

Success Stories from **ENOUGH!**

‘Empowering women, girls,
boys, and men to take
positive action in ending GBV
in Liberia, Ghana, and Mali’
(2019-2023)

Implemented by Oxfam Denmark, Oxfam
Ghana, Oxfam Liberia, Foundation for
Community Initiatives Liberia, WiLDAF
Ghana, and WiLDAF Mali

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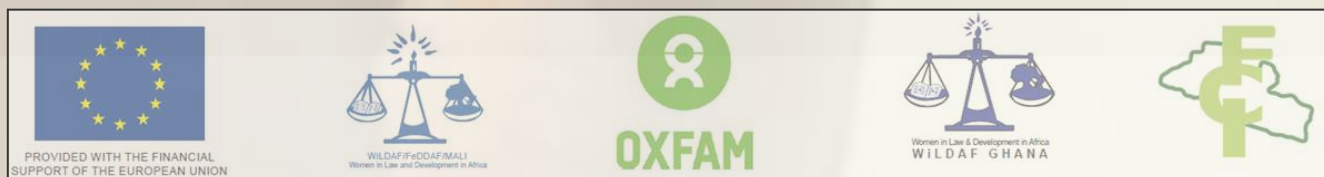
About the ENOUGH! Project

From 2019 to 2023, the Enough! project saw 23 local partners – mainly women's rights organizations – implement a variety of activities in Ghana, Liberia and Mali to empower women, girls, boys, and men to take positive action in ending gender-based violence.

Enough! focused on:

- Strengthening capacities in local civil society organizations and providing financial support
- Changing social norms on gender – especially toxic masculinities
- Engaging men & boys, and traditional leaders in the fight against GBV
- Empowering women and girls to take on leadership positions
- Strengthening community structures for:
 - GBV monitoring and reporting
 - Legal and medical support to GBV survivors
 - Innovative models for safe spaces
 - Economic agency of women & GBV survivors
- Advocacy on (S)GBV
- Learning on (S)GBV – identifying innovative approaches and best practices

The project was funded by the EU and implemented by Oxfam in Denmark, Ghana and Liberia in collaboration with co-applicants WiLDAF Ghana, WiLDAF Mali and Foundation for Community Initiatives, Liberia.



GHANA: Gloria's Journey to Empowerment - from Turmoil to Triumph

Gloria is a woman of resilience and strength, whose story is a testament to the power of economic independence and community support. In the shadows of an abusive marriage, Gloria found herself at a crossroads. With three children to care for and facing violence at home, she knew she needed to break free. It took her courage and determination to seek help from SMAID, an Enough partner. Through the intervention of the Legal Literacy Volunteer, and the unwavering support of SMAid International, Gloria's path began to change.

With training provided by the SMAid team through the Enough Project, and a seed of financial support, Gloria embarked on a transformative journey. She chose to invest in herself, turning her passion and skills into tangible opportunities. From soap making to liquid soap and kenkey production, Gloria embraced entrepreneurship with vigor and determination.

The results were nothing short of remarkable. Today, Gloria stands tall as a beacon of hope and resilience. Through her hard work and dedication, she has not only secured economic independence but has also broken the chains of abuse and oppression. No longer bound by the chains of her past, Gloria now proudly pays her own rent and ensures her children's education without relying on her husband. Her journey is a testament to the transformative power of empowerment.

As Gloria herself reflects, *"It has totally changed my life. I can now pay my rent, pay my kids' school fees, and I am very grateful, thanks to the Enough! Project."*

(Enough Output 2.3.1 'Income generating activities supports women's empowerment')

LIBERIA: Mattie's story - economic empowerment and gender equality goes hand in hand

Through the work on Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), the Enough project has demonstrated the profound impact of economic empowerment and community support in combating gender-based violence and promoting gender equality. By equipping women with the skills and resources to achieve financial independence, the project has fostered a culture of respect, dignity, and shared decision-making, paving the way for a brighter, more equitable future for women in Rivercess County.

