

THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

(2016-2020)

REPUBLIC OF TURKEY
MINISTRY OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL POLICIES
GENERAL DIRECTORATE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

ANKARA, 2016

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Violence Against Women (2016-2020) is available for
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PREFACE

Violence against women, as one of the most common forms of violence, is a violation of fundamental rights and freedoms of women. Violence against women is a universal problem all around the world and in all cultures in spite of all domestic and international developments and regardless of geographical boundaries, level of economic development and of education.

Combating violence against women requires a multi-dimensional, holistic approach, and joint and dedicated efforts of all segments of the society. Therefore, it is of great importance to carry out activities adopting an inter-disciplinary approach and engage all related stakeholders in the process, particularly in terms of prevention, protection, punishment and policy making.

In our country, important legal regulations have been enacted on equality of men and women, protecting and promoting human rights of women and combating violence against women. However, effective implementation of legal regulations on combating violence against women, provision of protection, treatment and rehabilitation services not only to victims of violence but also to perpetrators and promotion of social awareness of and sensitivity to the issue are as vital as the availability of such legal regulations.

In this framework, the efforts our Ministry has made for combating violence against women with a belief that violence against women is intolerable have been maintained with a wide-scale, dedicated and comprehensive cooperation. Since the implementation period of “The National Action Plan on Combating Violence Against Women (2012-2015)”, one of the concrete examples of this commitment and cooperation, ended in the end of 2015, “The National Action Plan on Combating Violence Against Women (2016-2020)” has been prepared with the participation and contributions of relevant governmental agencies and organisations, non-governmental organisations and the women’s studies research centres of various universities, taking into consideration the relevant international conventions, in particular the Istanbul Convention and provisions of national legislation, follow-up and evaluation reports on the National Action Plan on Combating Violence Against Women (2012-2015), results of the related studies conducted by the General Directorate on the Status of Women, outputs of the Parliamentary Investigation Committee on the Motives of Violence Against Women and Due Measures and recent social needs and developments.

I thank all governmental agencies and institutions, especially the General Directorate on the Status of Women; universities, and non-governmental organisations contributing to the preparation of this Plan, with the hope and belief that it will reach out to greater groups of people and guide all relevant stakeholders in their all efforts to combat violence against women, and call on all the relevant stakeholders to work in cooperation to realize the Plan activities.

Dr. Fatma Betül SAYAN KAYA
Minister of Family and Social Policies

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<< DEFINITIONS

Child: A human being below the age of 18 years even if puberty is attained earlier.

Disabled Person: A human being who has long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

Accessibility: Persons with disabilities safely and independently access to and use buildings, outdoor facilities, to transportation and information services, and information and communications technologies.

Domestic violence: All forms of violence, including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence, occurring in the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim.

Relevant Institution(s): Institution(s) carrying out activities, which are to be carried out in cooperation under the Action Plan, in so far as they are related to its/their mandate.

Violence against women: All actions that do or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

Coordinating Institution(s): Institution(s) to facilitate coordination among responsible institutions which will carry out activities under the Action Plan themselves.

Refugee: A person who has felt repressed due to his/her race, religion, social status, political views or national identity and has lost his/her trust in his/her State, who has left his/her country to seek asylum from another country with the conviction that his/her State would not treat him/her impartially and whose application is “accepted” by the host country.

Responsible Institution(s): Institution(s) which will carry out activities under the Action Plan themselves.

Violence: Any physical, sexual, psychological, verbal or economic attitude and behaviour that do or is likely to result in physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to a person, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.

Gender: Socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for women and men.

<< ABBREVIATIONS

Law No. 6284: The Law No. 6284 on Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women.

AFAD: Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Authority.

ECHR: European Court of Human Rights

CoE: Council of Europe

FHC: Family Health Centre

MoFSP: Ministry of Family and Social Policies

DGFCS: Directorate General of Family and Community Services

UN: The United Nations

CEDAW: The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

CEDAW Committee: UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

DGCS: Directorate General of Child Services

SSC: [State Supervisory Council](#)

WHO: World Health Organisation

DGSPDEP: Directorate General of Services for Persons with Disabilities and Elderly People

FRA: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Istanbul Convention: The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

ISKUR: Turkish Labor Agency

CEOMW: The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

CSW: Commission on the Status of Women

KOSGEB: Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization

GDSW: General Directorate on the Status of Women

MoNE: Ministry of National Education

RTÜK: Radio and Television Supreme Council

NGOs: Non-Governmental Organizations

VPMC: The Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers

GNAT: The Grand National Assembly of Turkey

TPC: Turkish Penal Code

TRT: Turkish Radio and Television Corporation

CHC: Community Health Centre

HCEM: Head Council of Education and Morality

TÜBİTAK: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey

TSI: Turkish Statistical Institute

UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund

UNSTATS: United Nations Statistics Division

UN Women: United Nations Women Division

UYAP: National Judiciary Informatics System

CoHE: Council of Higher Education



Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Family
and Social Policies

PART I

COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN >>

1. OVERVIEW

As a human right violation and a form of discrimination, violence against women exists all around the world and has no cultural, economic, or geographical limits.

Violence against women seriously violates or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights, in particular their fundamental rights to life, security, freedom, dignity and physical and emotional integrity. In most cases, some groups of women, such as women and girls with disabilities, are often at greater risk of experiencing violence, injury, abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, both inside and outside home.¹

As a multidimensional problem, violence against women and domestic violence against women have negative impacts not only on women but the society at large. The causes of violence against women depict a multiple and complex structure with gender inequality in its core. Among the main factors contributing the occurrence of violence are cultural factors; relational factors such as marital disputes or inability to solve issues in a relationship; economic factors such as lack of economic independence of women and limited access to employment opportunities and inequality of men and women in the decision making mechanisms and in legal domain. Therefore, the elimination of violence requires comprehensive and coordinated policies.

In a United Nation (UN) Resolution², it is recognized for the first time that violence against women is rooted in historically unequal power relations between men and women and that all forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair the enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitute a major impediment to the ability of women to improve their capabilities. Likewise, “The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)”, which is the sole binding convention in this field that imposes obligations on signatory States, considers violence against women is a human rights issue and relates it with gender. It is stated in the Convention that violence against women is a manifestation of unequal power relations between women and men, which have led to men’s domination over women and to the prevention of the full advancement of women by subordinating them.

As a form of human rights violation, the “violence against women” phenomenon has long been considered a matter of private life and privacy of family members and therefore it was relatively late before this phenomenon was brought into international and national human rights agenda. Gaining visibility at the international level first in 1980s, this phenomenon started to be considered a social issue and a matter of human rights as of 1990s. In 1991, the

¹ Explanatory Report to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, (2011), pg.: 5 <http://www.ihop.org.tr/2012/01/31/acklayc-kitapck-kadnlara-yoenelik-iddet-ve-ev-ci-iddetinoenlenmesi-ve-bunlarla-muecadeleye-dair-soezleme/> (Last accessed on 05.09.2015).

On the report of the Third Committee (A/63/425) 63/155. Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women <http://kadinistatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Last accessed on 05.09.2015).

UN Committee on Economic and Social Rights, and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) emphasized that violence against women was an important problem.

Further to this emphasis, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee) defines in its Recommendation No. 19 that gender-based violence against women is “*violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately*”. It includes “*acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty.*”³

The concept of violence against women was defined in the international human rights law for the first time in “the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women” in 1993. In this framework, the violence against women “*means any gender-based act that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, occurring either in public or private life ; or threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty.*” In addition, the Declaration specifically emphasizes that some groups of women, such as women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, destitute women, women in prisons or in detention houses, girls, women with disabilities, elderly women and women in situations of armed conflict are especially vulnerable to violence.⁴

In the Istanbul Convention, which was signed and ratified by our country in 2011 and put into effect on the part of ratifying states on 1 August 2014, violence against women is “*understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall refer to all gender-based acts that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.*”

In pursuant to the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women, which was drafted in compliance with the Istanbul Convention, violence against women is “*any attitude and behavior that is directed against a woman only because she is a woman or that affects women thereby creating a gender-based discrimination and a violation of human rights, and is defined as violation in this Law.*”⁵

2. CLASSIFICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

³ CEDAW Recommendation No. 19, (1992), <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Last accessed on 05.09.2015).

⁴ UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, (1993), <https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/komisyon/insanhaklari/pdf01/221-227.pdf> (accessed on 05.09.2015).

⁵ The Law No. 6284 on Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/data/542a9758369dc31550b3ac56/aileenin_koronmasi_ve_kadina_karsi_siddetin_onlenmesine_dair_kanun.pdf , (Accessed on 05.09.2015)

Both international and national legislations state that violence against women does not only include physical but also sexual, psychological or economic violence. In this framework, violence against women is generally grouped in the literature in following categories: Physical violence, economic violence, sexual violence and psychological/emotional violence.

2.1 Physical Violence

Physical violence is defined as any assault causing injury or trauma to another person. Physical violence, which includes any act causing physical harm to a person, extends from forcing someone to live under unhealthy conditions to custom and honor killing.

2.2 Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is defined as forcing someone into sexual intercourse in a place, time or in a form against her/his will; conducting a sexual act without that person's freely given consent; or using sexuality as a means of threat, intimidation and control. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines sexual violence as "any attempt to commit sexual conduct, unwanted sexually explicit comments, taking advantage of a person sexually and imposing sanctions on the sexuality of a person either at home or work regardless of the nature of the relationship between the victim and perpetrator".

2.3 Psychological Violence

Psychological violence includes such actions as yelling, intimidating, cursing, threatening, insulting, secluding, humiliating, name calling, dictating women what to wear, where to go, whom they should see, venting their anger on children, threatening not to let someone see their child(ren), or exposing a gun.

2.4 Economic Violence

Economic violence is any act committed to economically restrain a person with the aim of controlling or punishing her/him, such as limiting a woman's spending, not letting her work, forcing her to work, letting men take economic decisions unilaterally, dispossess a woman of her money, causing her to be dismissed by making a scene at her workplace, preventing her from developing skills to facilitate her employment, depriving her of financial means to cover home expenses and forcing a disabled woman to beg.

3. STATISTICS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WORLD AND TURKEY

3.1 Situation in the World

Violence against women and domestic violence prevail worldwide as a most common problem and a fundamental violation of women's human rights. Data obtained in various researches conducted to determine prevalence of violence against women proves this as a fact. The 2013 report published by WHO presents the global levels of violence against women as follows:⁶

- According to 2013 data, 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner (spouse or civil partner) violence or non-partner sexual violence. In addition, some national researches have shown that 70% of women have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence during their lifetime.
- Globally, 38% of all murders of women are committed by intimate partners.
- Women who have been physically or sexually abused by their intimate partners have been faced with a number of health problems. For example, the rate for them to have a low-birth-weight baby is 16% . They are almost twice as likely to have an abortion and experience depression, in comparison to the women who are have not been exposed to violence.

Also, worldwide, more than 700 million women have gotten married before the age of 18. The marriage age of more than one third of them (about 250 million) is earlier than 15.⁷ The poor girls are 2.5 times more likely to get married early than their rich peers.

The Six Chapter of the *“World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics”*⁸ published by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSTATS) is titled **“Violence against Women”**. Based on data provided in that chapter, current situation of violence against women in selected countries is as shown in the table below.

Table 1: Prevalence of Violence against Women by Selected Countries (United Nations Statistics Division, “The World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics”)

⁶ World Health Organisation (WHO), (2013), “Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence”, http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85241/1/WHO_RHR_HRP_13.06_eng.pdf?ua=1, (Accessed on 21.11.2015).

⁷ United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), (2013), “Ending Child Marriage: Progress and Prospects”, pg. 2. http://www.unicef.org/media/files/Child_Marriage_Report_7_17_LR..pdf. (Accessed on 21.12.2015)

⁸ UN Statistics Division (UNSTATS), (2015), “The World's Women 2015 Trends and Statistics” <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/worldswomen.html>, (Accessed on 21.12.2015).

