

SACN URBAN SAFETY REFERENCE GROUP

IMPACT REPORT

US-EMBASSY SUPPORTED PROGRAMME:
FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS AND PEER-TO-
PEER LEARNING BETWEEN USRG AND ENDGBV

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BACKGROUND CONTEXT

In 2021, the SACN applied for grant funding from the US Embassy APS program to fund a short-term project under the Urban Safety Reference Group (USRG). The project focused on the 'second pandemic', Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in South African Cities. It will be implemented with the NYC ENDGBV office as the funder requires that the SACN partner with a US-based organisation to exchange knowledge.

The project aims to strengthen cultural ties through knowledge exchange between cities in the USA and South Africa, specifically focusing on urban safety and gender-based violence (GBV) as a barrier to the economic empowerment and inclusion of disadvantaged groups, especially women and youth.

The partnership will focus on a series of USRG sessions to share the practices, approaches, systems and lessons learnt from the ENDGBV office with USRG members.



The Objectives of the Session: The project aims to strengthen the capabilities of South African cities to leverage data to understand and combat GBV and to formulate appropriate evidence-based interventions. The aim is for cities to share experiences, exchange, and learn from best practices in data indices, data collection methods, partnerships and evidence-based interventions, specifically the New York City (NYC) ENDGBV within the Mayor's office. The long-term aim is to strengthen learning and exchange between US and South African cities, underpinned by shared values.

Objectives overall

- Gender Mainstreaming and GBV prevention
- Increasing capacity to apply evidence
- Evidence informed decision making

PROJECT BRIEF

Project Title:

Promoting Knowledge sharing to support South African Cities in tackling Gender-Based Violence- South African Cities Learning from New York City's End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) Programme

**Project Priority Area:**

Projects that address women's and youth's economic empowerment include but are not limited to projects that reduce barriers to participation in the economy for disadvantaged groups and combat or prevent gender-based violence.

Location(s) of your project:

The project assisted all of the Metropolitan Municipalities (Cities) in South Africa that form part of the Urban Safety Reference Group[1] (USRG) convened by the South African Cities Network. The South African Cities Network is a Non-profit research, peer-to-peer learning and advocacy organisation in South Africa. Funded by Cities, it aims to promote high-performing and innovative cities that are well-governed, productive, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Sed Violence (ENDGBV) Programme

These include the following Cities:

- eThekweni
- Buffalo City
- Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality
- Mangaung Municipality
- City of Tshwane
- City of Ekurhuleni
- City of Johannesburg

[1] <https://www.sacities.net/usrg/>

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project involved four peer-to-peer learning opportunities, which allowed for knowledge sharing on how Cities can, within their mandates, provide services to GBV survivors, implement key environmental and programmatic interventions for prevention, and mitigate against early risk factors to prevent violence in future generations.

The sessions took place as follows:

1 & 2

14-15 March 2023:

A hybrid session with USRG members in person at the American corner at Victoria Yards and ENDGBV colleagues provided 6 hours of dialogue over the two days.

3

18 May 2023:

2-hour online session with key case studies both from New York City and South Africa (Diepsloot, Johannesburg).

4

31 May 2023

2-hour online session with key case studies from New York City and a closing healing session focused on the care of the carer (City official). The details of the sessions and overall project are included in the report below.

SESSION ONE

PROGRAMME

09:00 Opening and Welcome

09:20 Workshop Context

09:30 Understanding the Gender
Mainstreaming, Gender Transformative
Approaches and GBV context in SA

10:45 Localisation Approach - DWYPD

11:30 Group Activity on understanding
gender mainstreaming, role of Cities in GBV
prevention & support

12:30 Feedback to Plenary

14:00 Reflective walk on thinking through
Gender Mainstreaming and GBV prevention

14:30 Feedback to Knowledge Tree

15:00 Introducing ENDGBV office-
Presentation

16:00 Break out

16:45 Working with parnters in ENDGBV
office

17:30 Reflections of the Day and Closure



GENDER MAINSTREAMING & PREVENTION

UNDERSTANDING THE CONTEXT IN SOUTH AFRICA

ALL VIOLENCE IS GENDERED
VIOLENCE IS ABOUT POWER & INEQUALITY



RESHAPING GENDER DYNAMICS BY REDISTRIBUTING :

