SASA! in Timor-Leste

KOKOSA!

Pacific Women Learning Workshop
2019
Overall, three out of five (59%) ever-partnered women have been physically and/or sexually abused by their male partner (husband or boyfriend) in their life.

More than one in three (34%) women have experienced rape (either from a partner or non-partner) in their lifetime.

Approximately 3 in 4 women and men have experienced some form of physical or sexual abuse as a child.
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

- Working across two areas: services for women & children experiencing violence; & social norms change/prevention.
- Provide funding to local partners: legal aid, crisis shelter, shelters for children and women, court monitoring, and primary prevention.
- Provide technical assistance to local partners and government, including through certified course on social work, convening a mainstreaming VAW network and support feminist movement building.
- **Supporting communities to make change in harmful social norms around power and violence – using SASA!**
- Letefoho, Manufahi – (rural, 5 hours from capital, pop. 7,573, 64% literacy)
- High levels of violence, limited services
FROM SASA! TO KOKOSA!

- Awareness phase since August 2018
- Translation & adaptation relevant Local Activism, Media & Advocacy, Communications tools & trainings (Start-Awareness)
- Translation of M&E tools
- No work yet on supporting documentation (Tips, SASA! introduction booklet etc)
- **Gender-power analysis** (recognizing power imbalances between women & men as the root cause of VAW)
- **Phased-in approach** (building on existing analysis & introducing new ideas systematically through the Start, Awareness, Support & Action phases)
- **Holistic community engagement across the key circles of influence** (building a critical mass for change)
- **Activism** (inspiring critical reflection through organic engagement that is led by the community).
LIVING OUR VALUES IS CRUCIAL

- The bottom-up, non-hierarchical way of doing SASA! can be a very unfamiliar way of working for both staff & community & takes time to nurture.

- The power analysis approach requires time & safe space for everyone. Regular internal team discussions about power to encourage self-reflection is really important.
SUPPORTING ACTIVISTS ISN’T ALWAYS EASY

- Expectations of financial incentives needs careful consideration & creative responses
- Maintaining enthusiasm requires consistent accompaniment, regular trainings & mentoring
- Building strong relationships & nurturing them is crucial
Ita hotu iha kbiït!
Oinsá mak Ita-Boot uza Ita-Boot nian?
ADAPTATIONS MUST CONSIDER LOW LEVELS OF LITERACY

- SASA! Kit – language & accessibility
- Important to allow time for literacy challenges, e.g. staff engaging in the kit materials, CM’s comprehension of training instructions, concepts (requires repetition &/or iteration)
- Less text more images
LITERACY & LANGUAGE

AMERICAN HUMANITARIAN.id

AMERICAN HUMANITARIAN id

HAPARA VIOLÊNCIA
CONTRA FETO IHA

AMÉRICA HUMANITARIA

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GOING FORWARD...

- Expecting to finish the pilot in 2021
- Revised SASA!? 
- Finalise simplified kit & support partners to implement in Dili
For more information about Nabilan, visit: http://asiafoundation.org/tag/nabilan/

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For more information about SASA!, visit:
  • www.raisingvoices.org/sasa