwealth secretariat (1995) Plan of Action on Gender and development. A commonwealth vision, Women's and Youth Affairs Division, London
15. Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence Core Elements and Quality Guidelines. UNWOMEN, UNFPA
16. Inter-agency GBV Case management Guidelines 2017. USAID and others.
17. Lacey, Nicola. "Feminist Legal Theory." *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*, vol. 9, no. 3, 1989, pp. 383–94. *JSTOR*, http://www.jstor.org/stable/764424. Accessed 26 June 2023.
18. Malawi data portal, https://malawi.opendataforafrica.org/wogeom/population. 51% female and 48% male
19. Malawi Demographic and Health Survey 2015-16, National statistics Office
20. National Gender Policy 2015. Malawi Government, National Plan of Action to Combat Gender-Based Violence.
21. Oxfam. 2013. 'Minimum Standards for Gender in Emergency', https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/minimum-standards-genderemergencies
22. Rapid Assessment of Child Marriages and Teenage Pregnancies During Covid-19 in Malawi, Ministry of Gender Community Development and Social Welfare, September 2020
23. Spotlight Initiative. "Spotlight Initiative. 2021. https://spotlightinitiative.org/fr/node/17535
24. Spotlight, UNICEF Malawi (2020) Ending violence against women and girls in Malawi.
25. Spotlight Initiative. Annual Narrative Programme Report, 17 July 2019 – 31 December 2023. https://www.spotlightinitiative.org/sites/default/files/publication/2023-06/Spotlight%20Initiative%20UN%20Trust%20Fund%202022%20Annual%20Report.pdf (accessed 18 July 2023)

26. The UNEG guidance document. (2011). "Integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluations"

27. The United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, Addendum to Final External Evaluation Guidelines: Considerations for CSO/WROs managing final external evaluations under the Spotlight Initiative

28. The World Bank. Country Partnership Framework of the Republic of Malawi 2021'

29. The World Bank. https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/malawi/overview

30. Traditional Practices in Malawi Survey, 2019. Center for Child Well-being and Development at the University of Zurich, the National Statistical Office of Malawi, the Centre for Social Research at the University of Malawi, and UNICEF Malawi.

31. UNDP 2019. Human Development Report 2019: Inequalities in Human Development in the 21st Century; WEF. 2020. Global Gender Gap Report 2020. See also: https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/africa/malawi

32. UNICEF Malawi (2020) Ending violence against women and girls in Malawi: What do we know? United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 2020, Lilongwe, Malawi,

33. USAID. U.S. assistance in Malawi: promoting gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment.
https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1860/Gender_Fact_Sheet_FINAL_DRAFT.pdf

34. Violence Against Children and Young Women in Malawi Survey (VACS) 2013, Malawi Government

35. WHO, "Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women".

36. World Bank. 2021. "Malawi World Development Indicators".
https://data.worldbank.org/country/MW

Websites

37. http://www.nsomalawi.mw/images/stories/data_on_line/demography/census_2018/Thematic_Reports/Population%20Projections%202018-2050.pdf

38. https://allafrica.com/stories/202110280396.html,

39. https://unsdg.un.org/2030-agenda/universal-values/human-rights-based-approach (accessed on 26th June 2023)

40. https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/AD576-Malawians-see-GBV-as-a-top-priority-and-a-criminal-matter-Afrobarometer-22nov22.pdf

41. https://www.blayaco.org/make-art-for-women-activism-mawa/

42. https://www.leymanck.com/project-targets-cbos-in-ending-gender-based-violence/

43. https://www.scribbr.co.uk/research-methods/thematic-analysis-explained/

44. https://www.unfpa.org/human-rights-based-approach (accessed on 26th June 2023)

45. https://www.omprakash.org/edge (accessed on 18th July 2023)

ANNEX 3- TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference for
Make ART for Women Activism (MAWA) Project Evaluation

General information:

Location: Malawi
Languages required: English, Chichewa
Application deadline: 15 February 2023
Expected duration of assignment: 2 months

1. Background and Content of the Project

Malawi ranks 173 of 188 countries on the Gender Inequality Index (UNDP). Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a pandemic; 40% of women in a 2012 survey reported experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime, 30% reported physical violence, 44% psychosocial violence. 42% of 20-to 24-year-old women were already married before the age of 18. The acceptance of a deeply male-dominant and patriarchal culture in Malawi engenders a culture of violence that victimizes women and girls. Violence in the family and in the community are portrayed by patriarchal social norms and practices as 'part of the culture,' turning them into persistent barriers to change and making them difficult to tackle at an in-depth, grassroots level.

Whilst there has been extensive research, VAWG awareness interventions are often not effectively tackling the root causes and barriers to change, which are embedded in patriarchal social norms and practices. CSOs, grassroots women's organisations and others directly working with people affected (particularly people facing intersecting forms of discrimination) often lack capacity to use innovative techniques to gain an in-depth understanding of these barriers.

With this background, Art and Global Health Centre Africa (ArtGlo) with funding from the United Nations Trust Fund (UNTF) has implemented a project named Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA) for 3 years and 3 months from 2020-2023. The overall goal of Make Art for Women's Activism (MAWA which also means 'tomorrow' in Malawi's Chichewa language) is to end VAWG and improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.

MAWA trained and supported 57 CSO representatives as secondary beneficiaries throughout the project (50 CSOs including NGOs, community-based organizations and faith-based organizations and 7 CSOs in the framework of the online cohort). In order to identify the participating CSOs, ArtGlo worked with District Councils and CSO fora and ensured the cohort included a representation of CSOs focusing on PWD, and LGBTI people, as well as women-led, youth-led, and faith-based CSOs.

1.1 Project Description

The primary focus and overall goal of the MAWA project has been to improve prevention of VAWG in Malawi through changes in behaviour, practices and attitudes. The project aims to address intimate partner sexual and physical violence, non-partner sexual violence, and the harmful practice of early and child marriages.

The project worked closely with local government and CSO networks in 5 districts to identify CSOs who are well placed to advocate and mobilize for social change in their communities but often lack the capacity to do so. MAWA drew on CSOs' existing knowledge and experience, building their expertise and capacities in understanding VAWG and developing and delivering their own responses. CSOs were trained to conduct their own research using Human-Centred Design approaches, using participatory arts in their interventions, as well as received technical GBV and SRHR information, and skills for implementing projects, such as project management, communications and Monitoring and Evaluation. Then, CSOs implemented their projects relevant to their local context and communities, and formed supportive networks at district level to help each other overcome challenges in project implementation,

with support from ArtGlo. They then jointly strategized about how they can advocate for gender equality and tackling of GBV at a district and national level, and collaborated on delivering advocacy campaigns.

Primary beneficiaries of MAWA were women and girls positively impacted by the projects the CSOs designed with ArtGlo's support. MAWA targeted to achieve a positive impact for a total of 5000 women and girls, plus a total of at least 50 women with disabilities and 50 women with LGBTI background. As the project focused on changing social norms and knowledge, attitudes and practices, the CSO's projects also aimed to target the people who currently hold negative attitudes, behaviours and practices, and perpetuate destructive social norms- including community leaders and authorities, and practitioners and advocates of harmful practices.

