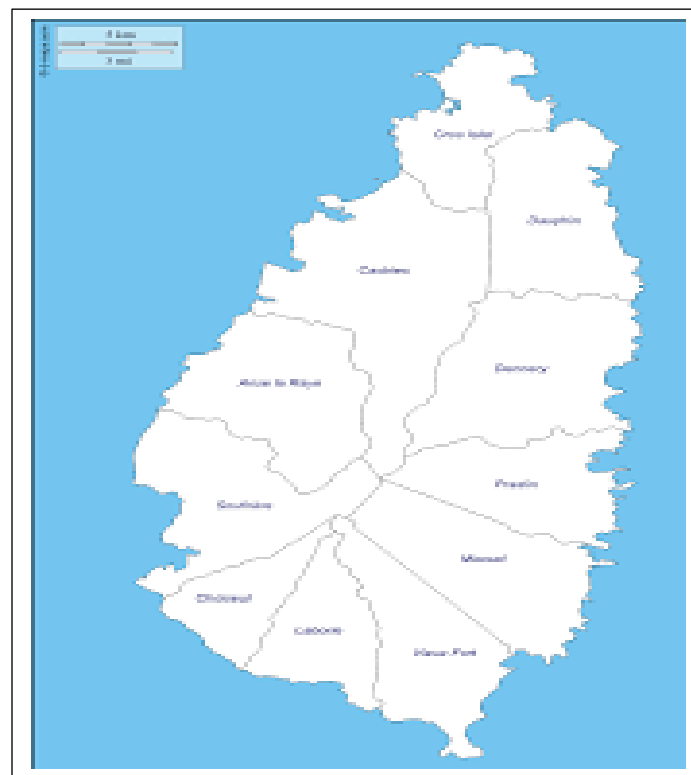


PROGRESS INDICATORS FOR MEASURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN “BELEM DO PARA CONVENTION” SAINT LUCIA, 2015

12/14/2016

*Division of Gender Relations
Saint Lucia*



ACRONYMNS

CAFRA	Caribbean Association of Feminist Research
D&C	Dilation and Currettage
DGR	Division of Gender Relations
DHSFA	Division of Human Services and Family Affairs
EAP	Employees Assistance Programme
KSL	Koudmen Sent Lisi
LGBTQI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Questioning and Intersex
NIC	National Insurance Corporation
NIS	National Insurance Scheme
NPF	National Provident Fund
PHC	Primary Health Care
PROSAF	Positive Reaction over Secrets and Fear
PWD	Person with Disabilities

RSLPF	Royal St Lucia Police Force
SLCC	St Lucia Crisis Centre
SLPPA	St Lucia Planned Parenthood Association
SALCC	Sir Arthur Lewis Community College
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
U&S	United and Strong Inc.
VPT	Vulnerable Person Team
WSC	Women Support Centre

ACCEPTANCE OF THE RIGHT

1.1 Rate of partner and ex-partner violence

Table 1. Number of Reported Cases of Partner and Ex-partner Violence at the Social Agencies by Women in 2015

Social Agency	Number
Women Support Centre	15
St. Lucia Crisis Centre	10
Vulnerable Person Team	250
Family Court	375
Total	400

$$\frac{400 \times 100,000}{95,417} = 419.213$$

Rate per woman – 419 per 100,000

Table 2. Number of Reported Cases of Child Abuse at the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs in 2015

Nature of Abuse	Number
Abandonment/Neglect	61
Physical Abuse	73
Sexual Abuse	84
Verbal/Psychological	12
Total	230

$$\frac{230 \times 100,000}{16,809} = 1,368.31$$

Rate of violence to girls = 1,368 per 100,000 girls

Age range (0-14 years) for girls

NB: Due to the absence of the ages of women who reported incidents of violence at the aforementioned agencies a general figure was given.

1.2 Rate of violence against women by location (urban/rural, by socio-economic status, ethnicity and age group, by different types of violence

Statistics of Reported Cases of Domestic Violence at the Women’s Support Centre, 2015

Subject	Number
Number of Reported Cases	70
Number of Clients from Communities	14
Economic Status of Clients	
Employed	8
Unemployed	8
Total Number of Clients Per Age	20
Female Population in 2015	95,417

(Source: Women’s support Centre, 2015)

$$\text{Rate of violence} = \frac{70 \times 16 \times 20 \times 100,000}{95,417} = 23,475.90$$

Rate of violence = 23.475,90 per 100,000 women

NB: *The statistics are reflective the total number of reported cases of domestic violence at the Women's Support Centre in 2015*

1.3 Femicide Rate

*The term **femicide** for the purpose of these indicators “the violent death of women based on gender, whether it occurs within the family, a domestic partnership, or any other interpersonal relationship, in the community, by any person, or when it is perpetuated or tolerated by the state or its agents, by action or omission.”*

Femicide is not defined in the national legislation as per the above definition.

1.4 Percentage of legal proceedings criminal, civil or administrative(oncount of violence against women

Number of Cases Lodged and Legal Proceedings on Account of Violence against Women at the Social Agencies

Social Agency	Cases Lodged	Legal Proceedings
Family Court	352	592
VPT	250	
Trial/ Arrest		71
Under Investigation		63
Total	602	726

$$\frac{\text{Number of Proceedings}}{\text{Total Number of Cases Lodged}} = \frac{726}{602} = 1.21$$

$$\text{Percentage} = 1.21\%$$

1.5 Punishment of femicide/rate of conviction

Unknown

1.6 Gap in the rate of convictions for femicide

Unknown

1.7 Number of criminal proceedings initiated for the crime of femicide/homicide vs number and percentage of criminal proceedings with sentences (either of condemnation or absolution for the crime of femicide or homicide

Unknown

1.8 Number and percentage of proceedings on reparation for victims of femicide, in relation to the total number of femicides

Unknown

1.9 Mortality rate by sex, through accidents, homicides or suicides, broken down by causes according to the

Subject	Male	Female
Suicide	8	0
Homicides	23	5
Accidents	12	2

(Source: Royal St. Lucia Police Force, Saint Lucia, 2015)

Age Group and Number of Victims of Suicide and Homicides

Age Group (years)	Suicide	Homicides
0-10	0	1
11-20	0	4
21-30	2	7
31-40	1	7
41-50	2	4
Over 50+	3	5
Total	8	24

(Source: Royal St. Lucia Police Force, Saint Lucia 2015)

Accidents:

$$\text{Males: } \frac{12 \times 100,00}{1320} = 909.09$$

$$\text{Females: } \frac{2 \times 100,000}{1320} = 131.52$$

Males: 909.09 per 100,000

Females 131.52 per 100,000

Suicides:

Males: $\frac{8 \times 8 \times 100,000}{1320} = 4,848.48$

Females: 0

Males: 4,848.48 per 100,000

Females: 0

Homicides:

Males: $\frac{23 \times 24 \times 100,000}{1320} = 41,818.18$

Females : $\frac{5 \times 100,000}{1320} = 378.79$

Males: 41,818.18 per 100,000

Females: 378.79 per 100,000

QUALITATIVE SIGNS OF PROGRESS

2.1 Pregnancy rate or maternity rate in young and adolescent girls (10-19 years old)

126 per 100

(Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, 2015)

2.2 Number and percentage of deliveries at term in young adolescent girls

226, 13% of all term births- (“Term” being between 37-41 weeks)

(Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, 2015)

2.3 Number and percentage of abortions in young adolescents

29 (11%)

(Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, 2015)

2.4 Maternal mortality rate in young and adolescent girls

0 (As in 2014)

(Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, 2015)

2.5 Births attended by skilled health personnel by age group

- <20: 99%
- 20-39: 99%
- 40+: 99%

(Source: Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness, 2015)

2.6 Number and percentage of pregnant women who receive prenatal care by age group

Unknown

3.0 Percentage of older women who regularly receive medical attention/monitoring and measures to prevent or provide care in cases of violence

Measures to prevent include monitoring or frequent visits by the Community Nurse, reports made to the Family Court and police, individual is taken to the health facility for medical care and recommendations are made for care provided by another care giver or facility.

4.0 Percentage of girls, adolescents and adults and older women with different sexual preferences and identities who regularly receive medical attention/monitoring and measures to prevent or provide care in cases of violence with peculiar emphasis on violence

Unknown.

However, United and Strong Inc is a predominantly male advocacy organization for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, Intersex and Questioning (LGBTIQ) with a membership of 70 and provides information on violence prevention.

5.0 Rate of decline of violent deaths of women in relation to the rate of decline in violent deaths of men for 2015

Number of Violent Deaths	Year (2015)
Men	24
Women	5
Total	29

$$\text{Rate} = \frac{\text{Number of women victims/violent deaths}}{\text{Number of men victims/violent deaths}} = \frac{5}{24} = 0.21739$$

6.0 National plan/policy/action/strategy for preventing, punishing and eradicating violence against girls, adolescents and adult and older women in diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, people living with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and identity, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and persons deprived of their liberty

A number of policies have been developed to advocate against the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against the slated group.

There exists the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy (Draft), National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy (Draft) and the Integrated Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Adolescent Pregnancy which are used by the St. Lucia Planned Parenthood Association, Child Abuse Policy used by the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs and the Health and Family Life Education Policy guides the actions of the Ministry of Education in the teaching of this subject area.

The Saint Lucia Reproductive Health Policy 2013, (Final Draft), has been developed to address the need for explicit direction and focus as well as streamline the training and provision of reproductive health services.

It provides a framework for guiding reform and development of a results oriented national reproductive health programme. It also seeks to make reproductive health programmes and services accessible and affordable to the majority of the target group. It also sets priorities for reproductive health development. It is expected that this document will help to provide a coherent and coordinated reproductive health programme.

The priority interventions addressed are:

- ❖ Maternal and Child Health*
- ❖ Family Planning*
- ❖ Prevention and Treatment of Genital Infections (STIs and HIV Infection)*
- ❖ Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health*
- ❖ Gender and Reproductive Health*
- ❖ Cancers of the Reproductive Organs*
- ❖ Management of Infertility*
- ❖ Management of Menopause and Andropause*
- ❖ Reproductive Health Care of Persons with Disabilities*
- ❖ Reproductive Health Counselling*
- ❖ Education and Awareness*
- ❖ Reproductive Health Care in Disaster and Emergency Situations*

The National Child and Adolescent Health Policy and Multi-Sectoral Workplan Saint Lucia 2015 (Draft) has been developed in an attempt to provide direction and contribute to the development of comprehensive child and adolescent-friendly promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative health care in a coordinated and coherent manner.

The policy applies to all government ministries agencies, non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations who through their policies and programmes affect/influence the health of children and adolescents.

Policy Priorities include:

- ❖ *Organization of Services*
- ❖ *Child and Adolescent Health and Well-Being: Promotion, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation*
 1. *Health Monitoring and Supervision*
 2. *Healthy Eating, Nutrition and Physical Activity*
 3. *Oral Health*
 4. *Injury and Illness Prevention*
 5. *Sexual and Reproductive Health*
 6. *Mental Health (including Substance Abuse)*
 7. *Prevention of Crime and Violence*
 8. *Parental Roles and Responsibilities*
 - ❖ *Legislation and Human Rights*
 - ❖ *Inter-Sectoral Collaboration*
 - ❖ *Training*
 - ❖ *Human Resource Development and Training*
 - ❖ *Advocacy*
 - ❖ *Quality Improvement*
 - ❖ *Surveillance, Monitoring and Evaluation*
 - ❖ *Research*

*United and Strong claims that the organization is not aware of any national plan which focuses on such particularly that of sexual orientation. Anti-sodomy laws exist within our Criminal Code (**Criminal Code No. 9 Gross Indecency - Section 132 and Buggery - Section 133**) to guide such act.*

7.0 Incorporation of actions and strategies for prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women in other national plans, taking into account girls, adolescents and adult and older women of diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, people living with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation

and identity, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and persons deprived of their liberty

The St. Lucia Planned Parenthood Association (SLPPA) incorporates all national policies within its core services. United and Strong is not aware of any such move to incorporate any actions and strategies in other national plans.

8.0 Training activities and programmes on women's rights, violence against women and the Belem do Para Convention for decision-making bodies and authorities in this field(including ministerial technical teams, legislators, justice sector operators, healthcare agents, security forces and police, and personnel at specialized care centres for violence against women among others)

The Division of Gender Relations through the Women's Support Centre (WSC), provides support to women victims of domestic violence, has hosted several seminars, disseminated information on domestic violence, participated in community-based outreaches, exhibitions and other empowerment initiatives hosted by both governmental and non-governmental agencies as well as faith-based organizations.

The Police Training School Curriculum for new recruits includes a component on gender-based violence. Officers are also informed of the 'Protocol for Referring Women to the Women Support Centre.' There is also a presentation on the 'Silence Scourge Embedded in St. Lucian Society,' which gives an overview of the cycle of domestic violence, reasons why women remain in abusive relationships, types of violence, profile of an abuser, barriers to ending violence, the impact of domestic violence on women and children, role of the police in curbing the incidence of domestic violence and social agencies which manage cases of domestic violence.

Additionally, a similar presentation was made to the Senior Officers of the Royal St. Lucia Police Force at the sixteen (16) police stations island wide in 2015-2016 to familiarize them with the Protocol involved in making referrals to the Women's Support Centre.

Several training programmes have been hosted by non-government organizations like the St. Lucia Crisis Centre (SLCC) and the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA) on issues related to violence

against women, however these efforts are not sustained and have been deemed insufficient. Persons attached to the judicial system and security forces have to deal with incidents of violence against women in the absence of having undergone training related to women's rights, etc.

(Source: St. Lucia Crisis Centre 2015)

One of the Family Court Social Worker benefited from an Empowerment Approach Workshop organized by RISE (St. Lucia) Inc., in March of 2016, which focused on dealing with the victims of domestic violence. This empowerment approach is grounded in the belief that victims should have access to information, education and other relevant social and economic support, thus enabling them to make informed decisions.

9.0 Number of state institutions with specific offices devoted to women, created, in operation, with an allocated budget, and with a budget under execution

The Division of Gender Relations (DGR) through the Women's Support Centre (WSC) has specific offices devoted to women.

10.0 Existence of social programmes for women victims of violence or that provide priority assistance for such women

The social programmes which exist are not entirely specific to such women but they are partial beneficiaries of such programmes.

*The **Youth Advocacy Movement (Yam St. Lucia)**, formally known as the Under Twenty Club, is the youth arm of the St. Lucia Planned Parenthood Association. It comprises a team of young persons who are sensitive to the problems faced by the youth. They are bonded by a pledge to stand confident in their goal of **Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for All**. The group seeks to make a difference in the views expressed by the youth generally about contraceptive and family planning. It also provides assistance with solving problems they encounter and aim at making the society a better place for future generations.*

The members are trained peer counselors who have been educated on the issues and problems affecting adolescent sexual and reproductive health needs and rights. They work hard to help and support others in dealing with life's pressures and help them become respectable citizens of the society.

Members engage in educational activities such as video sessions, lectures, workshops and other activities.

