



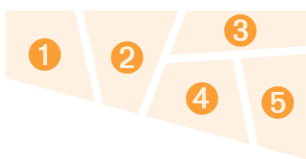
ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Irish
Consortium
on Gender
Based
Violence



Cover Images:



1 CEOs and Leaders of the ICGBV member organisations at the Annual Roundtable in Iveagh House, with Minister Seán Fleming and Irish Aid Director General Michael Gaffey.

2 Community Conversation, Kenya. **Source: Aidlink**

3 Saidhbh Houlihan (Irish Aid), Tom Crowley (Irish Aid), Róisín Gallagher (ICGBV Coordinator), Mary Van Lieshout (ICGBV Co-Chair, GOAL), Brigadier General Rossa Mulcahy (Irish Defence Forces), Lieutenant Commander Caroline Scanlon (Irish Defence Forces), Siobhán Walsh (ICGBV Chair, GOAL).

4 Forty and Chrissy Sakha started a tailoring business after completing the graduation program, and have been experiencing better outcomes at home after finishing the Umodzi course in gender equality. **Source: Concern Worldwide. Credit: Chris Gagnon**

5 President Michael D Higgins, Patron of the ICGBV, Delivers the 2024 Kofi Annan Lecture. **Source: Áras an Uachtaráin**

6 An Imam sharing messaging around GBV at a community gathering in Beledi Village, Shinyanga, Tanzania. **Source: World Vision**

7 Women relating to the gender comic book character in a training on GBV in Mendida, Ethiopia. **Source: Self Help Africa**

8 Halimo Farhan, 22, playing with young girls that she mentors at one of the International Rescue Committee safe spaces for girls within the Hagadera Refugee Camp, Kenya. **Source: Irish Aid. Credit: Esther Sweeney for the International Rescue Committee**

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Siobhán Walsh, ICGBV Chair and CEO of GOAL, and Minister for International Development & Diaspora, Seán Fleming, at the ICGBV's Annual CEO & Leader Roundtable in Iveagh House, Dublin.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

It is a great privilege to again present the Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence's (ICGBV) 2024 Annual Report.

We continue to be inspired by the commitment of our fourteen Consortium members and sister partners in Sierra Leone and Malawi. We are heartened by the synergy of our collective strength in tackling one of the world's largest and growing crisis: gender-based violence.

While this work reports on important and significant progress throughout 2024, it behoves us to consider, and is otherwise impossible to ignore, the seismic impact of the tumultuous cuts to global humanitarian funding commitments earlier this year, with vulnerable women again to be most affected.

The impact of these cuts is nothing short of profound, with GBV being the programming stream of women's rights organisations most severely hit, according to UN Women.¹

In Yemen, nearly 400,000 women and girls are losing access to critical GBV services as a result of cuts to GBV funding globally. In Bangladesh, that figure is closer to 600,000, including many Rohingya refugees. In Sudan, over 4.2 million people are now in need of GBV services, with alarming reports of the widespread weaponising of sexual violence against women and girls, and increasingly men and boys. In times of war and displacement, the need for GBV services only intensifies, as conflict compounds existing vulnerabilities and creates new risks for women and girls. While more war rages than at any time in our lives, far be it from cuts, it is new commitments that are needed.

There is no avoiding how harrowing these last few months have been. In such times, we can only focus on what we can control, and despite

1. A [UN Women survey](#) conducted in March 2025 with 411 women-led and women's rights organisations found that GBV response was the most affected programming area, with 67% of organisations reporting negative impacts.

a worrisome backdrop, we do all we can to recognise and support the initiatives underway to address this global GBV crisis and they are noteworthy of specific mention:

Over the past year in Ukraine, the *Global Survivors Fund* (GSF) launched a groundbreaking pilot project that provided urgent interim reparations to 416 survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Identified as a promising example in the ICGBV's Survivor-Led Accountability research, this initiative marks the first time a government has committed to reparations for such crimes during active conflict, representing a powerful example of what is possible when political will and survivor leadership align.

In March, at the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), governments from around the world strongly condemned all forms of violence against women and girls. The Commission, recognising that without dedicated resources, there is no real progress, urged governments to increase public and private financing, including robust, sustainable, flexible, and multi-year financing for women's organisations and collectives. Our role as advocates, implementers, and collaborators is to make sure that those commitments translate into action.

At CSW68, we launched our policy paper [*Tracking the Money Towards Ending GBV*](#), which calls, presciently, not only for increased investment, but critically, for improved transparency and accountability in how GBV funding is tracked. In the current development and humanitarian funding context, it is more important than ever to have stronger tracking mechanisms and clear, and dedicated budget lines for GBV within funding proposals.