Mattie Conway, a member of a VSLA in James Town, exemplifies the transformative impact of the Enough project.

Since I joined this project supported by FCI, my life has been transformed. I have access to information and sustainable livelihood through the Village Savings and Loan Association established by FCI in 2020. This has enabled me to start my own business selling palm oil, and I have even been able to hire people to help on my farm. I have gained more respect from my husband and the community. My husband now consults me when making decisions, and I actively contribute to our household."

This shows that VSLAs are a powerful tool for fostering financial independence and leadership among women. These associations not only provide economic benefits but also create a support system where women can discuss and address pressing issues like gender-based violence. The collective strength of the associations empowers women to report incidents of violence and take active roles in their communities.



Photo: Meeting in the VSLA

MALI: “I have the right to say NO to child Marriage!”

In the municipality of Temera, Mali, a 14-year-old girl faced the threat of child marriage at the hands of her parents. Fueled by courage, she fled to Bourem and sought help from one of the partners of the Enough! Project, Annoura.

Upon hearing her plight, Annoura extended a supporting hand, providing the girl with much-needed psychological support and guidance. Acting as a mediator, the organization facilitated dialogues between the girl and her parents, shedding light on the detrimental impacts of early marriage on her well-being and future.

Through patient conversations and counseling sessions, the parents gradually understood the gravity of their decision. With newfound awareness, they made the courageous choice to renounce the marriage, vowing to wait until their daughter reaches adulthood before considering such a life-altering decision.

Thanks to the intervention of the Enough! Project and the determination of a young girl to defy societal norms, a potential child marriage was averted, paving the way for a brighter, more promising future for her. This success story stands as a testament to the power of advocacy, sensitization and collective action in protecting the rights and dignity of young girls everywhere.

(Enough Output 1.4.1 ‘Gender sensitive justice and conflict counselling supported’)



GHANA: Cadwel Nsoh – a Male Advocate for Gender Equality

Meet Cadwel Nsoh, a 42-year-old champion dedicated to preventing Violence Against Women and Girls (VAW) from Atiyorum of the Upper East Region. Trained by the Enough partner RISE-Ghana as a Legal Literacy Volunteer and Male Champion, Mr. Nsoh actively challenges gender norms through sensitization, advocacy, mediation, and referral.

His training has equipped him with expertise in sexual and gender-based violence, counseling, mediation skills, and interpersonal communication with survivors. Through a series of workshops organized by RISE-Ghana, Cadwel champions positive masculinity and strives to create a safer, more equitable community for all.

A 16 years old adolescent girl in Cadwell's community tells how he has positively impacted her life:

"When I turned 14 years and my parents began talking to me that I was of age and should consider being a woman, I was afraid that I will be taken out of school and married off as happened to many of the girls in and around this community. Through the LLVs club activity, I contacted Mr. Nsoh. I don't know what he told my parents, but they have taken renewed and keen interest in me - making it possible for me to remain in school."

(Enough Outcome 2.1 'Men and boys challenge negative masculinity that reinforces/normalizes violence against women and girls')



LIBERIA: Janet's Journey towards financial independence

In the heart of Jamestown, Rivercess County Liberia, Janet's story embodies the transformative power of economic empowerment. As a member of the Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA), Janet has embraced a journey of financial independence and entrepreneurship.

The VSLA serves as a catalyst for change, enabling Janet to save money and realize her dream of opening a gasoline business. Today, as she stands proudly in front of her shop, Janet's entrepreneurial spirit shines bright. Her business not only generates profit but also fills a vital need in her community, providing motorbikes and passing vehicles with convenient access to fuel.



Janet's success is not just about entrepreneurship; it's about breaking barriers and challenging gender norms. As the first woman to sell gasoline in Jamestown, she paves the way for other women to pursue their dreams and claim their rightful place in the economic landscape. Her journey is a testament to the transformative impact of economic empowerment. As she continues to thrive and inspire others, she embodies the resilience, determination, and limitless potential of women everywhere.