General project information:

Project start date: January 6, 2020
Project end date: March 31, 2023

Geographic scope of the project:
- Offline cohort: Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, and Chiradzulu districts in Malawi
- Online cohort: Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, Chiradzulu and Zomba districts in Malawi

Main objectives of the project:
- To improve the lives of women and girls in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa, Chiradzulu and Zomba districts in Malawi, by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.

Approach:
- Building the capacity of CSOs working at massroots level to design and deliver effective VAWG and SRHR programmes relevant to their local context and communities, and advocating for change in district and national levels.

Key assumptions:
- All segments of society and local communities are committed to the elimination of VAWG and the abolishment of patriarchal social norms.
- Committed and capable CSOs engage in designing and implement projects to address VAWG.

1.2 Strategies and results chain

The strategic results area of UNTF that this project has aimed to contribute to is 'Improved prevention of VAWG through changes in behaviour, practices and attitudes.

Key project strategies include:

- Working with diverse CSOs as agents of change.
Grassroots CSOs are rooted in the communities they serve, and thus well placed to mobilise people to change behaviour, attitudes and practices on women's rights and VAWG.

- Using human-centred design approach.

HCD is a process for designing projects, services or interventions that places the user at the heart. This approach brings far greater insight from the community than more conventional approaches which only bring 'sensitisation' messages from outside with little engagement with the community on how they relate to lived experience.

- Using participatory arts approaches.

The project's participatory arts methods draw on Augusto Boal's 'Theatre of the Oppressed' concept. By drawing on real life situations based in the local context, these methods can help people see the relevance of issues which people tend to think about on a very abstract, theoretical level. This helps the issues resonate with them, encourages

reflection and changes in knowledge, attitudes and behaviours. This then makes them more engaged in generating and taking ownership for solutions.

- Supporting development of a network of CSOs, and their connection to wider networks.

The project supports collaborative cohorts of CSOs on a district level. Through attending a participatory training together, and then having regular facilitated brainstorming sessions as they prototype their projects, they learn about each other's perspectives and experiences and
develop a culture of collaboration, peer learning and 'Umunthu' philosophy.

Results chain

Project Goal: Improve the lives of women and girls in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiradzulu in Malawi, by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment.		
Outcomes	**Outputs**	**Activities**
Outcome 1: CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiradzulu and other communities at local and national level design EVAWG programmes that are engaging and appropriate for vulnerable women and girls.	**Output 1.1:** CSOs trained within the project have increased capacity to use human-centered design and arts approaches to gather evidence for design of appropriate VAWG programming

Output 1.2: CSOs engage vulnerable women and girls in the design of their projects

Output 1.3: ArtGlo develops a policy brief on human-centred design and a community engagement toolkit to promote knowledge sharing and learning among CSOs and communities at local and national level. | **Activity 1.1.1:** Train selected CSOs in technical VAWG programming and how to effectivity apply Human-centered design and participatory arts approach **Activity 1.1.2:** CSOs conduct research in their communities, identifying the current barriers to change in patriarchal attitudes and practices

Activity 1.2.1: CSOs co-design their projects through stakeholder engagement meetings

Activity 1.3.1. ArtGlo engage and work directly with CSOs and other stakeholders in the development of a policy brief on human-centred design and a community engagement toolkit |
| **Outcome 2:** CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiladzulu deliver high impact contextually relevant projects to improve behaviour, attitudes and practices of the community on EVAWG by November 2022. | **Output 2.1:** Engage CSOs collaborate with existing strategic players in VAWG to prototype their projects to promote learning

Output 2.2: Engage CSOs develop capacity development action plans | **Activity 2.1.1:** CSOs prototype, iterate and implement their project ideas in their communities. **Activity 2.1.2:** ArtGlo mentorship visit and engagement on GDV and SRHR alongside prototyping, iteration and implementation

Activity 2.2.1: Outcome mapping with the CSOs to develop specific capacity development targets and set the strategies appropriate to achieve these |
| **Outcome 3:** CSOs in Blantyre, Phalombe, Mulanje, Chikhwawa and Chiradzulu engage with and gather evidence to feed into wider EVAWG networks advocating for change at district and national levels by November 2022. | **Output 3.1:** trained CSOs have space to network and facilitate mutual learning and exchange at district level

Output 3.2: Participating CSOs collaborate to design and deliver a national advocacy event

Output 3.3: Trained CSOs have an increased visibility in national media and communities | **Activity 3.1.1:** CSOs gather for district networking meetings/brainstorming sessions to discuss emerging issues/challenges and brainstorm on solutions and provide feedback to ArtGlo

Activity 3.1.2: CSOs attend district executive committee and technical working groups meetings to share progress with other district level stakeholders, get input and network |

| | | **Activity 3.2.1:** CSOs, ArtGlo and key stakeholders on EVAWG at national level including policy makers, engage at national advocacy participatory event to foster collaboration and sharing of learning from the CSOs work **Activity 3.2.2:** CSOs, ArtGlo and key stakeholders on EVAWG at district level engage at district advocacy events to foster collaboration, sharing of learning from the CSOs work and coordinated efforts on EVAWG |
| | | **Activity 3.3.1:** Production of relevant IEC materials on EVAWG to be used by the CSOs and ArtGlo to disseminate clear messages and support behaviour change activities at community, district and national levels |

Outcome 4: ArtGlo and targeted CSOs are institutionally strengthened to sustainably respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and any other crises by maintaining or adapting existing interventions on EVAW/G with a focus on the most vulnerable women and girls.	**Output 4.1:** ArtGlo has put in place mechanisms to improve institutional resilience to crises including Covid-19 that ensures the stability of projects and sustainability of projects and sustainability of the organization in the longer term. **Output 4.2:** ArtGlo and engaged CSOs have improved knowledge, skills and capacities to maintain or adapt EVAWG interventions and reach the most vulnerable women and girls while responding to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic crises	**Activity 4.1.1:** Increase online/remote working capacity through purchasing of equipment and software to enable enhanced internal collaboration and capacity to engage CSOs remotely **Activity 4.1.2:** Change management stuff cost analysis of VAWG donor and partner landscape, and how ArtGlo can position our work within this **Activity 4.1.3:** Consultancy to replace pro-bono support **Activity 4.1.4:** Support for safe travel for essential staff **Activity 4.1.5:** Improve capacity of M&E system **Activity 4.2.1:** CSOs training (supplementing KPA 1.1.1) **Activity 4.2.2:** Pilot online version of MAWA project (training, brainstorming sessions, networking etc.) **Activity 4.2.3:** Enhanced CSO online engagement **Activity 4.2.4:** Community media on VAWG Covid-19 response
	Output 4.3: ArtGlo has developed lasting relationships to increase institutional visibility and secure sustainable resources that ensure the stability of gender programming in the long run.	**Activity 4.3.1:** ArtGlo actively builds partnerships and engages with potential partner organizations and funders to mobilize resources and establish cooperation for gender programming.

1.4 Geographic context

The MAWA project for the offline cohort was implemented in five districts of Malawi: Chiradzulu, Phalombe, Chikwawa, Blantyre and Mulanje. As a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the project also had an online cohort from all the districts including Zomba district as a sixth district for online activities.