6< GENERAL DIRECTORATE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Region	Country or area	Year	Prevalence of physical violence against women (%)				Prevalence of sexual violence against women (%)			
			All perpetrators		By intimate partner men		All Perpetrators		By Intimate Partner Men	
			Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months
Africa	Cameroon	2011	54,6	27,4	44,8	29,0	29,0	9,8	20,3	11,2
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire	2011-12	35,6	19,9	24,6	22,2	4,5	..	5,3	4,6
Africa	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2007	63,7	49,0	56,9	..	16,0	4,2	35,3	..
Africa	Egypt	2005	47,4	15,7	33,2	18,2	..	..	6,6	3,9
Africa	Kenya	2008-09	38,5	24,0	37,0	31,3	20,6	..	17,2	13,6
Africa	Morocco	2009-10	35,3	15,2	..	6,4	22,6	8,7	..	6,6
Africa	Nigeria	2013	27,8	11,2	14,4	9,3	7,4	3,3	4,8	3,7
Africa	Tunisia	2010	31,7	7,3	20,3	7,2	15,7	7,4	14,2	9,0
Asia	Azerbaijan	2006	13,3	7,7	12,8	9,7	3,7	..	2,9	2,0
Asia	People's Republic of China	1999-00	..	..	15,4	..	..	..	..	..
Asia	India	2005-06	33,5	18,9	35,1	21,4	8,5	..	10,0	7,2
Asia	Japan	2010	..	..	25,9	..	..	..	14,1	..
Asia	Pakistan	2012-13	32,2	19,2	26,8	18,0	..	..	..	..
Asia	Republic of Korea	2013	..	..	..	7,2	19,5	2,7	..	5,4
Europe	Austria	2014	17,0	4,0	12,0	2,0	9,0	2,0	6,0	1,0
Europe	Belgium	2014	33,0	10,0	22,0	5,0	13,0	2,0	9,0	1,0
Europe	Bulgaria	2014	27,0	7,0	22,0	6,0	12,0	3,0	9,0	3,0
Europe	Croatia	2014	19,0	5,0	12,0	3,0	5,0	1,0	3,0	0,0
Europe	Czech Republic	2014	30,0	7,0	19,0	4,0	9,0	2,0	7,0	1,0
Europe	Denmark	2014	48,0	10,0	29,0	3,0	19,0	2,0	11,0	1,0
Europe	Finland	2014	43,0	9,0	27,0	4,0	17,0	3,0	11,0	1,0
Europe	France	2014	42,0	11,0	25,0	5,0	15,0	2,0	9,0	1,0
Europe	Germany	2014	33,0	7,0	20,0	3,0	12,0	1,0	8,0	1,0
Europe	Greece	2014	24,0	7,0	18,0	5,0	6,0	2,0	5,0	2,0
Europe	Italy	2014	25,0	6,0	17,0	5,0	9,0	4,0	7,0	4,0
Europe	Netherlands	2014	41,0	9,0	22,0	4,0	18,0	3,0	11,0	2,0
Europe	Poland	2014	18,0	4,0	12,0	2,0	5,0	1,0	4,0	1,0
Europe	Portugal	2014	23,0	5,0	18,0	4,0	4,0	1,0	3,0	1,0
Europe	Romania	2014	29,0	7,0	23,0	6,0	6,0	2,0	5,0	2,0
Europe	Spain	2014	20,0	3,0	12,0	1,0	6,0	1,0	4,0	1,0
Europe	Sweden	2014	41,0	8,0	24,0	3,0	18,0	3,0	10,0	2,0
Europe	United Kingdom	2014	42,0	8,0	28,0	4,0	14,0	2,0	10,0	1,0
South America	Colombia	2010	..	..	37,4	..	..	..	9,7	..
South America	Ecuador	2011	38,0	..	35,0	..	25,7	..	14,5	..
South America	Mexico	2011	15,2	6,4	12,3	5,4	38,9	20,8	5,9	2,5
South America	Peru	2013	..	..	35,7	11,5	..	..	8,4	3,0
North America	Canada	2009	..	3,4	..	1,3	..	2,0	..	..
North America	United States of America	2011	..	..	31,5	4,0	19,3	1,6	8,8	0,8

Table 1: Prevalence of Violence against Women by Selected Countries (United Nations Statistics Division, “The World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics”) (continued)

Region	Country or area	Year	Prevalence of physical violence against women (%)				Prevalence of sexual violence against women (%)			
			All perpetrators		By intimate partner men		All Perpetrators		By Intimate Partner Men	
			Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months	Lifetime	Last 12 months
Oceania	Australia	2012	34,0	4,6	15,6	..	19,0	1,2	4,9	..
Oceania	New Zealand	2002	..	..	30,2	5,3	..	..	14,1	2,1
	Turkey	2014	..	..	36,0	8,0	..	..	12,0	5,0

On the other hand, a closer look at the situation in the EU states reveals that violence against women is a wide-spread problem for them as well. This is evident in the results of face-to-face survey conducted in 2014 by FRA (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights) with 42.000 women in 28 Member States. The results show that:

- One in three women (33%) has experienced physical or sexual violence since she was 15 years old and this rate has been 8% in the last 12 months,
- Women are widely abused but few of the cases are recorded; only 14% of domestic violence cases and only 13% of other violence cases have been reported,,
- Women ending a violent relationship are still under risk of violence,
- Two in every five women (43%) have experienced some form of psychological violence by their current or ex-husbands/intimate partners,
- 18% of women have experienced stalking since the age of 15,
- Approximately 12% of women have suffered from sexual abuse by an adult before the age of 15 and
- 42% of women exposed to violence by husband or partner have also experienced violence while pregnant.⁹

⁹ European Union Agency For Fundamental Rights (FRA), (2014), http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf (Accessed on 05.09.2015)

3.2 Situation in Turkey

*The Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey*¹⁰ was commissioned by the General Directorate on the Status of Women (GDSW) of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies (MoFSP), and conducted by Institute of Population Studies of Hacettepe University between 2013 and 2014.

This research aims to reveal the change in the prevalence of forms of violence against women in about the last six years since the previous Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey Research¹¹ conducted in 2008 and review laws and regulations, with priority given to Law No. 6284, enacted to combat violence against women in the meantime.

The results of this research show that women married at relatively younger ages and divorced/separated women are exposed to higher risk of violence although violence against women is a threat for women from all ages, educational backgrounds, all regions and level of prosperity.

According 2014 Research, data on forms of violence and their prevalence in Turkey is as follows:

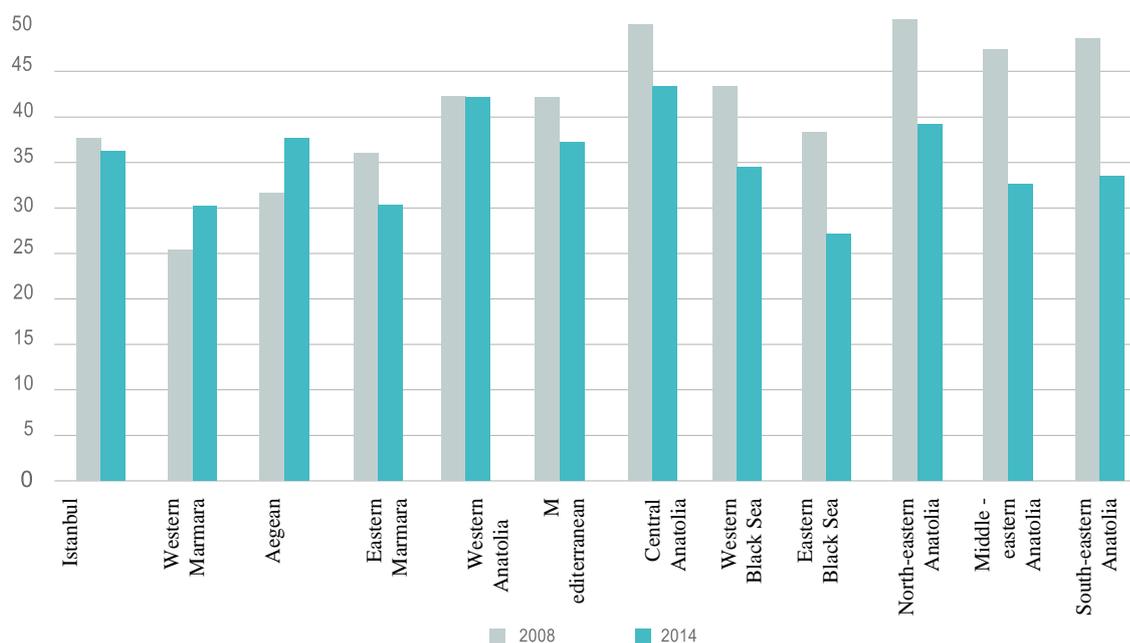
➤ Physical violence

Throughout the Country, 36% of women interviewed stated that they experienced physical violence in any period of their life and this rate was 8% in the last 12 months. In other words, every four out of 10 women experienced physical violence by their husband or an intimate male partner. In 2008 survey, this rate had been 39% .

¹⁰ The General Directorate on the Status of Women (GDSW), (2014), “The Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey” <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/data/542950d5369dc32358ee2bba/Ana%20Rapor.pdf> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

¹¹ The General Directorate on the Status of Women (GDSW), (2008), “The Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey” <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kadininstatusu/tdvaw/anasayfa.htm> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

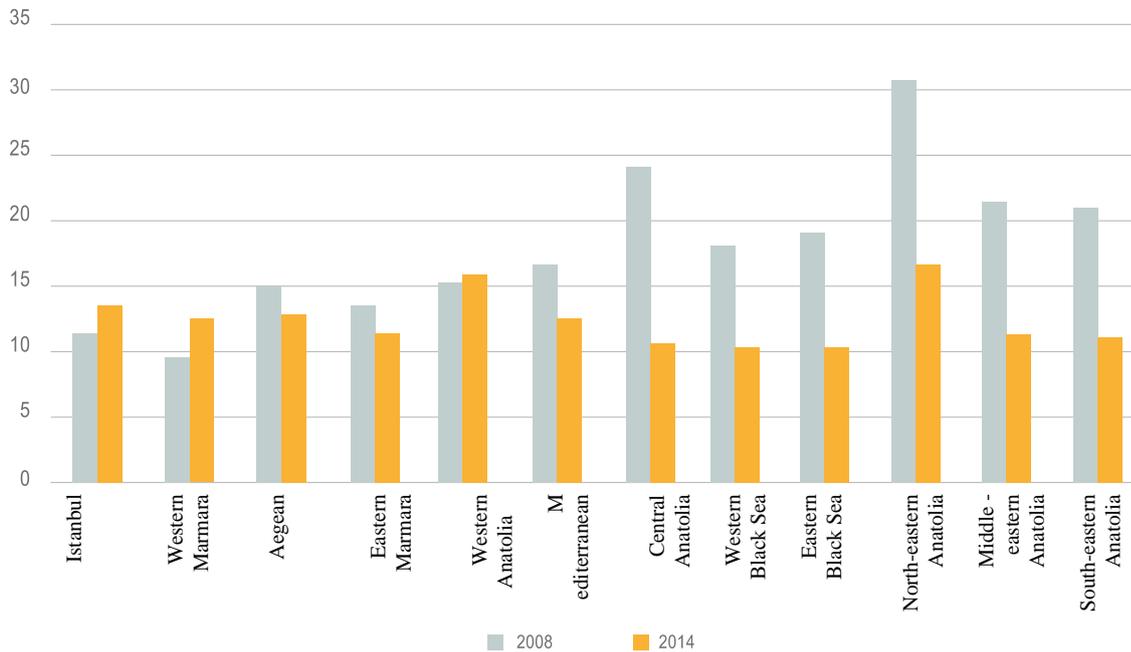
Graph 1. Prevalence of Physical Violence: Percentage of Women Subjected to Physical Violence by Their Husbands or Intimate Male Partners by Region (2008-2014)



➤ Sexual Violence

12% of all married women in Turkey stated that they experienced sexual violence at any time in their lifetime and 5% of them in the last 12 months. The North-eastern Anatolia Region was the region where the rate of sexual violence reported was the highest. 38% of married women experienced physical violence and/or sexual violence at any time in their lifetime.

Graph 2. Prevalence of Sexual Violence: Percentage of Women Subjected to Sexual Violence by Their Husbands or Intimate Male Partners by Region (2008-2014)



➤ Psychological Violence

Across Turkey, 44% of all women experienced psychological violence at any time in their lifetime and 26% in the last 12 months. Half of the women living in the Western Anatolia and Central Anatolia regions stated that they experienced psychological violence at any time in their lifetime. Results of survey conducted in 2014 are parallel to those of 2008 survey.

➤ Economic violence

Forms of economic violence were defined, according to research, as preventing women from work or causing them to quit their job, depriving them of money for household expenses and grabbing woman's money without her consent. Across Turkey, 30% of women experienced at least one of the foregoing forms of economic violence at any time in their lifetime and 15% had such experience in the last 12 months. Among the forms of economic violence reported, preventing women from work or causing them to quit their jobs have the highest prevalence. One in four women and one in ten women experienced economic violence at any time their lifetime and in last 12 months, respectively.

➤ Stalking

Almost every three in ten women in Turkey have experienced stalking at least once. Besides, the most common forms of stalking were persistent phone calls (19%), sending unsolicited

SMS messages, mails or e-mails (8%) or stalking on social media (6%) and showing up at women's workplace or where they live (6%).

4. INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Although the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the basic instrument of human rights, does not have an article specifically on combating violence against women and girls, it is seen that the following articles of the Declaration are closely related with violence against women and girls¹²:

Article 1: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

Article 2: Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4: No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5: No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Violence against women, as a concept, was first introduced into the international agenda under the concept of *“human rights of women”*. The UN had recognized the years between 1975 and 1985 as the *“Decade for Women”* and particularly the international women's movement had been influential in that process. Thus, the international norms and standards concerning violence against women were set and reports were drawn up.

At the beginning, violence against women had been addressed only within the context of family. For example, it was recommended in the Action Plan adopted at the World Conference on Women held in Mexico in 1975, to organize training programs to ensure equality and safety of the family and family members, but no specific emphasis was made to issue of violence. In parallel sessions of Non-governmental Organizations held in scope of the Conference, however, various forms of violence against women were addressed.