***The Koudmen Sent Lisi: A Social Safety Net Programme in Saint Lucia** is a pilot programme coordinated by the St. Lucia Social Development Fund through the Ministry of Equity, Social Justice, Empowerment, Youth Development, Sports and Local Government. The programme adapted from the "Puente Chile" experience served as a model offering a timely paradigm shift for national policy to move away from a silo approach to poverty reduction towards multidimensional social protection interventions accompanied by integral psychosocial support. The intent of the two-year pilot (2009-2010) was to reduce poverty of forty-six (46) indigent families by facilitating access to: income, employment, housing, health, education, family counselling, and networks that fortify family assets.*

The national programme was seen as a network based capacity building vehicle to promote social protection strategies. In understanding the Puente Chile experience and its potential applicability in St. Lucia, the design team carefully examined the prevalence of specific vulnerable groups identified in the rich body of statistical and qualitative research and analysis and focused on the development challenges specific to the Saint Lucia context

The objectives of the KSL programme include :

- ❖ Improve the socio economic living conditions of indigent, poor and vulnerable households;*
- ❖ Bring an end to extreme poverty in St. Lucia (1.6% of population and 1.2% of households);*
- ❖ Reduce poverty by building sustainable livelihoods, coping strategies; the quality of human relationships, interactions; and*
- ❖ Develop opportunities in poor communities and vulnerable population through the establishment of a targeted programme of support designed to transform household units*

(Source: Determining the Results of the Koudmen Sent Lisi Pilot Programme: A Social Safety Net Programme in St. Lucia Prepared for: St. Lucia Social Development Fund by Paulette Nichols with support from the United Nations Children Fund office for Eastern Caribbean Area, 2013)

The Family Court is another agency where a number of programmes such as the Parenting Programme and the Batterers Programme for male perpetrators of violence against women have been implemented.

The Division of Human Services and Family Affairs (DHSFA), is a governmental department within the Ministry of Equity, Social Justice, Empowerment, Youth Development, Sports and Local Government states that the mission of the Division is to enhance the psychosocial functioning of children, families, older persons, individuals, and other vulnerable groups. This is done through advocacy, research, counseling and other social work therapeutic intervention strategies, which focus on family preservation and the provision of skills for self-empowerment.

The St. Lucia Crisis Centre (SLCC) is a non-governmental agency which provides psychological assistance and other types of counseling services to needy clients (male and female).

10.1 Total number of doctors per 100,000 women

121 per 100,000 women

(Source: St. Lucia Medical and Dental Association, 2016)

10.2 Total number of forensic psychologists per 100,000 women

Unknown

10.3 Total number of psychologists per 100,000 women

Unknown

10.4 Total number of medical examiners per 100,000 women

4 per 100,000 women

(Source: Medical Secretary- Victoria Hospital and St. Jude Hospital, 2016)

10.5 Total number of criminologists per 100,000 women

Unknown

10.6 Percentage of girls, adolescents, adults and older women who know their rights

*According to the **Youth A.R.T. Introductory Survey** carried out at nineteen (19) secondary schools on island, in which three hundred and ten (310) students participated with two hundred and thirty-two (232) female students indicated that they knew their rights.*

***Youth A.R.T (Active Response Team)** is an initiative undertaken by the Division of Gender Relations to promote the concept of healthy relationships; what they are and what they are not. The programme is intended to serve as a means to combat dating violence. This programme seeks to achieve the following:*

- ❖ Promote healthier approaches to relationships and conflicts*
- ❖ Increase students' understanding of teen dating abuse*
- ❖ Enable students to reach out to provide support and help to a friend or family member who may be involved in an abusive relationship*
- ❖ Increase help-seeking behaviour among students involved in abusive dating relationships*
- ❖ Increase students' knowledge on the fundamentals of human rights and gender equality*

Benefits:

With this approach, teens will be empowered to evaluate their interactions and discern whether or not it is healthy and right for them. Participants will have the tools to make better decisions and act as ambassadors and advocates

for relationships that are safe and healthy, in addition to learning other life skills to help them creatively respond to societal challenges. This further contributes to the development of sustainable societies by encouraging respect for human rights and gender equality.

Target Group:

Secondary school students between the ages of 11-17 years.

Expected Results:

- ❖ *25 active school advocacy/activist groups*
- ❖ *200-250 trained peer educators on island*
- ❖ *Increase in reports of violence*
- ❖ *Reduction in incidents of dating violence*
- ❖ *Increased awareness on healthy and unhealthy relationships and social interactions*

Yes, some of the clients are aware of their rights but are fearful of taking steps to reduce its occurrence as it may result in them putting their life at risk. This “risk “is the abuser finding out that they sought help and the abuse persists and/or takes another form.

11.0 Number and percentage of girls who know of the existence of specialized services for different forms of violence taking into account girls of diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, persons living in rural areas, persons with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and identity

Not certain, but according to discussion held with the students many were able to disclose some of the services available when help is required given the particular need like security/protection- one would solicit the assistance of the police.

There would not be any specialized service available for girls of diverse sexual orientation and identity for United and Strong provides the only LGBTIQ service on island. National statistics on the number and percentage of

persons who know of the existence of such services has not been gathered.

11.1 Number and percentage of adolescents who know of the existence of specialized services for different forms of violence taking into account girls of diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, persons living in rural areas, persons with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and identity

Unknown

11.2 Number and percentage of adults who know of the existence of specialized services for different forms of violence taking into account girls of diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, persons living in rural areas, persons with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and identity

Unknown

11.3 Number and percentage of older women who know of the existence of specialized services for different forms of violence taking into account girls of diverse ethnicities, including Afro- descendants, persons living in rural areas, persons with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and identity

Unknown

12.0 Number and type of state programmes (at university or higher level) providing systematic training for specialists in different disciplines on the problem of violence against women

There are no courses on the subject, but the topic is covered to some extent in the Social Work Programme. The courses where domestic violence may be referred to in:

- 1. Social Work Theory and practice*
- 2. Introduction to Social Work*
- 3. Social Work with Individuals and Families*

(Source: Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, 2016)

13.0 Training activities and programmes on women's rights, violence against women and the Belem do Para Convention for decision-making bodies and authorities in this field (including ministerial technical teams, legislators, justice sector operators, health care agents, security forces and police, and personnel at specialized care centres for violence against women among others)

Several community-based and faith-based organizations as well as ministerial departments host empowerment seminars, community outreaches, exhibitions, displays and matches against the act. Such initiatives are supported by the Division of Gender Relations and the staff of the Women's Support Centre through presentations on domestic violence. They also provide counseling services through one-to-one counseling make referrals and provide educational literature at their booth during such activities.

Some of the training activities include outreach programmes within communities island wide, health centres, schools, churches, on radio programmes and upon requests by other organizations. The Centre also provides training to police recruits to inform them of the Protocol which guides the referral of clients to the Women's Support Centre as a component of their training curriculum.

Officers attached to the Vulnerable Persons Team in the Royal St. Lucia Police Force undergo training in the following areas held locally and regionally.

1. Training in Sexual Offense Investigation. *Some areas covered include:*

- *Interviewing Techniques - the victim, when in disbelief*
- *Collection/ Compilation of Evidence*

Many officers have benefitted from the training but have been re-assigned to other departments within the police force, a frequent occurrence within the Department

2. Juvenile Justice Reform Project *which is currently being implemented in Saint Lucia.*

3. Mediation Training.

4. Domestic Violence Awareness Courses, *which include a Train-the-Trainer component to increase capacity*

within the police force.

13.1 Estimate of unreported cases

It is widely believed that a significant number of cases are unreported for numerous reasons.

13.2 Average time taken to contact a care centre from the onset of violence to the first contact with the institution

According to the number of reports made to the VPT, on average the majority of reports are made the same day of the incident, or within 24 -48 hours after the act was committed.

According to the WSC, depending on the nature of the crisis call immediate assistance is provided by either trying to advise the client accordingly as to her safety and/or provide practical support through referrals made immediately to the relevant agencies. In the event the service is not available immediately; appointments are made to facilitate the process.

13.3 Percentage of specialists working in public-sector institutions involved in problems connected with violence against women

Most public sector agencies do not have such specialists. Officers deal with a range of problems, including violence against women. However, the staff of the WSC deals exclusively with cases of intimate partner abuse.

Percentage of specialists: WSC 100%

EDUCATION

14.0 Existence of systematic education school curricula in secondary education, university and the general

public on the promotion and protection of women's rights and the penalties for violation of the right of a life free of violence

According to the “ Final Draft of a National Policy on Health and Family Life Education prepared by Jane King Hippolyte at the request of the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sport, 24th July 2001, page 7 , Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) will assist in the development of the ideal Saint Lucian person. The ideal Saint Lucian person

- ❖ Will be imbued with a respect for human life since it is the foundation on which all the other values must rest;*
- ❖ Of whatever particular ethnic group, religious or other adherence will accept and respect the existence of persons of other ethnic group, religious beliefs, or other ways of being; will indeed see this diversity as a source of potential strength and richness;*
- ❖ Will have an appreciation of and respect for the elders in our midst not only as repositories of past knowledge, but as persons who can continue to contribute to the present shaping of ourselves in new and vital ways....”*

14.1 Existence of systematic educational processes in school curricula of primary secondary and university education and in society in general regarding gender stereotypes, gender equality and the promotion and protection of women's rights, as well as penalties for violating the right to a life free of violence

*According to the Government of Saint Lucia Education Sector Development Plan Priorities and Strategies 2015-2020, Transforming Education Transforming Lives Volume 1, has outlined a number of strategic themes and priority areas to address the education sector. **Priority 2 Gender Equity and Human Rights Under Strategic Theme – Alignment of Purpose for the Education System has outlined the following desired outcomes***

- ❖ Closing the performance gap between boys and girls*
- ❖ Enhanced performance of all learners particularly those at risk*
- ❖ Equality and equity in education irrespective of socio-economic, religious, ethnic, gender, etc. background of children.*

(Source: Government of Saint Lucia Education Sector Development Plan Priorities and Strategies 2015-2020 ,Transforming Education

14.3 Existence of periodical or commemorative activities at school level, aimed at eliminating gender stereotypes and promotion of women's rights, in particular the right to a life free of violence

- ❖ **Nature of activities**
- ❖ **Scope of Application and Coverage**
- ❖ **Periodicity**
- ❖ **Mechanism and tools for its implementation**

Some School Counsellors in collaboration with the Women's Support Centre host presentations to the school body during School Assemblies on the topic of domestic violence. Some schools have been involved in community awareness marches against violence against women. These events usually coincide with the annual observances of International Women's Day March 8 and the 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women and girls November 25-December 10th.

14.4 Existence of laws governing the right of individuals in educational institutions to be educated in an environment free of violence and discrimination

*Saint Lucia participated in the preparation of a **CARICOM Draft Model Legislation on Sexual Harassment in All Public Spaces**, including educational institutions. It is hoped that the Model Legislation will be implemented when presented to Saint Lucia's Attorney General later this year.*

Most schools function according to unwritten policy and advocate for child friendly schools (CFS) schools and more so are guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

*According to the **Education Act No 41, 1999**, Division 3, Admission and Attendance of Students Prohibition of Discrimination.*

No. 29. "Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person who is eligible for admission to a public educational institution or an assisted school as a student shall be refused admission on any discriminatory grounds including

race, place of origin, political opinion, colour, creed, sex, or subject to the provisions of this Act, mental or physical handicap.”

Source: Education Act of Saint Lucia No 41 of 1999, pg. 572, Saint Lucia

A number of statutes have been outlined in the Education Act to promote an education environment free of violence and discrimination. The following are as follows:

1. Division 2 - Exercise of Rights Number 19 (1) and (2)

19.—(1) A student may express any religious, political, moral, or other belief or opinion so long as the expression does not adversely affect the rights or education of other students, or the rights of other persons in the school.

(2) Students who have attained the age of 18 are entitled to exercise all the rights and powers, to assume all the obligations, and to receive all the benefits under this Act with respect to them that their parents are otherwise entitled to exercise, assume, or receive on their behalf

2. Division 3- Admission and Attendance of Students

(a) Compulsory School Attendance Number 27 (1) and (2)

27.—(1) Every child shall attend school from the beginning of the school year in which that child attains the age of 5 years until the end of the school year in which that child attains the age of 15 years.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), if the Minister is satisfied that it has become necessary or expedient to raise or lower the compulsory school age, the Minister may, by Order, subject to affirmative resolution of the Parliament within sixty days of the making of the Order, direct that subsection (1) have effect as if for references therein there were substituted a reference to any age prescribed in the Order.

(b) Prohibition of Discrimination

29. Subject to the provisions of this Act, no person who is eligible for admission to a public educational institution or an assisted school as a student shall be refused admission on any discriminatory grounds including race, place of origin, political opinion, colour, creed, sex, or subject to the provisions of this Act, mental or physical handicap.

(c) Corporal Punishment

50.—(1) *In the enforcement of discipline in public schools, assisted schools and private educational institutions, degrading or injurious punishment shall not be administered.*

(2) *Corporal punishment may be administered where no other punishment is considered suitable or effective, and only by the principal, deputy principal or any teacher appointed by the principal for that purpose, in a manner which is in conformity with the guidelines issued in writing by the Chief Education Officer.*

(3) *Whenever corporal punishment is administered an entry must be made in a punishment book which shall be kept in each school for such purpose indicating the nature and extent of the punishment and the reasons for administering it.*

(d) Abolition of Corporal Punishment

51.—(1) *Notwithstanding Section 50 the Minister may by Order suspend or abolish corporal punishment in public schools and assisted schools.*

(2) *An Order made under Subsection (1) shall be laid before Parliament, within three months of the date of the issue of such Order and shall cease to have effect, without prejudice to the making of a further Order, on its annulment by a resolution of Parliament supported by the votes of a majority of the members present and voting.*

Division 4 Special Education

1) Special Education

83.—(1) *The Chief Education Officer shall provide special education programmes for students of compulsory school age who by virtue of intellectual, communicative, behavioural, physical or multiple exceptionalities are in need of special education.*

(2) *A student who is entitled to a special education programme shall have the programme delivered in the least restrictive and most enabling environment to the extent that resources permit and it is considered practicable by the Chief Education Officer in consultation with professional staff of the school and the Ministry of Education and the parents, having due regard for the educational needs and rights of all*

students.

(3) A special education programme may take the form of an individual education plan in that the plan is tailored to the specific or individual needs of the student.

(4) Where it has been determined that a student will require an individual education plan, the costs of developing, providing and maintaining that plan shall be apportioned between the student if over 18 years of age, or the parent of the student as the case may be and the Ministry of Education in such manner as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Act.

Division 2 Private Educational Institutions

84.—(1) Before a determination is made under subsection , the following procedures shall be followed:

(a) the student shall be referred to the Chief Education Officer for a determination of the assessments that may be required to be performed; 597 No. 41] Education Act [1999

(b) the parent of the student shall receive written information concerning the procedures outlined in this section;

(c) prior written informed consent by a parent for the administration to the student of the psychological and other specialized tests that are not routinely used by teachers shall be obtained;

(d) where possible, the assessment shall be multi-disciplinary;

(e) the results of the assessment reports shall be provided and explained to the parent;

(f) a parent and, where appropriate, the student shall be consulted prior to the determination of and during the implementation of the special education programme; and

(g) the parents shall be provided with information concerning the right of appeal to the Education Appeal Tribunal.