(Enough Outcome 2.3 'Local women's groups initiate and conduct income-generating activities for the empowerment of their members to combat SGBV')

MALI: Overcoming trauma and changing social norms

In Bougoufié, Gao, a couple's life was upended by a traumatic incident, where jihadists subjected the woman to sexual violence in front of her husband. This event initially drove a wedge between them, with the husband struggling to come to terms with the assault and wanting to leave his wife.

Participation in awareness raising organized through the Enough project marked the beginning of their recovery. Here, they learned about the dynamics of sexual and gender-based violence, of prevention strategies, and, crucially, of the importance of psychological support. This education was transformative, as it helped the husband in understanding the situation and the path to healing.

Guided by professional psychological advice, the couple has since reconciled, achieving a state of harmony. Highlighting the invaluable role of psychological care in overcoming trauma and rebuilding relationships, the husband notes, *"With the advice of the psychologist, things started to improve. Today, I'm still in a relationship with my wife, we live together in harmony, and I can't imagine ever having to face a situation that could lead to misunderstandings"*.

Their experience illustrates the power of focused support and education in healing and maintaining relationships after trauma, emphasizing the need for compassion and understanding in the face of adversity.

GHANA: From Tradition to Justice - Transforming SGBV Handling in Kperisi

In October 2022, Mohammed Salifu, an SGBV Champion hailing from Kperisi in the Wa Municipal, shared a promising development: *“Through the implementation of RUWA-GHANA through the Enough Project, significant shifts have occurred in the handling of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases in the community of Kperisi”*, Mohammed said.

Previously, community members resorted to amicable settlements at the chief's palace for SGBV cases like rape, defilement, and early marriage. However, Mohammed noted a notable change - SGBV cases are now being addressed through legal channels rather than traditional means.

Gone are the days when perpetrators could escape justice with minor penalties like offering two goats and two hens for defilement or farming for the chief for a week in cases of rape. Thanks to the intervention of the EU Enough! Project through RUWA-GHANA's capacity-building workshops for SGBV Champions, cases of rape and defilement are now reported to law enforcement agencies. And CSOs and communities are equipped to monitor and evaluate violence against women and girls' including developing community action plans and implement advocacy actions.

This transformative shift signifies a departure from outdated customs towards a system that upholds the rights and dignity of survivors. By empowering SGBV Champions and promoting adherence to legal frameworks, the community of Kperisi is taking a decisive step towards justice, accountability, and the protection of vulnerable individuals. This success story exemplifies the profound impact of grassroots initiatives and collective action in combating SGBV and fostering a culture of respect and equality.

(Enough outcome 1.1 'CSOs and communities are equipped to monitor and evaluate violence against women and girls' including developing community action plans and implement advocacy actions')

GHANA: Men Leading the Change - Fighting SGBV Through Male Champions

Enough partners Glowa, in collaboration with implementing partners ARDO & YUWM, took a groundbreaking approach to combat sexual and gender-based violence by engaging men and boys as allies in the fight.

In Aboman community, a group of men, supported by trained Legal Literacy Volunteers, has emerged as vigilant "watchdogs" committed to identifying and reporting instances of violence - particularly 'woman beating,' which once plagued their community.

Meanwhile, in Danfa community, a coalition of men, comprising of traditional authorities, religious leaders, and unit committee members, has taken up the mantle of responsibility. They actively identify and report cases of SGBV through proper channels, advocate for justice, and conduct sensitization campaigns among their peers.

These transformative initiatives, signify a paradigm shift in addressing SGBV. By mobilizing male allies and fostering a culture of accountability and respect, communities are taking decisive steps towards eradicating violence and promoting gender equality.

These men exemplify the essence of feminism, demonstrating that true progress in the fight against SGBV requires the active involvement and commitment of men and boys as advocates for change. Through their collective efforts, they are reshaping community norms and paving the way for a safer, more equitable future for all.