Violence is considered within scope of discrimination as defined in the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW)¹³, one of the nine fundamental human rights conventions within the UN system and adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1979, although the Convention did not have a section dedicated to violence against women. it is stated in *Recommendation No. 12* of CEDAW Committee (1989) that signatory states are obliged to protect women from violence and requested from the countries

¹² Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (1948), <https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/komisyon/insanhaklari/pdf01/203-208.pdf> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

¹³ Recommendations of Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, General Recommendation No: 24. Women and Health, (1999), http://www.ihop.org.tr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=66 (Accessed on: 20.05.2015).

to present the measures taken towards this end in their national reports¹⁴. And in *Recommendation No. 19* of CEDAW Committee (1992), it was expressly declared that violence against women is a result of gender-based discrimination and emphasised that one of the most important reasons of violence is discrimination against women¹⁵.

In the resolution regarding prevention of violence against women adopted at the Second World Conference on Women held in Copenhagen in 1980, the issue of violence was rather considered as a health issue and the Conference issued a call for development of programmes for protecting women and children against violence.

The violence against women was addressed in the broadest sense in the Third World Conference on Women convened in Nairobi in 1985. Within the scope of Nairobi **“Forward-looking Strategies”**, it was stated that violence against women was experienced in all societies and different forms of violence against women, such as domestic violence against women, human trafficking and women in arms conflict were addressed.

In that period violence against women was described as the biggest impediment before the achievement of the **“Women’s Decade”** objectives and attempts were made to connect this issue with other issues on the agenda of the UN, such as equality, development and peace. In the **“Forward-looking Strategies”** a call was made to develop preventive policies, to take legal actions, to establish broad support mechanisms for victims and to carry out awareness-raising activities concerning this issue.

The concept of human rights of women was introduced into UN’s human rights instruments with the World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna in 1993 . The inclusion of domestic violence against women and human rights of women into the Vienna Declaration of Human Rights thanks to great efforts of the women’s movement was a driving force for adoption of the **“Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women”** by the UN General Assembly. The Declaration was the first international instrument in the field of violence against women and pioneered the other efforts made in this field in the following years. The Declaration described measures that the states need to take to prevent violence against women.¹⁶ One of the important results of the Vienna Conference was that a special reporter was appointed by Human Rights Commission in 1994 to inquire into causes and consequences of violence against women. Hereby a mechanism was established to conduct an in-depth investigation on violence against women all around the world.

¹⁴ CEDAW Recommendations, Recommendation No. 12, (1989), <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

¹⁵ CEDAW Recommendations, Recommendation No. 19, (1992), <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

¹⁶ UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, (1993), <https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/komisyon/insanhaklari/pdf01/221-227.pdf> (Accessed on 18.01.2016)

In the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*¹⁷ adopted in the Fourth World Conference on Women which convened in Beijing in 1995, violence against women was recognized as a violation of human rights of women. The Beijing Declaration regarded the governments responsible for the advancement and empowerment of women, promoting equality of men and women and gender mainstreaming and envisaged to materialize the Platform for Action.

Among the 12 critical areas identified in the Beijing Platform for Action for immediate action to achieve objectives of equality, development and peace was elimination of violence against women. In the instruments adopted at Beijing +5, Beijing +10, and Beijing +15 meetings which convened to monitor the Platform for Action, it was emphasized that violence against women and girls was a human rights issue and states had responsibility in preventing such violence.

The “*2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”¹⁸ adopted in the UN Development Summit included 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets. One of the sustainable development goals is to “*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.*” This goal has the following sub-goals with respect to combating violence against women:

- *End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere,*
- *Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation,*
- *Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage,,*
- *Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.*

The Council of Europe (CoE) has also been taking actions in the field of gender equality, protection and advancement of human rights of women and in connection with combating violence against women. It appears that the CoE, which was established in 1949 with one of the main areas of action being to achieve gender equality, also started its efforts for combating violence against women in 1980s similar to the process within the UN system. Among the examples of efforts made by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in this field are the Recommendation dated 1985 on “*Domestic Violence*”, Resolution dated 1988 on “*Sexual Exploitation, Prostitution and Pornography of Children and Young Women*” and the Recommendation dated 1990 on “*Social Measures Concerning Domestic Violence*”.

The Third European Ministerial Conference on “*Equality of Women and Men*” organized in Rome in 1993 led the efforts made by the CoE in this field to a new dimension.

¹⁷ The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, (1995), <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

¹⁸ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, (2015), <http://unesco.org.tr/dokumanlar/duyurular/skh.pdf> (Accessed on 05.12.2015).

In 2002, the Committee of Ministers adopted the *Recommendation (2002/5)*¹⁹ on the *Protection of Women Against Violence*. This quite comprehensive Recommendation suggested a global strategy for prevention of violence against women and protection of victims of violence.

The latest international development in this field is that “*The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence*” adopted by the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 7 April 2011 was opened for signature on 11 May 2011 in Istanbul. The Convention is of great importance as it is the first and sole internationally binding convention on violence against women. The Convention came into force after the ratification by ten states, the minimum number of parties required, and became binding upon ratifying states as of 1 August 2014.²⁰

It was aimed with the Istanbul Convention to prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence; to develop policies and measures to protect victims of violence; to promote equality of women and men to eliminate of all forms of discrimination against women; to enhance international cooperation and to promote effective co-operation with law enforcement agencies. In the preamble of the Istanbul Convention; conventions/resolutions adopted by the CoE, UN, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and other international organizations on women, children, people with disabilities and human rights were recalled and it was emphasized that women and girls are exposed to a higher risk of gender based violence than men; that domestic violence affects women disproportionately, that men may also be victims of domestic violence; and that children are victims of domestic violence, including as witnesses of violence in the family.²¹

In scope of the Convention, the term violence against women is defined to include physical violence, domestic violence, sexual violence including rape, psychological violence, stalking, forced marriage, forced abortion and forced sterilization, and sexual harassment. The Convention was built on **4P** approach, which includes “*prevention of violence against women (prevention)*”, “*protection of victim (protection)*”, “*prosecution of perpetrators (prosecution)*” and “*developing integrated governmental policies (policy)*”.

5. DEVELOPMENTS IN TURKEY

Violence against women became a current issue in Turkey in the mid-1980s parallel to developments in the international arena.

¹⁹ Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the protection of women against violence and Explanatory Memorandum, (2002), <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler>

²⁰ List of countries signing and ratifying the Convention: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/210/signatures> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

²¹ Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/kaynak/ulusarasi-belgelerkuruluslar/uluslararasi-belgeler> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

Efforts for combating violence against women have become an area where the Government takes responsibility with support and co-operation of all related stakeholders.

5.1 Legal Developments

The change in policies on women has been reflected most significantly in the legal area. The following provisions were inserted into the Article 10 of the Constitution: “***Men and women have equal rights. The State has the obligation to ensure that this equality exists in practice.***” in 2004 and “***(...)Measures taken for this purpose may not be interpreted as contrary to the principle of equality.***” complementing the second clause in 2010.

The following provision was inserted into the Article 90 of the Constitution in 2004: “***In case of a conflict between international agreements, duly put into effect, concerning the fundamental rights and freedoms and the national laws due to differences in provisions on the same matter, the provisions of international agreements shall prevail.***” In this framework, international instruments on fundamental rights and freedoms, such as CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention have taken precedence over national laws and regulations.

In addition to the Constitution, the entire Turkish legislation has been transformed into a body of laws and regulations where the principle of equality of men and women, and zero tolerance to violence are promoted thanks to equalitarian reforms made in such basic laws as the Civil Code, the Labor Law and the Turkish Penal Code. The Municipal Law No. 5393 which became effective in 2005 requires the Metropolitan Municipalities and municipalities with a population over 50.000 to open shelters for women and children. In pursuant to an amendment made in this Law in 2012, the Metropolitan Municipalities and municipalities with a population over 100.000 are now “obliged” to open shelters for women and children.

In addition to basic laws, the first legal instrument aimed at preventing domestic violence in Turkey and introducing the definition of domestic violence in a legal text was the “*Law No. 4320 on the Protection of Family*” which was enacted in 1998. This Law was amended in 2007 to expand its scope and also the Implementing Regulation thereof was put into effect in 2008.

The implementation of the Law No. 4320 has created a need to revise the Law. In this scope, the “***Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women***”²², which was prepared by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies as a result of intensive efforts undertaken under the roof of the Ministry with contribution and participation of other relevant agencies and institutions, was put into effect on 20 March 2012. This Law was revised with consideration given to provisions of the “Istanbul Convention”. Without any contradiction to Law No. 6284, all women, children, other family members and victims of stalking, who have experienced or are under risk of violence, were included in the scope of

²² See The Law No. 6284, URL: http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/data/542a9758369dc31550b3ac56/ailenin_korunmasi_ve_kadina_karsi_siddetin_onlenmesine_dair_kanun.pdf

the Law and the concepts of “*violence*”, “*domestic violence*” and “*violence against women*” were defined to include physical, sexual, economic and psychological violence, as well.

The *Implementing Regulation* related to this Law and the *Regulation on Opening and Operation of Women Shelters* were put into effect in January 2013. *The Regulation on Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers (VPMC)* became effective having been published in the Official Gazette No. 29656 on 17 March 2016.

In 2005, a Parliamentary Investigation Committee was established within the Grand National Assembly of Turkey to Investigate the Causes of Honor Killings and Violence against Women and Children and Determine Measures Due and the Prime Ministerial Circular No. 2006/17 on the “*Measures to be Taken to Prevent Acts of Violence Against Women and Children and Custom and Honor Killings*” was published in July 2006 following the report of the Committee.

The Circular includes recommendations regarding measures to be taken against violence against women and custom/honor killings and identifies agencies and institutions responsible for the realization of such recommendations. GDSW was appointed as the coordinating agency in with the field of violence against women and custom/honor killings.

5.2 Basic Policies and Programmes

In the Tenth Development Plan (2014-2018)²³ which was approved at the 127th session of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on 01.07.2013; the findings, comments and policies regarding the advancement of women’s human rights, social and economic empowerment of women and prevention of all forms of violence against women were discussed under the heading of “*Family and Woman*” in Chapter “*Qualified People, Strong Society*”.

In the section of current situation analysis, following findings are embodied:

“246. In the context of empowerment of women, the labor force participation of women and their active role in decision making processes were increased, the principle of affirmative actions for women was incorporated in the Constitution, adjustments were made regarding the elimination of violence against women and the Committee on Equal Opportunities For Men and Women was established under the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

247. In the context of equality of opportunities for women and men, there is still a need to sustain improvements in promotion of more active participation of women in employment and decision making mechanisms primarily and violence prevention, education and health and to increase efficiency in practices.”

²³ The Tenth Development Plan (2014-2018), (2013), <http://www.kalkinma.gov.tr/Lists/Kalkinma%20Planlar/Attachments/12/Onuncu%20Kalkinma%20Plani.pdf> (Accessed on 05.09.2015).

and the following policy measure to prevent violence against women was included:

“256. In order to eliminate discrimination and violence against women, the level of social awareness will be increased with formal and informal education particularly starting from the early childhood.”

25 Priority Transformation Programmes were identified to improve feasibility and effectiveness of the 10th Development Plan and an “**Action Plan**”²⁴ was developed within the scope of the “**Programme for Protection of Family and Dynamic Population Structure**”. The Ministry of Family and Social Policies was designated as the coordination agency of the programme.

The Action Plan included following actions with respect to prevention of violence against women and domestic violence, under the heading “**Policy 1.2: Improvement of services for the prevention of domestic violence and abuse**”:

- *Effectiveness of efforts towards the prevention of domestic violence, negligence and abuse shall be improved.*
- *The number of Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers (VPMCs) shall be increased.*

It is stated in the “**Human Development**” section of the 65th Government Programme²⁵ that “*We will review legislation on women consulting with the relevant stakeholders with the aim of further empowering women’s status, and improving effectiveness of our practices.*”

Please find below the MoFSP Strategic Plan 2013-2017²⁶ targets which may be considered in scope of combating violence against women:

Objective 1. “*Develop a Model and New Social Policies Responding to Needs of the Country*”

Target 2. To develop policies, within the scope of the goal “Reducing Social Violence” to minimize social violence and prevent honor killings, violence against children and women and domestic violence with help of activities and events, such as legislative works, coordination and co-operation, training, workshops and council meetings and projects;

²⁴ Priority Transformation Programmes, 10th Development Plan (2014-2018) Action Plan on the Protection of Family and Dynamic Population Structure, (2015),

<http://www.kalkinma.gov.tr/Lists/OncelikliDnusunProgramlariEylemPlanlar/Attachments/26/22%20Ailenin%20ve%20Dinamik%20Nufus%20Yapisinin%20Korunmasi%20Programi%20Eylem%20Plani.pdf> (Accessed on 26.01.2016).

²⁵ 65th Government’s Programme presented by Honourable Prime Minister Binali YILDIRIM at the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, (2016), http://www.basbakanlik.gov.tr/forms/_global/_government/pg_GovernmentProgram.aspx (Accessed on 20.06.2016).

²⁶ Ministry of Family and Social Policies 2013-2017 Strategic Plan, (2012),

<http://sgb.aile.gov.tr/data/5434f94f369dc31d48e42de7/ASPB%202013-2017%20%20strateji%20plani.pdf> (Accessed on 26.01.2016).

Target 3. Within the scope of reducing social abuse, it is aimed to develop new policies and models to reduce rate of child marriages and abuse of women, children, elderly people and people with disabilities.

