



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Efforts to Reduce Violence Against Women
and Promote Gender Empowerment in the
Dominican Republic and Abroad

Importance of Regional and National Level Action to Act against Sexual Violence

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March 2019

A Grim Picture



FEMICIDE RATES
for Latin America
and the Caribbean are
THE HIGHEST
IN THE WORLD²



1 in 4 women in the region have suffered at least one violent experience perpetrated by her partner



10.7% of women have suffered sexual violence by someone other than her partner

TOO MANY WOMEN & GIRLS EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE



MORE THAN 1 IN 3 WOMEN WORLDWIDE have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a partner or sexual violence by a non-partner¹



MORE THAN 1 IN 5 GIRLS WORLDWIDE have been sexually abused in childhood¹

Multi-Year Programme of Work (5 years)

Two Phases (2013-2018)

Phase 1 includes:

- Consensus on essential VAW services and their core elements;
- Develop quality guidelines for provision of:
 - Health services;
 - Police and justice services;
 - Social support services; and
 - Coordination and governance of services
- Evidence-based technical assistance, methodologies and policy guidance to assist implementation at the country-level
- Developed with a strong focus on low to middle income countries but has **universal applicability**

Do You Know Why Every Hour Matters After Rape?

Every hour matters after rape to prevent many lifelong physical and mental health consequences. Here's what you need to know about the short window of time available to access critical services:

EVERY
H⁷²OUR
MATTERS
Speed is of the essence.

72 WITHIN 72 HOURS:

Take **post-exposure prophylaxis medication** (PEP) within 72 hours of a rape for HIV prevention. After 72 hours, HIV testing is still important, as is appropriate treatment, counselling, and support.



120 WITHIN 120 HOURS:

Take **emergency contraception** within 120 hours for pregnancy prevention.



GO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

Get a **physical examination** to identify and treat injuries.



Take **medications** to prevent other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Get **immunizations** to prevent tetanus and Hepatitis B (where available).



Medical professionals can collect **forensic evidence** to support criminal investigations if you choose to file a police report.



You may be **referred to other services**, including the police, legal service providers, and case managers.



ANYTIME:

Counselling and other psychosocial support can help you work through trauma.



The sooner some post-rape medications are taken, the more likely they are to be effective. If you miss the timeframe for these medications, other health services and psychosocial support, can still be beneficial.

Learn more at everyhourmatters.org

Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces



Our Strategy for Change

UN Women's Global Flagship Initiative "Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces" builds on its "Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls" Global Programme launched in November 2010 to **prevent and respond to sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces.**

Participating cities in the Flagship commit to:

- 1. Identify gender-responsive locally relevant and owned interventions** (partnerships established with mayors' offices, women's organizations, local authorities, private sector, media, civil society, and **scoping studies, programme designs, baseline studies completed**).
- 2. Develop and effectively implement comprehensive laws and policies to prevent and respond to sexual violence in public spaces** (capacity assessments, training support provided, assessment and adoption of laws and policies, budgets allocated, financing and M&E in place).



Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces



Our Strategy for Change (2)

Participating cities in the Flagship commit to:

3) Investments in the safety and economic viability of public spaces (capacity assessments conducted to identify gaps; investments in safe potable water, improved sanitation, lighting, creation of market stalls, provision of training on financial literacy and economic development, focusing on opportunities for women's empowerment).

4) Change attitudes and behaviors to promote women's and girls' rights to enjoy public spaces free from violence (Girls, boys and other influential champions are engaged in transformative activities in schools and other settings to promote respectful gender relationships, gender equality, and safety in public spaces).



 **ONU**
MUJERES 

Entidad de las Naciones Unidas para la Igualdad
de Género y el Empoderamiento de las Mujeres

“It is not mission impossible;
it is a mission of our time,

A planet 50/50 now!”

Thank you!