Over the past year, the ICGBV also strengthened its influence and impact through research, policy engagement, and programming on the ground. Of particular note was ICGBV's research, [*From Survivor-Centred to Survivor-Led*](#), the first of its kind to explore survivor leadership in GBV accountability. It argues that a survivor-led approach carries greater transformative potential. We launched this important research during our *16 Days of Activism* event in November, with a panel comprised of representatives from organisations featured in the research. The event saw a doubling of attendance on the previous year and was complemented with articles on survivor leadership in [*The Irish Times*](#) and on [*Relief Web*](#).

Leveraging our experience of bringing women's voices to influence the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda of the UN Security Council, we welcomed the opportunity to participate and submit recommendations to the Working Group responsible for drafting Ireland's Fourth National Action Plan (NAP) on WPS. In addition, we contributed to Ireland's national statement during WPS week at the UN Security Council in October.

Our Consortium members continued to strengthen GBV programming, with significant gains. The Ifrah Foundation, as one example, reached 100,000 pledges to reject Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) from families in the powerful Dear Daughter campaign in Somalia.

As we enter the Consortium's 20th year, we extend our deep appreciation to our members for their ongoing financial commitment, leadership, and courage in sustaining action on what remains a largely silent global crisis. We also want to specifically recognise the leadership of the Irish Government in sustaining the current GBV funding and their commitments to overseas aid more broadly.

There is no avoiding that this has been a hugely difficult chapter across the globe, but we must continue to ensure our voices are tireless in advocating for the prevention, mitigation and response to gender-based violence. This will remain our commitment during GOAL's time as Chair of ICGBV and know it will continue under the next leadership of the Consortium.

Thank you for the privilege of working with this incredible network and thank you for your continued work and support of the very important mission of the ICGBV.

Siobhán Walsh

Chair ICGBV and CEO GOAL



Saidhbh Houlihan (Irish Aid), Tom Crowley (Irish Aid), Róisín Gallagher (ICGBV Coordinator), Mary Van Lieshout (ICGBV Co-Chair, GOAL), Brigadier General Rossa Mulcahy (Irish Defence Forces), Lieutenant Commander Caroline Scanlon (Irish Defence Forces), Siobhán Walsh (ICGBV Chair, GOAL)

CEOs and Leaders of the ICGBV member organisations
at the Annual Roundtable in Iveagh House, with Minister
Seán Fleming and Irish Aid Director General Michael Gaffey.



WHO WE ARE

Background

The Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence (ICGBV) is an alliance of Irish humanitarian and development organisations, Irish Aid, and the Irish Defence Forces. The Consortium was formed to address the high levels of sexual violence being perpetrated against women and girls in Darfur, Sudan, in 2005. Together, we work to increase knowledge and understanding of GBV, amplifying the role, participation, and contributions of grassroots and women's rights organisations. We strive to ensure high quality programming and policy responses across the humanitarian and development contexts in which we work, and to build leadership to support our shared vision of a world free from GBV.