- I RESOURCES
- II EXPECTATIONS
- III RESPONSIBILITIES



THE POLITICAL DEALS WITH POWER ITS NOT A STRAIGHT LINE

SPACE IS NOT NEUTRAL



NEED TO DEAL WITH UNDERLYING CAUSES AND SOCIAL STRUCTURES

INTERSECTIONALITY

"WE CANT THINK ABOUT GENDERED INEQUALITY WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT RACIAL INEQUALITY"

OUR CURRENT RESPONSE

WE TEND TO WORK IN SILOS



OUR WORK IS COMPLIANCE DRIVEN- NOT THINKING ABOUT TRANSFORMATION



THOSE MARGINALISED NEED TO BE PART OF THE PLANNING



WE ARE NOT DOING ENOUGH FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS

THE OFFICE AS AN INSTITUTION

HOW DO WE MEET THE NEEDS OF VICTIMS?

WE NEED TO DEAL WITH THE ROOT CAUSES

FUNDING FROM MULTIPLE STREAMS



IDENTIFY PATHWAYS

"RACISM IS IN THE CONSTELLATION OF VIOLENCE - IT IS A LEARNT BEHAVIOUR"

POLITICAL & ADMINISTRATIVE WILL

WORKING WITH PARTNERS FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER



COLLABORATION SERVICE ENHANCEMENT



LOOKING AT PATTERNS IN THE DATA



LANGUAGE ACCESS DOCUMENTATION STATUS MOVING TO HYBRID

FOCUS ON HEALTH CARE & FRONT LINE WORKERS

RELY ON PARTICIPATION FROM VICTIMS

FOCUS ON FORGING TRUST



"WOMEN ARE AN AFTERTHOUGHT WHEN DESIGNING URBAN SPACES"

SESSION TWO

PROGRAMME

09:00 Opening and Welcome

09:20 Reflections from Day 1

09:30 Operationalising gender
transformative approaches in urban and city
spaces

10:45 Group Activity INDAWO

13:45: Stories/Videos/ Violence
prevention initiatives and projects
in SA

14:15: Walk and drawing an
intervention

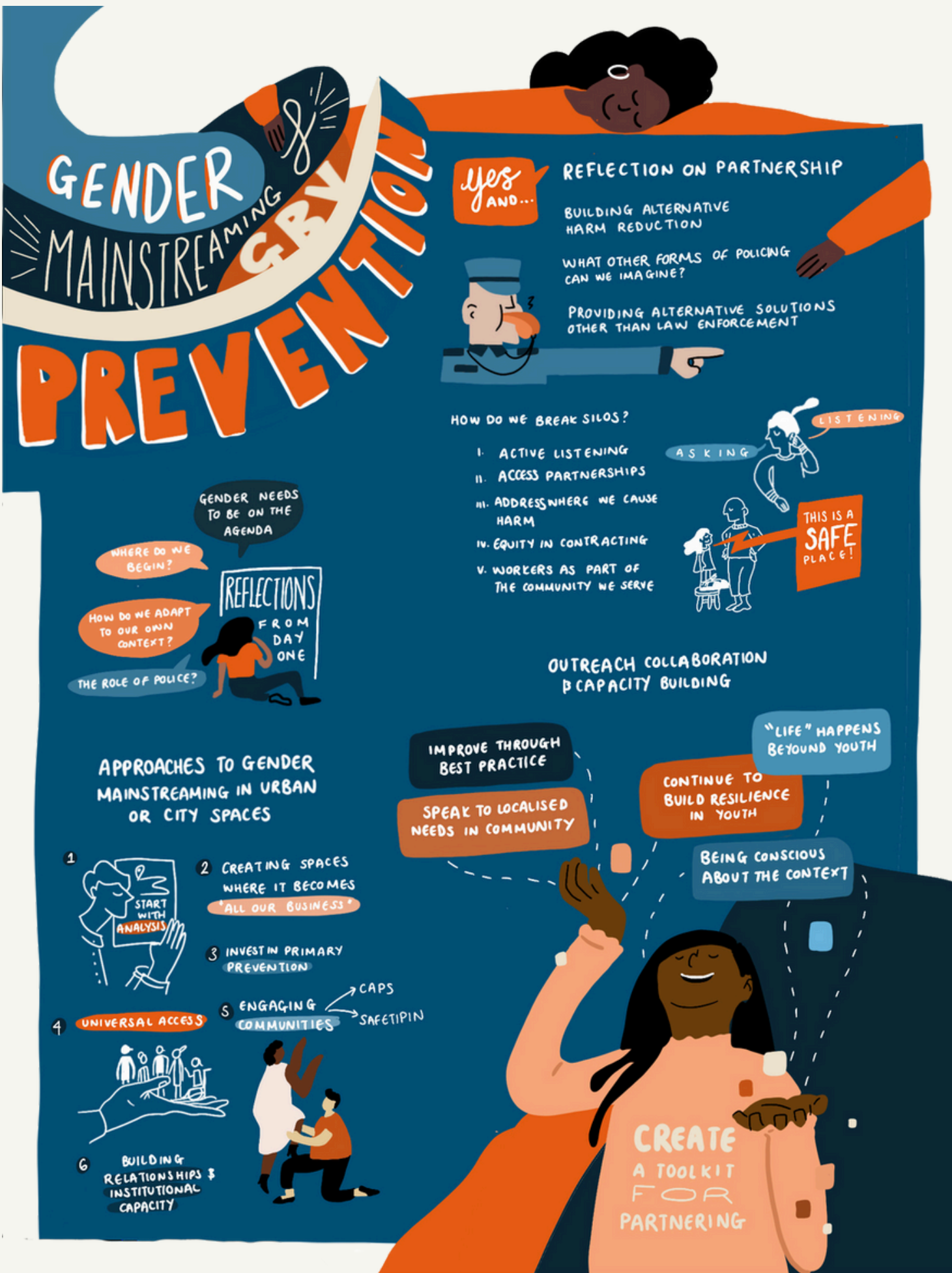
15:00 ENDGBV's Implementation-
Outreach, Collaboration