(Enough Outcome 1.1 'CSOs and communities are equipped to monitor and evaluate violence against women and girls' including developing community action plans and implement advocacy actions')

LIBERIA: Gender equality is good for everybody – Musa's story

In many parts of Liberia, traditional beliefs dictate that house chores are solely the responsibility of women, while men are expected to be the breadwinners. Musa Wrojay, from Gbengbar Town, strongly adhered to these beliefs. He refused to help with house chores, believing it was solely his wife's duty, even when she was busy with her market business.

When the Enough partner Girls for Change did an awareness program to promote the understanding of the impact of harmful gender norms, Musa joined. The training sessions encouraged men to share household responsibilities and support their wives in all aspects of home life. And Musa's mindset began to change. He started helping his wife and sharing what he learned with her.



Musa recalls that this shift not only improved their relationship but also created a more supportive home environment for all family members: *"Before the training, I believed my wife had to do all the house chores. But after attending the workshops, I realized that responsibilities should be shared. Now, I help with laundry and cooking. My wife is happier, and our home is more harmonious."*

Musa is now often seen cooking, washing clothes, and doing other house chores while his wife is away at the market. He is also mobilizing other men in the community, sharing his experience with them while in the same encouraging them to follow suit. His story shows that challenging harmful gender norms and promoting gender equality benefits everyone. By fostering understanding and encouraging shared responsibilities, the Enough project has contributed to creating a more supportive and equitable community in Gbengbar Town, paving the way for lasting change in Liberia.

MALI: Fighting economic violence – also a part of GBV

Ms. Bréima Sidibe, from the Tilé Coura Association, shares a story of advocacy and justice:

"In the Sebéninkoro district of Bamako, there was a young housekeeper who had worked for over 15 months without receiving any pay from her employer. Despite her boss's claims of intending to pay her, there was no concrete commitment from his side, and she did not receive any payment for her work. When I learned about her situation, I brought the matter to the Tilé Coura Association. Through our concerted efforts, we successfully won the case, and the girl received her 15 months' back pay."

This success story highlights the impact of community support and the importance of standing up for the rights of vulnerable individuals.



Picture: Mme. Sidibe (in pink) with members of the Zeina Association

GHANA: Breaking Cultural Norms - Richmond's Journey of Change

15 years old Richmond Awintanga attends the Balungu basic school – the Junior High School. Richard and his three younger sisters live with their mother Mbobilla Awintangawho is a widow, since their father died in 2018. The sole breadwinner of the family, Mbobilla needed to find paid work, however, she found herself unable to travel or engage in paid work because her oldest child Richmond ‘is a boy and could not cook’. Mbobilla then noticed that Richmond became very keen on learning how to cook. He would always join her in the kitchen and ask many questions. And then, in no time, Richmond learned how to cook. Mbobilla says that she is now able to even travel to Tamale and Kumasi to engage in paid work to support her family, because she knows that Richmond can cook for his siblings under the supervision of extended family members.

Richmond says, *“In the 5th grade, I joined the school club that was formed in my school though Rise Ghana, under the Enough Project. We learned many things. We also learned about unpaid care work and the importance of participating in it. I decided to learn how to cook from my mother. So, any time I saw her cooking, I joined her. By the time I was in the 6th grade, I could cook. Now I cook most of the time. When my mother travels, I do the cooking and my aunty supervises me. I actually enjoy it very much, and I am happy that I now know how to cook.”*

(Enough outcome 2.1 ‘Men and boys challenge negative masculinity that reinforces and normalizes the use of violence against women and girls’)



GHANA: Empowered Women, Transformed Communities - The Bongo Beo Story

The Bongo Beo women's group, formed in 2019, comprises of 25 women. The group was trained by Legal Literacy Volunteers on gender-based violence and supported to operate a savings and loans scheme and process Shea butter for income.