(2) Subject to Subsection (1), the principal in consultation with professional staff and parents or, where a child is not in attendance at a school, the Chief Education Officer, in consultation with professional staff and parents, shall determine whether a student is a student with special educational needs; and, if so what special education programme is appropriate to meet the needs of that student.

(3) Parents shall have the right to request for their children a determination in accordance with this section.

(4) A principal may invite a parent to be a member of a school based team that is established for the provision of a special education programme for a student.

(5) The school based team referred to in Subsection (4) shall comprise persons selected on the basis of their expertise by the principal of a school to advice on a programme specified to the needs of a particular student or group of students.

(6) Where there is more than one parent for a child, consultation with one parent shall be deemed to be compliance with any consultation requirements of this section

(1) Prohibition of Discrimination

116. A private educational institution which denies admission to a child or expels a student on account of race or the political affiliation of the parents of the student commits an indictable offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

14.5 Existence of state offices in charge of evaluating the specific educational content regarding gender equality, gender stereotypes and violence prevention in school materials, processes and practices

❖ *The Curriculum Unit in the Ministry of Education is increasingly beginning to address issues of gender stereotyping in school material. Such concern is addressed in the Government of Saint Lucia Education Sector Development Plan Priorities 2015-2020 under Priority 2: Gender Equity and Human Rights which has outlined three desired outcomes. The outlined initiatives/actions include:*

- ❖ *Apply research-based best practices into the learning needs of male and female students*
- ❖ *Develop and implement programmes to target areas of need according to gender*

14.6 Existence of implementation and care protocols to deal with violations of the right of women and girls to be educated, at (public and private) educational institutions, free of stereotyped patterns of behavior and social and cultural practices based on inferiority and subordination concepts

Unknown

Policies Related to Child Labor Policy Description International Labor Organization (ILO)

- ❖ *Decent Work Country Program for Saint Lucia (2010-2015) promotes economic development, poverty reduction, and legislative strengthening in Saint Lucia that is consistent with international labor standards, including those on child labor.(24)*
- ❖ *Research did not find evidence of policies that address all worst forms of child labor, including the commercial sexual exploitation of children. In November 2013, the Government participated in the XVIII Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor to foster continued dialogue and cooperation on labor issues throughout the Americas.*
- ❖ *The joint declaration of the Conference promotes social dialogue to address child labor and reaffirms country participants' commitment to work with civil society organizations to advance efforts toward the eradication of child labor.(25)*

Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program Description

- ❖ *Ministry of Education programming, fosters school attendance by providing a book bursary, school meal program, and a transit subsidy program at most secondary schools.(7)*
- ❖ *Ministry of Social Transformation, Youth and Sports after school programming*
- ❖ *Improves academic performance and maintains school attendance among underprivileged children between the ages of 8 and 16 years by providing after-school activities, including assistance with homework and various recreational activities.(7, 23)*

The impact of this program on child labor does not appear to have been studied. Program is funded by the Government of Saint Lucia.

7. U.S. Embassy- Bridgetown. reporting, January 16, 2014. Child Rights International Network. St Lucia: Children's Rights References in the Universal

23. Periodic Review. London; January 25, 2011. <http://www.crin.org/resources/infodetail.asp?ID=23904>.

24. International Labor Organization. *Decent Work Programmes for Members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (2010-2015)*. Geneva, ILO; 2010. [http:// www.ilocarib.org.tt/images/stories/contenido/pdf/DecentWork/dwcp-oecs.pdf](http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/images/stories/contenido/pdf/DecentWork/dwcp-oecs.pdf). 25. Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor, *Proyecto de Declaración de Medellín de 2013*, November 12, 2013, Mintrabajo, [online] [cited June 5, 2014]; [www. mintrabajo.gov.co/noviembre-2013/2584-ministros-de-trabajo-de-america-ledicen-si-a-pacto-por-la-equidad-y-la-inclusion.html](http://www.mintrabajo.gov.co/noviembre-2013/2584-ministros-de-trabajo-de-america-ledicen-si-a-pacto-por-la-equidad-y-la-inclusion.html).)

St. Lucia National Policy for Older Persons (Draft)

The National Policy for Older Persons in Saint Lucia therefore sets out goals, objectives and strategies in relation to the three priority areas. The main thrust of the National Policy for Older Persons must be the full inclusion of older people in development, recognition of their rights and contributions to society and the creation of conditions that enhance their health and well-being and overall quality of life. As a consequence, the government Policy will be :

- 1. To ensure the economic security and full integration of older persons in society and national development*
- 2. To ensure health and well-being and good quality of life into old age*
- 3. To ensure that the physical, social and cultural environments facilitate the independence, development and participation of older persons.*

(Source: St. Lucia National Policy for Older Persons, Draft)

Additionally, in the aforementioned Draft Policy the section Abuse, Violence and Discrimination amongst Older Person has a Sub-section Protect Older Persons from Abuse, Violence and Discrimination. The strategies highlighted are:

- 1. Enact legislation to provide protection for older persons from all forms of abuse, violence and discrimination*
- 2. Establish a Complaints Bureau, which will receive reports of neglect, abuse, violence and exploitation against older persons and render support for dealing with these situations*
- 3. Provide legal aid to older persons who need to seek redress in cases of abuse, violence and discrimination*
- 4. Work with civil society organizations to provide education and training for caregivers, students, bus drivers, older persons and the general public to sensitize them about the causes and effects of elder abuse*

5. *Establish counseling programmes for caregivers and family members to reduce stress and help them cope with the challenges of ageing*
6. *Provide the financial and other forms of support for family caregivers.*

The Ministerial Submission Prepared by The National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Health, Human Services, family Affairs and Gender Relations, the St. Lucia Blind Welfare Association and other individuals, organizations and institutions concerned about the welfare of Persons with Disabilities seeks to achieve the full recognition, integration and participation of all persons with disabilities into the mainstream of society without favour and discrimination. It emphasizes the consideration and incorporation of the following cross cutting imperatives:

- *Gender*
- *Social inclusion and integration*
- *Non-discrimination*
- *Rights, freedoms and responsibilities*
- *Representation*
- *Quality of life.*

15.0 Number of cases heard and decided by public or private educational institutions concerning violation of the right of women and girls to an education free of stereotyped patterns of behaviour and social and cultural practices based on concepts of inferiority or subordination

Unknown

15.1 Existence of public or private observatories on discriminatory instructional conducts or practices against women or which endeavor to reverse them in all areas, with a special focus on education, health and justice

Unknown

15.2 Existence of campaigns on what gender stereotypes in education are and what produces them

Youth A.R.T (Active Response Team) is an initiative undertaken by the Division of Gender Relations to promote the concept of healthy relationships; what they are and what they are not. The programme is intended to serve as a means to combat dating violence. This programme therefore seeks to achieve the following:

- ❖ Promote healthier approaches to relationships and conflicts*
- ❖ Increase students' understanding of teen dating abuse*
- ❖ Enable students to reach out to provide support and help to a friend or family member who may be involved in an abusive relationship*
- ❖ Increase help-seeking behaviour among students involved in abusive dating relationships*
- ❖ Increase students' knowledge on the fundamentals of human rights and gender equality*

Target Group:

Secondary school students between the ages of 11-17 years.

Expected Results:

- ❖ 25 active school advocacy/activist groups*
- ❖ 200-250 trained peer educators on island*
- ❖ Increase in reports of violence*
- ❖ Reduction in incidents of dating violence*
- ❖ Increased awareness on healthy and unhealthy relationships and social interactions*

16.0 Number of study plans, textbooks and educational material prepared free of gender-based stereotypes for all levels of teaching

Generally, textbooks and educational materials are not published locally. However, when reviewed before inclusion on the official booklist, consideration is given to suitability for students including gender (both male and female). There has been a focus on ensuring that educational materials are free of gender based stereotypes.

17.0 Number of programmes specially designed to deal with the right of women and girls to be valued and educated free of stereotyped patterns of behavior and social cultural practices based on inferiority and subordination at school

Unknown

18.0 Number of agents trained in gender construction and deconstruction and stereotypes against women and girls in schools

Most teachers/ educators pursue studies in psychology (educational psychology or pure psychology) during their two year training or course of study at the certificate and Associate degree in Teacher Education and/or Bachelor of Education level at the Division of Teacher Education and Management Studies at the SALCC . Therefore, some aspect of gender construction and stereotyping would be discussed during the execution of the course.

19.0 Number and type of scholarship or exchange programmes to make up the deficit of specialists in different disciplines on the problem of violence against women

Unknown

20.0 Annual percentage of persons who graduate from special programmes and are placed in public-sector entities involved in problems connected with violence against women

Unknown

21.0 Number of comprehensive care service providers created and operational at the national level with budgets allocated and under execution

21.1 Number and type of institutions (state, private, nature of institutional activities that comprise the support network

There are two (2) institutions which provide comprehensive care services at the national level. They are the Women's Support Centre which is a public institution and the St. Lucia Crisis Centre which is privately owned.

21.2 Interagency communication and coordination mechanisms established

There is a Protocol for the Referral of Clients to the Women's Support Centre

22 Separate mechanisms for emergency assistance and follow-up problems related to violence against women

The 202 24-hour Hotline at the WSC provides emergency assistance and follow-up problems to callers at the WSC. Referrals are made to the relevant agency as necessary.

23.0 Existence and operation of a public institution (mechanism for the advancement of women) involved in oversight of compliance with laws on violence against women taking into account also, girls, adolescents and adult and older women, including those who are ethnically diverse, Afro-descendants, living in rural areas, persons with different sexual preferences and gender identities, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and persons deprived of their liberty

The Division of Gender Relations, the National Machinery on Women was established as a Women's Desk in 1986. It is responsible for co-coordinating and advising all government ministries and agencies in fostering social justice for all and has adopted and ensured the reflection of those features in the various programmes and implementation of policies on the island.

The objectives of this Machinery are:

- ❖ *Establish and monitor structures and mechanism designed to address gender imbalances in all sectors and forums*
- ❖ *Coordinate programmes at the national, regional and community levels aimed at influencing policy towards the achievement of gender equity and improving gender relations*
- ❖ *Provide technical advisory services to government, and the private sector agencies as well as collaborate with these agencies in the implementation of programmes that address gender inequalities and women's needs*
- ❖ *Collect and disseminate data and information on gender issues and women's needs and concerns, to the awareness of planners and policy makers and the general public, on the significant contributions of women to national development: as well as to inform changes in policy, plans, programmes and projects aimed at improving gender relations and creating gender equity*
- ❖ *Provide technical assistance to NGOs to strengthen their capacity to address issues that would respond to the needs of women and men in their communities.*

24.0 Degree and frequency of participation by women's advancement mechanism in cabinet meetings, parliamentary work, authority to present reports from other areas of the public administration

The Women's Machinery is not directly involved in cabinet meetings and parliamentary meetings but through the Minister responsible for the Division advocates for certain issues pertaining to women during his/her presentation. Such concerns would have been articulated by the Director to the Minister responsible.

The Division of Gender Relations also contributed to the National Report submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Annex to Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Twenty-Third Session 2-13 November 2015. This Report highlighted the various initiatives, programmes, policies, legislation and institutions which have been implemented in ensuring equality for all constituents.

25.0 Degree of participation and type of initiatives by specialized agencies for indigenous affairs, people of

African descent or promotion of equality in violence –related matters.

The population of Saint Lucia comprises a diversified composition of races with people of African descent being the more dominant race whilst that of the other races is much smaller. Given the composition of the population there are no separate initiatives, policies, laws to guide the participation, protection and treatment of people of African descent.

26.0 Percentage of government expenditure or plans of action to eradicate violence as a share of total government expenditure (in percentages)

Women Support Centre’s budget for 2015 was EC\$ 469,191.00

Total Government Estimates 2015- EC\$1,464,236,000

Percentage : 0.032%

According to the Government Estimates 2015 the following money was assigned to the Vulnerable Persons Unit within the Royal St. Lucia Police Force

Government Estimates for the Vulnerable Persons Unit, RSLPF, 2015/16

Subject	Approved Number	Funded	
		Number	Dollars (\$)EC
Corporal	2	2	76,943
Police Constable	8	8	248,697
Allowances			140,071
Total	10	10	465,711
ALLOWANCES			3,031
Acting			12,000
Laundry			57,000
Duty			20,640
Lodging			19,200
Detective			19,200
Plain Clothes			9,000
High Risk			140,071

(Source: Government Estimates 2015, Government of Saint Lucia)

27.0 Percentage share of government social spending on guaranteeing a life free from violence/ Government social spending on violence as a share (%) of total government spending in the last fiscal year

Total Expenditure of social agencies assisted by government= EC\$ 1,287,034.00

Total Government Expenditure= EC\$1,464,236,000.00

Percentage share= EC\$ 1,287,034.00 x 100/1,464,236,000.00= 0.0879

28.0 Share % of spending on measures on violence- disaggregated and by jurisdictions

Unknown

28.1 Percentage share of government expenditure on:

8.11 Actions, plans, strategies and programmes on violence

Unknown

28.12 Infrastructure investment for cases of violence (shelters, prevention measures, availability of resources, etc)

A total of EC\$469, 181.00 was assigned to the WSC according to the St. Lucia Estimates of 2015.

28.13 Human resources training in violence in all three branches of government

Unknown

28.14 Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

According to the St. Lucia Planned Parenthood Association (SLPPA), a monthly subvention of EC\$666.66 is received from the Government of Saint Lucia.

28.15 Health Care Services

According to the St. Lucia Crisis Centre, a monthly subvention of EC \$6,000.00 is received from the Government of Saint Lucia.

Therefore a total of EC \$72,000.00 was allotted to this agency in 2015.

Amount of money allocated to the Education Sector=EC\$190,601,973.00 according to the Government Estimate 2015/16

28.16 Employment

Unknown

29.0 Ratio of the total government health budget executed to the population with or without coverage in given period

Unknown

30.0 Total government expenditure for the entire population in a given period

Total expenditure for 2015 was \$1,464,236,000.00

30.1 Total expenditure with or without health care coverage in the same period

Unknown

31.2 Relation % between growth achieved and percentage coverage of measures in the area of violence against women

This was not reflected in the 2015/16 Government Budget Estimates for Saint Lucia.

This is reflected in the Annual Performance Programme Report presented by the various departments/units/divisions within the Ministry at the end of the year as well as that proposed for the upcoming year. Such a report entails an outline of the work plan of the various officers as per proposed activity, objective(s), process, timeline, intended outcome and status of the achieved objective(s).

32.0 Number of reports presented by period, type of monitoring and organizations involved in oversight of

the budget for the measures against violence

One (1) report, the Annual Performance Programme Report as mentioned above, is presented annually and used to monitor the budget for measures against violence. This Report promotes participatory budgeting which requires the bringing together of all Department Heads to inform each other of the activities, initiatives and programmes undertaken to fulfill their respect mandates.

The Departments/ Divisions/ personnel involved in this process include the Division of Gender Relations, Women's Support Center, Division of Human Services and Family Affairs, Accounts Department of the Ministry of Health, Wellness, Human Services and Gender Relations, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of aforementioned Ministry and the Chief Planner during the slated period.

33.0 Type of monitoring, oversight or internal audit bodies in agencies responsible for ensuring a life free from violence for women. Establishment of accountability channels for civil society`

An annual government audit is carried out within the relevant department to determine the extent to which a life free of violence is maintained.