All these districts are located in the southern region of Malawi. Southern Malawi is the most densely populated region of the country, and has been disproportionately affected by natural disasters (hurricanes, flooding and drought) which increase women's vulnerability to VAWG. These districts were selected as they are close to each other, yet represent a diverse range of characteristics. These diverse characteristics enabled both ArtGlo and programme participants to see how approaches play out in different contexts, providing rich learning experiences.

When identifying the participating CSOs, ArtGlo ensured that the cohorts cover rural, urban and peri-urban/ slum areas. Blantyre district includes Malawi's second largest city, surrounded by significant peri-urban areas, entailing substantial socio-economic division. The other districts are predominantly rural, with diverse ethnic groups and economic drivers. Mulanje is a major tea-growing area, and the Tea-growers Association of Malawi has identified VAWG as an issue within the industry. Chikwawa was one of the worst-affected districts by Cyclone Idai, which has exacerbated VAWG risks, while Chiradzulu also reports high rates. In addition, Phalombe district was identified for a need for further intervention, particularly into VAWG by the post evaluation of ArtGlo's previous project, MASA:Youth.

1.5 Total resources allocated for the intervention,
The total resources allocated for the intervention have been $380,297.

1.6 Key partners involved in the project include:

- 57 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) (50 in the offline and 7 online cohort)

The CSOs included faith-based organizations, community-organizations and youth-led organizations. The common characteristic of them was that they were willing to build capacity to design and implement projects and interventions to tackle gender-based violence and VAWG issues.
- 175 District Council leaders in all programming
- Engaged District Council Leaders including District Social Welfare Officers, District Planning Directors, Gender Officers and District Youth Officers
- 3 Representatives of the Ministry of Gender
- Participating CSOs designed and implemented a project on GBV issues in the framework of the MAWA project. Their projects engaged local leaders, and community groups, e.g., mothers' groups

2. Purpose of the Evaluation

As the MAWA project will end in February 2023, this evaluation will be conducted to assess the overall performance of the project, evaluate project achievements, and support organizational learning. Evaluation results will be used, by ArtGlo's Gender Justice Unit to assess impact, identify gaps to improve the effectiveness of further interventions, influence future project design as well as to inform advocacy activities and content development for ArtGlo's knowledge and education hub. The findings will also be shared with participating CSOs and communities to contribute to evidence-based decisions regarding future gender programming and community interventions to tackle VAWG.

The evaluation will also serve to identify challenges and best practises in gender programming in Malawi and inform donors, partner organizations and practitioners. The focus of this evaluation is to examine the efficiency, effectiveness, and impact of the project for strengthening the capacity of CSOs in reducing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) in their families and communities. The evaluation also aims at assessing the extent the project contributed to improve the lives and safety of women and girls in the participating the communities (beneficiaries) by reducing gender-based violence and early marriages.

After the evaluation is completed, it will be also assessed whether it is feasible to scale it up the scope of the project to nation-wide level. The results of the evaluation will also influence internal capacity-building and recruitment decisions.

3. Evaluation Objectives and Scope

3.1. Scope of Evaluation

The evaluation will cover the entire project period of 3 years and 3 months from January 2020 to March 2023 and all activities planned in the project as defined by the project document. The evaluation will require data collection in all five districts of the offline cohort, Phalombe, Chiradzulu, Mulanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre, as well as from the online cohort which includes Zomba district. The evaluation process will engage key stakeholders from relevant institutions, primary and secondary beneficiaries (community members and CSOs), as well as any other entities involved in project implementation. The evaluation will be consistent with the evaluation policy of UNTF.

Age disaggregated data should be collected to assess the project's impact for primary beneficiaries. In addition, gender aspects should be covered by the evaluation to assess how the project addressed different forms of violence experienced by specific groups of primary beneficiaries (GBV against women and girls, women and girls living with disabilities, LGBTI women and girls).

3.2. Objectives of the Evaluation

The evaluation will cover the entire project period of 3 years and 3 months from January 2020 to March 2023 and all activities planned in the project as defined by the project document. The evaluation will require data collection in all five districts of the offline cohort, Phalombe, Chiradzulu, Mulanje, Chikwawa and Blantyre, as well as from the online cohort which includes Zomba district.

The evaluation process will engage key stakeholders from relevant institutions, primary and secondary beneficiaries (community members and CSOs), as well as any other entities involved in project implementation.

The evaluation will be consistent with the evaluation policy of UNTF.

Age disaggregated data should be collected to assess the project's impact for primary beneficiaries. In addition, gender aspects should be covered by the evaluation to assess how the project addressed different forms of violence experienced by specific groups of primary beneficiaries (GBV against women and girls, women and girls living with disabilities, LGBTI women and girls).

Key objectives of the final evaluation:

a) To evaluate the entire project, against the effectiveness, relevance, efficiency, sustainability and impact criteria, as well as the crosscutting gender equality and human rights criteria

b) To identify key lessons and promising or emerging good practices in the field of ending violence against women and girls, for learning purposes

Evaluation Criteria	Mandatory Evaluation Question
Effectiveness A measure of the extent to which a project attains its objectives / results (as set out in the project document and results framework) in accordance with the theory of change.	1. To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and how?
Relevance The extent to which the project is suited to the priorities and policies of the target group and the context	2. To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?
Efficiency Measures the outputs - qualitative and quantitative - in relation to the inputs. It is an economic term which refers to whether the project was delivered cost effectively.	3. To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?
Sustainability Sustainability is concerned with measuring whether the benefits of a project are likely to continue after the project/funding ends	4. To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?
Impact Assesses the changes that can be attributed to a particular project relating specifically to higher-level impact (both intended and unintended).	5. To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?
Knowledge generation Assesses whether there are any promising practices that can be shared with other practitioners	6. To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?
Gender Equality and Human Rights	7. Cross-cutting criteria: the evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based and gender responsive approaches have been incorporated throughout the project and to what extent.

In relation to the above-mentioned questions, the evaluation should consider the following **sub-questions:**

- To what extent did CSOs involved in the project improved their capacities to implement projects to address gender-based violence?

- To what extent did the project have a positive impact on the reduction of gender-based violence in the targeted communities?

- To what extent were they able to apply newly gained knowledge in human- centred design and participatory arts in their activities?

- How did the project contribute to the dissemination and application of good practices, policy recommendations and standards at district and national level?

- What were the challenges/obstacles to achieving the project objectives and expected accomplishments?

- Were the human and financial resources allocated to the project used efficiently and commensurate to the project results?

- Were policy advisory and capacity building activities implemented in an efficient manner?

- Was financial support for participating in national events provided in an efficient manner?

- To what extent did the project serve the needs of its main beneficiaries, i.e., community members?

- To what extent were the project outputs relevant to strengthening the capacity of CSOs?

3. Evaluation Methodology

In order to conduct the evaluation, the evaluator is required to

- Review the project documentation: This could include but not restricted to annual and semi-annual reports, monitoring visit reports, brainstorming session reports, the original project proposal document, training curriculum etc., and any other relevant statistics and secondary sources.

- Develop an evaluation approach and data collection tools and methods: ArtGlo welcomes the use of mixed methods evaluation design, however the evaluation should be conducted mainly through qualitative evaluation methods. Proposed data collection tools include survey, key informant interviews, focus group discussions and most significant change stories. The data collected should be processed through qualitative and quantitative data analysis. The evaluator must ensure that the evaluation approach and methods of data collection are gender responsive. External consultants applying for the role must propose the evaluation design and methodology in their application.