16:00 Breakout discussion

16:45 ENDGBV measuring impact

17:30 Reflections of the Workshop and
closure





SESSION THREE

PROGRAMME

15:00 Welcome and Introductions

15:05- Community service organisations -
Partnering with the ENDGBV office

15:30 - New York City Parks GBV Prevention
and Art in the Park

16:10 Indlela Yabafazi- Her City Tool Kit

16:35 Paired Reflections

16:45 Knowledge Tree

Confirmation of Next Steps and Closure



GENDER MAINSTREAMING PREVENTION



WORK ACTIVELY WITH ARTISTS

ACTIVELY SELECTING THE SITE FOR ARTWORK INTENTIONALLY

CREATIVE STREAMS OF FUNDING

HONESTY

ALIGNMENT

STRUCTURAL INEQUITIES IN APPLICATION PROCESS

LISTEN TO VOICES OF SURVIVORS & CREATE PROGRAMME ARTICULATED TO THEIR NEEDS



BUILDING CANDID COMMUNICATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOVERNMENT FUNDERS

ART AS URBAN ACUPUNCTURE



NEED FOR ACTIVATED PUBLIC SPACES

WORKING WITH YOUNG GIRLS TO LEAD THE DESIGN PROCESS



PROCUREMENT PROCESSES ACTIVELY DISADVANTAGE MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

WORKING WITH VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY GOT TO THE CORE OF ISSUES

GIRLS WANTED ELEMENTS TO HELP MAKE THEM FEEL SAFE IN JOINT SPACES

MINDCRAFT MAPPING

3D MODEL BUILDING

TACTICAL URBANISM

URBAN DESIGN PROPOSAL



EXCHANGE THAT WENT BOTH WAYS

- * IDENTIFIED FLAWS FOR STRUCTURALLY DISADVANTAGE / MARGINALISED GROUPS
- * WHERE DOES REFORM HAVE TO HAPPEN
- * SHARE WISDOM ALIGNING AS A COMMUNITY
- * DISRUPT COMPETITIVE NATURE OF PROCURMENT PROCESS



SESSION FOUR

PROGRAMME

15:00 Welcome and Introductions

15:05 Presentation of Technology in
survivor and violence prevention

15:40 NYC Department of Transport

16:15 Journalling Reflect, Respect and Rest

16:20 Healing ourselves to conduct healing
work

16:50 Words of appreciation from all for the
partnership





LEARNING OUTCOMES

SESSION 1

- Establishing an ENDGBV office and Family Justice Centre Model Enhancing
- understanding and awareness of models of GBV support and prevention Identifying innovative structures,
- processes and models that responds to GBV Integrate knowledge of maximising resources for GBV support and prevention

SESSION 2

ENDGBV's awareness mechanisms

- Integrating programmatic responses for the prevention of GBV and support through awareness mechanisms
- Providing approaches for support mechanisms for those who do Harm
- Identifying indicators, data collection and reporting systems to access programmatic effectiveness and garner resources