Goal 2. *“Empower Individuals and Families, Raise Awareness in Society”*

Target 2. It includes the target of “raising awareness in society on the protection of rights of women, children, people with disabilities, elderly people, family members of martyrs and enabling them to enjoy equal opportunities and facilities.”

Goal 4. *“, to Set the Standards for Women’s Shelters to Effectiveness of Care, Protection and Rehabilitation Services”*

Target 5. Within the scope of “advancement of women under protection”, women under protection will be encouraged to attend training and vocational courses. Efforts for the employment of women, who acquired vocational skills, in private sector and at public institutions, shall be coordinated.

Target 6. Within the scope of “opening new institutions and enhancing implementation of practice models”, the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (VPMCs), which will carry out activities towards combating violence against women, shall be set up in all cities and the number of shelters shall be increased.

5.3 Organizational Structure

5.3.1 Ministry of Family and Social Policies

The General Directorate on the Status of Women

The basic duties of the General Directorate on the Status of Women include developing policies and strategies, and ensuring cooperation and coordination with all stakeholders in order to achieve equality of men and women, empower the status of women in all fields of social life and prevent all forms of discrimination against women.

The General Directorate was re-structured as one of the main service units of MoFSP pursuant to Decree Law No. 633 on Organization and Duties of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies as published in the Official Gazette on 8 June 2011.

The Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (VPMC)

VPMCs are the centers that are established for effective implementation of protective and preventive injunction orders, where persons who have experienced or who may be under the risk of violence may apply to access consultancy, guidance and orientation services as well as empowerment and supportive services that they need, and monitoring activities are carried out on 7/24 basis. The Law No. 6284 envisioned that the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers be opened in pilot cities in 2 years' time and following the mass inauguration ceremony held on 6 December 2012, 14 Centers started to operate in pilot cities, Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Gaziantep, İstanbul, İzmir, Malatya, Mersin, Samsun, Şanlıurfa, and Trabzon, as of 2013.

As of December 2016, there are 49 Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers in different cities across Turkey, including Adana, Adıyaman, Aksaray, Amasya, Ankara, Antalya, Bartın, Batman, Bingöl, Burdur, Bursa, Çanakkale, Çorum, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Düzce, Elazığ, Erzincan, Erzurum, Eskişehir, Gaziantep, Gümüşhane, Hakkari, Hatay, Isparta, İstanbul, İzmir, Kahramanmaraş, Kars, Kayseri, Kilis, Kocaeli, Konya, Malatya, Manisa, Mersin, Muş, Osmaniye, Sakarya, Samsun, Sivas, Şanlıurfa, Tekirdağ, Trabzon, Tunceli, Uşak, Van, Yalova, and Zonguldak. Efforts have been underway to open new VPMCs throughout Turkey.

Provincial Directorates of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and Social Services Centers

Provincial Directorates of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies and Social Services Centers provide consultancy, guidance and social support services to victims of violence at locations where no VPMC is established.

The First -Step Stations

The First-Step Stations are the units where women who refer to provincial directorates of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies or Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centers are observed preliminarily, go through a psycho-social and economic examination and accommodated up to a period of two weeks having been admitted temporarily. As of December 2016, there are 25 first-step stations, which are affiliated to MoFSP, operating in 24 cities.

Women's Shelters

The women's shelters are available in service to protect women, who have experienced physical, emotional, sexual, economic or verbal abuse or violence, address their psycho-social and economic problems, empower them, and meet their needs for accommodation etc., along with their children's, if any.

Women shelters affiliated with the MoFSP not only runs psycho-social support services; but also cooperate with Bar Associations for legal support services and both with Public Education Centers of the Directorates of National Education and the Provincial Directorates of Labor Agency for business and professional support.

As of December 2016, there are 137 women shelters with total capacity of 3,433 beds, including 101 women shelters run by MoFSP with capacity of 2,647 beds, 32 women shelters run by local government with capacity of 741 beds and 4 women shelters run by non-governmental organizations with capacity of 45 beds.

ALO 183 Social Support Hotline

The ALO 183 Social Support Hotline is a hotline run by MoFSP providing services to families, women, children, people with disabilities, elderly people, family members of martyrs and veterans, and provides psychological, legal, and economic counselling for women and children, who have experienced or are under risk of any form of violence, and who seek support and assistance. This hotline informs people calling the hotline about their rights and reference mechanisms available to them. **It operates for free on 7/24 basis.**

5.3.2 Ministry of Interior

Public Authorities

In pursuant to the Law Nr.6284, public authorities are entitled to decide on injunction orders for providing suitable accommodation, temporary financial assistance or psychological, vocational, legal and social support for any woman who have experienced violence and their accompanying child(ren), placing the women victims of violence under temporary protection in case of a life risk and providing access to crèche services for their children. Victims of violence may apply to office of governor or *district governor* so that a protective injunction order is issued in favor of them.

Law Enforcement Officers

Law enforcement officers have a significant role in preventing violence and taking necessary measures against it. Police or gendarmerie officers are among the first institutions from which women who have experienced violence most frequently seek help. In addition, under Law No. 6284 law enforcement officers have comprehensive and important duties, such as issuing an injunction order, requesting an injunction order to be issued or ensuring that such orders are complied with.

The General Directorate of Security Affairs

The *Division for Combating Domestic Violence* under the Department of Public Order of the General Directorate of Security Affairs is the central organizational authority responsible for improving the services available for combating domestic violence throughout Turkey, cooperating with relevant agencies and institutions, implementing protective measures for

victims of violence and coordinating related security services. At the local level, there are police centers at provincial and town centers.

The “*Bureau for Combating Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women*” was established within the Public Security Branch Office of all Provincial Directorates of Security Affairs in 81 cities on 11 November 2015 to improve services provided by the police with respect to incidents of violence against women, and to facilitate coordination among relevant institutions.

In addition, women, who have experienced violence or any person who has witnessed any actual or threatened form of violence, can call Alo 155 Police Emergency Hotline on 7/24 basis for free.

The General Command of Gendarmerie

At central level, the Division for Combating Domestic Violence and Children is responsible for coordination of services under its mandate and co-operation with relevant agencies and institutions.

As of 2015, the positions of “*Children and Women Section Chief*” and “*Juvenile and Female Crimes Proceeding Sergeant*” have been constituted in 37 and 44 Provincial Commands of Gendarmerie, respectively, and it is planned to establish the office of Children and Women Section Chief in all 81 Provincial Commands of Gendarmerie until the end of 2019. In all other towns and Gendarmerie Station Commands, duties of “*Juvenile and Female Crimes Proceeding Sergeant*” are carried out by personnel, who are appointed to this position as twin officers.

In addition, women, who have experienced violence, or any person who has witnessed any actual or threatened form of violence, can call the Alo 156 Gendarmerie Emergency Hotline on 7/24 basis for free.

The General Directorate of Local Administrations

The General Directorate of Local Administrations of the Ministry of Interior is responsible for monitoring the activities of local administrations and ensuring that investments and services thereof are made and provided in accordance with basic plans and programmes. Accordingly, local administrations have an important role in effective service provision for the purposes of combating violence against women.

The Directorate General of Migration Management

The Directorate General of Migration Management, which was established in 2013, identifies and implements policies and strategies on migration and carries out acts and actions relating to foreigners’ entry and stay in Turkey, exit and extradition from the country as well as international protection, temporary protection and protection of victims of human trafficking.

5.3.3 The Ministry of Justice

Women subjected to violence are referred by other agencies and institutions to judicial institutions so that they can enjoy their legal rights. Of all such judicial institutions, the Offices of Chief Public Prosecutors, Family Courts and Forensic Medicine Institution are the most effective agencies in combating violence against women.

Office of Chief Public Prosecutor

People experiencing any form of violence in scope of the Law No. 6284, have the right to directly file a complaint with the Office of Chief Public Prosecutor.

In addition, “*Domestic Violence Crime Investigation Bureaus*” have been established at offices of public prosecutors especially in metropolitan cities. It is among the duties of such bureaus to follow up and consummate investigations on crimes of violence, carry out acts and actions specified in the Law No. 6284, and oversee and monitor effective implementation of protective-preventive injunction orders.

Family Courts

Applications filed under the Law No. 6284 are concluded by the Family Courts. Victims of violence can apply to a Family Court by filing a petition to benefit from the remedies provided in the Law. If there is no Family Court in relevant where about, civil courts of first instance have the authority and jurisdiction.

Forensic Medicine Institution

The Forensic Medicine Institution was established within the Ministry of Justice to act as an expert in judicial matters covered in the Law No. 2659 and dated 14.04.1982, as amended by the Law No. 4810 and dated 19.02.2003, to organize symposiums, conferences and similar events in scope of forensic medicine programmes and associated programmes, and on other matters which fall into its mandate and to implement related training programmes.

5.3.4 The Ministry of Health

In the central organization of the Ministry of Health the following are the basic units responsible for acts and actions related to violence against women: the Turkish Public Health Institution, Public Hospitals Administration of Turkey and the Directorate General of Emergency Health Services – Department of 112 Emergency Health Services. In provincial organization of the Ministry, there are Provincial Directorates of Public Health and the Secretariat General of Public Hospitals Union.

At provincial level, the Family Health Centers (FHC), Community Health Centers (CHC) and hospitals are the agencies and institutions responsible for providing services related to violence against women. As for the hospitals; emergency services, crisis response units, medical social services units and psycho-social support centers are important. Lastly, in case of any incident which requires emergency medical response, the 112 Emergency Hotline is available for free on 7/24 basis.

5.3.5 Municipalities and Non-governmental Organizations

Throughout Turkey, certain municipalities and non-governmental organizations have established consultancy centers for women and/or families where women receive free psychological, medical, legal and economic assistance.

The Municipal Law No. 5393 requires that every municipality with a population over 100.000 establish a guesthouse/shelter; however, there are only 32 shelters run by municipalities although there are 201 municipalities with population over 100.000 in Turkey. These 32 guesthouse/shelters are operated with a total capacity of 741 people in 11 cities, including *Ankara (4); Antalya, Aydın, Bursa (3); Diyarbakır (2); Eskişehir, Gaziantep, Mersin (3); İstanbul (9), İzmir (6) and Uşak*. In addition to these, non-governmental organizations have 4 shelters in total in *Ankara, Antalya, and İstanbul (2)*.

5.3.6 Bar Associations

Any woman, who wishes to file a complaint against the perpetrator, but has no financial means to retain a lawyer, can apply to Legal Assistance Bureaus at Bar Associations to request that a lawyer be assigned to her without any charge. In addition, bars have been establishing “*women rights boards*” to raise awareness among women about their rights and to provide women with legal protection in terms of their rights. In some cities, the associations have opened “*women solidarity/consultancy centers*” to provide legal assistance and guidance to women who have experienced or are under risk of violence.

5.4 Inter-institutional Cooperation Activities

Many agencies and institutions have been carrying out different activities in scope of efforts towards awareness raising and training activities, provision of protective services and empowerment of victims of violence, increasing inter-institutional cooperation and coordination, improving institutional mechanisms to protect and support women victims of violence through protocols, and programmes and projects conducted with respect to combating violence against women. Some of the activities carried out in this framework are as follows:

Awareness Raising Activities

Training sessions and seminars on equality of women and men and violence against women have been organized for personnel at public agencies and institutions, and university students to reinforce equality of men and women and prevent violence against women in Turkey and protocols have been signed with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry

of Health, the General Command of Gendarmerie, the Directorate of Religious Affairs and MoFSP in order to ensure sustainability of training sessions. As part of the protocol activities, 71.000 police officers, 65.000 medical personnel and 47.566 religious officials have received trainings since 2006 and seminars have been organized for Judges of Family Courts and Public Prosecutors, local authorities, various ranks of staff members from public agencies and institutions, members of media and university students.

Below are some of the currently applicable training protocols:

- *“The Project Protocol on the Role of Religious Officials in Preventing Violence against Women and the Procedures Applicable”* was signed between the MoFSP and the Directorate of Religious Affairs in April 2010;
- *“The Humanitarian Assistance Programme for Combating and Response to Gender-based Violence”* has been run in co-operation with GDSW and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) since April 2013 to raise awareness of the Syrian citizens, who left their country due to on-going armed conflicts in Syria, about violence, improve capacity of the personnel, who provide services to Syrians, on response to acts of violence, and provide technical assistance to our country in this respect;

Institutional Capacity Building

- MoFSP-GDSW and the General Command of Gendarmerie signed the *“Protocol on Institutional Capacity Building, Cooperation and Enhanced Coordination in Services Available for Combating Violence against Women”* in April 2012;
- MoFSP and the Ministry of National Defense signed the *“Protocol on Enhancing the Institutional Capacity and Increasing Cooperation and Coordination for Promoting Gender Equality and Combating Violence Against Women”* in July 2013;
- The Ministry of Family and Social Policies and the Ministry of Health signed the *“Cooperation Protocol on Combating Violence against Women”* on 8 March, 2015.