In July 2022, the Bongo Beo group participated in a 3-days transformative leadership training for women's rights (TLWR) where they learned that as women, they have the power to spearhead the developmental needs of themselves and their communities.

Based on this, the group identified a number of needs they intended to work towards. The first on their list was accessing water for the Moore Dapoore primary school. They had observed keenly that pupils of the school spent a lot of time in search of water during school sessions. Teachers and parents alike, on many occasions, found themselves stopping fights among pupils. The cause of these fights involved accessing drinking water.

The meeting space of the Bongo Beo women's group is directly opposite the Moore Dapoore primary school. Hence, the women get to see all that happens in the school. The group, therefore, held a meeting with the headteacher of the Moore Dapoore primary school to find a solution to the water crisis. They proceeded to visit several state and non-state organizations that could support them in drilling a borehole.

Drilling for hope, a non-profit organization finally drilled a borehole for them in September 2022. This has brought some sanity to the school and relief to the women. In addition to the borehole, they also gave the women 10 female goats.

(Enough Output 1.3.1 'Women and girls have been trained to take leadership and promote gender justice')

LIBERIA: Strengthened justice thanks to improved community engagement and collaboration

In Liberia, gender-based violence (GBV) remains a pervasive issue. In 2019-2020, many reported cases saw perpetrators evade justice due to community protection and a lack of coordinated support for survivors. Survivors often did not receive the necessary assistance, partly due to gaps in coordination among the stakeholders responsible for providing these services.

To tackle these challenges, FCI, under the Enough project, collaborated with the Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection to strengthen the Rivercess county GBV Taskforce. This included logistical support, facilitating meetings, and the creation of a WhatsApp group as an effective tool to improve information sharing, coordination and strengthened accountability. Additionally, door-to-door awareness campaigns highlighted the dangers of not reporting violence, particularly rape.

During regular, monthly meetings the GBV Taskforce saw increased attendance, growing from 6 to 30 participants, and an evident willingness of the Taskforce members to collaborate and provide adequate services. This has resulted in more effective responses to GBV cases, with perpetrators now being arrested and prosecuted more frequently than in the past, and improved service provision for survivors.

In short, the strengthened GBV Taskforce in Rivercess county is now better equipped to support survivors and ensure justice, thus making a profound impact on the community's fight against GBV. This success story from the Enough project shows that with improved coordination and community engagement, significant progress can be made in addressing GBV.



MALI: From taboo to openness - changing social norms on sex

In Sébéninkoro, a community traditionally bound by conservative values, significant strides have been made towards breaking the silence on topics of sexual and gender-based violence, thanks to the training provided by the Association Tilé Coura through the Enough project. One of the participants, Ms. Mamou Keita highlights the transformative impact of these educational initiatives:

“The term sex was considered taboo and talking about sex was a matter of the imagination, especially between parents and children. But nowadays that's a thing of the recent past “.

Mamou explains that these capacity-building initiatives have changed attitudes and enabled traditional chiefs to run awareness-raising sessions to continue to influence behavior and change social norm sand set up watchdog committees to prevent and report on gender-based violence.

Mamou's account underscores the effectiveness of capacity-building sessions in facilitating a significant cultural shift within Sébéninkoro, demonstrating the potential of education in promoting societal change. The call for the continuation of these programs reflects a community-wide recognition of their value and the desire for ongoing progress in addressing and preventing GBV.

Picture: Mamou Keita giving her statement to the evaluator



GHANA: Ellen White's Empowering Journey

Ellen White, a dedicated school teacher, feminist, and Girls Child Coordinator based in the Techiman Municipal Education Directorate, embarked on a transformative journey through the Enough project. She was trained by the Enough partner AWLA as a Court User Committee lead, and gained extensive knowledge and experience in addressing SGBV issues and promoting pro-gender advocacy within her community.