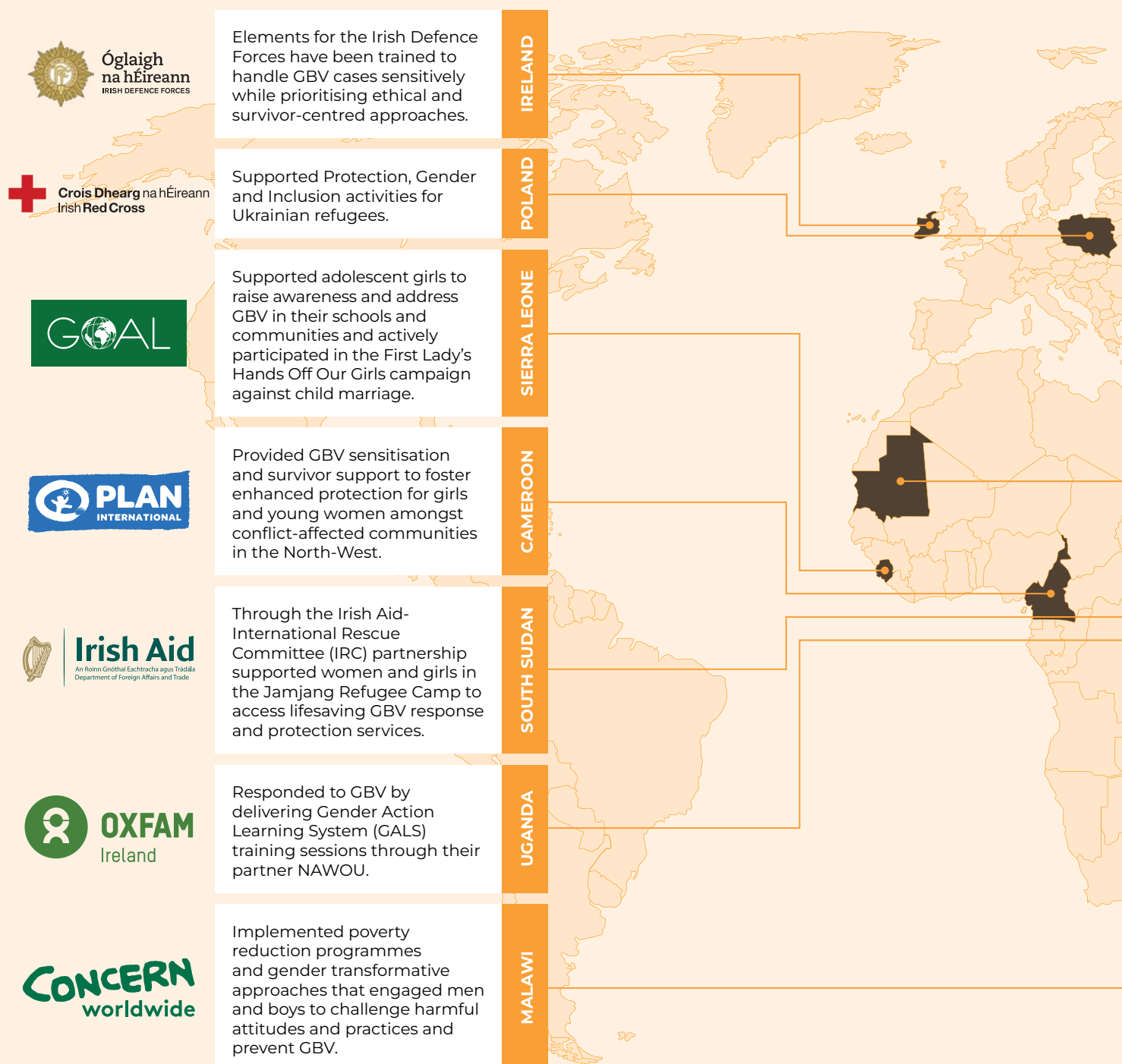
Members

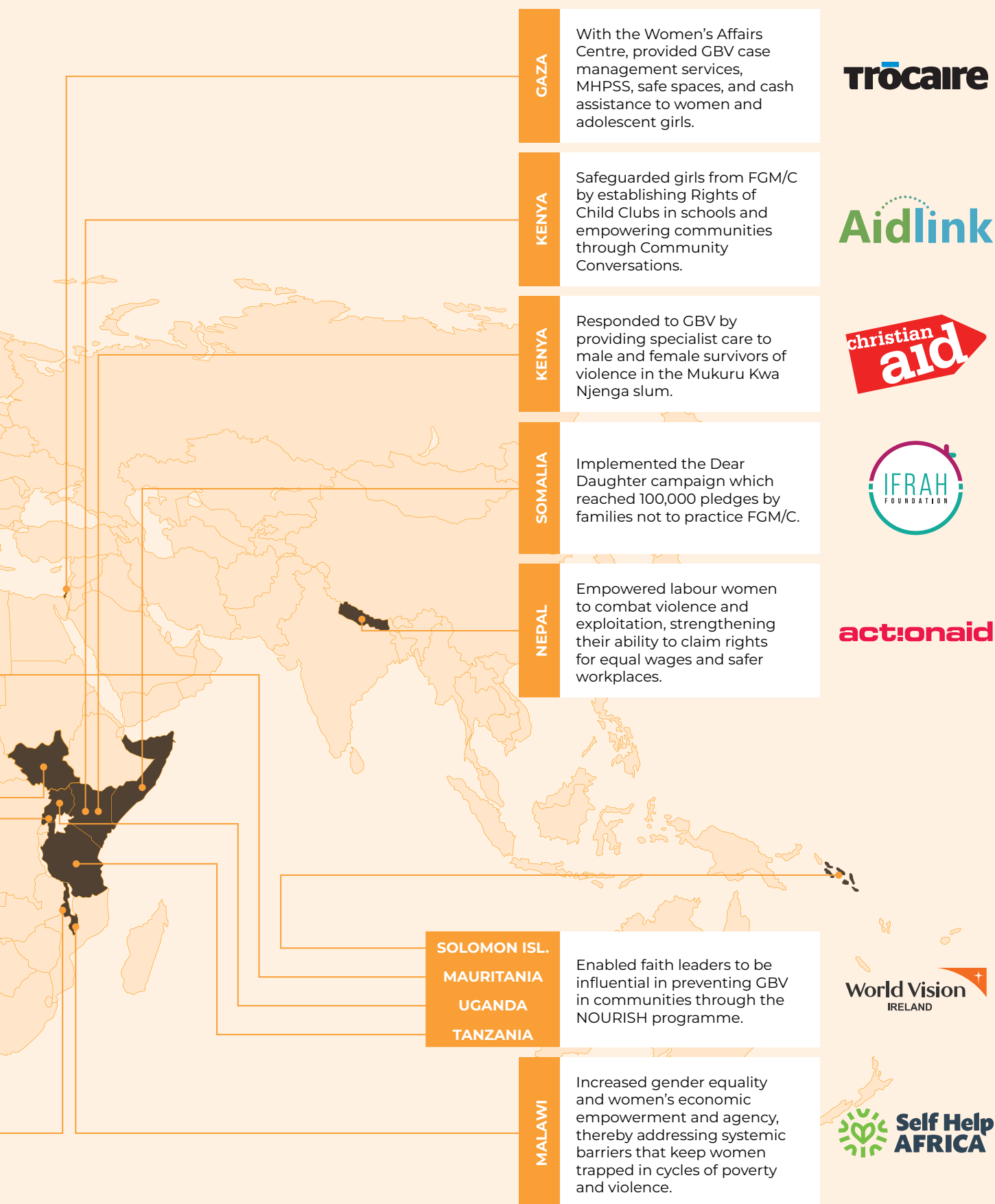
Our member organisations, ActionAid Ireland, Aidlink, Christian Aid Ireland, Concern Worldwide, Irish Defence Forces, GOAL, Ifrah Foundation, Irish Aid (Department of Foreign Affairs), Irish Red Cross, Oxfam Ireland, Plan International Ireland, Self Help Africa, Trócaire, and World Vision, continued to demonstrate their deep commitment to ending GBV throughout 2024. Together, they engaged actively in the governance structures of the Consortium, shared learning to enhance collective capacity, and collaborated on the Consortium's research and advocacy projects.