Protecting and Supporting Victims of Violence

- The *“Protocol on Pilot Scheme on the Application of Electronic Support Technologies for Combating Violence against Women”* was signed with the General Directorate of Security Affairs on 27 September 2012. During pilot application period, it was found out that no effective protection was provided to victims and therefore it was determined that it would not be appropriate to continue with the practice in its present condition and to disseminate it throughout Turkey due to additional structural and technical problems. In this framework, the practice of safety pushbuttons, which was

launched in Adana and Bursa as a pilot scheme on 18 October 2012 was ended on 31 December 2015;

- At the same time, our Ministry has also conducted the “*The Project on Technical Assistance for the Assessment and Nationwide Extension of the Pilot Scheme of Electronic Support System under IPA*”. Within scope of this project, best practices (e.g. in Spain, Sweden and the USA) were reviewed and it was concluded that a system where the victim and perpetrator of violence are monitored together provided more effective protection;
- The Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Interior signed the “*Cooperation Protocol on the Pilot Scheme for Using Audio Surveillance Systems to Combat Violence Against Women*” on 8 March 2015. The pilot scheme that monitors the victim of violence and perpetrator together using the electronic monitoring system infrastructure and electronic bracelets to respond more efficiently to violence against women has been applicable in İzmir and Ankara. Term of this pilot project has been extended for a period of one year under the “*Protocol on Renewal of the Cooperation Protocol on Pilot Scheme for Using Audio Surveillance Systems for Combating Violence against Women*”.
- The Ministry of Family and Social Policies, the Ministry of Justice, Ankara Bar Association and Ankara University Rectorate signed the “*Protocol on the Legal Clinic Practices for Law School Students in Respect to the Law No. 6284*” on 2 July 2015. With this Protocol, students of the Faculty of Law of Ankara University will be able to provide legal assistance to women victims of violence, at Ankara VPMC, the First-step stations and Ankara Court House.

5.5 Projects

With respect to combating violence against women, several projects have been carried out in different areas, such as protection and support of women victims of violence, improvement of institutional service provision, awareness raising and training activities, increasing co-operation and coordination among institutions.

It is aimed to strengthen efforts for combating violence against women in 26 cities²⁷ through improvement of support services to be provided to victims of violence in scope the “**Project on Women’s Shelters for Combating Domestic Violence**”, run by GDSW and financed under IPA-2009 (the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance), between 2014-2016.²⁸

²⁷ Project cities: Adana, Afyon, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Canakkale, Denizli, Diyarbakir, Duzce, Erzurum, Eskisehir, Gaziantep, Isparta, Istanbul, Izmir, Kirsehir, Kocaeli, Konya, Manisa, Mersin, Nevsehir, Sakarya, Samsun, Sanliurfa, Trabzon, and Van

²⁸ Within the scope of training component of the project, a total of 1,280 persons, including 221 health professionals, 22 judges and prosecutors, 125 chief clerks, 147 family court experts, 506 police officers, 124 personnel members from women shelters and VPMCs, and 29 representatives of NGOs and personnel of local governments were trained on gender equality and violence against women. In addition, 124 personnel of MoFSP, 31 personnel of the Ministry of Health, 26 personnel of the Ministry of Justice, and 30 police officers received supervision training to ensure sustainability of training at every agency. It is planned to reach out to 35,000 health professional and 140,000 police officers through trainers training programmes, and field trainings for the National Police and health professionals. In addition, 19

In scope of the “***Project on Preventing Domestic Violence against Women***” conducted by the General Command of Gendarmerie between 2013 and 2015 under the 2010 “***EU-Turkey Financial Cooperation Programme***”, activities were carried out for strengthening institutional capacity of service units of the General Command of Gendarmerie, raising awareness at the local level about combating violence against women (by provincial commands of gendarmerie) and improving cooperation.

The Southeastern Anatolian Project (GAP) Administration carried out the “***Project on Empowerment of Women and Women’s Non-governmental Organizations in Underdeveloped Regions of Turkey***”. In scope of this project, Local Action Plans on Equality and Local Work Plans on Equality were developed for Mardin, Şanlıurfa, Muş, Trabzon and Ordu. Cooperation protocols were signed among public agencies, local administration and non-governmental organizations for implementation of the plans. Training programs and campaigns were organized for service providers and beneficiaries (e.g. representatives of public agencies, local government, and Non-governmental Organizations) with respect to gender equality and combating violence against women.

In scope of the Matra Project titled “***Protection of Women from Violence***” carried out by the Ministry of Justice and the Turkish Justice Academy, several study visits were paid to EU Member States and workshops and regional seminars were organized in Turkey.

It is aimed with “***The Project on Developing Occupational Skills***” (MESGEP) run by the Ministry of National Education between 2011 and 2016 to provide employment for people with special policy needs (e.g. people with orthopedic disabilities, people with mental disabilities, people with visual disabilities, people with auditory disabilities, convicts/ex convicts, people migrating due to security reasons, widows/orphans in need, and women who left their home due to violence) in 35 cities, improve their skills up to higher levels to help them acquire vocational competency and improve capacity of human resources at the institutions of vocational technical education.

5.6 Researches

GDSW conducted the “***The Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey***” in 2008 to meet the need for data at national level for combating domestic violence against women effectively and for the developing policies and programmes. The results of research are treated as official data within the scope of the “***Official Statistic Programme***” of TSI. It was planned to repeat the research in 2013 and 2014 in order to determine change in prevalence of violence by assessing the impacts of policies and programmes being

projects developed by NGOs in relation with the prevention of violence against women, empowerment of women and protection of their rights, and improving equality between men and women, received grants under this project.

implemented in the last five years. The results were made available to the public in December 2014.²⁹

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women (CEOMW) was constituted within the Grand National Assembly of Turkey on 24 March 2009. The committee was complemented with several sub-committees.³⁰

“The Parliamentary Investigation Committee on the Causes of Violence against Women and Due Measures” was established under the roof of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey in January 2015. The Committee published its Report titled Parliamentary Investigation Committee on the Causes of Violence against Women and Due Measures on 8 May 2015.³¹

In addition, GDSW conducted the *“Impact Analysis Survey on the Implementation of the Law No. 6284”*. In scope of this Survey, it was aimed to reveal how the Law No. 6284, the basic law for combating violence against women, was reflected on women victims of violence, their perpetrators and children and relatives thereof, and assess whether or not the Law was successful in preventing incidents of domestic violence and violence against women and protecting the victims of violence.

Based on the results of this survey, activities have been carried out in cooperation with the relevant agencies and institutions to address problems encountered in the implementation of the Law No. 6284.

²⁹ For the results of study: Section 3.2. “Situation in Turkey”.

³⁰ See report of Commission: https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/komisyon/kefe/kom_rapor.htm (in Turkish)

³¹ See report of Commission: for Part 1: <https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/sirasayi/donem24/yil01/ss.717-bolum-1.pdf> ; For Part 2: <https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/sirasayi/donem24/yil01/ss.717-bolum-2.pdf> (in Turkish)

PART II

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON COMBATING VIOLENCE >> AGAINST WOMEN

It is possible to say that Turkey has gained experience in developing and implementing Action Plans, which specify responsibilities that relevant Governmental agencies must assume, to combat violence against women.

It is stated in the item 11 of the sub-section “*Service Institutions*” of the section “*Institutions to Work in Coordination for Implementation of the Remedies to Violence against Women*” of the Prime Ministerial Circular No. 2006/17 that “***The ‘2006-2010 Action Plan on Prevention of Violence against Women’ to include all public agencies and institutions, universities, non-governmental organizations, private sector and local government must be developed and implementation thereof must be monitored under coordination of the State Ministry for Women Affairs.***”. In line with this provision, GDSW of the Prime Ministry started developing the action plan and published the “National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women (2007-2010)” in 2007.

1. THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (2007-2010)

The Action Plan, which was developed with the joint efforts of all the relevant stakeholders for implementation of all the necessary measures required for elimination of all forms of domestic violence against women in our country, had 6 main targets:

1. *Make legal arrangements on gender equality and domestic violence against women and eliminate enforcement-related defects;*
2. *Raise public awareness and achieve mental transformation on gender equality and domestic violence against women in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce domestic violence;*
3. *Make the necessary arrangements for strengthening the socio-economic status of women and ensure the full implementation of such arrangements;*
4. *Organize and implement accessible protective services for women victimized by domestic violence and their children (if any);*
5. *Organize and implement treatment and rehabilitation services for women victimized by domestic violence and the perpetrators, and;*
6. *Establish a mechanism of cooperation among institutions and relevant sectors with regard to the service provision to women victimized by domestic violence and their child(ren) (if any).*

2. THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (2012-2015)

The “National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2012-2015)” was prepared and implemented with contribution and participation of relevant public agencies and institutions, non-governmental organizations and women studies centers of universities under the coordination of GDSW as the term of the National Action Plan on Combating Domestic Violence against Women for 2007-2010 expired.

The Action Plan, which had the basic goal of implementing jointly with all the relevant stakeholders all the measures required for the elimination of all forms of violence against women in our country, had 4 main targets:

1. *Realize the legal arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate enforcement-related defects;*
2. *Raise public awareness and achieve mental transformation on gender equality and violence against women in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce violence against women;*
3. *Organize and implement healthcare services for women victims of violence and their child(ren), if any, and for the perpetrators and potential perpetrators of violence;*
4. *Strengthen the mechanism of cooperation among institutions and relevant sectors with regard to delivery of services to women victims of violence and their child(ren) (if any).*

The implementation of the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2012-2015) has been monitored through semi-annual monitoring and evaluation meetings.³²

3. THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (2016-2020)

The National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2016-2020) was prepared with contribution and participation of relevant public agencies and institutions, non-governmental organizations and women studies centers of universities under the coordination of GDSW.

In scope of the preparation activities; all relevant international conventions signed by Turkey, including the Istanbul Convention primarily, provisions of the national legislation, the

³² For follow-up and assessment reports on the implementation of the Plan (excluding activities carried out in the second half year of 2015), see: <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/ulusal-eylem-planlari/izleme-ve-degerlendirme-raporlari>

monitoring and assessment reports of the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2012-2015), the results of the Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey and the Impact Analysis Survey on Implementation of the Law No. 6284, and “The Report of the Parliamentary Investigation Committee on the Causes of Violence against Women and Due Measures” were reviewed; targets and activities to be included in the Action Plan were determined with due consideration given to recent social needs and developments.

During the preparation process, one-day meetings were held with representatives of public agencies and institutions which have responsibility with respect to the Plan, as well as representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations and women studies centers. In addition, the draft Action Plan was shared with all relevant public agencies and institutions requesting their opinions and suggestions and the Action Plan was finalized based on both the results of such meetings and opinions received from relevant agencies and institutions.

3.1 Composition of the Action Plan

The following columns are available for activities in the Action Plan under target and sub-target sections: Activity, Responsible Institution, Relevant Institution, Period, Performance Indicator and Description.



ACTIVITY

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD

Title of Activity	: Briefly describes what will be done within the scope of the activity.
Responsible Institution(s)	:Names the institution(s)which is/are responsible for directly carrying out the activity described in the Action Plan, completing and report it within prescribed time limit.
Relevant Institution(s)	:Names the institution(s)that is/are responsible for carrying out a part/ parts of the activity under the Action Plan, which falls into its mandate, and will provide concrete support in cooperation with the responsible institution.
Performance Indicator	: Includes the basic indicators related to performance of activity.
Period	: Indicates time limit set for the completion of activity.
Description	: Describes rationale of the activity and detailed tasks to be carried out

DESCRIPTION



Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Family
and Social Policies

PART III

ACTION PLAN >>

OBJECTIVE AND TARGETS

OBJECTIVE

“To Take and Implement the Necessary Measures for Prevention of Any Form of Violence and Domestic Violence against Women and for Effective Protection of Victims of Violence in our Country, in Cooperation with All Stakeholders.”

OBJECTIVE and TARGETS

TARGET 1	Make legislative arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate enforcement-related defects.
TARGET 2	Raise public awareness, increase sensitivity and achieve mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce violence against women.
TARGET 3	Ensure more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services for women, who have experienced or are under risk violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of those women.
TARGET 4	Organize and implement health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.
TARGET 5	Strengthen the mechanisms of cooperation among agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and formulate policies to ensure effective service provision for combating violence against women.

1. Legislative Arrangements

Target 1:

>> Make legislative arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate enforcement- related defects.

Activity 1.1

The Constitution and related basic Laws will be amended to align them with international conventions and documents on human rights of women, especially the Istanbul Convention.

Activity 1.2

Necessary amendments to improve efficiency in implementation of Law No. 6284 will be made and secondary legislation will be enacted.

Activity 1.3

Institutional legislation of the agencies (organizational laws, regulations, directives, ordinances, circulars etc.), which have responsibilities under the Istanbul Convention and Law No. 6284, will be harmonized with the Convention and the Law.

Target 1: Make legislative arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate enforcement-related defects.

Activity 1.1

The Constitution and related basic Laws will be amended to align them with international conventions and documents on human rights of women, especially the Istanbul Convention.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (The Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Ministry of Labor and Social Security Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health	GNAT-CEOMW Ministry for EU Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs Turkish Ombudsman Institution Ministry of National Education Turkish Human Rights and Equality Institution Other Relevant Public Agencies and Institutions Universities Bar Associations Workers' and Employers' Confederations Non-governmental Organizations	Number of working groups established Number of reports prepared by working groups Number of laws reviewed Number of draft laws prepared based on gaps identified in reviews Number of draft laws enacted	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

A working group of representatives of responsible and relevant institutions will be established under coordination of MoFSP- GDSW. At the first meeting of the working group, procedures and period of the working group will be decided. It will be ensured that representatives of the responsible and relevant institutions assigned in the working group regularly attend the activities of the working group. The number of working groups will be decided based on related legislation which requires adjustment.