As a Girls Child Coordinator, Ellen became a driving force behind initiatives aimed at empowering young girls and creating a safe environment for their education and development. She was able to engage with 140 schools, and she successfully started 78 girls' clubs where issues of child protection and SGBV are discussed.

Ellen's impact extended beyond the Enough project, as she actively participated in menstrual hygiene and school-related gender-based violence projects initiated by reputable organizations such as UNFPA, UNICEF, PPAG, and other partners. Her dedication to these causes showcased her commitment to fostering a society where every individual, regardless of gender, can thrive and reach their full potential.

What makes Ellen's success story truly remarkable is the anonymous nomination by members of her community and beneficiaries of her impact. Ellen won a national recognition as an impact maker. Her recognition stands as a testament to her unwavering commitment to gender equality and advocacy against sexual and gender-based violence.



(Enough Output 1.3.1 'Women and girls have been trained to take leadership and promote gender justice')

GHANA: Women taking on political leadership positions

A key concern noticed during GLOWA's engagements with women in the La Nkwantanang Madina and Kpone Katamanso Municipalities as part of the activities for the ENOUGH PROJECT was the lack of interest in leadership and governance processes at the local level.

In quest to raise the hopes of the women to appreciate and participate in the local governance (leadership and decision-making) processes in their communities and municipalities, three members of the women groups formed under the GLOWA-EU-Enough project participated and obtained victory in the 2023 District Level Elections in December as Unit Committee members.

It all started when these women who joined their community Oxfam-GLOWA established women groups, had received regular monthly trainings on “women in leadership and decision-making processes, and entrepreneurship skills” and got empowered to contest in the 2023 District Level Elections.

On 19th December, 2023, Ms. Lovinia Seyanu, Mrs. Mercy Adoteima and Mrs Henrietta Akoto were elected as Unit Committee Members for the Hebron, Danfa and Tein electoral areas respectively. They now have the opportunity to participate in decision making at the local level and appreciate the governance processes in their Municipalities.

(Enough Outcome 1.3 'Women and girls actively participate in policy reforms and decision- making processes')

LIBERIA: Emmanuel's journey - from traditional patriarch to supporting husband

In Liberia, it is culturally ingrained that men are the heads of households and the sole decision-makers. This belief often leads to the marginalization of women and limits their ability to contribute economically. In Gbengbar Town, Montserrado County, Emmanuel Ajayi epitomized this mindset. Even after an injury left him unable to work, he resisted his wife's efforts to support their family through her business, fearing it would undermine his authority and lead to disrespect.

However, when Emmanuel joined the workshops and awareness programs of Girls for Change, an Enough partner, to engage men and boys in the fight against gender-based violence, his transformation was profound. After the training, exploring gender and identity, power and relationships, and the significance of challenging harmful norms, Emmanuel became a supportive husband. He began encouraging his wife to pursue her business plans and today, they live harmoniously together, with Emmanuel's wife successfully running a small orange business that supports their family.

Emmanuel's journey from resistance to support showcases the power of education and community engagement in challenging entrenched gender norms. By understanding the impact of harmful beliefs, he not only improved his family's economic situation but also set a positive example for others in his community.

This story is also an example of the eagerness of men and boys to engage in discussions about gender norms when given the opportunity and appropriate guidance. The commitment from participants to challenge and transform these norms indicates the potential for lasting change in the community.



MALI: Testimonial of a SGBV survivor – getting my life back

A survivor of SGBV from a small village near the town of Gao, living in the neighborhood of internally displaced people, tells her story:

“I was a survivor of GBV that I don't want to describe. However, with the Enough project, I believe that I was saved from suicide. After the abuse it was impossible for me to go outside the house. I couldn't even meet people, because I was mentally so unwell, and I felt that everything was over for me. But thanks to the project, I learned about the different structures for dealing with cases of gender-based violence - medical, legal, psychosocial and economic. And I went there to get help.