A Global Snapshot of **Members' Work**

This map offers a brief glimpse into the impactful work carried out by ICGBV members in the fight against GBV. Each example highlights just one aspect of their efforts in a single country in 2024. Across the globe, our members are driving change through a wide range of programmes, partnerships, and advocacy initiatives.





International Consortia

To strengthen in-country collaboration among members, the ICGBV, through members' in-country offices, has supported the establishment of dedicated networks in Sierra Leone and Malawi. These consortia foster shared learning, collective action, and local leadership, enhancing the impact of programming and advocacy on the ground.

The [Malawi Irish Consortium on GBV \(MICGBV\)](#), chaired by Concern, was founded in 2014. The MICGBV brings together ActionAid, Concern Worldwide, GOAL, Oxfam, Irish Aid, Irish Rule of Law, Trócaire, and Self Help Africa, with UN Women as a key collaborator.

The Irish Working Group on Gender Based Violence in Sierra Leone (IWGGBV-SL), chaired by Trócaire, was formed in 2016. The IWGGBV-SL includes ActionAid, ChildFund International, Christian Aid, Concern Worldwide, the Embassy of Ireland in Sierra Leone, the Forum Against Harmful Practices (FAHP), GOAL, the International Rescue Committee, Plan International, Purposeful, Rainbo Initiative, SEND-SL, Trócaire, UNFPA, UN Women, and World Vision.

CEO and Leader Roundtable

The annual CEO and Leader Roundtable brings the leadership of all members together to re-pledge their commitment to working on GBV in the presence of the Minister for International Development and Diaspora, ensuring accountability at the highest level. It remains a cornerstone of the ICGBV's approach, fostering collective responsibility and sustained action to end GBV.

On February 20, 2024, CEOs and senior leaders from across the ICGBV gathered at the Department of Foreign Affairs for the annual roundtable. Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the Consortium's Strategic Plan (2021–2026).

A key theme of the discussion was the importance of amplifying the voices of those affected by GBV and supporting women-led, women-centred, grassroots organisations. Leaders also emphasised the need for survivor-centred, inclusive approaches amidst the increasing backlash against gender equality.

CEOs and Leaders of the ICGBV member organisations at the Annual Roundtable in Iveagh House, with Minister Seán Fleming and Irish Aid Director General Michael Gaffey.

Key highlights of progress across the three strategic pillars of Prevention, Mitigation, and Response were shared through a [video](#) followed by a presentation outlining key priorities for the coming year.

Closing the Roundtable, Minister of State Seán Fleming expressed his appreciation for the progress made by the Consortium. Having witnessed programmes addressing early marriage and school-related GBV on his visit to Uganda, he underlined the importance of continued collaboration and education.

Reflecting the urgency of the issue, ICGBV Chair Siobhán Walsh, CEO of GOAL Global, called for an increase in funding to address GBV globally, noting that “given the global crisis of gender-based violence, the ICGBV advocates for an increase in funding allocated to tackle GBV. We have to turn the tide on this crisis, and to do this, we need to ask governments to sustain and increase their support.”