34.0 Enforcement of regulations which address issues of sexual harassment and reporting

- ❖ *The issue of **Sexual Harassment in the Workplace** was addressed in the St. Lucia Labour Code of 2006 No. 272 and also highlighted in the Criminal Code 2004 No.10. It defines this offence as any act against an employee committed by an employer, managerial employee or co-employee shall constitute unlawful discrimination based on the sex ... and the employee shall be entitled to compensation in accordance with the Code.*

Reports of such an offence can be made at the Department of Labour. Complaints lodged at the Department are taken before the Labour Tribunal (established in 2014), in keeping with the Labour Code of 2006. However, Labour Officers are aware of its occurrence but no action can be taken without proof of a reported case.

Some of the possible reasons for the low reporting are fear of the termination of services, fear of being victimized at the workplace, stigmatization and persons not believing the victim when the report is made. Referrals of related cases are made to the Department of Labour and / or legal action is pursued

35.0 Outcomes: Number of reports produced

One (1) report is produced annually

36.0 Specify the number and type of organizations that monitor budget spending.

The Office of the Budget in the Ministry Of Accounts has and does the overall monitoring of ministry and department spending.

37.0 Existence of Participatory Budget Planning

Participatory budget planning is involved in the preparation and budgeting of the Annual Performance Programme Report where representatives from the various ministerial departments (Permanent Secretary, Accounts Department, Corporate Planning, Bureau of Health Promotions, Division of Gender Relations and Division of Human Services and Family Affairs assemble to prepare this document.

38.0 Audits conducted, their frequency, auditing body and outcome in term of use of financial resources for measures against violence

Annual audits are carried out by the Accounts Department of the respective ministry, Heads of Departments or Supervisors and other relevant personnel.

39.0 Number of shelters and hostels for women victims of violence and their children by jurisdiction and geographic region

The Women's Support Centre established in September 2001 is the lone shelter on island which provides a safe, comfortable and supportive environment for women who are victims of domestic violence and their accompanying children. It also provides information on available resources and alternatives to empower women to make informed personal choices and decisions. Rehabilitative services offered include crisis intervention, residential services, non-residential, counseling, children's programme, protection planning and public education. Such services are available to all women who are victims of domestic violence, regardless of age, race, creed, socio-economic status, physical or mental capabilities or sexual orientation.

It has a residential support staff of six (6), who are available on a 24—hour basis to assist clients in-house or via their 202 Hotline.

The clients are provided with an anonymous and safe service to empower them to make better choices. The success of the programmes at the Women's Support Centre depends on confidentiality. It is expected that the location and nature of programmes not be disclosed thereby ensuring the safety of all.

It also collaborates with other social agencies, non-governmental organizations, and government agencies, faith-based organizations, the Family Court and the police to provide support services for clients and rehabilitative support for their abusive partners. It also makes referrals to the Family Court, Vulnerable Person Units in the Royal St. Lucia Police Force, St. Lucia Crisis Centre, National Wellness Centre and the hospital.

The Centre is funded and managed entirely by the Government of Saint Lucia. The services include a homely and secure environment complete with counseling services, assistance in developing personal safety plans and support in helping clients to rebuild their lives. Clients remain at the Centre on a needs basis as some require more time than others.

The Centre liaises with Women's Organizations and other community groups and NGOs as well as corporate organizations in achieving its goal. It also collaborates with other agencies to assist in the provision of alternative housing and employment for its clients. Additionally, it has formed synergies with the Family Court in the issuance of Protection Orders, Tenancy Orders, Interim Orders and Child Maintenance for its clients. The Shelter assists in

contacting the police to intervene on its clients' behalf as deemed necessary.

Clients are referred to other agencies like the hospital and wellness centres for medical attention and medical reports for the courts. Sometimes a referral is made to the St. Lucia Crisis Centre for counseling, Division of Human Services and Family Affairs for intervention and advocacy for children, St. Lucia Social Development Fund, National Emergency Organization (NEMO) and Red Cross for housing and school supplies.

40.0 Number of women who have received care in the last 12 months divided by the total female population, and multiplied by 1,000 for:

Number of women who received care from the

WSC – 336

SLCC-22

VPT (N)- 250

Total =608

Total female population- 83,368 (As in 2015)

Number : $\frac{608 \times 1000}{83368}$

=7.29 women

Table Illustrating the Number of Women who Received Care at the Women’s Support Centre in 2015

<i>Month</i>	<i>Agency</i>					
	<i>WSC</i>		<i>SLCC</i>		<i>VPT (North)</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>DV</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>DV</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>DV</i>
<i>January</i>	20	9		2		
<i>February</i>	23	10		0		
<i>March</i>	60	20		0		
<i>April</i>	42	11		2		
<i>May</i>	40	12		0		
<i>June</i>	2	8		0		
<i>July</i>	2	0		1		
<i>August</i>	31	0		1		
<i>September</i>	2	0		3		
<i>October</i>	11	0		2		
<i>November</i>	26	0		0		
<i>December</i>	7	0		0		
<i>Total</i>	266	70	22	11	250	0

40.1 By victims of different forms of violence

Unknown

40.2 Telephone assistance

According to the Women’s Support Centre a total of one hundred and eighty-five crisis calls (185) were received for the period January to June 2015. Those crisis calls included that of domestic violence, suicide and other interventions.

41 Legal assistance

According to the WSC, three (3) of the crisis calls received for that period required legal aid/assistance. Additionally, 23 referrals were made to the Royal St. Lucia Police Force.

According to the statistics from the Family Court, 2015, of the 361 Protection Orders lodged in the First District Court 303 or (83.93%) were as a result of spousal abuse. A total of eighty-one (81) Protection Orders were lodged in the Second District Court of which 72 (88.89%) were due to spousal abuse.

All twenty (20) Tenancy Orders lodged in the First District Court were due to spousal abuse. Four (4) Tenancy Orders due to spousal abuse were lodged in the Second District Court.

Four (4) of the 361 Protection Orders lodged in the First District Court were due to elder abuse. There was one (1) Protection Order due to elder abuse lodged in the Second District Court.

Legal Aid is unable to afford legal advice and assistance to citizens of Saint Lucia.

***The Legal Aid Authority** is a unit of the Ministry of Affairs which was established to provide the services of an attorney to people alongside private attorneys who have signed up to represent applicants through the Legal Aid Service.*

There is an EC\$5.00 application form fee. However, legal advice is provided free of charge.

42 Health care

Fifteen (15) health-related referrals were made by the WSC to the following health facilities during the slated period.

National Wellness Centre- 12

Turning Pont- 2

Victoria Hospital- 1

43.0 Availability of antibiotics, antiretroviral drugs and emergency contraceptives in cases of rape

Unknown

44.0 Number of toll free (national, state and local coverage) telephone lines

There are three (3) toll free telephone lines in Saint Lucia.

- ❖ The 202 is a 24 Hour Hotline for victims of domestic violence. Such calls are assisted by the residential support staff at the Women's Support Centre.*
- ❖ The 203 Hotline is a new 24-Hour Helpline set up to assist persons with wellness-related issues. It is attached to the National Wellness Centre but given its location is not fully utilized by citizens.*
- ❖ 411 is a General Line which directs the caller to the relevant government agency.*

45.0 Quantity of telephone lines in operation by jurisdiction dissemination of numbers, multilingual

*Calls can also be made to Positive Reactions Over Secrets and Fear (PROSAF) via their **Hotline 484-2773**.*

*The St. Lucia Crisis Centre also operates a **Hotline 452-8799** which can be accessed by the public during their working hours 9:00 am -5:00pm Monday to Friday.*

46.0 Financing of assistance for older women

A number of initiatives have been implemented by the Government of Saint Lucia to assist with the wellbeing of older persons. The Public Assistance Act No.17 of 1966 and the National Insurance Corporation Act, No 18 of

2000 are the two key pieces of legislation offering any measure of special protection to older persons.

The **Government Public Assistance and Government Pension Plan** are the formal social protection mechanisms in place. (St. Lucia National Policy for Older Persons Draft October, 2012 page 8.)

The Public Assistance Programme seeks to provide financial assistance to some older persons with the majority being older persons. The monthly grant ranges from EC\$170.00 for one person to EC\$375.00 for five persons depending on the number of eligible persons in the household. Assistance is also provided for burial, provision of prescribed glasses, specialized medical attention and for fire victims (Draft National Policy for Older Persons, October 2012).

46.1 Financing of assistance programmes for young and adolescent girls

Unknown

46.2 Financing of health care insurance plans in terms of sex, age and geographical region in terms of insurers or beneficiaries

National Insurance Corporation (NIC) Social Security came to St Lucia in 1970 in the form of the National Provident Fund (NPF). The NPF was a form of The NPF in St Lucia received five percent (5%) of gross wages paid to an employee (up to an established maximum) together with an equal amount paid by his employer. These funds would be accumulated at the Fund and paid with interest when the worker made a legitimate claim.

Employees joined the Fund at age sixteen and had to contribute up to age sixty when they received a lump sum payment made up of their contributions plus interest accrued thereon.

The NPF had provisions for three main benefits:-

- ❖ *old age benefit*
- ❖ *survivors benefit*
- ❖ *invalidity benefit*

On registering with the Fund, a contributor had to name a beneficiary who would receive the benefits if he died before attaining the requisite age.

This beneficiary did not have to be a relative, dependent or a parent, it was sufficient that this person was a friend of the member and had consented that his name appears in the records. However, at time of death only the named beneficiary could make a claim for the benefit and it did not matter that the deceased had dependents, or was married subsequent to his completing the application form, only the named beneficiary would receive the benefit. This was Survivors Benefit with the NPF compulsory savings, where both employer and employee made contributions on behalf of the employee.

Given the identified challenges to fulfill its mandate the NPF was repealed and replaced by a National Insurance Scheme (NIS) in April 1979. The National Insurance Act No. 10 of 1978 converted the NPF into the NIS. The Act became effective in April 1979. The Act together with the Regulations (No. 10 of 1984) guide the operations of the National Insurance Corporation (NIC) in St Lucia.

In administration, the NIC was very similar to the NPF. It retained all the Staff of the NPF, it collected its contributions in the same way and it operated from the same premises. However, it had many more benefits than the Provident Fund.

It provided for payment of old age pensions and old age grants instead of only a lump sum at retirement.

NIC pays survivors pensions to dependents of the deceased instead of a named beneficiary.

Invalidity pensions and grants are also paid.

In addition there are a number of short term benefits: sickness, maternity and employment injury. The benefits are divided into long term and short term, they are called so because some of them like the pensions are paid over a long period of time and a claimant would have to contribute for a number of years in order to qualify.

Each benefit has qualifying conditions which must be satisfied before the benefit can be paid.

The National Insurance was created by statute and operates as a statutory corporation. It is administered by a Board. Currently, the NIC falls under the portfolio of the Minister of Finance.

The Board's life is three years and all members are eligible for reappointment after their term. This current Board was appointed in March 2012.

There is also an Investment Committee which guides the Board on matters of finance and investment. However all investment decisions are taken by the board

The Board and/or the Investment Committee meet as often as is necessary to conduct NIC business. The day to day administration of the NIC Office is done by a Director and the staff of the board.

The NIC is not by any way static in its operations. It tries to formulate its policies and administration so that as closely as possible it can satisfy the aims and aspirations of the contributors to the programme.

The Act which governs the NIC stipulates that at least once in every five years the operations of the NIC must be reviewed by an Actuary (a highly trained statistician who advises insurance companies on risks and premiums). The Actuary reports on the state of the NIC and makes any recommendation necessary to make the programme viable, and as close as possible to satisfy the needs of the contributors.

OUR VISION

An effective, transparent and financially sound institution which is customer focused, provides social protection to

the St. Lucian population and plays a leading role in national development.

OUR MISSION

To ensure that every St. Lucian enjoys social and financial protection and to assist in the development of our nation through the efficient collection of contributions, payment of relevant benefits, prudent management of assets, use of cutting edge technology, and a cadre of highly skilled staff.

(Source:www.stlucianis.org)

47.0 Number of public health programmes for women victims of different forms of violence, taking into account girls, adolescents, adult and older women of diverse ethnicities, including afro-descendants, persons living in rural areas with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and people deprived of their liberty

❖ Health care services

Community Health Nursing Service is provided at thirty-two (32) Health and Wellness Centres, three (3) General Hospitals, two (2) District Hospitals and (1) one Polyclinic located in the north of the island, one (1) Psychiatric and Drug Rehabilitation Facility. The Community Nursing Services through its respective health institutions organizes health discussions/symposiums for clients where one such component includes discussions on domestic violence which are facilitated by the staff of the Women's Support Centre in observance of 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women (November 25- December 10th and/ or with the resurgence of incidents of domestic violence.

According to the SLCC these services are provided for the general population. One is not aware of any specialized health services, apart from those for the general public. Rape victims once reported are taken by the Police for medical treatment and examination at the Victoria/ St. Jude Hospital and /or the Gros Islet Polyclinic.

There are 3 Adolescent Health Clinics which provide adolescent friendly health services clinics in the communities

of Vieux Fort, Dennery and Gros Islet which are operational on Saturdays at the wellness centres in the named communities. Besides, providing opportunities for health care, development of social and vocational skills it also focuses on the issue of gender-based violence.

48.0 Budget

According to the 2015 St. Lucia Government Estimates a total of EC\$17, 337,335.00 was allotted to the Primary Health Care Services. EC\$805,064.00 was allotted to the Programme Capital for the period 2015/2016.

48.1 Accessibility (physical, cultural and territorial)

There are eight (8) health institutions or regions in Saint Lucia. These health institutions comprise a number of wellness centres and or a general hospital or polyclinic as in the case of Regions 1, 3, 5, 6 and 8. Primary Health Care (PHC) can be accessed at thirty-two (32) wellness centres in Saint Lucia.

*The wellness centres are located 4.828 km (3miles away from each of the communities according to the **Declaration of Alma-Ata** adopted at the International Conference on Primary Health Care (PHC), in 1978, which emphasizes the relevance of primary health care and its goal “Health For All”.*

48.2 Agencies responsible

The Ministry of Health and Wellness through the Community Health Nursing Unit is responsible for the provision of such primary health care.

48.3 Evaluations

Such is done through the production of monthly reports and annual presentations to the National Budget

49.0 Are measures implemented in conjunction with other government areas

Yes, the Ministry of Health and Wellness works closely with the Ministry of Equity, Social Justice, Empowerment, Youth Development, Sports and Local Government with responsibility for community development and social welfare as well as the with the Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relation and Sustainable Development for the implementation of the necessary measures.

50.0 Number of psychological counseling facilities by jurisdiction

50.1 Public

The National Mental Wellness Facility is a government owned facility. Psychological counseling is offered to clients of the SLPPA.

Employees Assistance Programme (EAP) provides psychological assistance for public service officials

50.2 Private

There are a few privately owned counseling facilities which are located in Castries. Some of those facilities are religiously affiliated, for example that of the St. Lucia Institute of Counseling and Psychotherapy. ETA Psychotherapy & Counselling Services and Insight Therapy.