Relevant agencies/institutions will prepare draft proposals for the amendment of the Constitution and related Laws based on results of reviews.

Target 1: Make legislative arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence, and eliminate enforcement-related defects.

Activity 1.2

Necessary amendments to improve effectiveness of the implementation of Law No. 6284 will be made and secondary legislation will be enacted.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women	GNAT-CEOMW Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Ministry of Labor and Social Security Ministry of Interior Turkish Ombudsman Institution Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Other Relevant Public Agencies and Institutions Universities Bar Associations Non-governmental Organizations	Establishment of working group Number of working group meetings Revision of the Law No. 6284 Enforcement of revised Law No. 6284 Number of pieces of secondary legislation developed Number of pieces of secondary legislation enforced	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

A working group will be established with the participation of stakeholders responsible for implementation of the Law No. 6284 under coordination of MoFSP- GDSW. Participation of the representatives of relevant agencies and institutions carrying out activities related to disabled, refugee, women etc. is important so that special measures can be taken with respect to such groups. At the first meeting of the working group, procedures and period of the working group will be decided. It will be ensured that representatives of the responsible and relevant institutions appointed in the working group regularly attend the activities of the working group.

Necessary pieces of secondary legislation are going to be drafted based on assessments made by the working group. The pieces of secondary legislation to be drafted in this scope will include the Implementing Regulation on Change of Identity and Other Relevant Identification Information and Documents, The Implementing Regulation on Audio Surveillance, the Implementing Regulation on Procedures and Principles for Temporary Protection, and the Regulation on the Enforcement of Confidentiality Orders.

Target 1: Make legislative arrangements on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate enforcement-related defects.

Activity 1.3

Institutional legislation of the agencies (organizational laws, regulations, directives, ordinances, circulars etc.), which have responsibilities under the Istanbul Convention and Law No. 6284, will be harmonized with the Convention and the Law.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (The Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Ministry of Labor and Social Security Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Radio and Television Supreme Council Ministry of Health Council of Higher Education Other Relevant Public Agencies and Institutions	GNAT-CEOMW Universities Bar Associations Non-governmental Organizations	Establishment of a working group Number of reports prepared by the working group Number of laws reviewed Number of pieces of legislation revised	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION
<p>Legislation of the relevant institutions is going to be reviewed and revised as necessary in parallel to the Istanbul Convention and Law No. 6284.</p> <p>In this framework, harmonization activities are going to be carried out by the working group to be established under coordination of GDSW. At the first meeting of the working group, procedures and period of the working group will be decided. It will be ensured that representatives of the responsible and relevant institutions appointed in the working group regularly attend the activities of the working group. Responsible institutions will ensure necessary revisions are made in legislation.</p>

2. AWARENESS RAISING AND MENTAL TRANSFORMATION

Target 2:

>> Raise public awareness, increase sensitivity and achieve mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.1

It will be ensured that activities, such as seminars, workshops etc. for all agencies and institutions which provide services with respect to violence against women, are organized in cooperation.

Activity 2.3

In order to increase sensitivity among policy makers, decision makers, service providers and the general public, television, radio shows as well as audio-visual and printed materials will be prepared and disseminated/distributed in cooperation.

Activity 2.2

Trainings of trainers will be organized for all agencies and institutions involved in combating violence against women, trainers' pool will be created and sustainability of training sessions will be ensured.

Activity 2.4

Activities will be carried out to raise awareness and transform mentality of men within the scope of combating violence against women.

Activity 2.6

Activities will be carried out at national and local levels to prevent early and/or forced marriages.

Activity 2.5

Existing curriculums/programmes of all levels of formal and non-formal education, starting from pre-school education, will be reviewed with a perspective of violence against women and gender equality and revised when necessary and their effective implementation will be ensured.

Activity 2.7

Impact analysis for training programmes on violence against women will be conducted and existing programmes and materials will be updated based on results obtained.

Target 2: Raise public awareness, increase sensitivity and achieve mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.1

It will be ensured that activities, such as seminars, workshops etc. for all agencies and institutions, which provide services with respect to violence against women, are organized in cooperation.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Directorate of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Turkish Justice Academy	Union of Turkish Bar Associations Turkish Municipalities Association Other relevant public agencies and institutions Local Administrations Universities Professional Organizations Media Organizations Workers and Employers Confederations Non-governmental Organizations	Number of events organized Number of people attending the events Duration of events	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

In scope of these efforts, activities like training sessions, seminars and workshops on “combating violence against women, harms of early marriage, combating human trafficking, gender equality, equality of men and women and its importance, human rights of women, discrimination against women, disability and rights of people with disabilities, rights of children, training on values, etc.” will be carried out in cooperation with responsible and relevant agencies and institutions.

Documents related to such events will be prepared in co-operation with related stakeholders.

As the documents are prepared, due consideration will be given to needs of women groups more vulnerable to violence, such as women with disabilities, refugees, girls and elderly women.

The cited activities will be organized by the stakeholders who have experience and knowledge in human rights of women.

Duration of activities will be determined depending on target audience and needs thereof.

Target 2: Raise public awareness, increase sensitivity and achieve mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviors that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.2

Trainings of trainers will be organized for all agencies and institutions involved in combating violence against women, trainers' pool will be created and sustainability of training sessions will be ensured.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	TERM
Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Directorate of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Turkish Justice Academy	Ministry of Development Union of Turkish Bar Associations Turkish Municipalities Association Other relevant public agencies and institutions Local Administrations Universities Professional Organizations Workers and Employers Confederations Media Organizations Non-governmental Organizations	Number of trainer guidebook, trainees books, and trainer guides prepared Number of trainings organized for trainers Number of persons attending trainings for trainers Number of institutions establishing a distance training programme Number of personnel attending distance training programme Number of trainings conducted by trainers Number of personnel attending trainings conducted by trainers ÷ total number of personnel required to receive training Duration of trainings Number of institutions which incorporated such training into their in service training programme Percentage of change on results of pre-test and post - test measurement	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Training of trainers will be conducted in such topics as "combating violence against women, harms of early marriage, combating human trafficking, gender equality, equality of men and women and its importance, human rights of women, discrimination against women, disability and rights of people with disabilities, rights of children, correct way of treating victims, training on values, etc."

Trainers' handbooks, trainee books and trainers' guidebooks will be prepared in co-operation with related stakeholders.

As the documents are prepared, due consideration will be given to needs of women groups more vulnerable to violence such as women with disabilities, refugees, girls and elderly women.

Training for trainers will be organized by persons who have experience in and knowledge on human rights of women. Personnel members who attend the trainings of trainers will create the trainers' pool and will be responsible for trainings of other personnel on this topic in their institutions. And training will be periodically repeated.

Distance training seminars will be provided for personnel members who cannot regularly attend trainings.

The effectiveness of trainings will be assessed by means of pre and post-test measurements.

The sustainability of trainings will be ensured with the supervision mechanism and/or in service training to be made available. Training modules are developed for each sector within the scope of training activity.

Target 2: Raising public awareness, increasing sensitiveness and ensuring mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviours that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.3

In order to increase sensitivity among policy makers, decision makers, service providers and the public, television and radio shows as well as audio-visual and printed materials will be prepared and disseminated/distributed in cooperation.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Presidency of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health National-Local Media Organisations	Radio and Television Supreme Council Turkish Radio and Television Corporation Turkish Justice Academy Other relevant public agencies and institutions Union of Turkish Bars Association Union of Municipalities of Turkey Local Administrations Universities Professional Organisations Workers and Employers Confederations Non-governmental Organisations	Number of TV/radio shows/public service announcements (PSAs) prepared/broadcasted Broadcast duration of shows/PSAs Broadcast time of shows/PSAs Number of materials prepared Number of materials distributed Number of websites of agencies and institutions hosting materials	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

The television, radio shows as well as audio-visual and printed materials to increase sensitivity among policy makers, decision makers, service providers and the general public, may be developed by responsible/relevant agencies and institutions as well as through an integrated communication campaign.

In this framework, an integrated communication activity, which will be prepared by a single source and where common terms and expressions are to be used, may be adopted as a method by running a communication campaign on combatting violence against women. It is possible that the coordinating institution may run such communication campaign through a sub-committee formed with the participation of representatives of responsible/relevant public agencies and institutions, professional organisations, non-governmental organisations, local administrations and universities.

In preparing such materials due consideration will be given to needs of such women groups as women with disabilities, refugees, girls and elderly women who are more defenceless against violence. In this framework, public service advertisements to be prepared on violence against women will include sign language, subtitles and description. Printed materials will not be long and complex, but simple and lucid and will be available in Braille and audio formats. In addition, it is important that such materials are available in languages of refugee and immigrant groups so that they can be informed in their own languages.

In addition, visual and printed materials to be used in training and counselling services for couples who have filed an application for marriage will be revised and distributed.

It will be ensured that prepared materials will be used by responsible institutions in their activities under their mandates and be distributed. It will be ensured that materials will be published at websites of responsible/relevant agencies and institutions.

Broadcasting of audio-visual materials will be ensured at a time when the ratings of especially television and radio broadcasts are at the top.

Target 2: Raising public awareness, increasing sensitiveness and ensuring mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviours that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.4

Activities will be carried out to raise awareness and transform mentality of men within the scope of combating violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Presidency of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Ministry of National Defence Ministry of Health	Ministry of Culture and Tourism Union of Municipalities of Turkey Local Administrations Universities Professional Organisations Workers and Employers Confederations Media Organisations Private Sector Non-governmental Organisations	Number of events organised Number of men attending events Number of campaigns conducted/supported Number of persons reached out through campaign Number of certificate programmes -organised Number of persons certificated Number of spot films prepared Broadcast time of spot films Number and duration of spot films broadcasted at primetime (when the ratings are at the top) Inclusion of human rights into training curriculum Number of convicts and detainees attending training programme	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

The target audience is all male individuals.
Materials will be developed in cooperation of related stakeholders depending on the target audience.
Duration of events will be determined based on target audience, needs and type of event.
Within the scope of the campaign informative activities/certificate programmes will be organised for all male groups, including boys, male youth and male adults on factors contributing to violence against women, such as sexist language, gender roles, behaviours, the notion of “manhood” and on value training.
In this framework, awareness raising and mental transformation of disabled, refugee men should be considered. It is important that public service advertisements include sign language, subtitles and description, and that printed materials are not long and complex, but simple and lucid, and are available in Braille and audio formats. In addition, it is also important that such materials are available in languages of refugee and immigrant groups so that they can be informed in their own languages.
Workshops, competitions and presentations will be organised for students by age groups of them.
It will be ensured that curriculum for human rights education for convicts and detainees at correctional facilities also include topics, such as combating violence against women, women’s rights, elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and sending girls to schools etc.

Target 2: Raising public awareness, increasing sensitiveness and ensuring mental transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviours that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.5

Existing curriculums/programmes of all levels of formal and non-formal education, starting from pre-school education, will be reviewed within the scope of violence against women and gender equality; will be revised when necessary and effective implementation will be ensured.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of National Education Presidency of Council of Higher Education Universities	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health Turkish Human Rights and Equality Institution Non-governmental Organisations	Preparation of assessment report on pre-school education programmes Number of educational materials reviewed Number of educational materials revised Number of faculties/undergraduate programmes offering courses on gender equality, violence against women and women's human rights Number of students enrolled at a faculty/an undergraduate programme -taking this course Number of elective /mandatory courses under a faculty/undergraduate programme Number of projects/events, etc. developed in this course under a faculty/ undergraduate programme Number of students/persons received training on healthy communication, anger management, overcoming stress, behaviour change Number of formal and non-formal education programmes offering training on healthy communication, anger management, overcoming stress, behaviour change	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Pre-school education programmes will be reviewed from a perspective of gender equality and sexist elements will be removed. In this framework, measures will be taken so that activities included in pre-school education programmes, materials used therein (toys, books, etc.), and roles and responsibilities assigned to pupils create awareness of gender equality, violence against women and children, promote fundamental human rights and freedoms, provide information on rights of children and disapproves all forms of discrimination.

Pursuant to the Regulation for Text Books and Educational Tools, there is a system where educators will review online books from a perspective which promotes fundamental human rights and freedoms, and disapproves all forms of discrimination. In this framework, works will be continued to remove all discriminatory images, expressions and similar elements from text books.

It will be ensured that all faculty and undergraduate programmes include a course on gender quality, violence against women, equality between men and women and human rights of women in accordance with resolution of Plenary Session of the Council of Higher Education dated 28.05.2015.

In addition, courses on healthy communication, anger management, stress coping mechanisms, behaviour change and values will be offered at formal and non-formal education programmes.

Within the scope of such courses, materials will be prepared in cooperation with responsible and relevant agencies and institutions.

Target 2: Raising public awareness, increasing sensitiveness and ensuring mentality transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviours that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.6

Activities will be carried out at national and local levels to prevent early and/or forced marriages.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Prime Ministry Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency Presidency of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education	GNAoT-KEFEK Ministry of Justice Ministry of Health Other relevant public agencies and institutions Local Administrations Public Authorities Universities Workers and Employers Confederations Non-governmental Organisations	Number of initiatives taken Reports on results of initiatives Change of percentage of rate/number of marriages between 16 and 18 years of age Percentage of change at school drop-out rate	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Support programmes for ensuring girls' access to 12-year compulsory education and prevention of school drop-out for them will be carried out.
Refugees will be included into local and national conducted.