- Conduct field visits: field visits will take place in the 5 districts, where MAWA interventions took place, and should include the agreed sample of beneficiaries and stakeholders. Remote interviews with participants of the MAWA online cohort may be required.

Sample Size: The project was expected to reach 5000 beneficiaries over 3 years, but it has surpassed the target and has reached approximately 28968 beneficiaries. Using MaCorr sampling criteria, a sample size of 500 primary beneficiaries (community members) is recommended for this evaluation to increase precision; however, the sampling framework is to be calculated by the evaluator. 70% of total sample size should be women and girls who are between 20-59-year-old.

Representatives of civil society organisations (potentially disaggregated by gender disabilities, age, sexual orientation) formed the secondary beneficiaries of the project. While collecting data from community members could be done by random sampling, purposive sampling should be used to collect data from project stakeholders. From the 50 CSOs (offline cohort), a total of 15 CSOs need to be selected for the evaluation, 3 CSOs per district. The evaluator also needs to include 2 CSOs from the online cohort in the evaluation.

The consultant must also plan to include the following groups of stakeholders in the evaluation:
- District Council leaders including District Social Welfare Officers, District Planning Director, Gender Officers, and District Youth Officers

-Ministry of Gender
-Local leaders
-Area Development Committees, Mothers' groups, and other community groups
It is recommended to include 4 stakeholders per district. In terms of District Council Leaders, the evaluation should include 1-2 participants depending on availability.

4. Evaluation Ethics

The evaluation must be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation' and follow the guidelines on how to integrate human rights and gender equality standards and principles in the evaluation process.

Please refer to the UNEG guidance document, "Integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluations", (2011) Chapter 3.

It is also suggested that the evaluation process incorporates the WHO's recommendations on the ethics and safety of conducting intervention research on violence against women.

Please refer to the document WHO, "Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women".

The evaluator will submit guidelines on evaluation ethics. These must include:
        a) Protocols to ensure the safety (both physical and psychological) of respondents and those collecting the data as well as to prevent any harm. This means that the rights of individuals are protected and participation in the evaluation does not result in any violation of their rights.
        b) A plan in place to:
        1. Protect the rights of respondents, including privacy and confidentiality.
        2. Elaborate on how informed consent will be obtained and to ensure that the names of individuals consulted during data collection will not be made public.
        3. Consider additional risks for the children (under 18 years old*) and need for parental consent.
        c) In data collection, the evaluator/s must be:
        1. Well trained in collecting sensitive information and specifically data relating to violence against women and select any members of the evaluation team on these issues.
        2. Able to design culturally appropriate data collection tools that do not create distress for respondents.
        3. Able to organize data collection visits at the appropriate time and place to minimize risk to respondents
        4. Able to provide information on how individuals in situations of risk can seek support (referrals to organizations that can provided counselling support).

5. Key deliverables of evaluators and timeframe/Evaluation Schedule

The evaluator will develop a specific timetable for the following phases of the evaluation:

No.	Deliverables	Deadline
1	Evaluation Inception Report	By 24 March 2023
2	Draft Evaluation Report	By 28 April 2023
3	Final Evaluation Report	By 31 May 2023

6. Evaluation team composition and required competencies

ArtGlo welcomes the application an experienced consultant or a team of consultants with expertise in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

The evaluator/ members of the team of consultants should have:
- Evaluation experience at least 5 years in conducting external evaluations, with mixed-methods, and most particularly qualitative evaluation skills, and having flexibility in using non-traditional and innovative evaluation methods.
- Expertise in gender and human-rights based approaches to evaluation and issues of violence against women and girls.
- Experience with program design and theory of change, gender-responsive evaluation, participatory approaches and stakeholder engagement.
- Specific evaluation experiences in the areas of ending violence against women and girls.
- Experience in collecting and analysing quantitative and qualitative data as well as data visualization.
- In-depth knowledge of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- A strong commitment to delivering timely and high-quality results, i.e., credible evaluation and its report that can be used.
- Good communication skills and ability to communicate with various stakeholders and to express concisely and clearly ideas and concepts.
- Regional/Country experience and knowledge: in-depth knowledge of Malawi is required.
- Language proficiency: fluency in English and good command of Chichewa is desirable.

7. Management Arrangement of the Evaluation

The evaluation will be conducted by an independent evaluator or team of evaluators. The evaluator can constitute their team as they see fit. All members of the evaluation team shall fall their supervision or responsibility. The evaluator is responsible for conducting the evaluation according to the terms of reference (ToR).

On ArtGlo's side, the evaluation will be supervised by the Gender Justice Lead. The Gender Justice Lead with help of the MAWA project team and ArtGlo's M&E team will

- Ensure meeting schedules are set up

- Assist in the implementation of the evaluation methodology as appropriate (i.e., arranging interviews) in a way as to minimize bias to evaluation findings

- Review and provide comments on the deliverables

- Ensure that the evaluation is conducted in accordance with the term of reference

8. Timeline of the entire evaluation process

Stage of Evaluation	Key Task	Responsible	Number of working days required	Timeframe
Inception Stage	Briefings of evaluators to orient the evaluators	Gender Justice Lead	**7 working days**	**First week, Starting on 6 March**
	Desk review of key documents	Evaluator/s		

	Finalizing the evaluation design and methods	Evaluator/s		**By 15 March 2023**
	Submit draft **Inception Report**	Evaluator/s		
	Review **Inception Report** and provide feedback	Gender Justice Lead, ArtGlo's M&E team	**3 working days**	**By 20 March 2023**
	Incorporating comments and revising the **Inception Report**	Evaluator/s	**4 working days**	**By 24 March 2023**
	Submitting final version of inception report	Evaluator/s		
	Review final **Inception Report** and approve	Gender Justice Lead, ArtGlo's M&E team, and UNTF	**5 working days**	**By 31 March 2023**
Data collection and analysis stage	Desk research	Evaluator/s	**10 working days**	
	In-country technical mission for data collection (visits to the field, interviews, questionnaires, etc.)	Evaluator/s	**2 weeks**	**By 14 April 2023**
Synthesis and reporting stage	Analysis and interpretation of findings	Evaluator/s	**2 weeks**	**By 28 April 2023**
	Preparing a **first draft report**	Evaluator/s		
	Review of the **draft report** with key stakeholders for quality assurance	Gender Justice Lead, ArtGlo's M&E team, and UNTF	**7 working days**	**By 9 May 2023**

	Consolidate comments from all the groups and submit the consolidated comments to evaluation team	Evaluator/s		
	Incorporating comments and preparing **second draft evaluation report**	Evaluator/s	**7 working days**	**By 18 May 2023**
	Final review and approval of report	Gender Justice Lead, ArtGlo's M&E team and UNTF	**3 working days**	**By 23 May 2023**
	Final edits and submission of the **final report**	Evaluator/s	**4 working days**	**By 31 May 2023**

--------------------End of short version of the ToR----------------------

9. **Budget**

ArtGlo has a total of $7,450 USD available for the final evaluation.