Róisín Gallagher (ICGBV Coordinator), Jackie O'Halloran (Department of Foreign Affairs), Mary Van Lieshout (ICGBV Co-Chair, GOAL), Margaret Martin (National Women's Council of Ireland), and Jane Ann Duffy (Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration & Youth).

WHAT WE DO

Strategic **Priorities**

The ICGBV's [Strategic Plan \(2021–2026\)](#) identifies three key priorities, each advancing our vision of a world free from GBV:

1. **Promote GBV prevention** programming and gender equality as a fundamental component of ending GBV
2. **Advance GBV risk mitigation** within humanitarian and development work
3. **Strengthen the response to GBV** in humanitarian and development contexts



Strategic Priority 1: **Prevention**

Prevention involves advancing gender equality and transforming the power imbalances and harmful norms that perpetuate violence. This requires addressing the unequal social and gender norms that discriminate against women, girls and people with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression.

In 2024, the Consortium emphasised the urgent need for increased financing to end GBV. While recognising that financing is essential across all aspects of GBV prevention, mitigation, and response, the ICGBV maintains that GBV prevention in particular demands long-term commitment and investment, as it seeks to change inter-generational attitudes and behaviours across all levels of society, through gender transformative approaches.

Tracking the Money Towards Ending GBV: Advocacy from CSW and Beyond

At the 68th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), the Consortium launched its policy paper, [Tracking the Money Towards Ending GBV](#), at an extremely well-attended side event co-hosted with the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and the OECD. Authored by research consultant, Elizabeth Dettori, and presented by ICGBV Coordinator, Róisín Gallagher, the research highlighted persistent global funding gaps, particularly to women-led and women-centred grassroots organisations, and provided recommendations for improving the GBV financing architecture.

In addition to the paper launch, the Consortium contributed to the CSW68 Agreed Conclusions, ensuring the inclusion of economic violence for the first time and calling for increased, flexible, and sustainable funding to address GBV worldwide.

The ICGBV continued to build on this momentum throughout the year, promoting the paper's recommendations at the Department of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Committee and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) Beijing+30 Consultation. Members also amplified the call for increased financing, with GOAL and Christian Aid advocating with global actors including the United Nations Peace Building Fund (UNPBF), EU institutions, Alliance of Churches Together (ACT) EU, and US-based bodies, as well as in Ireland through the Dóchas² pre-budget submission and the Department of Foreign Affairs' (DFA's) 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) event.

GBV Financing Webinar

In October, the ICGBV hosted a public webinar to deepen engagement with its finance research paper, [*Tracking the Money Towards Ending Gender-Based Violence*](#). Attended by 80 participants from diverse regions and sectors, the webinar shared key findings from the paper and explored how to use financial tracking tools to support advocacy for increased GBV funding.

The session included practical tutorials on using the [*OECD Creditor Reporting System \(CRS\)*](#) and the [*OCHA Financial Tracking Service \(FTS\)*](#) to equip participants with tools to better understand and monitor GBV-related financial flows. It also outlined potential strategies for mobilising additional resources to address funding gaps.

All session materials, including slides, tutorials, a resource guide, and the webinar recording, were [*made available online*](#) to support continued learning and broader access.

This webinar marked an important step in ICGBV's efforts to extend the impact of its research beyond its membership base. By creating accessible, practical resources and engaging a wider audience, the Consortium is contributing to a growing global conversation on the need for sustainable, flexible, and increased financing to end GBV.

2. The association of Irish non-governmental development organisations.

Strategic Priority 2: **Mitigation**

Mitigation focuses on identifying and reducing GBV risks across humanitarian, development, and peace support contexts. It ensures responses uphold safety, dignity, and accountability, and do not cause unintended harm. Effective mitigation requires integrating risk reduction into policy and programming, alongside ongoing learning and collaboration.

In 2024, the Consortium advanced WPS priorities as a key avenue for embedding GBV risk mitigation in peacebuilding and humanitarian action.

WPS NAP and UNSC Engagement

Throughout 2024, the ICGBV was a key supporter to Ireland in advancing the WPS agenda. The Consortium contributed to Ireland's official statement to the UN Security Council (UNSC) during WPS Week in October, emphasising the need for genuine and meaningful approach to localisation, by way of supporting grassroots women's organisations and reducing institutional donor barriers. Further recommendations included a goal of 1% of funding to reach women's organisations, as a stipulation for Multi Partner Funds administered by UN agencies, by way of multi-year, unrestricted funding. The ICGBV highlighted the importance of women's inclusion at all levels of peace processes, addressing intersecting forms of discrimination, and the critical role of women in conflict prevention and sustainable peace. Also highlighted was the need for higher commitments in funding allocations to women-led organisations and the recognition of faith actors' role in advancing women's participation, inclusion and protection.