Semipublic

*The St. Lucia Crisis Centre Cooperation (SLCC) is a non-government organization
Beacon of Hope Ministries Inc is a religious assembly where such service(s) are provided.*

50.3 Budget

National Mental Wellness Facility's budget for 2015/16 was EC\$24,894,907

(Source: 2015/16 Government Budget Estimates)

50.3 Scope

National Mental Wellness Center is a specialist mental /psychiatric hospital in Coubaril, St Lucia commissioned on 1 March 2010.

The hospital is the only one of its kind on St Lucia and is completely government funded. The hospital opened in 2009 as a replacement for the Golden Hope Mental Hospital. The hospital was partly funded by the Chinese government and has positioned St Lucia well in terms of psychiatric care in the Caribbean. The new facility uses a best practice standard that includes reducing the dependence on institutionalized custodial care and replacing it with rehabilitative and residential facilities.

Hospital type Specialist Hospital/Clinic

Funding Status Public

Number of Beds 108

51.0 Civil society organizations that participate in monitoring and evaluation, taking into account, in particular, organizations involved with young and adolescent girls, adult and older women of diverse ethnicities, including afro-descendants, women in rural areas, ,persons with different sexual preferences and gender identities, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and persons deprived of their liberty

51.1 Surveys and other qualitative studies that examine the quality, accessibility and adaptability of responses from women violence victims

Unknown

51.2 Public opinion polls on violence

Unknown

51.3 Type, frequency and scope of campaigns and media used to disseminate information about institutional responses to violence against women

Some civil societies which are involved in the process include United and Strong, Raise Your Voice, the St. Lucia Blind Welfare Association, the National Council of and for Persons with Disabilities and the National Youth Council. These organizations participate and /or collaborate with other agencies in their quest for liberty as per the target group. They also participate in campaigns, discussions and other mediums to disseminate information in support or against violence against women.

United and Strong Inc participates and make presentations in relation to the Universal Periodic Review such as at the [United Nations Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW\)](#)

52.0 Regular civil society participation in state activities in response to gender-based violence

Raise Your Voice and the St. Lucia Crisis Centre engage in activities related to gender-based violence through their hosting of empowerment workshops/seminars as well as in collaboration with other organizations in the hosting of matches, discussions via the electronic, print and radio media in advocating against such social ill.

52.1 Scope

52.2 Type of organizations

52.3 Frequency

53.4 Impact

Raise Your Voice and the St. Lucia Crisis Centre participate in such activities in response to gender-based

violence.

***Raise Your Voice** is a non-government organization established in February 2014, which advocates for a safer environment where women and children can grow and achieve their full potential. According to this organization the strategy for change is to empower and educate the public about human rights, while supporting and encouraging survivors of violence to report offences to the relevant officials, and to help them rebuild their lives.*

Mission Statement:

To raise our voices against domestic violence, rape, physical and sexual abuse of women and minors and to advocate for change in the system of governance specifically in the Social, Judicial and Public Systems that affect women and children.

Activities or Programmes that the Group Engages in:

- ❖ *Advocate via the media on behalf of victims of violence so as to get the support and service required to rehabilitate and reintegrate them into the society*
- ❖ *Organization of a public march on 25th November, 2015 in observance of International Day to End Violence Against Women and Children*
- ❖ *Seek and provide counselling services to victims who have not received the necessary services and protection from Social Services available*
- ❖ *Collaborate with a number of communities, women, children and families who are victims of violence to ensure a better understanding of the agencies which provide support and services to victims of violence in Saint Lucia*
- ❖ *Receive endorsements from the Ministry of Health and Wellness as well as the Royal St. Lucia Police Force who have indicated interest in receiving training for staff to provide better services to the victims of violence and the community at large*
- ❖ *Please visit our website www.ryvslu.org or our face book and twitter page online for pictures and programs involved in and working on.*

*The **St. Lucia Crisis Centre** is a non-profit and non-government organization of voluntary persons with no*

discrimination as to sex, race or creed. It is managed by a Board of Directors, and staffed by a Director, Counsellor, an Operations Officer and an Office Assistant. The Centre was established on October 27th, 1988 and seeks to provide individual one on one counselling and support services to survivors of domestic violence , other forms of abuse and those in crisis; foster supportive relationships in the home, with families, among individuals and organizations within the community; develop and implement a communication strategy to influence public attitude on issues of domestic violence and abuse; create an awareness of independence and self-respect among our women to prevent economic dependency from becoming a way of life and to collaborate with other agencies to protect the rights of children and educate the young persons in our community on the paths of morality, self-respect and discipline.

Given its goals, the Crisis Centre engages in a series of other activities such as educational and outreach programmes on social issues that affect families including domestic violence and abuse; fundraising for the support and maintenance of services provided to compliment Government subvention received as well as the hosting of lectures and workshops for members and clients.

*The **St. Lucia Blind Welfare Association (SLBWA)** was established by an Act of Parliament No.9 of 1972. According to the SLBWA, it was formed basically to provide a sheltered school and workshop for the blind and to address the needs of blind persons in the society. However, throughout the years the Association has grown to be a dynamic organization offering diversified services directed towards the special needs of persons who are afflicted with blindness, low vision or other forms of visual impairments in Saint Lucia.*

*The **National Council of & for Persons with Disabilities (NCPD)** is a cross-disability umbrella organization founded in 1981, managed by persons with disabilities and persons without disabilities. NCPD is not duly constituted and/or registered as a not-for-profit organization. NCPD was established to advocate for the rights and equality of persons with disabilities, while providing support and services where possible.*

Since the mid-1950s several efforts have been initiated and pursued by individuals, civic groups, as well as government and non-governmental organizations in an effort to improve the situation and quality of life of Person with Disabilities (PWDs). These initiatives include sponsorship of formal education for selected beneficiaries, the

establishment of schools and workshops, the enactment of legislation to facilitate the creation of statutory bodies and institutions, the implementation of several programmes with support from government and the private sector, the construction of physical infrastructure, and the endorsement of universal declarations and international conventions.

On the one hand, past efforts have resulted in the incorporation of PWDs into the formal education system and the workforce, issues of PWDs have been incorporated into the planning, design and implementation of public and private infrastructure, the number of service providers especially in the field of health has increased.

A significant milestone is the appointment of a PWD to serve in the Senate of the Government of Saint Lucia since the mid-1950s, and there is a general acceptance of the need to address. There is still a lot of passing reference to integrating issues of PWDs into the development planning process. Matters affecting PWDs are treated as a matter of last resort and are very peripheral to mainstream development planning and implementation.

Legislation that pertains to the social dimensions of development is silent on measures to ensure persons with disabilities are provided with equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from actions in their interest. Great pride and enthusiasm have been exhibited in support of the Draft National Policy for Persons with Disabilities which has been in the making for the past decade by persons with disabilities and their advocates. Numerous consultations were conducted and went through many stages of approval island wide. The enactment of the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities and the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will create greater impetus for the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was endorsed by the Government of St. Lucia on Thursday September 22, 2011 and is awaiting ratification.

Email: ncpdinc@yahoo.com

Source: www.dpinorthamericacaribbean.org/St.LuciaMO.htm

*St Lucia's first and only LGBT organisation, **United and Strong Inc (U&S)** formed in 2001 and was registered in November of 2005 in collaboration with the Caribbean AIDS Alliance in response to the HIV and AIDS epidemic. United and Strong Inc was founded with the sole purpose of "PROVIDING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE LGBTI COMMUNITY IN ST LUCIA".*

To date United and Strong remains a mixed group, in keeping with its mission statement: 'To provide an enabling environment for the advancement of human rights for the LGBT community in Saint Lucia.' Its main goal as a community is to eliminate stigma and discrimination while creating a society that is accepting and loving and where everyone is equal; not just in words but in actions. To date it has registered a membership of 70 with young males being the more dominant sex.

United and Strong observes annually international celebrations and observances of particular days such as - International Women's Day, International Day for the Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women and Orange Day.

*It also do partners with other organizations such as the Ministry of Health and Wellness and designs its own campaigns such as "**Know Your Rights**", and hosts several in-house discussions.*

They can also be followed on Facebook at : <https://www.facebook.com/Unitedandstrongstlucia/>

54.0 Characteristic coverage and periodicity of awareness campaigns against sexual harassment

54.1 Scope

54.2 Type of organizations

54.3 Frequency

54.4 Impact

There has not been a Sexual Harassment Campaign, but a publication by the Division of Gender Relations entitled "Sexual Harassment in the Workplace". The publication provides examples of instances of sexual harassment and action to be undertaken if a victim or aware of victims of the act.

There is also a public service announcement (PSA) on sexual harassment which was prepared by the Division and aired via the television stations on island. This may be complimented/ followed by television talk shows on the

subject. Such educational initiatives are not frequent, insufficient and do not meet the needs of the impacted population.

A Sexual Harassment Policy for the St. Lucia Fire Service is currently being prepared by representatives of the Division of Gender Relations, St. Lucia Fire Service, Public Service Commission, Ministry of Health and Wellness.

CARICOM Draft Model was produced and is to be presented to individual territories for review and discussion shortly.

55.0 Number of shelters and hostels for women victims of violence and their children

- ❖ **Capacity (number of beds)**
- ❖ **Status (public, private, semipublic)**
- ❖ **Budget**
- ❖ **Accessibility**
- ❖ **Availability**
- ❖ **Type of service**
- ❖ **Scope**
- ❖ **Coverage**

The Women's Support Centre (WSC) is the lone facility which provides shelter for women and their accompanying children in Saint Lucia. The Centre makes provision for accompanying boys up to the age of 16 years and any age for girls.

It seeks to eliminate intimate partner abuse amongst persons from the age of 18 years and above. This public facility has a bed capacity of 10 and despite public access to its services its location is kept confidential. Clients access services by telephone through the Hotline and/or as in-house residency.

In-house clients are transported by a designated vehicle to the Women's Support Centre, which is at an

undisclosed location due the severity of the cases and safety of the clients and staff. This pick-up is coordinated by the staff, driver and client at a designated safe area. Only in-house clients gain access to the in-house counseling provided.

The services provided are available to both in-house clients and persons who have called via telephone, or have been referred by the police, doctor, friend, place of employment or other social agency. Such persons benefit from the services provided which include temporary housing, practical support, physiological needs, feeding program, school assistance program where books and stationery are sourced from the Ministry of Education, the St. Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF).

- ❖ Practical support entails any assistance provided to the client to 'move on' after such traumatic incidence of domestic violence. Such support includes temporary housing, feeding programme, school assistance programme, bursary /book rental programme , domestic violence programme.*
- ❖ Temporary housing is provided for their in-house/ residential clients and children during their short stay at the Centre.*
- ❖ Feeding programme is facilitated by donations of food items from Massy Foods Supermarket and the Salvation Army for the past years. These food items are distributed amongst in-house clients, past clients and identified needy persons in the community.*
- ❖ School Assistance Programme is annual assistance provided by the St. Lucia Social Development Fund (SSDF), in the provision of school books at the commencement of the academic school year. Additionally, SSDF also assists in the provision of materials for the construction of new homes if the client decides to start anew and build her own home.*
- ❖ Bursary Programme through the Ministry of Education is the rental of books for the children of clients who need such assistance. The children benefit from the Book Rental Programme at the commencement of the school academic year and are to return the books along with their Report Books to determine whether the service should be continued or not.*
- ❖ Counselling*
- ❖ Skill training in culinary arts and craft is provided to residents*

- ❖ Assistance is also provided by Red Cross in the provision of clothing and NEMO mattresses and clothing when the need arises.
- ❖ Children's Programme is an in-house intervention programme specifically developed to assist children who are victims and witnesses of domestic violence. A key component of this programme is that of engaging the children in child friendly play and assisting them with assignments, if at school.

56.0 Number of clients assisted at the WSC for the period January to December 2015

20 women between the ages 18-43 years and their accompanying children were housed at the Centre due to domestic violence between January and August 2015. Eight children between the ages 1 year to 13 years were also housed there during this time

A total of eighty (80) crisis calls were received from women for the period January to December 2015

NB: The severity of mold infestation resulted in the closure of the WSC in September, 2015 and its relocation within the Office of the Division of Gender Relations until May, 2016. Such action resulted in the suspension of residential services to potential clients for the period. However, it continued to provide its other services to the Saint Lucian populace.

Table Illustrating Demographic Details of Clients in 2015

Marital Status						Religion	Ages	No. of Clients	Place of Residence
Married	Single	Visiting Family	Separated	Divorced	Common Law				
4	7	1	3	0	4	Catholic, Pentecostal, Adventist, Evangelical	19-24	4	Babonneau, Paix Bouche, Fond Assau, Union
							25-30	5	Gros -Islet, Monchy, Monier
							31-36	5	Dennery, Laborie, Aupicon
							37-42	3	Castries- Mon du don
							43-48	1	Bois Patat, Rock Hall, Millet, Jacmel, Coolie Town
							49-54	0	
							55-60	2	

Employment Status of Clients at the WSC for the Period January- December 2015

Employed	Unemployed	Education			Child Witness to Domestic Abuse			The Outcome of Abuse as Child Witness		Returned Clients	Types of Abuse Recorded
		Primary	Sec.	Ter.	M	F	Age	No.	Age		
8	8	3	8	1	4	6	2-15	3	19,21,31		Physical, emotional & psychological, verbal, social, sexual, economical
											Most prevalent abuse: physical

(Source: Women’s Support Centre, 2015)

57.0 Rate of demand for care (number of women assisted in the last 12 months, divided by the total female population and multiplied by 1,000:

Unknown

58.0 Number of public or government-supported legal services specializing in assisting women victims of violence

The Family Court established in 1997 under the 1994 Family Court Act (No.4) is housed separately from other magistrate courts is equipped with its own staff. The Court has jurisdiction over the whole country and acts in districts outside of Castries, the city, at certain fixed days in every month. The presence of the Vulnerable Persons Team (VPT), has helped to further improve and enhance the Court’s overall relationship with the Royal St. Lucia

Police Force.

The Legal Aid Authority is a unit of the Ministry of Affairs which was established to provide the services of an attorney to people who are unable to afford legal advice and assistance to citizens of Saint Lucia.

The Legal Aid Authority works alongside private attorneys who have signed up to represent applicants through the Legal Aid Service.

There is an application form fee of EC\$5.00, however, legal advice is provided free of charge.

59.0 Number of women's :

- ❖ **information**
- ❖ **Complaints**

Unknown

60.0 Legal representation bodies by jurisdiction

- ❖ **Coordination**
- ❖ **Structure**
- ❖ **Number of employees**
- ❖ **Budget**

Unknown

61.0 Accessibility(territorial, cultural, physical)

Upton Gardens Girls' Centre officially opened its doors at its present location on 17th February, 1980. It was an imitative of the St. Lucia National Council of Women to rehabilitate underprivileged, abused, neglected or abandoned teenaged girls who were on the verge of delinquency.

Its Mission is to provide a quality day care rehabilitation service in a conducive environment to abused, disadvantaged and neglected young girls through high community involvement, timely and appropriate interventions and effective case management.

There are two residential care facilities available to children who are in need in Saint Lucia. The two facilities are the New Beginnings Transit Home which is a State Managed Facility and the Holy Family Home which is a private managed facility. They both cater to children up to 17 years of age.