10. Annexes

A. List of key stakeholders/institutions to be consulted

- Participating Civil Society Organizations
- District Council leaders (District Social Welfare Officers, District Planning Directors, Gender Officers and District Youth Officers)
- Representatives of the Ministry of Gender
-Local leaders, and members community groups, e.g., mothers' groups

B. Inception Report Outline

Introduction
- Background and context of the project
- Description of the project (including theory of change and the results chain – project goal, outcomes and outputs)
- Purpose, objectives and scope of the evaluation
- Evaluation criteria and key questions

Methodology
Evaluation design, including:
- Description of overall design
- Data sources
- Method of data collection and analysis
- Sample and sampling design
- Limitations of the methodology and how these will be addressed

Safety and ethical considerations and protocols to be put in place

Workplan including roles and responsibilities
- A work plan with associated activities, deliverables, timeline, roles and responsibilities, as well as travel and logistical arrangements.

C. Evaluation Matrix Template

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Source and Data Collection Methods
Effectiveness	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and how?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Relevance	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Coherence	To what extent has the intervention supported or undermined other EVAW/G initiatives, and vice versa.	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Efficiency	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Sustainability	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Impact	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Knowledge generation	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*
Gender Equality and Human Rights	Cross-cutting criteria: the evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based and gender responsive approaches have been incorporated throughout the project and to what extent.	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*	*To be completed by the evaluator/s*

D. List of documents consulted

- Project proposal

- Baseline reports

- Logical framework and theory of change

- Annual reports

- Monitoring visit and brainstorming session reports

- CSO project plans and activity reports

E. Draft outline of final report

I.   **Title and opening pages**

- Title page (with key project information)
- Table of contents
- List of acronyms and abbreviations

II.   **Context and description of the project**
III.   **Evaluation purpose, objectives and scope** • Evaluation criteria and key questions
IV.   **Evaluation methodology (see suggested template)** • Description of overall design

- Data sources
- Description of data collection methods and analysis
- Description of sample and sampling design
- Limitations

V.   **Safety and ethical considerations and protocols put in place**
VI.   **Findings with analysis per evaluation question**
VII. **Conclusions per evaluation criteria**
VIII. **Recommendations per evaluation criteria**
IX.   **Annexes:**

• Terms of reference
• Evaluation matrix
• Beneficiary data sheet
• Data collection instruments and protocols
• List of stakeholders interviewed or consulted (without direct reference to individuals unless consent has been given)
• List of documents reviewed

ANNEX 4- EVALUATION MATRIX

Evaluation Criteria	Evaluation Questions	Indicators	Data Source and Data Collection Methods
Effectiveness	To what extent were the intended project goal, outcomes and outputs (project results) achieved and how?	*All Project indicators from the logframe*	*Household Questionnaire, FGD, KIIs* *District Socio economic profile* *District Implementation Plans*
Relevance	To what extent do the achieved results (project goal, outcomes and outputs) continue to be relevant to the needs of women and girls?	*All Project indicators from the logframe* *Number of stakeholders reporting that the project addressed the needs of women and girls*	*Household Questionnaire, FGD, KIIs* *District Socio economic profile* *District Implementation Plans*
Coherence	To what extent has the intervention supported or undermined other EVAW/G initiatives, and vice versa.	*Number of stakeholders/beneficiaries who report that the intervention supported or undermined other EVAW/G initiatives.*	*Household Questionnaire, FGD, KIIs* *District Socio economic profile* *District Implementation Plans*
Efficiency	To what extent was the project efficiently and cost-effectively implemented?	*Burn Rate* *Cost of implementation*	*KIIs, FGD, Project budget and expenditure analysis*
Sustainability	To what extent will the achieved results, especially any positive changes in the lives of women and girls (project goal level), be sustained after this project ends?	*Number of project initiatives which will continue after closing the project* *Number of norms which the project managed to change*	*Household Questionnaire, FGD, KIIs*
Impact	To what extent has the project contributed to ending violence against women, gender equality and/or women's empowerment (both intended and unintended impact)?	*All project indicators from the logframe*	*Household Questionnaire, FGD, KIIs* *District Socio-economic profile* *District Implementation Plans*
Knowledge generation	To what extent has the project generated knowledge, promising or emerging practices in the field of EVAW/G that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?	*Number of knowledge documents/initiatives developed and shared*	*KIIs, FGD, Project document*
Movement building	To what extent has the project contributed to feminist and women's rights movement building in EVAWG in impact areas?	*Number of movement building initiatives undertaken/shared*	*KII's, FGD, project documents*

Gender Equality, Human Rights,	Cross-cutting criteria: the evaluation should consider the extent to which human rights based, gender responsive, and COVID related interventions and approaches have been incorporated throughout the project and to what extent.	*Number of human rights based, gender responsive, and COVID related approaches incorporated throughout the project*	*KIIs, Household, FGD* *Project documents*
COVID Adaptation	To what extent the project adapted to COVID and incorporated changes to remain relevant and effective during COVID.		

ANNEX 5- ENDLINE EVALUATION TOOLS

INDIVIDUAL INDEPTH INTERVIEW CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This Questionnaire serves the purpose of collecting data from 18 CSO's

The questionnaire will generate information from the following CSO's:

1. Blantyre CBO's – YOCADE (1M[33] & 3F), Mzati or Domweor Nankumba (2M & 2F), Save the Poor Foundation (1M & 3F)

2. Phalombe CBO's – Chikondano (2M & 2F) (virtual interview), Machemba (2M & 1 F), River of Life (2M & 2F)

3. Chikhwawa CBO's - Centre for Youth Transformation Action (2M & 2F) (virtual interview), Arisa or Phwadzi (2M & 2F) (virtual interview), Voices (2M & 2F)

4. Mulanje CBO's - Mulanje Women's Forum (4 F), Takondwa or Chitapata (M & 2F), Tikondane Theater for Change (2M & 2F) (virtual interview)

5. Chiradzulu – Tiwasunge (1M & 2F), Maula CBO (2M & 1M), Vision (2M & 2F)

6. On-line cohort – Youth action for Change (2M & 1, 2 F from Finance and M/E), CECOWDA (1M & 3F,1F from finance) , PYAO (3M , 1M from finance)

INTERVIEWERS NOTES

Start each interview session with the Introductory Remarks, Brief Aim of the Survey, Confidentiality Statement and Expressly seeking the consent of the Interviewee. The respondent should give verbal consent before you proceed to administer the questionnaire. For safeguarding issues please channel all complaints to the Gender Justice Lead.

DATE :...

NAME OF INTERVIEWER...

NAME OF CSO…………………………………………………………………………..

Online /offline…………………………………………………………………………

LOCATION : District …………………….

URBAN :………………………..RURAL :………………………….(TICK RELEVANT)

Section A- Demographics

3.1   **Particulars of respondents**
   1. Male
   2. Female

2.How old are you?
   1. 10 – 19yrs
   2. 20 – 24 yrs
   3. 25-59 yrs
   4. Above 59 years

3.   Position in CSO ……………………..

4. Main Occupation
   a. Unemployed
   b. Student
   c. Subsistence farmer
   d. Commercial farmer

---

[33] M- Male, F- Female

    e.   Businessperson

    f.   Casual labourer

    g.   Full-time employment

    h.   Other, specify

5.   **Highest Level of Education**

    a.   Primary

    b.   Secondary

    c.   Tertiary

    d.   Adult literacy

    e.   None

Section B: Effectiveness

7. Share what do you understand by VAWG? (And share how can it be addressed in your community?

8. Did you design any EVAWG project from 2020-2023? If yes, explain what project you designed and give examples of its success.