Above all, the psychosocial support helped me to overcome most of the psychological difficulties caused by the trauma and to get out of my state of anxiety and hopelessness and back into society. Today, I'm out of the house every day, I go to the UN Women peace centre, I do awareness-raising activities and I advise a lot of people who are in the same situation as me.”



GHANA: Being the breadwinner through baking bread – Elizabeth's story

The Enough project has supported Mrs. Elizabeth Kpodo, a Legal Literacy Volunteer of Oyibi community, to opening and owning a bakery enabling her to earn a living. She gained these capacities through a training provided by the Enough partner GLOWA to empower women economically in order to reduce high dependency on their husbands for survival.

Mrs. Elizabeth told her story during the end of project monitoring activity. Due to difficulties in getting a job, she had been depending on her husband for everything for almost a year, and this has led to many misunderstandings between them and abuses from him. She then took advantage of GLOWA's activities, she attended the skills training and received the donation of an oven - and this helped her set up her own bakery. Today, she sells cookies, pastries, bread, and other baked goods to take care of herself and her family.

(Enough Outcome 2.3 'Local women's groups initiate and conduct income-generating activities for the empowerment of their members to combat SGBV')

LIBERIA: Justice for Agnes

The Enough project provided critical support to over 450 survivors of gender-based violence in Liberia, enhancing their access to justice and support services. One notable case involved Agnes Brown (not her real name), a 27-year-old woman from Putu District, Zwedru City.

Agnes endured regular beatings and sexual violence from her boyfriend, which led to the loss of her pregnancy. With the intervention of the Enough partner Her Voice Liberia and local authorities, Agnes's case was brought to court, where the perpetrator was found guilty and sentenced. This outcome has fostered trust within the community, especially among women, proving that justice can be achieved.

In many parts of Liberia, including Zwedru City in Grand Gedeh County, sexual and gender-based violence as well as intimate partner violence are prevalent, with many women and girls unable to access justice and protection. Cultural norms often silence victims, who fear the social and financial costs of seeking justice. This environment perpetuates violence and discrimination, leaving survivors without recourse or support.

Agnes's case exemplifies the transformative impact of the project. By providing legal aid and supporting the referral pathway, Her Voice Liberia ensured that Agnes received justice. This success has encouraged other survivors to come forward, knowing that they too can access the support and justice they deserve.

MALI: Building on community structures to empower survivors

“My name is Ms M T and I’m a survivor of gang rape by jihadists. I live in the village of Gounzouroye near the town of Gao. Thanks to good people, I was helped by WILDAF Mali and the Zeina association through the Enough project that worked with traditional and religious leaders to educate them on gender-based violence. I was given advice on my situation – it was mainly of a religious nature because the Imams and religious scholars are quite listened to and respected in our areas. And it gave me strength to move on.”

Ms M T underlines how the Enough project’s strategic use of religious counsel in the support process acknowledges the profound respect held by communities for its scholars and Imams, and this approach significantly contributed to her recovery as well as to the empowerment of others in a similar situation.

Ms M T continues, *“Thanks to the project we women have organized ourselves to create a small association for mutual support and economic empowerment. We all contribute weekly, and we take turns using the funds for our personal activities. We came together to create a framework for social and economic relations and, above all, mutual aid. We don't have a typical job or income-generating activities in the association, but we collaborate with each other”.*

This success story underscores the importance of community-driven support systems in fostering resilience and empowerment among survivors of violence. It highlights the need for continued and expanded support for such initiatives, which not only address immediate needs but also contribute to long-term community development and solidarity.