As the only external organisation invited onto the Oversight Group's Subcommittee drafting Ireland's fourth National Action Plan (NAP) on WPS, the ICGBV lobbied for and facilitated an international consultation between its members, the lead consultant, and the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Consortium took part in a series of reviews, ensuring the integration of global insights and recommendations from organisations working with women, girls and people with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and expression in conflict-affected contexts.

Strategic Priority 3: **Response**

The ICGBV's third strategic pillar is Response, focused on strengthening the quality, accessibility, and survivor-centred nature of services for those affected by GBV.

In 2024, the Consortium built on insights from its previous work exploring survivor-centred accountability. Following discussions in 2021, a member workshop and desk research in 2022, and a 16 Days event in 2023, the role and power of survivors emerged as a central theme. The need to further explore and advance survivor-led accountability was identified. In May, we commissioned desk-based research to find evidence of established and emerging good practice in GBV survivor-led accountability initiatives across the Prevention, Mitigation, and Response trajectory. Through ground-breaking research, global events, and internal knowledge exchange, the ICGBV worked to capture GBV responses rooted in dignity, respect, and accountability, where survivors are not just consulted, but actively leading change. Conducted between June and August, the research report concluded that:

“Survivor-led initiatives are both more transformative than and best realised in tandem with survivor-centred approaches. Given the failure to fully recognise survivors’ expertise and the multiple challenges they face leading initiatives, NGOs and other related actors should take on the key, albeit temporary, role accompanying survivors in the progression from survivor-centred to survivor-led initiatives and should be guided by survivors in evaluating survivor-led initiatives.”



Fiona Broderick (Department of Foreign Affairs), Margaret Martin (National Women's Council of Ireland), Mary Van Lieshout (ICGBV Co-Chair, GOAL), Róisín Gallagher (ICGBV Coordinator), Minister for Justice, Helen McEntee.

Survivor-Led Accountability Publication

In November, the ICGBV published, [*From Survivor-Centred to Survivor-Led*](#), desk-based research by consultant Brenda K. Kombo JD, PhD. This is the first publication of its kind to explicitly identify and examine survivor-led accountability practices across humanitarian, development, and peace support settings. It highlights the transformative potential of survivor leadership and offers critical insights on collective healing, advocacy outcomes, and the evolving continuum of survivor engagement. Some key results included:

- The tabling of a bill in the Nepalese Parliament to recognise the right to reparation for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence
- Commitments from G7 leaders to combat child sexual abuse and exploitation
- The establishment of the Colombian Women's Truth and Memory Commission

To mark the launch, ICGBV Co-Chair Mary Van Lieshout published an opinion piece in [*The Irish Times*](#) and on [*ReliefWeb*](#), reaching up to two million readers and amplifying the Consortium's call for a shift toward survivor-led change.

Since its publication, the report has continued to shape and inform the Consortium's work. It has fostered deeper collaboration with survivor-led initiatives featured in the research and was presented at an internal learning event for Christian Aid. It has also been promoted by the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI), the world's largest global network dedicated to research on violence against women, reaching over 11,000 members. The report is also being used by the National Women's Council of Ireland to influence policy in its role as Chair of the National Observatory on Violence Against Women. We encourage you to read the [*full report*](#).

FROM SURVIVOR CENTRED **TO** **SURVIVOR LED:**

Lessons from Promising
Survivor-Led Gender-Based
Violence Accountability Initiatives

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Irish Consortium
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Violence

MOVING
BEYOND
FEAR

16 Days of Activism Against GBV

The ICGBV marked the 2024 global 16 Days of Activism campaign with our highest attended event to date on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. 200 participants from 32 countries attended, double that of 2023, including grassroots organisations, international NGOs, government agencies, and UN bodies.

The webinar opened with an impactful and supportive message from President of Ireland, Michael D. Higgins, Patron of the Consortium, who declared that the transition from survivor-centred to survivor-led seeks *“a profound shift in policy and practice — one that places survivors’ agency at the heart of justice efforts.”*

Moderated by Namukabo Werungah, staff editor and reporter at [The New Humanitarian](#), the panel spotlighted organisations featured in the Consortium’s new report, [From Survivor-Centred to Survivor-Led](#). The discussion explored diverse, global examples of survivor-led accountability. Contributions included the Global Survivors Fund on reparative justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence; Tearfund on survivor-led healing through the A Shared Journey initiative; the Mukwege Foundation on survivor-led networks such as SEMA Ukraine; and The Girl Generation on promoting survivor leadership to end FGM/C.

A recording of the webinar can be [viewed on YouTube](#).

In parallel, the ICGBV led a 16-day online advocacy campaign, combining educational content, a retrospective on the Consortium’s history, spotlights on individual member’s work, and promotion of its newest publication. Reaching over 5,000 people on LinkedIn alone, the campaign strengthened visibility and showcased the Consortium’s collective expertise, in solidarity with the global movement to end GBV.