SESSION 3

ENDGBV Intersection and Partnership

- Enhancing knowledge of mechanisms to mainstream gender and GBV prevention across City functions Understanding
- partnership relationships to enhance delivery mechanisms Integrating
- technological innovations into programmatic approaches to GBV

SESSION 4

Lessons for the South African Context

- Presenting current City initiatives for collective thinking and discussions using insights gained from ENDGBV exchange programme Enhancing
- opportunities for more in depth questions and discussion on facets of the ENDGBV office and approach

THOSE WHO ARE
MARGINALISED
NEED TO BE PART OF
THE
PLANNING



PARTNERING WITH DIFFERENT ACTORS

20

Hours of Experimental Learning



WE NEED ACTIVE LISTENING TO BREAK SILOS

"the session was perfect and learnt alot from the US counterparts"

20

City Officials Participated



PROCUREMENT PROCESSES ACTIVELY DISADVANTAGE MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES

"Measuring extent and impact of GBV, advocacy tools"



THERE IS NO "ONE SIZE FITS ALL" APPROACH TO DIGITAL SAFETY

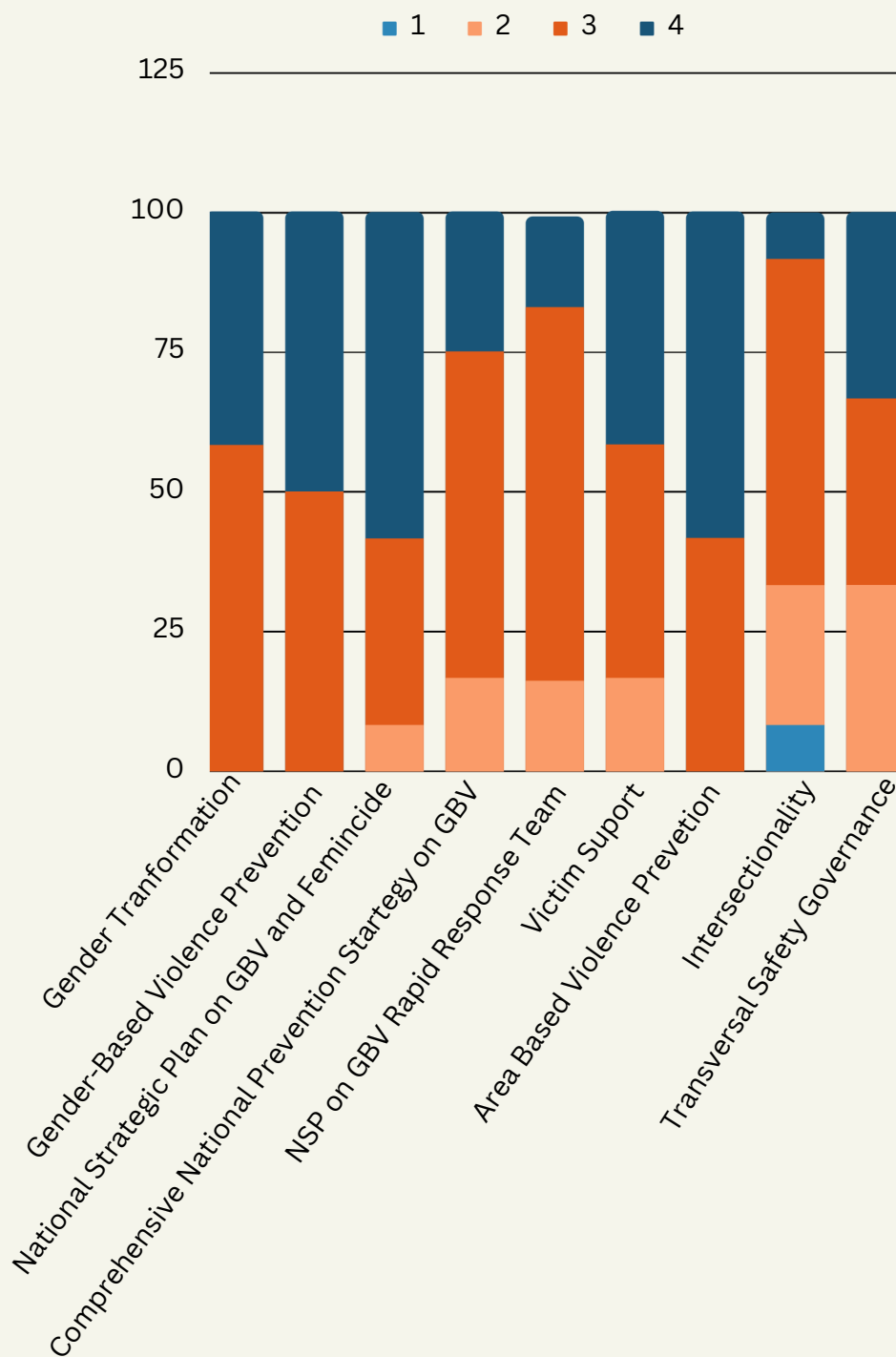
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Africa