*The 'New **Beginnings Transit Home** 'for children officially opened its doors in January 2011. The Home caters to children who are victims of severe child abuse and neglect and can accommodate up to twenty-two (22) children and young people aged 0-18 years on admission. The Home includes a Therapeutic Centre intended to provide psychotherapy treatment.*

The Saint Lucia Transit Home is a temporary residential place of safety for children between the ages of 0 – 18 years who are victims of child abuse and severe neglect and who are in need of care and protection. This service will work closely with the National Foster Care and Adoption Services to ensure that children are returned to where they thrive best - in secure, loving families.

The Transit Home is intended to be a protective and safe environment where children who are victims of all forms of child abuse may be temporarily placed until it is determined that the risk to them has been reduced or removed.

- ❖ To provide a temporary place of safety for children at risk.*
- ❖ To provide a cadre of trained workers capable of providing emotional support, and skills to help prepare children for their eventual reintegration into their families and communities.*
- ❖ To begin the healing process for children in crisis by providing them with counselling and other therapeutic interventions.*
- ❖ To reduce the number of children with the propensity to commit crimes through “containment” and by restricting inappropriate or illicit activities and the negative influences of their peers.*
- ❖ To reduce the intergenerational cycle of child abuse.*
- ❖ To address the challenges faced by the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs in finding places of safety for children facing difficult circumstances.*
- ❖ To fulfill Government’s commitment to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.*

(Source: Government of Saint Lucia Transit Home Operations Manual, Division of Human Services and Family Affairs, Ministry of Health and Wellness, Human Services, Family Affairs and Gender Relations, Prepared by Shirley Stuart, NCH, the Children's Charity, Saint Lucia, 2008. (Draft))

The Holy Family Children's Home is a charitable organization which was founded in 1997. It can accommodate a maximum of 20 children up to the age of 17 years; however in special circumstances this can be extended to age 18 years. Most of the children who reside at the home attend primary and secondary school and are waiting to be adopted or fostered, while others are waiting to be reunited with their families. The Home collaborates closely with the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs in its efforts to find suitable families for the children in care.

Ref: Report ECAO_St._Lucia_Child_Protection_Statistical_Digest+2015.pdf

[www.unicef.org/easterncaribbean/ECAO St. Lucia Child Protection Statistical Digest 2015.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/easterncaribbean/ECAO_St._Lucia_Child_Protection_Statistical_Digest_2015.pdf)

Women's Support Centre (refer to previous details on this institution).

62.0 Existence of protocols of care at different public assistance and support services for girls, adolescents and adults and older women victims of violence

62.1 Shelters

The Women's Support Centre is guided by a protocol for referring women to the Centre by the police.

Protocol

- 1. Inform the victim that there is a safe place where she and her children can go.*
- 2. If the victim wants to go to the shelter, contact 2020 to inform them that you have a referral. Please identify yourself with your name and badge number when you call.*
- 3. When you call the staff will speak to the victim to assess her level of risk*
- 4. The shelter staff may request a police escort to collect pertinent documents and personal belongings from the client's home*
- 5. The shelter will then send a vehicle to pick up the client*
- 6. Do not inform the perpetrator that the victim is going to the shelter. You can tell the perpetrator that the victim is going to a safe place*
- 7. Do not disclose the location of the shelter to anyone*
- 8. Do not disclose the identities of the shelter staff*
- 9. If the victim does not want to go to the shelter, please give her the 202 Hotline number and inform her that she can get free counseling.*

Elderly Abuse

When an incident of elderly abuse is reported at the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs, a Welfare Officer is assigned to investigate the matter and prepare a report with recommendations which determine the nature of actions to be undertaken. The Police are called in for further investigation of the report. Given the outcome of the police's investigation the perpetrator maybe taken to court if agreed by the victim- older person.

Protocols which exist are:

- 1. National HIV/AIDS and STIs Protocols*
- 2. National Child and Adolescent Health Policy (Draft)*
- 3. National Child Abuse Prevention Policy*
- 4. National Persons with Disability Policy*
- 5. Health and Family Life Education Policy*

6. *St. Lucia National Policy for Older Persons (Draft)*
7. *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1982)*
8. *Beijing Platform for Action (1995)*
9. *Inter-American Convention on the Prevention,, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women*

The Legal Aid Authority is a unit of the Ministry of Affairs which was established to provide the services of an attorney to people who are unable to afford legal advice and assistance to citizens of Saint Lucia.

The Legal Aid Authority works alongside private attorneys who have signed up to represent applicants through the Legal Aid Service.

62.1 Psychological support (individual, group, family)

Such assistance is provided by the National Wellness Centre. Such support is also provided by religious assemblies as well as privately owned entities to persons who solicit such assistance.

The SLPPA offers free psychological care service to its clients.

Clients (5259 females, 244 males and 2 unspecified), were screened to determine the incidence of gender-based violence in 2015. A total of 5505 clients were screened with 16 receiving counseling for GBV. Other psychological services offered are Individual Counselling, Gender-based Violence Counselling, Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse, Intimate Partner Sexual Assault/Rape, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Child Abuse Screening, Domestic Violence, Family, Parent/Child Relationship, Family Conflict, Pre-marital, Marital, Relationship, Partner Negotiation, Sexuality/Sexual Dysfunction, , Marital Sexual Dysfunction, Life Skills, Sexuality, Sexual and Reproductive Health, Teenage Pregnancy, Drug and Alcohol abuse Prevention, Self-esteem, Peer Pressure, Communication Skills, Decision Making and Contraception Family Planning General Counselling.

The beneficiaries of such services are clients of all ages and sex.

62.1 Telephone hotlines

Yes, a protocol guides the operations of the 202 Hotline at the WSC and the 203 24-Hour Hotline at the National Wellness Centre. A 9:00 am -5:00 pm Hotline exists at the SLCC.

62.2 Healthcare

Yes, where the victim and/or witness report any incidence of physical assault and injury. There is mandatory reporting of child abuse and incidents of rape.

62.3 Guidance, vocational training

Such service is provided by the Upton Garden Girls' Centre to the adolescents who access its services.

62.5 Training in women's rights

Unknown

63.0 Number of facilities that provide care and psychological support before, during and after legal process

Yes, it is offered by the WSC through its varied interventions and the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs by accompanying children to the Court particularly minors and the issuance of Protection Orders which seek to protect the victims from their perpetrators.

PROSAF also provides such care and support to its clients who seek such service.

Child Protection Programmes

The Family Court has introduced a parenting programme which targets parents with children who are victims of

family violence. One of the long term objectives of this programme is to minimize risk for children who witness domestic abuse that they will not perpetuate the cycle of domestic violence in their own families. The parenting programme at the Family Court is not limited to domestic violence issues. It also addresses various forms of child maltreatment.

The Family Court has implemented the child victim witness programme which prepares children for their role in court, where children have to give evidence in cases where they are victims of abuse. They are prepared by the court social worker for the video link court. This gives better access to justice for child victims who can give their evidence in a different geographic location from the criminal court where the accused would be. The court social worker will sit with the child during proceedings. The environment is a non-threatening one which enables the child to give their best possible evidence. This is an ongoing programme of the Family Court.

(Source Family Court Response July 2nd 2012).

64.0 Legal Aid

- ❖ **Number of women's information and psychological treatment bodies by jurisdiction**
- ❖ **Rate of service use:**
 - ❖ **By victims of different forms of violence**
 - ❖ **Telephone assistance**
 - ❖ **Legal assistance**
 - ❖ **Health care**

Unknown

65.0 Percentage of protective orders in case of violence against women, in proportion to the number of protective orders requested, disaggregated by type of crime and/or type of violence

Table Illustrating Reported Cases of Domestic Violence at the Family Court for January to December 2015

	First District Court			Second District Court			
Category	Protection Order	Occupation Order	Tenancy Order	Protection Order	Occupation Order	Tenancy Order	Total
Spousal Abuse	303	83	20	72	18	4	500
Elder abuse	4	0	0	1	2	0	7
Parent/Child	37	13	0	2	2	0	54
Other	17	6	0	6	2	0	31
Total	361	102	20	81	24	4	592

(Source: Family Court, 2016)

The table above shows the number of persons who accessed the services of the Family Court seeking the intervention of the Court through the application of Protection, Occupation or Tenancy Orders. This information was retrieved from the monthly reports of Social Workers and the Intake Officer. Not all were sent before the Court. Based on the information presented by the client and whether or not their situation has met the criteria for lodging an application, other intervention such as mediation, or referral to another social service agency was the course of action taken.

Protection Order: *prohibits the respondent from doing things to harm or harass a victim*

Occupation Order: *prohibits a perpetrator from living in the family house*

Tenancy Order: transfers the tenancy on tenancy agreement to the name of the applicant only

65.1 Judicial decisions and resolutions ordering protection

Refer to the table above.

65.2 Judgments, opinions, resolutions implementing the Convention

Refer to the table above.

66.0 Unreported violence rate:

- ❖ **Number of girls, adolescents and adult and older women who have been victims of different forms of violence over the past twelve months, and who did not report those acts of violence**

HelpAge St Lucia/National Council of and for Older Persons

HelpAge St Lucia's mission is to raise awareness of ageing issues and to improve the quality of care, health and conditions in residential homes. They carry out programmes that support older people's livelihoods and age awareness workshops.

The organisation is also committed to extensive research on areas including mental health, abuse and nutrition. The findings are used to advocate for national legislation to improve residential and community based care, guidance on family responsibilities and protection against abuse.

HelpAge St Lucia works on programmes with over ten NGOs nationally. They have collaborated with social workers to increase community care programmes for older people and have set up home visiting programmes.

HelpAge St Lucia became a partner of the HelpAge network in 1988 and an Affiliate in 2004. The two organisations have worked together on projects such as Age Demands Action and Sponsor a Grandparent.

Email: haslncop@hotmail.com

Source: www.helpage.org/who-we-are/our-affiliates--/affiliates-in-the-caribbean

According to Helpage, the number of reported cases as presented by the Courts, NICE Office and individuals is 145 in 2015/16.

Number of known legal cases for 2015 was 25.

95% of the reported cases (145) of elder abuse have been solved according to Helpage.

(Source: Helpage St. Lucia National Council of and For Older Persons, 2016)

67.0 Number and percentage of girls and adolescents, adult women and older women who access the emergency kit post sexual violence at care service centres

According to statistics provided by the Vulnerable Persons Unit in the northern part of the island in the RSLPF, there were 66 reported cases of rape 6 were false reports and 17 arrests were made. Forty-three (43) or 65.15% of the cases were solved whilst 23 were under investigation and 20 where no further action was taken.

68.0 Number and percentage of cases reported to the investigating agency involving violence against women in its various manifestations and violent deaths of women according to the stage of the process

- ❖ **Investigation**
- ❖ **Indictment**
- ❖ **Judgments**
- ❖ **Dismissals**
- ❖ **Closures**

Unknown

69.0 Judgments, opinions, resolutions awarding reparations in cases of violence

Unknown

70.0 Rate of unreported violence against women

Unknown

71.1 Percentage of girls and women who access emergency kits after sexual violence

Number of reported cases of sexual violence by girls – 61

Number of reported cases of sexual violence by women- 41

Total number of reported sexual violent cases- 148

Percentage- 0.675/ 0.68%

NB: Above data is from VPT North

72.0 Percentage of cases brought to the attention of the investigating entity, by type of violence and stage of proceedings

VPT NORTH 2015 CRIME STATES

Offence	Case Reported	False Report	Pending C/plaint	Trial Arrest	U/I	NFA	Cases Solved	% Solved
Rape	66	6		17	23	20	43	65.15
Attempted Rape	3		1			2	3	100.00
Sexual int W/A person bet 12 and 16	56	1		12	10	33	46	82.14
Sexual int w/a person under 12	2			1		1	2	100.00
Buggery	2			1	1		1	50.00
Indecent Assault	57	3		18	10	26	47	82.46
Incest	3	1		1		1	3	100.00
Unlawful sexual connection	18	1		12	2	3	16	88.89
Gros Indecency	5			1	3	1	2	40.00
Assault	8	1	1			6	8	100.00
Wounding	5		1	1	2	1	3	60.00
Harm	7				3	4	4	57.14
Burglary	14			3	9	2	5	35.71
Abduction	1			1			1	100.00
Grievous harm	1			1			1	100.00
Child Abandonment	1			1			1	100.00
Indecent Exposure	1			1			1	100.00
Total	250	13	3	71	63	100	187	

73.0 Percentage of cases heard by the criminal courts, by type of defense and outcome of proceedings

- ❖ **Rate of congestion: quotient between the sum of the sum of cases registered in the last year plus those pending from at the beginning of the period, divided by the number of cases resolved during the year**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of resolution: total number of cases resolved over the total number of cases registered for the period**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of pending cases: total number of cases pending over the total number of cases of resolved**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of pending inactive: Total number of pending cases at the end of the period that had no movement over the last 6 months, over the total number of pending cases**

Unknown

- ❖ **Average duration of a case: Time elapsed from the moment a case is registered until its resolution**

Unknown

- ❖ **Average duration of sentence: time elapsed from the moment the case is registered to the time that sentence is issued**

Unknown

- ❖ **Percentage of cases whose duration is over the average**

Unknown

- ❖ **Percentage of cases whose duration is more than 60 day average duration of protection**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of sentencing: Total number of sentences issued over the total number of cases resolved**

Unknown

- ❖ **Percentage of sentences unopposed by the defendant**

Unknown

74.0 On the level of appeal

- ❖ **Rate of appeal (cases in the second instance in relation to total number of cases in the first instance)**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of admissibility: Total number of resources admitted over total number of resources imposed before higher courts**

Unknown

- ❖ **Percentage of non-admissible cases over the total number of cases**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of appeal: Total number of resources interposed before higher courts over the total number of cases resolved in the first instance**

Unknown

75.0 Results of the resources interposed

- ❖ **Total number of cases with different results (confirmation, revocation, cancellation or modification) over the total number of resources finished. Second and third instance**

Unknown

❖ **Rate of cancellation, rate of confirmation, rate of revocation, rate of modification**

Unknown

❖ **Percentage of sentences that give rise to claim with request for suspension**

Unknown

❖ **Percentage of sentences with request for suspension accepted**

Unknown

76.0 Average length of criminal trials for violence by type of offense

Unknown

77.0 Identity and list public agencies for monitoring and oversight of judgments

The Legal Aid Authority was established to fulfill this role. There is one such agency on island to date.

Upon completion of an application form providing basic information about oneself, nature of one's problem and one's financial status. The Director and Board of the Legal Aid Authority evaluate the application and may require one to attend an interview.

If not granted Legal Aid one is contacted in writing. However, if granted legal aid, one is notified and required to complete an acceptance form. This form should be signed before a Justice of the Peace. A Legal Aid Certificate is then issued to the successful applicant.

78.0 Underlying Financial Context and Budgetary Commitments

Unknown

79.0 Funding of assistance services, free legal representation and other services intended for girls and adolescents, adult women and older women who have been victims of violence, either state-managed subsidized

The Legal Aid Authority provides such assistance to prospective clients.

80.0 Financial resources allocated to free legal representation and judicial services for young and adolescent girls, adult and older women, including indigenous, Afro-descendants, women in rural areas, persons with disabilities, persons with different sexual preferences, by gender identities, migrants, refugees and displaced persons, and persons deprived of their liberty

Such financial assistance is not reflected in the 2015/16 Government Budgetary Estimates Include annual allocation

The assistance provided is not specific to any one group and can be accessed by all.

