Creating New Programming Models for Non-GBV Specialist Organizations to Support GBV Survivors

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WOMEN FOR WOMEN INTERNATIONAL (WfWI), GWI is implementing a new project titled Putting Survivors at the Center: Creating New Programming Models for Non-GBV Specialist Organizations to Support GBV Survivors. The aim of this project is to develop new programming models that build the capacity of non-gender-based violence (GBV) organizations—which are defined as organizations that do not implement GBV response programs, and who are not specialized in GBV service provision—to receive disclosures from GBV survivors, meet survivors’ basic and immediate needs, and facilitate access between GBV survivors and response services in accordance with best practices and local realities. The project is taking place in three countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Iraq, and South Sudan (SSD).
The project is being implemented over three distinct phases:

**Phase 1**
**SEP 2022 - AUG 2023**
The first phase of the program was heavily research based and included wide-ranging consultative discussions with both global and local stakeholders on issues related to GBV service provision and the barriers preventing survivors from accessing these services across the three program locations (Figure 1). GWI used participatory action research methods (Figure 2) to engage with local stakeholders through three-day workshops held in each country to discuss existing barriers and challenges, and to collectively identify a set of priorities and recommendations that might help to lower and ultimately remove these barriers facing survivors of GBV. Data collected from these workshops was paired with a global literature review of existing guidelines and support documents, as well as with discussions with key stakeholders using the project’s global and local technical advisory groups (TAG).

**Phase 2**
**SEP 2023 - FEB 2025**
Phase 2 will focus on piloting 6 programming models (3 implemented by WfWI and 3 by additional piloting partners—Mercy Corps in Iraq, Réseau d’Innovation Organisationnelle (RIO) in DRC and Agency for Research and Development Initiative (ARDI)).

Formative research findings from phase one of the project laid the foundation for developing the program models to be piloted during phase two. Based on these findings, the team identified three thematic areas that the PSAC program models should address:

1. The improved immediate handling of GBV disclosures,
2. Connecting to and supporting existing GBV specialist services, and
3. Strengthening medium and long-term support to GBV survivors.

Relative to these thematic areas, six program models have emerged that will be piloted during phase two of the project. While not all six program models will be implemented in the three countries, there are several activities that will be a core component to the programs in each of the countries. This includes trainings on how to respond to disclosures of GBV safely and appropriately that occur during an organization’s routine programming.

**Phase 3**
**MAR 2025 - AUG 2025**
PHASE 3 will focus on consolidating learning and sharing out best practices.