Internal Learning Event

In May, the ICGBV hosted an internal learning event as part of its ongoing commitment to facilitate knowledge exchange among members. This event served to extend the reach of member-led research while equipping attendees with new evidence to inform their work.

Two member organisations presented recent research, followed by an engaging discussion. Concern shared findings from [their study](#) on

intimate partner violence among women in ultra-poor households in Malawi. The research found that multi-faceted anti-poverty programmes can significantly reduce violence against women, largely by alleviating stress within the household.

Christian Aid presented [their research](#) on GBV against displaced populations in Haiti, highlighting eight intersecting barriers to accountability and justice. These included factors such as the status of the perpetrator and systemic discrimination against sexual and gender minorities. The study offers targeted recommendations for project interventions to address these barriers.

International Consortia

Irish Working Group on Gender Based Violence in Sierra Leone (IWGGBV-SL)

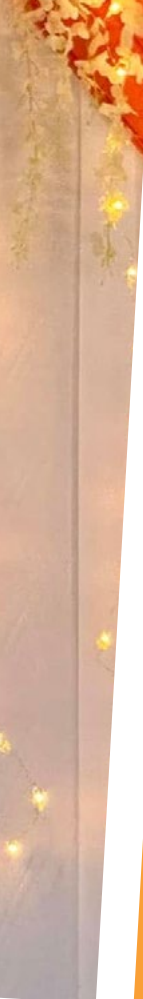
The IWGGBV-SL secured commitments from the Minister of Gender and Children's Affairs and the Deputy Minister of Justice towards ending GBV in Sierra Leone. IWGGBV-SL members (Rainbo Initiative and Social Enterprise and Development, Sierra Leone (SEND-SL)) co-organised a national GBV conference under the theme "United Voices, United Action: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls in Sierra Leone". Held in December, the two-day event provided a powerful platform at which meaningful conversations with key stakeholders and decision makers were held and the IWGGBV-SL policy brief was presented.

The 2023 policy brief on the Sierra Leone Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act of 2019 critically examined the strengths and gaps in the Act's implementation, highlighting challenges across legislative, reporting, investigation, prosecution, conviction, and sentencing processes. It proposed targeted recommendations to improve programme quality, data management, and law enforcement responses in order to strengthen justice outcomes for survivors.

The 2024 16 Days of Activism conference featured keynote remarks from the Vice-President of Sierra Leone, Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh, as well as contributions from the Minister of Gender and Children's Affairs, Isata Mahoi, and the Deputy Minister of Justice, Alpha Sesay. At the event, a significant milestone was reached when the ministers expressed their commitments to ensure that GBV is eradicated or minimised in Sierra Leone.



Felista Chulu (Self Help Africa), Margret Mwale (IRLI), Tiwonge Nyemba (MICGBV Secretariat Coordinator), Tusayiwe Sikwese (ActionAid) and Thandizo Mungwira (Trócaire).



Vice President of Sierra Leone, Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh, speaking at the 16 Days of Activism Conference in Freetown, organised by Rainbo and Send SL.

Malawi Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence (MICGBV)

The **MICGBV** proudly participated in the 2024 Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum held from 21–25 October 2024 in Cape Town, South Africa. The MICGBV was represented by the Secretariat Coordinator and members; ActionAid, Trócaire, Self Help Africa, and Irish Rule of Law International. This was MICGBV's first time attending the leading bi-annual gathering on research and innovation to end GBV.

MICGBV hosted an exhibition stand showcasing members' work. Expanding their reach further, member organisation Trócaire shared its SASA! Faith approach, showing how faith-based engagement can transform social norms around violence. Through active participation in sessions, rich interactions with donors, researchers, and international actors, the Consortium expanded its network, built potential partnerships, and amplified Malawi's voice in the global GBV space.

"The SVRI Forum was not just a conference, it was a space of growth, solidarity, and inspiration. We left feeling deeply encouraged and more connected to the global movement to end GBV," shared one MICGBV member.

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

Steering Committee

Meeting quarterly, the Steering Committee provides leadership, guidance, and oversight to ensure the achievement of the Strategic Plan. Four meetings were held over the year, at which financial budgets and reports were reviewed and approved. Terms of reference for key initiatives were discussed, revised, and ultimately approved, including the Survivor-Led Accountability research project.