Existence of agencies for receiving complaints. If they exist, their number and location (description, institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding

Complaints can be made to the Vulnerable Person Team (VPT), a unit established for the Northern and Southern Divisions of the island on December 4th, 2007, as part of the strategic plan of the Royal St. Lucia Police Force to strengthen its fight against crime. It also deals with children who sexually abuse other children and are responsible for all offences of child sexual exploitation and child trafficking.

The Vulnerable Person Team (VPT), a department of the Royal St. Lucia Police Force (RSLPF) launched was launched in December 2007, to handle all child abuse investigations, including child sexual exploitation and child trafficking cases.

The VPT has specific Terms of Reference which specifically address all Child Abuse Investigations across Saint

Lucia. The VPT liaises with government agencies such as the Division of Human Services and Family Affairs, Family Court and the Division of Gender Relations, as well as non-governmental agencies to ensure that the necessary exchange of information and joint working practices are adopted and strengthened.

Police Complaints Unit

The Police Complaints Unit in the Royal St. Lucia Police was formed as part of, an Act of Parliament entitled, “Police Complaints Act” of 2003 which provided for the receipt, investigation and determination of complaints and other related matters by the public against the police. The Act also provided for a Police Complaints Commission and a Police Complaints Unit among other things.

Composition of Police Complaints Unit

The Police Complaints Unit comprises of five police officers:

- o One Assistant Superintendent*
- o One Inspector*
- o Two Sergeants*
- o One Corporal*

Staff Responsibility:

The Assistant Superintendent has overall responsibility for the Unit. In addition, he investigates complaints against Inspectors. The Inspector supervises the Sergeants and Corporal and investigates complaints against Sergeants.

The Sergeants investigate complaints against Corporals and the Corporal investigates complaints against Constables. However, all members of staff investigate complaints against Constables due to the nature of the report. Should a complaint be made against the Head of the Unit, or an officer of a higher rank than the Head of the Unit, the Commissioner will appoint an officer of senior rank to that of the officer against whom the complaint is made, to

conduct the investigation.

Commencement of operations:

The operations of the Complaints Unit commenced in January 2004. In that year, members of the public made one hundred and forty-five (145) complaints against police officers. The complaints Unit completed a total of one hundred and seven (107) complaints of the one hundred and forty-five complaints that were filed.

Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner

According to the Constitution of Saint Lucia of 2001, Cap.1.01 under the Chapter IX parliamentary Commissioner Number 110. APPOINTMENT, ETC., OF COMMISSIONER

(1)

There shall be a Parliamentary Commissioner for Saint Lucia who shall be an Officer of Parliament and who shall not hold any other office of emolument whether in the public service or otherwise nor engage in any other occupation for reward.

(2)

The Parliamentary Commissioner shall be appointed by the Governor General, acting after consultation with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, for a term not exceeding 5 years.

(3)

Before entering upon the duties of his or her Office, the Parliamentary Commissioner shall take and subscribe the oath of Office before the Speaker.

(4)

Subject to the provisions of subsection (7) the Parliamentary Commissioner shall vacate his or her office at the expiration of the term for which he or she was appointed:

Provided that he or she shall vacate his or her office—

(a)

if he or she is appointed as a Senator or with his or her consent he or she is nominated as a candidate for election to the House; or

(b)

if he or she is appointed to any other Office of emolument or engages in any other occupation for reward.

(5)

If the Office of Parliamentary Commissioner becomes vacant, an appointment to fill the Office shall be made within 90 days of the occurrence of the vacancy:

Provided that the House may by resolution extend that period for further periods not exceeding in the aggregate 150 days.

(6)

A person holding the Office of Parliamentary Commissioner may be removed from Office only for inability to exercise the functions of his or her office (whether arising from infirmity of body or mind or any other cause) or for misbehaviour and shall not be so removed except in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(7)

The Parliamentary Commissioner shall be removed from office by the Governor General if the question of his or her removal from office has been referred to a tribunal appointed under subsection (8) and the tribunal has recommended to the Governor General that he or she ought to be removed for inability as aforesaid or for misbehaviour.

(8)

If the Governor General, acting after consultation with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, considers that the question of removing the Parliamentary Commissioner under this section ought to be investigated—

(a)

the Governor General shall appoint a tribunal which shall consist of a chairperson and not less than 2 other

members selected by the Chief Justice from among persons who hold or have held office as a judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters in some part of the Commonwealth or a court having jurisdiction in appeals from such a court; and

(b)

the tribunal shall enquire into the matter and report on the facts thereof to the Governor General and recommend to him or her whether the Commissioner ought to be removed under this section.

(9)

If the question of removing the Parliamentary Commissioner has been referred to a tribunal under this section, the Governor General, acting after consultation with the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, may suspend the Commissioner from the exercise of the functions of his or her office and any such suspension may at any time be revoked by the Governor General, acting as aforesaid, and shall in any case cease to have

112. FUNCTIONS OF COMMISSIONER

(1)

Subject to the provisions of this section and Sections 113 and 114, the principal function of the Parliamentary Commissioner shall be to investigate any decision or recommendation made, including any advice given or recommendation made to a Minister, or any act done or omitted by any department of government or any other authority to which this section applies, or by officers or members of such a department or authority, being action taken in exercise of the administrative functions of that department or authority.

(2)

The Parliamentary Commissioner shall be provided with a staff adequate for the efficient discharge of his or her functions and the offices of the members of his or her staff shall be public offices.

(3)

The Parliamentary Commissioner may investigate any such matter in any of the following circumstances—

(a)

where a complaint is duly made to the Commissioner by any person alleging that the complainant has sustained

an injustice as a result of a fault in administration;

(b)

where a Senator or a member of the House requests the Commissioner to investigate the matter on the ground that a person or body of persons specified in the request has or may have sustained such injustice; and

Revision Date: 31 Dec 2001

(c) in any other circumstances in which the Commissioner considers that he or she ought to investigate the matter on the ground that some person or body of persons has or may have sustained such injustice.

(4) The authorities other than departments of government to which this section applies are—

(a)

local authorities or other bodies established for purposes of the public service or of local government;

(b)

authorities or bodies the majority of whose members are appointed by the Governor General or by a Minister or whose revenues consist wholly or mainly of moneys provided out of public funds;

(c)

any authority empowered to determine the person with whom any contract shall be entered into by or on behalf of the Government; and

(d)

such other authorities as may be prescribed by Parliament.

113. RESTRICTIONS ON MATTERS FOR INVESTIGATION

(1)

In investigating any matter leading to, resulting from or connected with the decision of a Minister, the Parliamentary Commissioner shall not inquire into or question the policy of the Minister in accordance with which the decision was made.

(2)

The Parliamentary Commissioner shall have power to investigate complaints of administrative injustice under section 112 notwithstanding that such complaints raise questions as to the integrity or corruption of the public service or any department or office of the public service, and may investigate any conditions resulting from, or calculated to facilitate or encourage, corruption in the public service, but he or she shall not undertake any investigation into specific charges of corruption against individuals.

(3)

Where in the course of an investigation it appears to the Parliamentary Commissioner that there is evidence of any corrupt act by any public officer or by any person in connection with the public service, he or she shall report the matter to the appropriate authority with his or her recommendation as to any further investigation he or she may consider proper.

(4)

The Parliamentary Commissioner shall not investigate—

Revision Date: 31 Dec 2001

(a)

any action in respect of which the complainant has or had

(i)

a remedy by way of proceedings in a court of law; or

(ii)

a right of appeal, reference or review to or before an independent and impartial tribunal other than a court of law; or

(b)

any such action, or action taken with respect to any matter, as is described in schedule 3 to this Constitution.

(5) *Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (4) the Parliamentary Commissioner—*

(a)

may investigate a matter notwithstanding that the complainant has or had a remedy by way of proceedings in a court of law if satisfied that in the particular circumstances it is not reasonable to expect him or her to take or to have taken such proceedings;

(b)

is not in any case precluded from investigating any matter by reason only that it is open to the complainant to apply to the High Court for redress under section 16 (which relates to the enforcement of the fundamental rights and freedoms).

Community Policing

Community Policing is another Unit within the Royal St. Lucia Police Force which seeks to establish a positive relationship between the Police Force/Service and the communities because it embraces partnerships and partners of both environments.

Some of the benefits of community policing include developing :

- A positive partnership between the Police and the community
- A commitment by all stakeholders to work with the Police
- A well trained and motivated people-oriented Police Force/Service
- An effective and efficient crime management system based on verifiable information
- A more proactive and aware citizenry
- An increased level of community participation in decision-making, crime solving, crime reduction and crime prevention
- More understanding and respect between young people and the Police
- More civic pride and ownership of their communities by citizens both young and old

- The following application of the three “Rs” approach by the Police
 - o Rapid Response
 - o Reassurance
 - o Respect
- Improved co-operation between the Police and both government agencies and non- government organizations
- An improved public image of the Police Force

Community Policing has also been called Community Empowerment Policing, reflecting the transformation that takes place when people stop being passive consumers of Police services and instead, become active participants in the process of helping to make neighbourhoods better and safer places in which to live and work. Let it be understood that community policing is not ‘soft’ policing.

(Source: www.rslpf.com/community.htm. The paradigm Shift to Community Policing by Assistant Superintendent of Police (ACP) Gregory Modeste)

Terms of Reference of the Vulnerable Persons Team (VPT)

- *All child abuse investigations will be undertaken by the Team*
- *All abuse committed by anyone who has care of or, responsibility for/of a child, e.g. child minders, babysitters, school teachers, swimming pool attendants, scout leaders, etc*
- *'Children in Care' when the abuser is alleged to be the carer or an employee of the care organization e.g. foster carers or children's residential unit employee*
- *All children who sexually abuse other children*
- *Children who suffer emotional or physical abuse as a result of domestic violence*
- *Children sexual exploitation/child trafficking*
- *Sudden and unexpected deaths of children whose death does not fall within a murder enquiry, if a murder enquiry is subject of the death then the investigation will either be conducted by the Major Crime Unit or Divisional (Crime Investigation Department) CID, with assistance from the Family Protection Unit*
- *Organized abuse/institutional abuse involving child victims. Due to the potentially large numbers of victims and witnesses to be interviewed, assistance may be required from CID which will be coordinated through the Divisional Detective Inspector*
- *For all domestic abuse offences the Vulnerable Persons Team will act as a source of advice for officers assisting with their technical knowledge in ongoing investigations*
- *All domestic abuse incidents will be notified to the VPT Corporal, to ensure they have been dealt with correctly*
- *The VPT will liaise with governmental and non- governmental agencies to ensure that the necessary exchange of information and joint working practices are adopted and strengthened.*

Family Court was established in 1997 (under the 1994 Family Court Act No.4) and housed under separately from other magistrate courts is equipped with its own staff. The Court has jurisdiction over the whole country and acts

in districts outside of Castries, the city, on certain fixed days.

Women's Support Centre provides safety and rehabilitation for victims - women and children who have witnessed incidents of domestic violence.

St. Lucia Crisis Centre also provides psychological support through counseling, making referrals and networking with other agencies.

80.1 Number of women lodging complaints for violence with the police

208

(Source: Vulnerable Persons Team, North, RSLPF, Saint Lucia, 2015)

80.2 Number of convictions for violence against women in proportion to total number of complaints made

44/208

(Source; Vulnerable Person Team, North, RSLPF, Saint Lucia, 2015)

80.3 Number of victims of femicide in the past twelve months, by age, marital status, cause of death and geographical location

Unknown

80.4 Number of convictions for femicide in the past twelve months in proportion to the total number of recorded cases

Unknown

80.5 Number of personnel in the justice system trained in a gender perspective and intercultural awareness Number of cases solved involved indigenous and rural girls, adolescents, and adult women and older women as victims of violence

Unknown

81.0 Existence of administrative agencies for filing complaints of noncompliance with obligations related to the right to a life free from violence (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

82.0 Number of women victims of sex crimes, by age, race and ethnicity, and socioeconomic status (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

83.0 Number of users served by telephone (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

Table Illustrating the Number of Calls Received at the Women’s Support Centre in 2015

Nature of Calls Received	Social Agency	
	WSC	
	M	F
Domestic Violence	7	70
Suicide	6	9
Intervention	21	139
Client Intake	0	8
Total	34	226

84.0 Number of complaints involving, and socioeconomic status (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

85.0 Number of users of free legal representation services, whether public or private, with or without state subsidies (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

86.0 Number of complaints involving violence received, investigated and resolved by competent national human rights institutions in the country (description of institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Unknown

87.0 Training programmes for justice operators from a gender and intercultural perspective (description of

institutions, functions, scope and geographic coverage and themes. Information about their funding)

Training on the Protocol for Referring Women to the Women's Support Centre as well as information on the Silent Scourge of Domestic Violence which provides details of domestic violence is presented to police recruits as part of their training curriculum at the Police Academy.

88.0 Number of women in decision-making positions for conflict resolution in indigenous communities and rural areas

Unknown

90.0 Number of women in decision-making positions in prosecutor's offices, courts and other justice administration bodies

Total number of Justices in the Supreme Court (Judicial Officers) – 22 of which 14 are females

Number of women ministers in the Supreme Court- 63.6%

(Source: <https://www.eccourts.org/brief-history-of-the-court>)

100.0 Number of public officials who have undergone training and awareness raising on the issue of violence against women

Unknown

101.0 Number of public servants who work in positions in which they interact directly with women affected by any form of violence against women:

101.1 Number and percentage of female police officers in relation to the number of cases reported to the institution

Unknown

101.2 Number and percentage of women psychologists and psychiatrists in relation to the number of cases reported to institutions responsible for dispensing justice

Unknown

101.3 Number and percentage of women lawyers in relation to the number of cases reported to institutions responsible for counseling women in criminal proceedings (as aggrieved or accused)

Unknown

101.4 Number of interpreters with knowledge of women's rights

Unknown

105.0 Regulations covering the State's obligation to conduct regular surveys on violence against girls, adolescents, and adult and older women in its various forms that envisage both public and private spheres as settings where violence occurs

Unknown

105.1 Identification of legal provisions, date of enactment, scope of obligations, established for conducting surveys, and obligated entities with respect to various forms of violence

Unknown

106.0 Regulations covering the State's obligation to keep administrative records (police, judiciary, prosecutors' offices, public defenders' offices, social services, health services, etc) on cases of violence against girls, adolescents and adults and older women in its various forms

The Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act , Act 8 of 1999 Cap.2.11 of the Laws of St. Lucia addresses issues of the use of photographs as evidence and the use of samples as evidence which are essential tools when investigating cases of violence against the target group.

106.1 Identification of legal provisions, date of enactment, scope of obligations, established, and obligated entities with respect to administrative record keeping on various forms of violence

The Evidence Act Chapter 4.15 of Act 5 of 2002 of the Laws of St. Lucia of 2005, is an Act to reform the laws relating to evidence in proceedings in courts in Saint Lucia and to provide for related matters.

