

- There is growing evidence that working with male perpetrators - alongside intervention and protection for women - is essential to reducing domestic violence. In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of the need to engage both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, to both prevent future violence and to encourage engaging and assisting perpetrators or non-perpetrators who are at risk of carrying out domestic violence. Moreover, Perpetrator programs are increasingly acknowledged as a key intervention, and sustained, long-term engagement with perpetrators is now seen as a key gap in effective service delivery.
- Despite the fact that in recent years, Georgia has a number of important achievements with regard to ending domestic violence, the issue is still relevant. UN Women in partnership with the National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT) conducted the 2017 National Study on Violence against Women in Georgia. According to the study results, 1 in 7 women (14 %) reported having experienced physical, sexual and/or psychological violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- The importance of engaging with perpetrators of domestic violence, including through introducing preventive interventions and treatment programs is envisaged under the Istanbul Convention (Article 16), which has been ratified by Georgia in June 2017. In line with the efforts to support the Government of Georgia in realizing its commitments under the Istanbul Convention, UN Women is providing technical support to the Ministry of Justice (Corrections Department in particular) in introducing rehabilitation programme for inmates who have been convicted for domestic violence.
- In 2014 with the support of UN Women, by then the Ministry of Corrections and Probation introduced rehabilitation programme for inmates who have been convicted for domestic violence. The program was built on the Spanish model “GBV – Intervention Programme for the Rehabilitation of Perpetrators” (PRIA), selected by the Ministry of Corrections and Probation in consultation with UN Women as one of the most successful models of its kind worldwide.
In 2016-2017, the National Probation Agency implemented "Rehabilitation Program for Perpetrators of Domestic Violence".¹
- In 2015, PRIA has been updated (PRIA-MA) to include a gender perspective in a much more transversal manner.
- In 2017-2018 UN Women supported the inter-sectorial working group established under the Ministry of Corrections and Probations in updating rehabilitation programme for DV perpetrators. In line with these efforts, in 2018, number of thematic trainings were conducted for therapists working in the probation and penitentiary system to build their capacity on delivering the rehabilitation

¹ 2016 - 79 inmates with conditional sentence undertook the program
2017 - 68 inmates with conditional sentence undertok the program

programme. In November 2018, MoJ started piloting the programme in selected penitentiaries and throughout the probation system. At the end of piloting, results will be analyzed and relevant changes will be made to the program.

- "Rehabilitation Program for Perpetrators of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence" is aimed at the reduction and elimination of different types of gender-based violence; the modification of sexist and discriminatory conduct; and the prevention of recidivism. It will further serve the purpose of helping probationers with a history of violent behavior to understand violence directed at other people; acquire new skills for the management of disputes and conflicts without violence and aggression; learn partner relations; and manage to express their feelings in a constructive manner.
- The rehabilitation programme will engage beneficiaries through group or individual therapeutic work over the course of 25 sessions. The NPA anticipates the programme to be running from four to six months, depending on the beneficiaries' temperament, risk of recidivism, length of sentence, and other factors that could affect their level of engagement, including the environment of the programme itself. The first part of the programme focuses on the management of emotions, while the second part is devoted to discussion on different forms of GBV. The programme concludes with a module focused on preventing recidivism.