Steering Committee Member Attendance*:

Organisation	Attended	Organisation	Attended
ActionAid Ireland	3/4	Irish Aid	4/4
Aidlink	3/4	Oxfam	2/4
Christian Aid Ireland	3/4	Plan International	3/4
Concern Worldwide	3/4	Ireland	
Defence Forces	4/4	Self Help Africa	3/4
GOAL	3/4	Trócaire	4/4
Ifrah Foundation	1/4	World Vision Ireland	2/4

** The Irish Red Cross is currently not represented on the Steering Committee*

Learning and Practice Group

The Learning and Practice Group (L&P) serves as a forum for sharing technical expertise and promoting best practices across member organisations in order to enhance GBV programme quality across countries of operation. Over the course of the year, the L&P contributed technical insights and practical support to the Survivor-Led Accountability research, including shaping the research scope, sharing relevant literature, providing access to psychosocial support and interpretation, and advising throughout the process. The group also played a key role in developing content for the Consortium's online campaigns.

Staffing Changes

The ICGBV was enriched by Niamh O'Connor McCabe taking up the newly created position of Programme Support Officer in March.

External Committees

ICGBV staff actively contributed to national and international fora, with membership of the [Inter-Agency GBV Guidelines Reference Group - Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action](#); the [National Observatory on Violence Against Women](#); the National Steering Committee on FGM; the 3rd National Action Plan Oversight Group's Subcommittee drafting Ireland's fourth National Action Plan (NAP) on WPS; and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs Human Rights Committee.

Finance

With prudent fiscal management from the hosting agency, GOAL, and oversight by the Steering Committee, the ICGBV successfully managed its operations. A ringfenced reserve was established as a risk mitigation measure and remained untouched throughout the year.

LOOKING AHEAD

As the ICGBV enters its 20th year, we remain steadfast in our commitment to a world free from GBV. Guided by our 2021–2026 Strategic Plan, the Consortium will continue to elevate the voices, leadership, and priorities of women-centred and women-led grassroots organisations. Our work will remain anchored in our three strategic pillars of GBV: **Prevention, Mitigation, and Response.**

In 2025, a key priority will be the continued promotion of our [*Survivor-Led Accountability*](#) research, including at the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69). We will amplify survivor voices, ensuring that their leadership informs both global and local responses to GBV.

With humanitarian and development funding under increasing threat, we will intensify our advocacy for sustained and increased financing to end GBV. This includes both public-facing advocacy and capacity strengthening within our membership through targeted workshops and learning opportunities.

We will also continue to contribute to the development of Ireland's fourth NAP on WPS, with a strong focus on ensuring the inclusion of local women's voices and the perspectives of marginalised communities.

As the year of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the ICGBV, 2025 marks a milestone. We look forward to deepening member collaboration, expanding our reach, and working in greater solidarity to advance gender equality and end GBV in all its forms.

ACRONYMS

ACT	Alliance of Churches Together
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRS	(OECD) Creditor Reporting System
CSW	(United Nations) Commission on the Status of Women
DCEDIY	Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
FAHP	Forum Against Harmful Practices
FGM/C	Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting
FTS	(OCHA) Financial Tracking Service
G7	The Group of Seven Countries: Canada; France; Germany; Italy; Japan; UK; US
IWGGBV-SL	Irish Working Group on Gender Based Violence in Sierra Leone
JD	Juris Doctor
L&P	Learning and Practice Group
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MICGBV	Malawi Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence
NAP	National Action Plan (Ireland)
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
SEND-SL	Social Enterprise and Development, Sierra Leone
SVRI	Sexual Violence Research Initiative
TD	Teachta Dála (Member of the Irish Parliament)
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNPBF	United Nations Peacebuilding Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WPS	Women, Peace and Security



gbv.ie

Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence

MOVING BEYOND FEAR

act:onaid

Aidlink

christian aid

CONCERN worldwide

Crois Dhearg na hÉireann Irish Red Cross

GOAL

IFRAH FOUNDATION

Irish Aid

Óglaigh na hÉireann IRISH DEFENCE FORCES

OXFAM Ireland

PLAN INTERNATIONAL

Self Help AFRICA

Trócaire

World Vision IRELAND



1 Policy dialogue at national level to strengthen GBV response mechanism at all levels, Nepal. **Source: ActionAid**

2 Village leaders in Mali signing agreements to abandon the practice of FGM. **Source: Plan International**

3 Lokut Raphael and Kachinga Halima, photographed in Uganda, where Oxfam challenges gender stereotypes. **Source: Oxfam. Credit: Ivan Rackara**

4 Ifrah Foundation conducting SASA! Together dialogue sessions with Religious Leaders in Banadir region of Somalia.

5 Partnering with the Rainbo initiative in Sierra Leone, Trócaire delivers training on GBV case management. **Source: Trócaire**

6 The ICGBV's fully attended side event at the 68th Commission on the Status of Women, New York.

7 Awareness raising sessions in the Democratic Republic of Congo. **Source: Christian Aid**

8 GBV-related resources for Ukrainian refugees at a workshop in Poland. **Source: Irish Red Cross**

9 GOAL Zimbabwe staff and community members paint some doors as part of the Orange Door initiative, that seeks to alert community members on households where they can access help when they face GBV. **Source: GOAL**