107.0 Appointing the competent authority for coordinating efforts to ensure complete administrative records
❖ **Identification of legal provisions, date of enactment, scope of obligations, established, and obligated entities**

Unknown

108.0 Regulations covering the State's obligation to conduct regular research and studies to monitor and assess policies, plans, programmes, strategies and actions

Unknown

108.1 Identification of legal provisions, date of enactment, scope of obligations, established, and obligated entities required to perform monitoring and evaluation studies

Unknown

109.0 Regulations that provide free access to information of statistical nature generated public sector institution

109.1 Identification of the number, scope and characteristics of surveys carried out on violence against women, including dates and periodicity

Unknown

110.0 Number and characteristics of public sector institutions producing or generating statistical information on violence against women

- ❖ **Identification of institutions, description of their institutional capacities and position in the organizational structure of the public sector**

The Division of Gender Relations, Women's Support Centre, St. Lucia Crisis Centre and the Vulnerable Person Team through their Northern and Southern Units maintain a data registry comprising data on reported cases of domestic violence and abused children. Such reports are made by the victim, relatives, school through the School Counsellors assigned through the Ministry of Education at the primary and secondary level.

111.0 Identification of reports published, as well as their authorship, methodology, periodicity and availability

Monthly and/or annual Reports of data on reported cases of domestic violence or that of child abuse are prepared by the various agencies primarily for in-house use or in the preparation of reports as required. Some of this data is disclosed by particular agencies whilst access may be limited in other agencies.

111.1 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations requesting access to public information considering organizations particularly working with girls , adolescents, and adult and other women of diverse ethnic origin, including afro-descendants, people living in rural areas, persons with disabilities, people with different disabilities, people with different sexual preferences and gender identities, migrants, refugees and displaced persons, and persons deprived of their identity

Such data compiled by the aforementioned institutions is accessible to students, researchers, consultants, other agencies, representatives of faith-based organizations, non-government organizations, representatives of child groups.

111.2 Qualitative reports that interpret and contextualize the statistics of violence against women

Unknown

111.3 Number of parallel reports presented by civil society to international oversight agencies in connection with the right to a life free from violence, using official information, studies and statistics

Unknown

UNDERLYING FINANCIAL CONTEXT AND BUDGETARY COMMITMENTS

112.0 Specific laws including budgetary allocation for meeting information production obligations

- ❖ **112.1 Legal promotions, type, scope, year enacted, general budget item corresponding to the provision, disaggregated expenditures**



A budget is enacted to cover the cost of those production obligations and presentations.

113.0 Percentage execution of budget allocated for programmes, plans and institutions related to different forms of violence against women

Unknown

114.0 National budget law with earmarks for meeting information production obligations

- 115.0 Percentage of public spending assigned to the development of databases with information on**

different forms of violence

115.0 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations involved in budget oversight initiatives and budget allocation

Unknown

Specify the number of locally registered organizations whose mission includes the promotion of a life free from violence by women by specific area of work and geographic location and which participate in budget oversight initiatives and budget execution

Unknown

116.0 Processes that encourage participation by civil society and other actors in access to public information

Unknown

STATE CAPACITIES

118.0 Agreements and/or cooperation tie between NMA, authorities with responsibilities in the area of violence (at different public agencies), and the national agency responsible for official statistics used to produce quantity information on different forms of violence against girls, adolescents and adult and older women

Unknown

118.1 Existence and availability of regular databases, or other sources of information on different forms of violence

Unknown

119.0 Evidence of offices, secretariats, or specialized state mechanisms for producing information, studies and statistics. Coverage by jurisdictions(national, state, provincial, local)

Offices where data on reported incidents of violence against women and children can be obtained are:

Division of Human Services and Family Affairs- Child Abuse- abandonment/ neglect physical, psychological and sexual

Women's Support Centre- domestic violence

Family Court- domestic violence, child abuse, child maintenance

St. Lucia Crisis Centre- counseling, referrals by self, family, employer, friend, Women Support Centre

Vulnerable Person Team (RSLPF)- sexual offences, domestic violence

119.1 Number of the public sector institutions that have specific units on generation of statistical information

Unknown

120.0 Evidence of studies on sentences and opinions that contains stereotypes, prejudices, myths and customs in the cases of women victims of violence, and the use of the personal history of the victim and her sexual experience to deny her justice

Unknown

121.0 Production reports, specialized studies from various disciplines on violence against women and feminine with statistical bases

121.1 of mechanisms for access to updated statistical information (accessible and timely)

Unknown

121.2 Existence of mechanisms for mass dissemination of national statistics on violence against women

Unknown

121.3 Periodic reports on social perceptions of the issue of violence against women

Unknown

122.0 Law or national policy on guarantees of a life free from violence that takes account of ethnic diversity (indigenous, aboriginal peoples), rural populations and Afro-descendants

- ❖ Year of enactment
- ❖ Scope
- ❖ Definition of ethnic diversity
- ❖ Afro-descendants
- ❖ Enforcing authority

There is no law specific to ethnic diversity, rural populations and Afro-descendants. What exists is a general law which addresses persons of various ethnicities.

123.0 Law incorporating/ including the right to gender identity and sexual diversity

- ❖ Year of enactment
- ❖ Scope
- ❖ Definition of ethnic diversity
- ❖ Afro-descendants
- ❖ Enforcing authority
- ❖ Gender identity and sexual diversity

Unknown

124.0 Law or national policy guaranteeing a life free from violence for girls, adolescents and adult and older women with physical or psychosocial disabilities

The National Policy on Persons with Disabilities (Draft) provides such information as highlighted above.

- ❖ **Year of enactment**
- ❖ **Scope**
- ❖ **Definition of ethnic diversity**
- ❖ **Afro-descendants**
- ❖ **Enforcing authority**
- ❖ **Persons with disabilities**

*Law or national policy on mental health that specifically addresses the right to a life without violence
Yes, there is a *Mental Health Bill of Saint Lucia of 2014**

The Bill seeks to provide for administration, rights and protection, admission, detention, discharge and transfer of persons who are suffering from a mental order.

- ❖ **Year of enactment**

2014

- ❖ **Scope**

The Bill seeks to provide for administration, rights and protection, admission, detention, discharge and transfer of

persons who are suffering from a mental order.

❖ **Definition of ethnic diversity**

❖ **Afro-descendants**

❖ **Enforcing authority**



Part 1, Clauses 5 to 11 of the Bill, provides for the administration of the Bill. This part empowers the Minister to implement policies and measures (Clauses 5 of the Bill). Psychiatric facilities may be designated under Clause 6 of the Bill. Inspectors of mental health are appointed under Clause 7 of the Bill and the functions and duties of such inspectors are specified in Clauses 8 and 9 of the Bill. The powers of a mental health officer are set in Clause 10 of the Bill and community health services are provided for in Clause 11 of the Bill.

❖ **Mental Health**

There is no national policy or law which addresses a life free from violence for the slated group. However, there is Draft Mental Health Act (2008), Draft Mental Health Policy (2007) and a Disaster Emergency Plan for Mental Health (2000).

Part IV of the Mental Health Bill of 2014 provides for the Treatment of the Patient. The informed consent to treatment and exceptions to informed consent are addressed in Clauses 30 and 31 of the Bill respectively. Responsibility where informed consent is not required is specified in Clause 32 of the Bill. Conditions for clinical trials and experimental treatment and psychosurgery, other intrusive or irremissible treatment are set in Clauses 33 and 34 of the Bill. The administration of electroconvulsive therapy and that of medicine are highlighted in Clauses 35 and 36 respectively. The record of treatment is provided in Clause 37 of the Bill.

125.0 Law or national policy to ensure a life free from violence for girls, adolescents and adult and older women who are migrants, displaced persons or deprived of their freedom

❖ **Year of enactment**

❖ **Scope**

- ❖ **Definition of ethnic diversity**
- ❖ **Afro-descendants**
- ❖ **Enforcing authority**
- ❖ **Persons deprived of liberty**

Unknown

126.0 Regulatory recognition and incorporation of principles and processes of indigenous justice, in ways that respect human rights and are compatible with Belem do Para Convention

- ❖ **Year of enactment**
- ❖ **Scope**
- ❖ **Definition of ethnic diversity**
- ❖ **Afro-descendants**
- ❖ **Enforcing authority**
- ❖ **Rights of indigenous people**

Unknown

127.0 Violence among salaried women, by type of violence, age, ethnicity, country of origin and socioeconomic status

Unknown

128.0 Violence rate among women who work exclusively in the home (reproductive work), by type of violence, age, ethnic origin, country of origin and socioeconomic level

Unknown

129.0 Violence rate among pregnant women by age

Unknown

130.0 Violence rate among older women

Unknown

131.0 Violence rate among girls, adolescents and adult an older women with disabilities

Unknown

132.0 Rate of violence among women married to their assailants

Unknown

133.0 Violence rate among women whose partner is the assailant

Unknown

134.0 Acknowledgment of intercultural citizenship in domestic laws, taking into account the rights of indigenous an rural communities with regard to their practice and knowledge

- ❖ Year of enactment
- ❖ Scope
- ❖ Definition of ethnic diversity
- ❖ Afro-descendants
- ❖ Enforcing authority

The domestic laws are general and cater to the needs of intercultural citizenship.

135.0 Existence of laws/regulations penalizing public officials and educators in cases of sexual violence against female students from indigenous communities and in rural areas

- ❖ **Year of enactment**
- ❖ **Scope**
- ❖ **Definition of ethnic diversity**
- ❖ **Afro-descendants**
- ❖ **Enforcing authority**

The Criminal Code of Saint Lucia, No.9 of 2004 does not specify the geographical location of the female students but instead states the various types of sexual violent acts which maybe experienced by female- minors and the penalty assigned. The different types mentioned are rape, unlawful sexual connection, Inducing sexual intercourse or sexual connection by force, duress, etc., sexual intercourse with a person under twelve, Sexual intercourse with a person between twelve and sixteen, gross indecency - “gross indecency” is an act other than sexual intercourse (whether natural or unnatural) by a person involving the use of the genital organs for the purpose of arousing or gratifying sexual desire, sexual intercourse with an adopted minor, etc., sexual intercourse with a minor employee, indecent assault, indecent act, buggery and unlawful detention of a person with intent to have sexual intercourse.

Some of these acts are punishable by imprisonment ranging from three (3) years to life imprisonment.

136.0 Number of *represented* by country to international oversight agencies on the right to a life free from violence with detailed information about girls, adolescents and adult and older women who are ethnically diverse Afro-descendants, or live in rural areas , the situation of girls , adolescents, and adult and older women with disabilities, or are migrants, refugees, socioeconomically disadvantaged, displaced, or deprived of their liberty

- ❖ **Number of reports from each group to international monitoring bodies**

Unknown

137.0 Number of parallel reports presented by civil society to international oversight agencies on the right to a life free from violence with detailed information about girls, adolescents and adult and older women who are ethnically diverse, Afro-descendants, or live in rural areas, have disabilities, have different sexual preferences and/or gender identities, or are migrants, refugees, socioeconomically disadvantaged, displaced or deprived of their liberty

Unknown

- ❖ **Number of reports from each group to international monitoring bodies**

Unknown

138.0 Number of legal instruments, programmes and projects guaranteeing intercultural citizenship of women from indigenous communities and who live in rural areas

- ❖ **Number of reports from each group to international monitoring bodies**

Unknown

139.0 Percentage of rural indigenous women keeping the knowledge and culture within their communities involved in design, enforcement and monitoring

Unknown

140.0 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations with specific knowledge of each of the areas

- ❖ **Identification of institutions, description of their institutional capacities, and position in the organizational structure of the public sector**

Unknown

- ❖ **Characteristics and frequency of the general population studies on perceptions of different forms of violence**

Unknown

- ❖ **Public policy, plans and programmes to eradicate violence, proposed by indigenous, rural, women's movement, considering organizations particularly working with girls, adolescents**

Unknown

141.0 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations with specific knowledge of each of the areas involved in design, enforcement and monitoring

- ❖ **Identification of institutions, descriptions of their institutional capacities and position in the organizational structure of the public sector**

Unknown

142.0 Characteristics and frequency of the general population studies on perceptions of different forms of violence

Unknown

143.0 National budget law with earmarked expenditures for meeting the obligations for ensuring the adoption of measures enshrined in the Belem do Para Convention an national laws without discrimination

- ❖ **Number of reports prepared and published with information on effective budget execution**

Unknown

144.0 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations with specific knowledge of each area that take part in allocation, monitoring and oversight or budget execution

❖ **Characteristics and frequency of perception surveys in relation to different forms of violence**

Unknown

❖ **Public policies, plans and programmes to eradicate violence proposed by the movement of indigenous, rural women, organizations especially considering working with children and adolescents, adults and elderly women of different ethnicity descent, rural people disabilities, with different sexual preferences, by their gender identity, migrants, refugees, displaced persons deprived of their liberty**

There are no public policy and plans focusing on the eradication of violence against the LGBT community. Anti-violence campaigns held usually target women or youth.

145.0 Existence of protocol of comprehensive care in cases of violence against women (in the different forms) prepared in the relevant languages and in a format accessible for visually impaired people, that set specific criteria for data collection and for sensitive, quality care for victims of violence, and that are for use by the police, the health care system, the courts and the other branches of government

Unknown

146.0 Design and implementation of mechanisms for the incorporation of principles and processes of indigenous justice, in ways that are respectful and compatible with the Belem do Para Convention

Unknown

147.0 Number of interpreters for girls, adolescents and adult and older women from indigenous

communities and rural areas or who do not speak the official language

Unknown

148.0 Number of interpreters for migrant an refugee girls, adolescents and adult and older women or who otherwise do not speak the official language

Unknown

149.0 Number of officials in different agencies trained to provide/ facilitate the necessary support mechanisms for girls, adolescents, and older women with disabilities

Unknown

150.0 Percentage of the population that uses indigenous or alternative systems of health care and/or access to justice

Unknown

151.1 Percentage of older women who regularly receive medical attention/monitoring and measures to prevent or provide care in cases of violence

Unknown

152.0 Percentage of girls, adolescents and adults and older women with different sexual preferences and identities, who regularly receive medical attention/monitoring and measures to prevent or provide care in cases of violence with particular emphasis

Unknown

153.0 Training activities and plans for pertinent decision-makers and authorities (including technical staff at ministries, lawmakers, justice operators, health care personnel, security and police forces and personnel at centres providing specialized assistance for violence against women, among others) with particular emphasis on girls, adolescents and adult and older women who are ethnically diverse, Afro-descendants, living in rural areas , with disabilities, people with different sexual preferences and gender identities, migrants, refugees and displaced persons and persons deprived of their liberty

Unknown

154.0 Number and characteristics of civil society organizations with specific knowledge of each of the areas involved in design, enforcement and monitoring

- ❖ **Violence rate among salaried women, by type of violence, age, ethnicity, country of origin and socioeconomic status**

Unknown

- ❖ **Violence rate among women who work exclusively in the home (reproductive work), by type of violence, age, ethnicity, country of origin and socioeconomic status**

Unknown

- ❖ **Violence rate by education level, race, ethnicity, country of origin and socioeconomic status**

Unknown

- ❖ **Violence rate among pregnant women by age**

Unknown

- ❖ **Violence rate among older women**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of violence in women, children and adolescents, older women with disabilities**

Unknown

- ❖ **Rate of violence in women with different sexual orientations/gender identity**

Unknown

- ❖ **Violence rate among women married to their assailant/ Violence rate among women whose partner is the assailant**

Unknown