9. Explain how you applied the Human-centered design and participatory arts approach?

10. At what stage did you engage vulnerable women and girls in the design of your projects? E.g., planning, implementation, evaluation……

11. How did the project activities assist you to identify negative socio-norms (E.g., patriarchal attitudes and practices in your community)?

12. In terms of participatory arts, which ones was more effective and why? E.g., music, drama, poetry, dance, pictures, films and others (specify)

13. Share examples of how the activities brought about positive change in your community? Explain how you challenged negative socio-norms, GBV, early child marriages, women empowerment?

Section C: Relevance

14. According to your perspective, to what extent did the project benefit women and girls in the community you serve? Explain …………..

15. Share some of the examples of the benefits? in your view, do women feel safe, confident, empowered, in the community. Give examples of significant stories….

Section D: Efficiency

16. Based on the resources that you were supported with from 2020 to 2023, (both financial and none financial e.gg, equipment, manuals), did you achieve your targets? (Y/N)

17. **If not online cohort, skip this question and proceed to question 18**. For online cohort Where you given enough support to engage actively on the online platform? E.g., gadgets, airtime etc.

18. To what extent did you exceed your target? Explain how you achieved that target ?....

19. Briefly describe how you think other organizations can learn from you, best practices ………

20. What do you think you can do better to improve project delivery?....................

Section E: Sustainability

21. How can the benefits of the project be sustained by the community e.g., CSO's, leaders, district authorities? Can the benefits continue in the community after the project has ended?

22. **If not, online cohort skip this question and proceed to question 23**. Can the work on the online platform continue even after the project has ended? Is it sustainable?

23. Identify community structures you worked with during the project? E.g., Mother groups, care groups, religious leaders, traditional leaders? Etc. other specify

24. Identify district structures you worked with during the project? NEC, DEC

25. How did you participate in any activities as a network or to co-ordinate your work with other CSO's? How sustainable are the networks or coordinating structures?

26. Did you set up any community-based systems and processes that can continue to work after March 2023? Give examples ……………

27. How confident are you in taking initiative on EVAWG? Not Confident=;1 Somewhat Confident=2; Confident Very=3; Confident=4; No answer=5

28. **If not, online cohort skip this question, proceed to question 29.** How confident are you taking an initiative on EVAWG online? Not Confident=;1 Somewhat Confident=2; Confident Very=3; Confident=4; No answer=5

Section F: Impact

29. What has been the impact of the project in your community from 2020-2023?

30. What has been the trend of VAWG incidences (e.g., early child marriages, IPV, norms) in your community from 2020 to 2023?
    5- The same
    6- Gone up
    7- Gone down
    8- None of the above

31. Give reasons for the trend? Is it because of the project?

32. Can you give examples of gender equality and/or women's empowerment in your community?

33. Are the examples as a result of the project or not? Y/N

34. Share any none intended results of the project? give examples ….

Section G: Knowledge generation and movement building

35. To what extent were the following (networking meetings/brainstorming sessions, executive committee and technical working groups meetings) beneficial to your work in the community? On a scale of 1 to 3 please rate yourself

	Not important	important	Very important
Networking meetings/brainstorming session			
Any meetings related to the project both online and offline			

36. Do you think the project work generated some knowledge/practices or information that should be documented and shared with other practitioners? Y/N, Explain why ……….

37. How did you incorporate human rights in your work? specify

38. How did you incorporate gender issues in your work? specify

39. How did you participate in any district and national level event? share your experience…..

40. In what ways did your organization engage in movement building work in relation to improving prevention of VAW/G? share examples….

41. What challenges and opportunities, if any, were faced by your organization when working on movement-building for EVAW/G
    a. Resistance from the community
    b. Resistance from other CSO's
    c. COVID-19 affected our meetings

d. We were called bad names by the community
e. Working together gave us a louder voice
f. We had more power because we were working together
g. Other….specify

Others e.g., capacity and movement building

42. Share any challenges that you faced that affected your delivery of the project activities.
43. **If not, online cohort skip this question**, **proceed to question 44.** Share any challenges you faced using the online platform. Was the platform effective for your work.
44. Did the project activities strengthen your capacity in EVAWG work? Y/N
45. Did the project activities strengthen your capacity to work as a women's movement in EVAWG? (Y/N)
46. On a scale of 1 to 3 please rate yourself on the following skills

	2 Low	2 – moderate	3 High
Resilience/adapt to COVID and other natural disasters e.g., floods			
On-line engagement			
Confident to use art forms			
Monitoring and evaluation			
Visibility /Working with other EVAWG organizations as a movement			
Working with District stakeholders (e.g., District office)			
Working with National stakeholders (e.g., Ministries)			

47. Do you attribute such skills to the MAWA project or not? Y/N
48. Share the project activities you implemented related to COVID.
   Online cohort only
49. Where you given enough support to engage actively on the online platform?
50. Explain how best can the project be implemented using the online platform? Share your ideas…………..

********** End of Questionnaire ***********

HOUSEHOLD/COMMUNITY SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

INTERVIEWERS NOTES **Start each interview session with the Introductory Remarks, Brief Aim of the Survey, Confidentiality Statement and Expressly seeking the consent of the Interviewee. For safeguarding issues please channel all complaints to the Gender Justice Lead.** **The respondent should give verbal consent before you proceed to** **administer the questionnaire.**	

District_____ Interviewer_____

Name of CSO_____ Date

Village Head (V/H)_____Traditional Authority_____

	Section A: Demographics	
1.	Respondent's sex: (Male=1; Female=2)	
2.	How old are you? 15-19yrs=1; 20–24 yrs=2; 25-59 yrs=3; 60+=4	
3.	What is your marital status? (Never married= 1; Cohabiting=2; Married =3; Separated =4; Divorced =5; Widowed=6)	
	Who is the head of the house? male, female	
4.	What is your main occupation? (Unemployed = 1; Student =2; Subsistence farmer =3; Commercial farmer =4; Businessperson =5; Casual labourer =6; Full-time employment= 8; Other= 9, specify)	
5.	What is your highest level of education? Primary=1; Secondary=2; Tertiary=3; Adult literacy=4; None=5	
	Section B- EFFECTIVENESS	

6.	Did you engage with ……………..this CSO in your community ? **Yes=1, No=2** **(Name the Mawa CSO working in that specific district)** **What are some of the activities where you heard about EVAWG in the communities?**
	    a. Community awareness campaigns
	    b. Bonanza e.g., football, sports where EVAWG messages were shared
	    c. Bawo e.g., social activities were EVAWG messages were shared
	    d. Community meetings by leaders were EVAWG messages were shared
	    e. Other……………specify	

7.	Did the organization work to end violence against women and girls in this community? **Yes=1, No=2** *If No, skip to 11*	

8.	At what stage did the organization engage women and girls in their work?
	
	     a. Planning- before the EVAWG activities started (research)
	     b. Implementation – during EVAWG activities roll out
	     c. Evaluation- after the EVAWG activities were undertaken (kalondolondo)
	     d. Other	

9.	Did their work challenge the following …………, in your community?
	
	     a. Intimate partner violence (Y/N)
	     b. child marriages (Y/N)
	     c. Violence in the family physical violence, rape, child abuse, failure to provide financial support to family, abandonment (Y/N)
	     d. Gender based violence (Y/N)
	     e. Women empowerment (Y/N)	

9B	How did their work challenge these violence mentioned in 9?	