Target 2: Raising public awareness, increasing sensitiveness and ensuring mentality transformation on gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence in order to eliminate attitudes and behaviours that generate and reinforce violence against women.

Activity 2.7

Impact analysis for training programmes on violence against women will be performed and existing programmes and materials will be updated based on results obtained.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Defence Ministry of Health Local Administrations Non-governmental Organisations	Presidency of Religious Affairs Universities	Number of impact analysis reports drawn up Number of programmes revised Number of educational materials revised	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

A team of experts will be established for the development of training modules for each sector within the scope of training to be conducted in combating violence against women. Impact analyses of such trainings will be performed by relevant institutions. Evaluation of results of such impact analyses will contribute to formulation of programmes in alignment of existing needs. In addition, training materials will be revised based on data revealed.



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3. PROTECTIVE AND PREVENTIVE SERVICE PROVISION AND EMPOWERMENT OF VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Target 3:

>> Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services for women exposed to violence and under risk of violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of them.

Activity 3.1

Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres will be established in all cities and their capacities and service standardization will be improved.

Activity 3.3

Initiatives will be taken for the establishment of shelters by all the municipalities with population of over 100.000 pursuant to Law on Municipalities.

Activity 3.2

Initiatives will be taken to improve standards of services provided at the women's shelters and specialisation will be ensured.

Activity 3.4

A model will be developed to support and monitor women victims of violence after leaving the shelters.

Activity 3.5

The use of technical tools and methods for the effective protection of women victims of violence will be made widespread.

Activity 3.7

Psychosocial support programmes will be developed and implemented for children victims/witnesses of violence and who receive services at the centers together with women victims of violence.

Activity 3.9

Directorate General of Security and General Command of Gendarmerie will establish specialized service units at provincial and district levels in combating violence against women and capacities of such units will be increased.

Activity 3.6

Capacity of ALO 183 Social Support Hotline in service provision for combating violence against women will be improved.

Activity 3.8

It will be ensured that refugee and asylum seeker women and children are able to make use of protective and preventive services.

Activity 3.10

Cooperation initiatives will be taken to ensure that women receiving services from women service units are able to make use of vocational courses for employment and entrepreneurship training.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or women under such risk, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.1

Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres will be established in all cities and their capacities and standardisation of services will be improved.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies – Directorate General of Services for Persons with Disabilities and Elderly People Ministry of Interior Ministry of Development Ministry of Finance Ministry of Health Local Administrations Bars Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Number of cities where a ŞÖNİM is established ÷ total number of cities Number of people receiving services Number of personnel ÷ number of people receiving services Number of training organised for personnel Number of personnel attending training ÷ total number of personnel Setting service standards	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Physical conditions of ŞÖNİMs will be arranged to improve accessibility of these centres. Necessary measures will be taken to enable women of disadvantaged groups (people with disabilities, refugees, immigrants, etc.) access to services offered at related units.

It will be ensured that related units are sufficiently staffed.

Trainings will be organised for personnel to specialize in the field of combating violence against women in a manner to ensure that they can provide service to women of disadvantaged groups.

Administrative and professional forms used or required to be used at ŞÖNİMs between 2017 and 2018 will be revised and put into effect throughout the country.

Within the scope of improving service standards, job descriptions, instructions and procedures will be defined and an automation system will be established.

In addition, within the scope of preventive measures in combating violence against women, service provision capacity of ŞÖNİMs in relation to elimination of socio-economic, socio-cultural and similar risk factors will be enhanced and cooperation will be established among related parties.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or under risk of violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.2

Initiatives will be taken to improve standards of services provided at women's shelters and specialisation will be ensured.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies – Directorate General of Services for Persons with Disabilities and Elderly People Ministry of Interior ISKUR Ministry of Development Ministry of Finance Ministry of Health Local Administrations Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Setting service standards Number of specialised women shelters established Number of shelters transformed Number of personnel ÷ Number of people receiving services Number of training organised for personnel Number of personnel attending training	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Specialised shelters will be established and/or existing shelters will be transformed for women whose lives are at high risk and who need different service model.

It will be ensured that shelters are sufficiently staffed. Trainings will continue for personnel to acquire specialty in combating violence against women in a manner to ensure that they can provide service to women of disadvantaged groups.

Administrative and professional forms used or required to be used at shelters will be revised to improve standardisation in services.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women, exposed to violence or under risk of violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.3

Initiatives will be taken for the establishment of shelters by all municipalities with population of over 100.000 pursuant to Law on Municipalities.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Interior Municipalities	Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women Ministry of Development – Presidency of Regional Development Administration Ministry of Finance Union of Municipalities of Turkey City Councils Women Assemblies Non-governmental Organisations	Number of women's shelters established by municipalities ÷ Number of municipalities with population over 100.000	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Article 14/a of Law No. 5393 on Municipalities stipulates as follows: "Metropolitan municipalities and municipalities with a population of more than 100.000 must establish shelters for women and children. Other municipalities may establish shelters for women and children based on an assessment of their financial means and service priorities."
Cooperation initiatives will be taken to enable municipalities to establish shelters and improve their service provision capacity.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or under risk of violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.4

A model will be developed to support and monitor women victims of violence after leaving the shelters.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women	Ministry of Labour and Social Security Ministry of Interior İSKUR Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Local Administrations Bars Universities Other relevant public agencies and institutions Non-governmental Organisations	Establishment of a working group/carrying out a project Number of reports on models of different countries Current situation report and needs -analysis report Development of the model	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

The modelling works will be carried out by a working group of representatives of relevant institutions under the coordination of MoFSP-DGSW or under a project to be carried out by MoFSP-DGSW. Models implemented in different countries to support and monitor victims of violence after leaving shelters will be reviewed.

A report on current situation in Turkey will be prepared, needs and suggestions, which will be used as basis for the model to be developed, will be determined.

The model for supporting and monitoring victims of violence after leaving shelters will be developed based on practices in different countries and a need analysis.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services for women exposed to violence or under risk of violence and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.5

It will be ensured that use of technical tools and methods for the effective protection of women victims of violence is widespread.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Ministry of Interior	Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Communications Other Relevant Agencies and Institutions Non-governmental Organisations	Number of pilot cities where the project and appropriate tools and methods are implemented Pilot scheme assessment report Number of cases monitored by electronic means	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Article 12 of Law No. 6284 stipulates that “technical tools and methods can be used in implementing injunction orders issued in accordance with the provisions of this Law following the decision of the judge.”

In this framework, the “Cooperation Protocol on the Pilot Scheme for Using Technical Surveillance Systems and Technical Methods in Combating Violence against Women” was signed among the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Family and Social Policies and Ministry of Interior on 8 March 2015. The “Protocol on Renewal of the Cooperation Protocol to the Pilot Scheme for Using Surveillance Systems and Technical Methods in Combating Violence Against Women” was signed and put into enforcement on 19 April 2016, for term of this protocol expired on 8 March, 2016.

The Protocol aimed that duration of pilot scheme would be extended for one year and that pilot scheme would be implemented under the mandates of General Directorates of Security in Ankara and Izmir as well as under the mandate of General Command of Gendarmerie in Ankara.

The Protocol aims to assess the surveillance system with technical methods.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services for women exposed to violence or under risk of violence and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.6

Capacity of ALO 183 Social Support Hotline in service provision for combating violence against women will be improved.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Universities Non-governmental Organisations Local Administrations	Number of trainings conducted Number of personnel attending trainings ÷ total number of personnel	2016-2017

DESCRIPTION

Personnel will receive training on issues such as violence against women, gender equality, communication with, guidance and support to victims of violence etc.
Necessary measures will be taken so that people from disadvantaged groups (e.g. people with disabilities, refugees, immigrants, etc.) are able to have access to services offered at relevant units.
Trainings will be organised for personnel to specialize in combating violence against women in a manner that they can provide service for women of disadvantaged groups.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or under risk of violence and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.7

Psychosocial support programmes will be developed and implemented for children victims/witnesses of violence and who receive services at the centers together with women victims of violence.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women Ministry of Family and Social Policies – Directorate General of Child Services	Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Local Administrations Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Number of programmes developed Number of children making use of programmes	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Programmes will be developed and launched in 2016-2017 period to provide psychosocial support for children brought to service units with women victims of violence.

Needs and high benefit of children with disabilities will be taken into account in the development of such programmes.

Within the scope of target “Prevention of All Forms of Violence in Education” of the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Children’s Rights (2013-2017), it is planned to establish a school social service system in order to identify children with violence history by obtaining necessary cooperation among children, family and school managements at schools, and to provide psychosocial support to such children. In addition, cooperation and coordination will be achieved among relevant institutions so that individuals identified by the social services or guidance units receive treatment at a healthcare facility, or have access to other social services that they need.

In the National Strategy Document and Action Plan on Children’s Rights (2013-2017), it is planned to establish special units where children, who are victims of negligence and abuse, can receive psychosocial support and rehabilitation service free of charge.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services for women exposed to violence or under risk of violence and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.8

It will be ensured that refugee and asylum seeker women and children are able to make use of protective and preventive services.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Justice Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Defence Ministry of Health Local Administrations Non-governmental Organisations	Presidency of Religious Affairs Universities	Necessary legislative and administrative regulations enacted Awareness raising activities carried out Number of women/children participating the activities Rehabilitation and psycho-social support systems established	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the Istanbul Convention stipulate legal and other measures required to be taken with respect to refugees and asylum seekers.

In this scope, legal and administrative barriers preventing refugee and asylum seeking women and children, who had experiences or are under risk of violence or abuse, from having access to services available for them will be removed.

Awareness of refugee and asylum seeking women and children of their rights and how they can enjoy their rights will be raised.

Rehabilitation and psychosocial support systems will be established for asylum seeking women and children, who lost a relative in a conflict or has experienced or witnessed any violence, harassment and/or any form of abuse and it will be ensured that women and children living outside of refugee camp have access to such services.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or under risk of violence, and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.9

Directorate General of Security and General Command of Gendarmerie of the Ministry of Interior will establish service units at provincial and district levels in combating violence against women and capacities of such units will be increased.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Interior	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies State Personnel Administration Ministry of Finance	Number of provinces and districts where Combating Domestic Violence Divisions have been set up ÷ total number of provinces and districts Number of provinces and districts where Combating Domestic Violence and Children Bureaus have been set up ÷ total number of provinces and districts	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Accessible institutional service units will be mainstreamed by General Directorate of Security and General Command of Gendarmerie of the Ministry of Interior during the implementation period of the Action Plan and specialised law enforcement officers will be appointed to such units.

Target 3: Ensuring more effective and widespread provision of accessible protective and preventive services towards women exposed to violence or under risk of violence and their children (if any) in order to strengthen the socio-economic status of women.

Activity 3.10

Cooperation initiatives will be taken to ensure that women receiving services from women service units are able to make use of vocational courses for employment and entrepreneurship training.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women ISKUR KOSGEB Ministry of National Education	Local Administrations Universities The Banks Association of Turkey Private Sector Public Banks Non-governmental Organisations	Number of women attending vocational courses for employment Rate of women, who have attended vocational courses for employment, actually employed Annual rate of increase of number of women who have received training, consultancy and financial services with respect to entrepreneurship	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Protocols, projects and similar cooperation initiatives will be conducted to ensure that women, who make use of services available at service units at the Ministry of Family and Social Policies giving service for women exposed to violence or under risk of violence, are able to benefit from vocational courses for employment and entrepreneurship training to empower them socio-economically.

4. REGULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Target 4:

>> Ensuring regulation and implementation of health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.

Activity 4.1

Pursuant to the Istanbul Convention, institutional service units will be established and their numbers and capacities will be increased in order to prevent secondary -victimization and loss of findings in criminal cases which involves violence against women

Activity 4.3

Psychosocial support centres will be established to conduct rehabilitation and support programmes for perpetrators of violence for whom a preventive injunction order has been issued under Law No. 6284, and their capacities will be improved.

Activity 4.2

Pursuant to the Istanbul Convention, special service models will be created and implemented for victims of sexual violence.

Activity 4.4

Special therapy and rehabilitation programmes will be conducted for children, who have been exposed and witness to violence, and who are inclined to violence, or who have committed any act of violence.

Target 4: Ensuring regulation and implementation of health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.

Activity 4.1 Pursuant to the Istanbul Convention, institutional service units will be established and their numbers and capacities will be increased to prevent secondary suffering and loss of findings in criminal cases which involves violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Justice Ministry of Health	Ministry of Family and Social Policies State Personnel Administration Ministry of Development Ministry of Finance Relevant agencies and institutions Bars Universities University/Private Hospitals Non-governmental Organisations	Increase in number of relevant units Number of victims getting services ÷ Number of Personnel	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

It is necessary to take necessary legal or other measures with due consideration given to rights of victims to ensure that all investigations and judicial proceedings related to any form of violence within the scope of Istanbul Convention are conducted without delay. It is also important to show respect to rights of victims while attaching importance to speed up investigations and judicial processes. Indeed, further (secondary) victimisation of victims, who have already experienced certain distresses, should be avoided during investigation and judicial processes.

Target 4: Ensuring regulation and implementation of health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.