Cities Across South

KNOWLEDGE UPTAKE

Participants rated their understanding of the following concepts: 4 is "perfectly understand and can apply the concepts/knowledge in my work", and 1 is "do not understand and cannot apply concepts/knowledge in my work",



PARTICIPANTS

VOICES

Feedback from participants

Sharing information and case studies on dealing with GBV, the challenges faced, and the concepts relating to gender, gender transformation, etc.

I certainly have a more nuanced understanding of what GBV entails, what policy and legislation is out there and how cities can begin to mainstream this thinking and initiative.

WHAT
HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST
TAKEAWAY
FROM THE SESSIONS?

Excellent overview of theoretical concepts with practical examples. It was interesting comparing the resources and challenges experienced by RSA cities and that of NYC.

The INDAWO exercise was a good example in finding ways of addressing various challenges faced in townships. GBV is a major issue in our country and requires more groundwork and collaborations of this nature on a global level. The focus on prevention should not only be on ending GBV but also on addressing causes, which include Human Trafficking.

The area-based violence prevention

Rapid Response Team

we design cities for everyone however we tend to forget the vulnerable and women and children and understanding that the way they use space is not the same as how everyone uses space especially during night time and this poses a risk on their safety

To be the best I can be and more to assist betterment of our society also keeping our streets safe for everyone.

It's important to deal with GBV structurally as an offshoot of historical violence and dispossession. Its daunting but possible.

There needs to be political will to end GBV

USRG SECRETARIAT

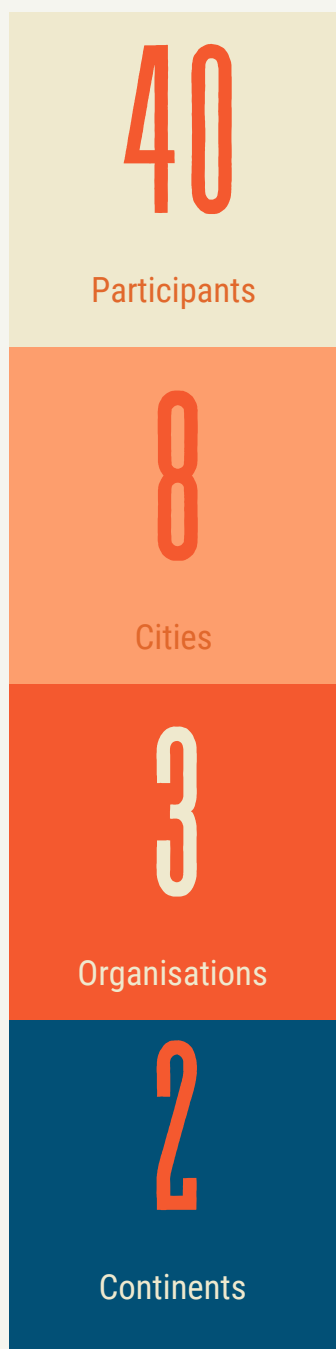


CITY OF NEW YORK CONTRIBUTORS



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CONCLUSION

The partnership between Cities illustrated the commonalities between Cities locally and globally.

It highlighted the enormous efforts to support GBV survivors and prevent future occurrences in South Africa and in the United States of America.

The learning includes shared knowledge, best practices, learning from mistakes, and using innovation in this very challenging GBV survivor and prevention sector.

The sessions emphasised the systems of historical oppression which give rise to unequal power dynamics perpetuated through domestic violence.

It demonstrated that City officials worldwide are resilient, committed, innovative, resource-savvy, and caring individuals.

The shared learnings, which were conducted with empathy, respect and humour, will remain in the minds of all those who participated and will shape the decisions and actions of the officials to prevent GBV and provide the best possible support for GBV victims.

It empowered South African officials to realise what can be achieved at the local level and inspired them to seek support in the face of this global challenge.



WE THANK YOU
FOR ENGAGING AND FOR
CONTRIBUTING