10.	What is the situation of the problem mentioned in 9 above after interacting with the CSO
	
	     a. Situation is better after the intervention
	     b. Situation is the same after the intervention
	     c. Situation is worse than before the intervention
	     d. Other………specify	

	Section C -Relevance	
11.	To what extent do women and girls now feel safe in the community and in the family? Please share examples …..	

12.	what are some of the examples of the benefits brought about by the project?
	
	     a. Reduced number of incidences of VAWG
	     b. Women are participating more in community activities
	     c. Increased use of art in sharing messages.
	     d. Increased reporting of GBV cases
	     e. Increased knowledge of what to do in cases of VAWG
	     f. Others	

	Section D – Efficiency	
14.	Please share with us what you think the project did well in your community? Give examples	
	Section E: Sustainability	

16.	How do you think the benefits of the project can be sustained? the benefits of the project in **12** above to your community? specify ……………………….	
17.	Are you aware of any reporting mechanism on EVAWG? If yes, specify them… E.g., Mother groups, Care groups religious leaders, traditional leaders, CVSU, Youth groups, CBO, District office etc.	
	Section F: Impact	
18.	What has been the impact of the project changed in your family and community from 2020 to 2023?	
	Section G: Knowledge generation, gender and human rights, COVID	
19.	In your view, how did the activities promote the protection of human rights? share examples	
20.	In your view, how did the project activities reduce gender inequalities in your communities, share examples	
	Others – Prevailing norms	
21.	Can you share examples of social behaviours that have changed due to the project? why have things changed?	
	Information	
22.	In your view, which is the most effective way of getting information on EVAWG to you?	
23.	If/When you experienced VAWG, specify where did/would you seek help?	

*****************END OF QUESTIONNAIRE***********************

FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

(Participants: ADC member, VDC member, Chiefs/community leader, community policing member, mother group, HSA) 6 to 10 members

INTERVIEWERS NOTES
Start each interview session with the Introductory Remarks, Brief Aim of the Survey, Confidentiality Statement and Expressly seeking the consent of the Interviewee. The respondent should give verbal consent before you proceed to administer the questionnaire. For safeguarding issues please channel all complaints to the Gender Justice Lead at ArtGlo.

Demographics

Name of CSO……………………………………… Date………………………………………….

Number of respondents: Male ……………. Female …………………. Time…………………….

Village ………………T/A ……………………

Name of Facilitator………………………….

Section B- EFFECTIVENESS

1. How did you engage with (CSO …………………) in your community?

2. Explain how the organization and project worked to end violence against women and girls in this community? How did it work to early child marriages end IPV) Share examples?

3. Explain why the following are Good or bad after interacting with the CSO
   a. Intimate Partner violence (Good/Bad)
   b. Child marriages (Good/Bad)
   c. Violence in the Family (Good/bad)

Section C- Relevance

4. Share examples of how women and girls in the community benefited from the project?

5. Are the achieved results relevant to the needs of women and girls in your communities? Explain

Section D – Efficiency

6. Explain what has now changed in the communities during the MAWA project from 2020-2023? Give examples

7. Share how the project brought about positive social behaviours?

8. How did the project activities meet your expectations or not?

9. What went well? What did not go well?

10. Share examples of what should be done to improve project delivery in the future?

Section E – Sustainability

11. Based on the benefits of the project you have shared in 4 above? how can the benefits be sustained?
    a. Reduced number of incidences of VAWG
    b. Women are participating more in community activities
    c. Increased use of art in sharing messages.

d. Increased reporting of GBV cases
e. GBV reporting structures have increased in our communities
f. Others

12. How will the community structures continue to operate after the end of the project? How will you continue to collaborate and scale up or continue any of the project work?

Section F - Impact

13. Can you share the trend of VAWG incidences for the past three years? have the cases gone up or down and why?
14. Has the project contributed to this change? Do you see any positive or negative impact of the work of the project activities? Share examples.

Section G: Knowledge generation and movement building

15. What are some of the practices and knowledge on EVAWG generated and which should be documented and shared with others doing similar work in the communities?
16. Can you share any examples of women's movement building to EVAWG that you have seen in your community during the project? Share examples of how women's organisations are working together or speaking with one voice?

Others, human rights, gender and COVID

17. Can you share any challenges you faced during the project? and how should those challenges be addressed?
18. Has the project been gender responsive? (Y/N)
19. Has the project improved the human rights situation in your communities? (Y/N)
20. Share examples of how the project continued to support you during COVID? (Y/N)

Kindly circulate the following Social and Economic Profile form after the FGD to be completed by the Participants.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC PROFILE (SEP) FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION PARTICIPANT

#	Name and Signature	Village	Age	Marital status
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				

*********************END OF QUESTIONNAIRE*********************

KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW GUIDE

This Questionnaire serves the purpose of collecting data from Key informant Respondents from Government Ministries and Community leaders. District Council leaders (District Social Welfare Officers, District Planning Directors, Gender Officers and District Youth Officers)

1. 2 representatives – District Social welfare officer /Planning officer/ Gender officer /Youth Officer (per district).

2. Project staff- Program Lead, Program assistant, M&E, UNTF Program Manager

The questionnaire will generate information on the value of the intervention from the view of the key stakeholders.

INTERVIEWERS NOTES

Start each interview session with the Introductory Remarks, Brief Aim of the Survey, Confidentiality Statement and Expressly seeking the consent of the Interviewee. The respondent should give verbal consent before you proceed to administer the questionnaire. For safeguarding issues please channel all complaints to the Gender Justice Lead.

DATE :..
NAME OF INTERVIEWER...
NAME OF KEY RESPONDENT…………………………………………………..
POSITION…………………………………………………………………………..
LOCATION : District ………………………………………………
Mandate of organisation:………………………….

Section B- EFFECTIVENESS
1. Explain how you interacted with the CSO's and community under this project and the role you played?
2. Explain how the organization and project worked to end violence against women and girls in this community?
3. How did the project achieve its intended results?
4. How did the project adapt to COVID? Explain the activities that were undertaken and how did the work remain relevant?

Section C- Relevance
5. Explain how the project activities fit into your priority areas as an organization.
6. Describe how the project impacted gender-based violence in the targeted communities? Share the trend of district GBV statistics from 2020 to 2023?
7. Describe how the project serves the needs of its main beneficiaries, i.e., women and girls, community members?

Section D – Efficiency
8. Did the project bring about positive social behaviours? share examples and how?
9. To what extent did you exceed your target expectations as a key stakeholder? Explain how?
10. What went well? What did not go well? Were the resources (both financial and human/Technical) enough for what the project set out to do?
11. Share examples of what should be done to improve project delivery in the future?

Section E – Sustainability
12. How can the benefits from the project be sustained moving forward?
13. How do you think community structures continue to operate after the end of the project? Are you to collaborate and network with the community structures after the project work? Explain how?

Section F - Impact
14. What are/   is the general impact/results of the project? share examples
15. Has the project contributed to this change? Share examples.