Activity 4.2

Special service models will be created and implemented for victims of sexual violence pursuant to the Istanbul Convention.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Health	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Ministry of Interior Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Number of special service models developed Pilot implementation of model developed Impact analyses conducted after the completion of pilot implementation Number of victims making use of services ÷ Number of personnel	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Sexual violence traumatises victims and requires handling with trained expert personnel. Victims of sexual violence need urgent medical treatment and trauma supports and urgent forensic medical examination is required for collection of necessary evidences for criminal investigation. In most of the cases, psychological counselling and therapy, which may last several weeks or even months after the incident, is an important necessity.

In addition, women and girls from all types of disability, especially women and girls with mental disability, are often victims of violence, particularly sexual violence. Therefore, special needs (support of a specialist especially in taking statements of a person with mental and psychosocial disability, taking the custodian of the victim under observation as a precaution against the fact that close relatives or members of family frequently have the potential of being the perpetrator, or replacing the custodian, etc.) of a person with disability should be taken into consideration in provision of medical and judicial examination, trauma support and counselling services.

Within this scope, the Istanbul Convention requires establishment of appropriate and easily accessible centres in sufficient numbers where expert personnel are employed to provide service for victims of violence.

It should be ensured that women and girls with disabilities, or woman and girl refugees, asylum seekers, and victims of human trafficking can have access to the services provided at such centres.

The service model to be developed within this framework will be implemented and an impact analysis will be conducted on pilot implementation.

Target 4: Ensuring regulation and implementation of health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.

Activity 4.3

Psychosocial support centres will be established to conduct rehabilitation and support programmes for perpetrators of violence for whom a preventive injunction order has been issued under Law No. 6284, and capacities will be improved.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Health	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Family and Social Policies Universities Relevant agencies and institutions Non-governmental Organisations	Number of psychosocial support centres established Number of provinces where a psychosocial support centre is established Number of persons making use of psycho-social support centres Number of persons receiving services as a result of a court order Number of personnel working at psychosocial support centres Number of persons receiving services ÷ Number of personnel Number of personnel attending trainings	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Psychosocial support centres will be set up to develop programmes for perpetrators for whom a preventive injunction order is issued, to monitor examination and treatment processes and provide training for implementers.

In addition, services to be offered at such psychosocial support centres as well as programmes for monitoring examination and treatment processes will be developed. Support centres must be easily accessible in sufficient numbers and have the capacity for the rehabilitation and treatment of perpetrators with different needs, such as people with disabilities or refugees.

Trainings will be conducted for personnel who are responsible for the development of programmes and for the implementation of these programmes. Continuity of trainings will be ensured.

It will be ensured that treatment programmes for perpetrators, who have alcohol, drug, volatile or stimulant substance addiction, or violent behaviour, will be effectively implemented.

Target 4: Ensuring regulation and implementation of health services for women victims of violence, their child(ren), if any, and perpetrators or potential perpetrators.

Activity 4.4

Special therapy and rehabilitation programmes will be conducted for children, who have been exposed and witnessed to violence, and who are inclined to violence, or who have committed any act of violence.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies – Directorate General of Child Services Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health	Ministry of Justice Local Administrations Non-governmental Organisations	Number of programmes implemented Number of children making use of the programme	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Necessary measures will be taken to ensure primarily that rights and needs of children are considered with the programmes to be implemented.

Programmes will take age and special conditions of children (disability, refugee status, etc.) into account and will be implemented with due attention/care paid to the high benefit of children.

In determining “children experiencing or witnessing any violent act, or who has an inclination towards violence, or who commits any act of violence”, it is important that staff of the school where the child is attending are informed of his/her special condition, and that cooperation with school staff is ensured.



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5. INTERINSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Target 5:

>> Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.1

An interinstitutional joint database will be established to effectively monitor data on violence against women.

Activity 5.2

Existing protocols on combating violence against women will continue and new cooperation protocols will be developed.

Activity 5.3

Efforts will be made for the effective performance of committees/boards at national and local levels, which carry out activities within the scope of combating violence against women.

Activity 5.4

Researches will be conducted to calculate cost of violence against women.

Activity 5.6

Researches will be conducted for in depth analysis of fatal cases of violence against women.

Activity 5.5

Researches will be conducted to reveal men's perception of violence.

Activity 5.7

Researches will be conducted with respect to suspicious suicides of women and committed in the name of custom and honor.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.1

An interinstitutional joint database will be established to effectively monitor data on violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies (Coordinating Institution) Ministry of Labour and Social Security Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health	Ministry of Development Ministry of National Education Turkish Statistics Institute TÜBİTAK Relevant agencies and institutions Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Establishment of working group Conducting needs analysis Determining the scope of violence against women Making necessary legislative regulations Developing database model Implementing the model	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Existing efforts related to the database will be reviewed to effectively monitor data on violence against women and a revised model in which gaps detected during such review have been eliminated will be introduced.

In the current situation, criminal statistics are compiled on the basis of the accused and crime committed with respect to articles and paragraphs of the Turkish Criminal Code and special laws which include criminal provisions while legal statistics are compiled on the basis of types of cases with reference to records kept in the UYAP system. It is not possible to present statistics on violence against women, for there is not a distinctive procedure in applicable laws for crimes against women, and data entered in the UYAP system do not include a cross-reference with respect to victim and perpetrator and hence it is not possible to determine what type of crime that a victim has experienced.

For this reason, a working group will be set up to conduct a needs analysis and to determine which crimes are considered as violence against women in order to determine scope of violence against women.

Recommendations will be made on amendments needed to be made in applicable laws and regulations based on scope determined by the working group and such amendments will be made.

Variables will be identified so that necessary data can be collected.

A database will be developed and a model will be implemented for the generation of statistics.

Integration will be ensured among responsible and relevant institutions for the collection of data on violence against women.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.2

Existing protocols on combating violence against women will continue and new cooperation protocols will be developed.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Ministry of Justice Presidency of Religious Affairs Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Defence Ministry of Health Other relevant public agencies and institutions Universities Local Administrations Non-governmental Organisations	Number of protocols signed Number of protocols continued	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

The protocols signed by DGWS with relevant agencies/institutions with respect to combating violence against women are as follows:

- "Protocol on Building Institutional Capacity, Cooperation and Enhanced Coordination in Services Available for Combating Violence against Women" with the General Command of Gendarmerie (2012);
- Cooperation Protocol with the Presidency of Religious Affairs (2011);
- "The Protocol on Seeking the Contributions of Religious Officials in Prevention of Violence against Women", with the Presidency of Religious Affairs (August 2013-2018);
- "Protocol on Training Project on Role of Police Officers in the Prevention of Violence against Women and Procedures to be Followed" with the National Police, Ministry of Interior;
- "Protocol on Enhancing the Institutional Capacity and Increasing Cooperation and Coordination for Promoting Gender Equality and in Combating Violence Against Women" with Ministry of National Defense (2013);
- "Cooperation Protocol on a One-year Scheme for Using Surveillance Systems with Technical Methods in Combating Violence Against Women" with Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice (March 2015-2016); and
- "The Cooperation Protocol on Combating Violence against Women" with Ministry of Health (March 2015-2020)

New protocols will be signed with related parties within the scope of implementation of the National Action Plan.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.3

Efforts will be made for the effective performance of committees/boards at national and local levels which carry out activities within the scope of combating violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Relevant agencies and institutions Universities Local Administrations Non-governmental Organisations	Number of meetings held Rate of executives attending the meetings Targets identified as a result of meetings with respect to conducting activities in the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2016-2020) Implementation of targets agreed as a result of meetings	2016-2020

DESCRIPTION

Within the scope of Prime Ministry Circular No. 2006/17, "Committee for Monitoring Violence Against Women Meeting" is held with participation of representatives of relevant public institutions, universities and non-governmental organisations every year. At these meetings, opinions and suggestions of related parties with respect to combating violence against women are discussed. It is planned that the 10th meeting with participation of representatives of relevant agencies and institutions is to be held on 21 December 2016. Efforts will continue to improve effectiveness of the Committee for Monitoring Violence Against Women. One of the initiatives in this regard is to monitor the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women by the Committee for Monitoring Violence Against Women.

At the local level, it will be ensured that the "Provincial Commission for Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation of Combating Violence" set up pursuant to the Regulation on the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres meet every six months under the chairmanship of the Governor and with participation of the highest officials of relevant institutions, that reports of meetings are regularly submitted to MoFSP and DGSW and that monitoring is conducted.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.4

Researches will be conducted to calculate cost of violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies - General Directorate on the Status of Women	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Development Ministry of Interior Ministry of Finance Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Turkish Statistics Institute Local Administrations Universities Relevant institutions and organisations Non-governmental Organisations	Conducting researches	2018-2020

DESCRIPTION

Recently there have been studies conducted regarding cost of violence against women. Analyses examine cost of violence against women under four categories.

The first category is the "direct cost" which entails costs of services provided to victims and children (i.e. health services, accommodation, emergency hotline, psychological, social, and legal counselling), of legal services for victims and perpetrators (i.e. time and labour of law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and judges, etc.), and of training of related experts.

The second category is the "intangible cost" of violence against women, which includes components such as increasing rates of social violence, murders and suicide.

The third category is the "economical multiplier effect" resulted from women's inability to work or reduction of efficiency in working life.

The fourth and last category is the "social multiplier effect" which entails effects of violence on victim (i.e. reduction in social capital, decline in participation in democratic processes, decline in quality of life) and effects on future generations (i.e. future results -arising as a result of negative impacts on school success rates, or social lives of children who are victims of violence, or witness of domestic violence).

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.5

Researches will be conducted to reveal men's perception of violence.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Development Ministry of Interior Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Universities Workers' and Employer's Confederations Non-governmental Organisations	Conducting researches	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

In the conclusion of the "Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey", which was conducted in 2014, it is recommended that quantitative analyses representing situation in Turkey, shall be conducted with respect to men's violent behaviours against women. Although there is abundant information on how women perceive violence, and what they experience when they are subjected to an act of violence, mostly women are interviewed in surveys and data on men can only be obtained indirectly through women.

It is important to conduct household-based quantitative surveys throughout Turkey where the target group will be only men so that the issue of violence against women can be considered from a different perspective.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.6

Researches will be conducted for in depth analysis of fatal cases of violence against women.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Development Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Conducting researches	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

Results of the “Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey”, which was conducted in 2014 suggest that although separate prevalence of acts of violence may indicate a distinction in some categories, such as region, age group, marital status or levels of prosperity and education, one may argue that there is a similar pattern. Within this scope, the Ministry of Family and Social Policies will conduct a survey to have an in-depth analysis of fatal cases of violence against women.

Target 5: Strengthening cooperation mechanisms between agencies/institutions and relevant sectors and developing policies to ensure effective service provision in combating violence against women.

Activity 5.7

Researches will be conducted on suspicious suicides of women and killings committed in the name of custom and honor.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION	RELEVANT INSTITUTION	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	PERIOD
Ministry of Family and Social Policies	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Development Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health Turkish Statistical Institute Universities Non-governmental Organisations	Conducting researches	2016-2018

DESCRIPTION

There is limited data on prevalence of killings committed in the name of custom or honor although this is a very important issue in our country. Limiting the problem with only one geographical region prevents seeing the entire picture. Surveys conducted so far have shown that majority of victims of such murders were women and girls. In addition, surveys-although limited in number – have shown that the root cause behind women's suicides in some parts of our country was not because of mental disorders or personal issues, but because of violence due to misperception of custom or honour. Therefore, a survey in which qualitative and quantitative research methods to be used with a sample population representative of entire Turkey will be conducted to obtain data necessary for combating this problem.



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PART IV

IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION >>

IV. IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The “National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women (2016-2020)” will be implemented with contribution and support of responsible agencies and institutions identified in the Action Plan under the coordination of the General Directorate on the Status of Women.

MoFSP General Directorate on the Status of Women will develop a “*report format*” for monitoring of activities specified in the National Action Plan. Responsible agencies and institutions identified in the Action Plan will submit their reports to GDSW within the framework of the format so determined once a year. GDSW will compile reports submitted by responsible institutions and develop an annual “Monitoring Report” and publish it on the website of the Ministry.

The “**Committee for Monitoring Violence Against Women**” consisting of executives of agencies and institutions under the chairmanship of the Minister of Family and Social Policies and with coordination of GDSW, will meet once a year and assess the Action Plan based on the Annual Monitoring Report.

MoFSP General Directorate on the Status of Women will temporarily or permanently set up working groups if and when needed in the implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan.

In addition, within the scope of “**Project on Combating Domestic Violence**” carried out by General Directorate on the Status of Women of MoFSP, a “Provincial Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women” has been developed for each of 26 project cities for the years between 2017-2020 to specify responsibilities of agencies and institutions involved in combating violence against women at provincial level. The Provincial Action Plans developed with the perspective of the National Action Plan will provide important guidelines on combating violence against women at provincial level and serve as an important tool for the implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan at local level.

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Republic of Turkey
Ministry of Family
and Social Policies

GENERAL DIRECTORATE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Eskişehir Yolu Söğütözü Mah.

2177 Sok. No: 10/A Kat: 20-21

Çankaya/Ankara/TURKEY

Telephone: +90 312 705 91 77 / +90 312 705 91 78

Fax: +90 312 705 91 92

<http://www.kadininstatusu.gov.tr>



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