Picture: A member of the Zeina association on the partners in Enough

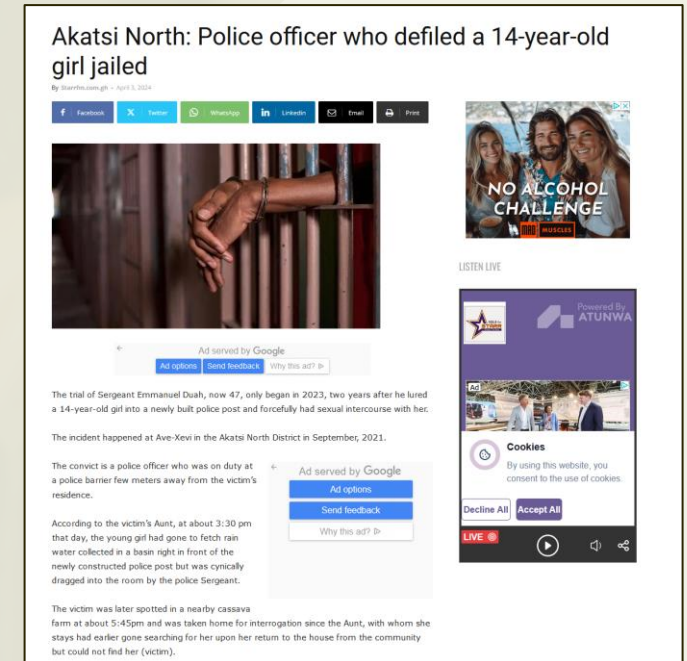
GHANA: Male Champions Advocating in the Media for Survivors' Access to Justice

In the vibrant media landscape of Ghana, two journalists, Faizal Abdul-Iddrisu and Joshua Kodjo Mensah, have emerged as powerful voices for justice. Trained under the Enough project, these journalists have dedicated themselves to advocating for survivors' rights through compelling journalism, utilizing their platforms at the Excellence In Broadcasting (EIB) Network to amplify the stories of GBV survivors and drive meaningful change.

“My duty as a Male Champion is to keep ensuring that the conversation remains alive, and that pressure is maintained on relevant stakeholders to improve the justice system for survivors of gender-based violence”, says Joshua Kodjo Mensah.

The training equipped Faizal and Joshua with the necessary skills to report sensitively and effectively on issues related to violence and justice. They learned about the legal frameworks, the importance of survivor-centric storytelling, and the ethical considerations involved in covering such sensitive topics.

Post training, the reports of Faizal and Joshua have highlighted the systemic barriers faced by survivors in accessing justice, such as bureaucratic delays, stigma, and lack of resources. Their stories have brought national attention to the plight of many who had previously been voiceless, and the impact has been profound. The stories told by Faizal and Joshua have also prompted action from authorities and communities alike. Several cases that they reported on led to direct interventions, where survivors received the necessary support and legal aid to pursue justice.



... (to be continued on next slide)

Link to article: <https://starrfm.com.gh/2024/04/akatsi-north-police-officer-who-defiled-a-14-year-old-girl-jailed/>

GHANA: Male Champions Advocating in the Media for Survivors' Access to Justice

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Their dedication has not gone unnoticed. Faizal and Joshua have been recognized as champions of justice within the media community. Their work has inspired other journalists to adopt similar approaches, creating a ripple effect that continues to benefit survivors across Ghana. The duo's efforts have demonstrated the critical role that media can play in advocating for justice and have solidified their reputations as influential advocates within the EIB Network.

Faizal and Joshua continue to pursue their mission with unwavering commitment. They regularly host segments and write articles that address ongoing issues related to access to justice, follow on cases of rape and defilement till justice is achieved. Most recent of their work on SGBV is the trial of various highly exposed political people and security personnel who abused women and girls.

Through their exemplary work, Faizal Abdul-Iddrisu and Joshua Kodjo Mensah have shown that media, when harnessed with purpose and sensitivity, can be a formidable force for social change. Their journey with the Enough project stands as a testament to the power of informed and compassionate journalism in the fight for justice.

Photo: Joshua Kodjo Mensah facilitating a SGBV arts and film screening event at the EU Ambassador's residence, Accra, Ghana



(Enough Outcome 2.1 'Men and boys challenge negative masculinity that reinforces and normalizes the use of violence against women and girls')