16. Can you share any none intended results of the project if any?

Section G: Knowledge generation and movement building

17. What are the best practices or knowledge generated in this project that should be documented and shared with other practitioners?

18. What is the state of the women's movement for EVAWG in this district? Explain how it has been in the past three years? Is the movement united or disintegrated   ?

Others- UNTF And ArtGlo staff only

19. Can you share any challenges you faced with the project activities during the project? and how should those challenges be addressed? suggest improvement for future EVAWG projects?

20. Can you share the challenges you faced in project implementation during COVID? How   did the project adapt to COVID?

21. How did the funds for institutional strengthening affect your organization's resilience and ability to engage in movement-building work?

22. How can things be improved in the future for EVAWG programs.

23. In your view, to what extent were human rights based and gender responsive approaches incorporated throughout the project and their effect.

24. In the future, how can CSO's who participated in this project, participate in the development of District based EVAWG programs ?   If   yes,   give   examples   of   best practices.

********** End of Questionnaire ***********

General Information Sheet

MAKE ART FOR WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (MAWA)

You are being invited to take part in a research initiative. Before you decide to take part, it is important that you understand why the research initiative is being done and what it will involve. Please ask questions if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

What are we doing?

This study is part of a project called **MAKE ART FOR WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (MAWA)** project that was being implemented in the districts of Mulanje, Blantyre, Chiradzulu, Phalombe, Chikhwawa and Zomba which was carried out by ArtGlo and its partners, from January 2020 to March 2023. The overall goal of the project was to improve the lives of women and girls by challenging patriarchal social norms and mainstreaming women's empowerment. We are collecting data to evaluate how the project was implemented and its impact on the communities the project was working in.

Why are we doing this initiative?

You are invited to participate in a research study involving interviews or focus group discussions. The overall purpose of this study is to engage key stakeholders, primary and secondary beneficiaries to evaluate the project. The evaluation will collect data based on gender aspects and different forms of GBV against women, and girls.

Why have you been invited to take part?

You were selected as a possible participant in this study because you live or work in this community, are a member of the household male/female, or are a partner doing work related to EVAWG. We would like to invite you to take part in order to make sure that future programming will meet the specific needs of all people, and benefit the greater community.

How will the information you give be used?

Information provided will be used to inform ArtGlo and its Donors future programming and work *in EVAWG.*

For minors, what will happen if you decide to take part?

If your parents have consented to your participation in the study, you are also free to accept or not accept to participate in the survey.
If you decide to take part:
- *We will ask you to participate in an individual interview or group discussion (a same-sex group or mixed group) to develop an understanding of your personal experiences.*
- *All of your responses will remain confidential and if you are uncomfortable answering questions on these topics, please feel free to let the interviewer know.*
- *We estimate that an interview should take from 30-45 minutes while a group discussion may take up to an hour.*
- *If you agree, detailed notes and an audio recording will be taken of the interview or discussion.*

What if you don't want to participate anymore?

If you decide to withdraw, and do not want us to use the information that you have already given us, please let us know and we will delete all of your information.

You do not have to participate in this study. You are also free to withdraw from the project at any time, for any reason. Taking part in this project is voluntary. If you choose not to participate in the project, there will be no negative consequences.

Keeping your information private and safe

To maintain the privacy of all participants, the information that you provide us will be kept private and confidential. Also, what other people say during the discussions is considered confidential information. Therefore, if you are in a discussion, participants should not discuss any specific details that are shared by other group members with people who are not a part of the group.

The Evaluation process will be completed in 3 months. At that point, all personal data and recordings will already be anonymized. All information will be destroyed in line with ArtGlo and UNTF Data protection policy.

What if I am in distress and how can you find out more about the initiative?

If you are in distress or have any questions at a later time you can contact:

Gender Lead
Art & Global Health Center Africa (ArtGlo)
P.O. Box 607, 14th Avenue, Mulunguzi, Zomba, Malawi.
Safeguarding Focal Person- she will handle all your safeguarding concerns.

Support services you can contact

*If you are worried about something, or feel uneasy about someone, it is important that you know there are people you can go to. Please talk to **Gender Justice Lead at ArtGlo** about your concerns. You can approach her during or after the initiative. She will ensure that your concerns are addressed properly.*

ANNEX 5- CONSENT FORMS

Consent Form – Adults

✔ Tick relevant box

Consent for interview of minor	
Consent for interview of adult	

I/parent/guardian……………………………………………………… am voluntarily taking part in this survey.

- □ I understand why you are doing the **MAKE ART FOR WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (MAWA) project Endline Evaluation.**
- □ I understand that I don't have to take part, and I can stop the interview at any time;
- □ The survey has been explained to me;
- □ I don't expect to receive any benefit or payment for my participation;
- □ I agree to my interview being audio-recorded or in the alternate I agree to written notes being recorded of my interview.
- □ I understand that all information I provide for this study will be treated confidentially.
- □ I understand that in any report on the results of this research my identity will remain anonymous. This will be done by changing my name and disguising any details of my interview which may

reveal my identity or the identity of the people I speak about. *(Key Informants can be anonymous if they wish)*

- ☐ I understand that disguised extracts from my interview may be quoted in the survey report.
- ☐ I understand that signed consent forms and original audio recordings will be retained by the institution that commissioned the survey and destroyed following ArtGlo's data security policy.
- ☐ I understand that the that the information shared will be used - ONLY - for the purpose of this final evaluation and should the information require to be used for anything else, my consent will be sought to authorize such use.

<u>Verbal consent</u>

Verbal consent has been given by child/adolescent   Yes ☐   No ☐

Data Collector Name: _____

Signature: _____   **Date:**_____

Assent form for children and adolescents under the age of 18

You have the autonomy to refuse to take part in the study despite your parent giving consent for you to participate in the survey.

Participant code (if using instead of participant's name): _____

- ☐ I understand why you are doing the **MAKE ART FOR WOMEN'S ACTIVISM (MAWA) project Endline Evaluation.**
- ☐ I understand that I don't have to take part, and I can stop the interview at any time;
- ☐ The survey has been explained to me through the General Information sheet;
- ☐ I don't expect to receive any benefit or payment for my participation;
- ☐ I agree to my interview being audio-recorded or in the alternate I agree to written notes being recorded of my interview.
- ☐ I understand that all information I provide for this study will be treated confidentially.
- ☐ I understand that in any report on the results of this research my identity will remain anonymous. This will be done by changing my name and disguising any details of my interview which may reveal my identity or the identity of the people I speak about. *(Key Informants can be anonymous if they wish)*
- ☐ I understand that disguised extracts from my interview may be quoted in the survey report.
- ☐ I understand that signed consent forms and original audio recordings will be retained by the institution that commissioned the survey and destroyed following ArtGlo's data security policy.
- ☐ I understand that the information shared will be used - ONLY - for the purpose of this final evaluation and should the information require to be used for anything else, my consent will be sought to authorize such use.

I am happy to talk to you and take part in this research initiative.

<div style="border:1px solid black; padding:1em;">

Verbal assent

Verbal assent has been given by child/adolescent Yes ☐   No ☐

Data Collector Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:**_____

</div>

ANNEX 6- BENEFICIARY DATA SET

To be provided on a flash drive or in soft copy