

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF ANGOLA 2024



SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS CYCLE

Angola received multiple recommendations to strengthen measures against domestic violence. These focused on adopting comprehensive legislation to prevent and penalize violence against women, improving law enforcement training, and supporting survivors. Key states advocating for these recommendations included Portugal, Germany and France. Most recommendations were accepted, indicating Angola's commitment to tackling domestic violence, though implementation remains partial. Similar recommendations have been echoed by Treaty Bodies and align with SDG 5 on Gender Equality and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.



NATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Angola's national framework includes laws such as the Law Against Domestic Violence, with efforts from civil society, including PMA, to raise awareness and support victims. PMA actively collaborates with local authorities, other NGOs, and communities to address this issue. Government and NGO projects aim to shift cultural norms, particularly in rural areas, by promoting gender equality and providing resources for survivors. However, enforcement is limited, and cultural acceptance of violence persists, highlighting the need for ongoing advocacy and reform.

IMPACTS

1. Impact A

Domestic violence remains prevalent, especially in rural areas, where cultural norms justify abusive practices. Statistics show that 34% of women report experiencing domestic violence, but many cases go unreported due to fear or social stigma.

2. Impact B

Limited access to support services and inadequate legal enforcement result in many survivors not receiving justice or protection. Data indicates that minority of reported cases lead to prosecution, leaving survivors vulnerable and without recourse.

3. Impact C

Domestic violence has a long-term impact on mental health and economic stability, particularly affecting children in abusive households. Studies indicate a correlation between exposure to domestic violence and higher rates of anxiety and educational disruption among children.



CHALLENGES

1. Legal Gaps and Weak Enforcement

Despite existing legislation, enforcement is inconsistent, particularly in remote areas. Strengthening legal frameworks and ensuring police and judiciary training are essential to address this gap.

2. Cultural and Social Barriers

Deep-seated cultural beliefs perpetuate domestic violence, making it challenging to shift public perception. Education and community engagement are crucial to breaking down these barriers.

3. Insufficient Resources for Survivors

Many survivors lack access to shelters, legal aid, and counseling services. Increased funding and resources are necessary to provide comprehensive support for victims.

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