

4. MOVEMENT BUILDING AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The increase in social mobilizations, powered by generations of grassroots civil society organizations, community based organizations, gender champions and other relevant institutions is a defining feature of recent work to end violence against women and girls. Investing in women's movements for

the empowerment of civil society and women's rights organizations is also one of the main goals of the Spotlight Initiative. The LGDA led consortium has been leading the establishment of movement building in the province using the framework highlighted below:



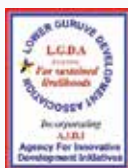
Let's collectively build a movement that fights against Gender Based Violence and Child Marriages

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Farmers Association of Community self-Help Investment Group



Spotlight Initiative

To eliminate violence against women and girls

Initiated by the European Union and the United Nations:



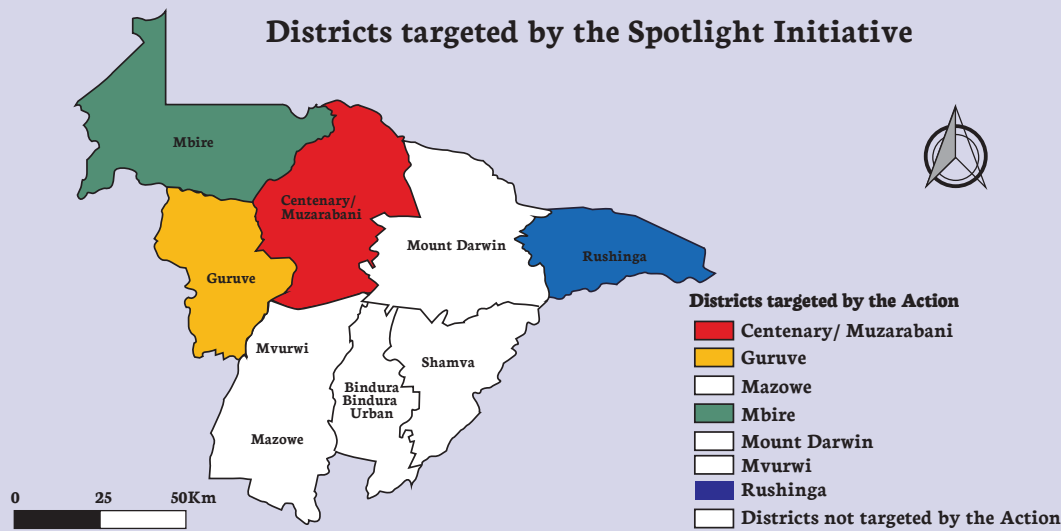
Gender Based Violence Resource Guide

1. SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE

Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA) in partnership with Farmers Association of Community Self-Help Investment Groups (FACHIG) and Civic Forum on Human Development (CFHD) are implementing a 13 months' action titled **Strengthening Movement Building to End Violence Against Women and Girls in the Mashonaland Central Province.**

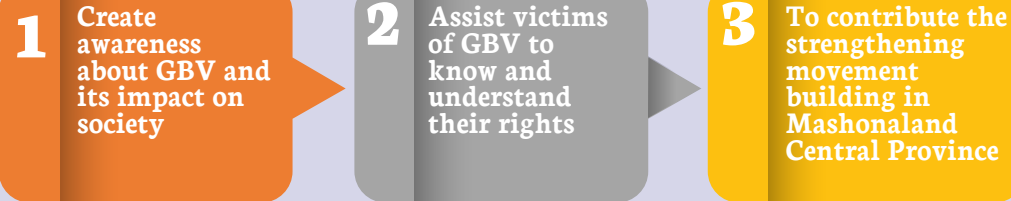
The action is being implemented in the 16 wards identified as hot spots in the 4 districts of Mbire, Guruve, Rushinga and Muzarabani. The specific objective of the action is to contribute to the elimination of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) through supporting gender social movement approaches that empower women and girls to end, avoid and escape from violence and violent situations.

Districts targeted by the Spotlight Initiative



2. PURPOSE OF THE RESOURCE GUIDE

The resource guide was developed through the support of the Spotlight Initiative. It is aimed at providing information to individuals and communities, community based organizations (CBOs), victims of gender-based violence (GBV) and child marriages to:



The information provided in this booklet is not a checklist or an exhaustive list of options available on the fight against GBV and child marriages. There are many other organizations which render invaluable services in the fight against the scourge of GBV.

• What is Gender Based Violence?

Any act that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to anyone, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life.

• Childhood Sexual Abuse

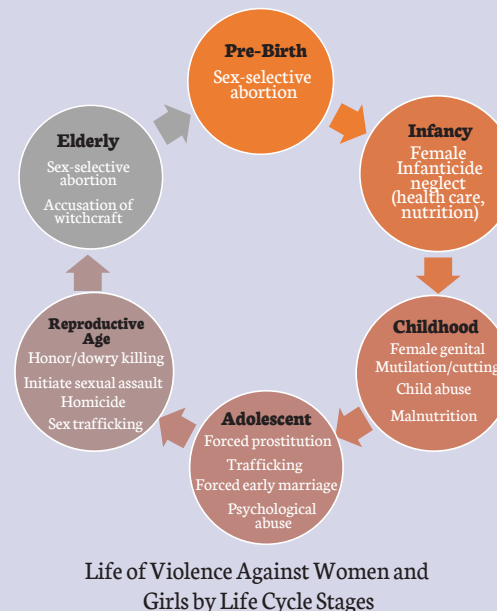
World Health Organisation (WHO) defines childhood sexual abuse as "an abuse of power that encompasses many forms of sexual activity between a child or adolescent (most often a girl) and an older person, most often a man or older boy known to the girl. This activity may be physically forced, or accomplished through coercive tactics such as offers of money for school fees or threats of exposure. At times, it may take the form of a breach of trust in which an individual, who has the confidence of the child, uses that trust to secure sexual favors.

• Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is the physical, verbal, emotional, psychological and/or sexual battering of an individual by his/her partner or spouse. This type of GBV can involve the use of threatening or intimidating words and acts, hitting, use of a weapon, rape, imprisonment, financial control, cruelty towards him/her or other people and things he/she cares about and abusive and/or demeaning language.

3. LIFE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Different forms of violence often affect women and girls throughout each phase of their lives, starting at pregnancy, through childhood, adolescence, reproductive age, and later in life. The LGDA led consortium adopted an intergenerational approach to address violence for meeting the needs of women and girls at all life phases.



Categories of Domestic Violence

Physical Abuse is a pattern of physical assaults and threats used to control another person. It includes punching, hitting, choking, biting, and throwing objects at a person, kicking, pushing and using a weapon such as a gun or a knife. Physical abuse usually escalates over time and may end in the person's death.

Sexual Abuse is the mistreatment or the control of a partner sexually. This can include demands for sex using coercion or the performance of certain sexual acts, forcing him/her to have sex with other people, treating him/her in a sexually derogatory manner and/or insisting on unsafe sex.

Emotional and Verbal Abuse is the mistreatment and undermining of a partner's self-worth. It can include criticism, threats, insults, belittling comments and manipulation on the part of the batterer.

Psychological Abuse is the use of various tactics to isolate and undermine a partner's self-esteem causing him/her to be more dependent on and frightened of the batterer. It can include such acts as:

- Refusing to allow the spouse to work outside the home.
- Withholding money or access to money.
- Isolating him/her from his/her family and friends.
- Threatening to harm people and things she/he loves.
- Constantly checking up on him/her.