



2016 Annual Report on the REGA Initiative

January 1 – December 31, 2016

1. Project Outline

The Regional Emergency GBV Advisors (REGA) team was established in 2014 as an AoR resource. Their role is to build sustainable long-term capacity at country and regional levels, anchored in the needs of sub-clusters, inter-agency, regional, national and local actors.

Underscoring the important capacity building role of the REGAs, the independent GBV AoR Leadership Review Report¹ described the deployments as well-functioning and a strong operational asset to the GBV AoR. Furthermore, the REGA project contributes to the implementation of the GBV AoR five-year capacity building strategy and they link the GBV AoR Coordination Team to field priorities and needs. The regional approach enables the REGA to strategically engage with regional networks and to facilitate exchanges of knowledge between similar countries, hence, increasing the capacity to respond adequately to GBV in humanitarian action.

The REGAs work to address the full cycle of emergencies: preparedness and GBV risk reduction, mitigation and response, recovery and transition, in addition to building the leadership of national partners for sustainable solutions. In so doing, the REGA conduct inter-agency country missions, provide remote support and mentoring to build coordination leadership and enhance cluster outputs such as needs assessments, development of Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs), GBV referral pathways, advocacy strategies and resource mobilization. They develop and co-facilitate inter-agency capacity building workshops on GBViE, and support countries with the integration of GBV into the Humanitarian Program Cycle.

So far, the REGAs have provided timely and targeted mission support to the Ebola response in East Africa, protracted L3s and fragile contexts (Central African Republic, Syria Response, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan), Ukraine (support to new emergency, and later Global Cluster mission on humanitarian coordination architecture review), GBV preparedness and risk reduction ahead of elections in Burundi and the Ivory Coast, the context of Boko Haram (Nigeria, Cameroon, CAR and Chad), the el-Niño response (Ethiopia and South Sudan), to Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Philippines, to mention some REGA highlights.

The REGA are hosted in UNFPA regional hubs where UNFPA provides daily management and logistical support. In addition, the team comprises a REGA Manager based in Geneva, who works in close consultation with the GBV AoR Coordinator. The REGA Manager also acts as Acting Deputy GBV AoR Coordinator. The REGA deployments are implemented through the Norwegian Refugee Council (Standby Partner agreement).

2016 was a challenging year for REGA team continuity and sustainability; GenCap funding was phased out end of June and was successfully replaced by Swiss and US bilateral contributions. DFID continued to fund three REGA positions until end of December 2016. In addition, with one REGA on maternity leave and the recruitment of the Bangkok based REGA, the project had only two active regional advisors during the first half of the year.

This annual report covers the activities of all four REGA deployments, including project activities funded by

¹ UNFPA and UNICEF commissioned an independent GBV AoR Leadership Review during Q4 2015 - Q1 2016, on the basis of which the two agencies agreed to transition leadership of the GBV AoR to UNFPA sole leadership. The transition phase was initiated during the second half of 2016 and was completed in April 2017.

DfID, Switzerland, the IASC Gender Standby Capacity Project (GenCap), the Norwegian Refugee Council² and OFDA, and the geographic coverage deployment table (see below, page 1-2) distinguishes between deployment funding sources.

2. The Regional Emergency GBV Advisor deployments

The below table lists all REGA deployments and geographic coverage in 2016:

Geographic coverage	REGA	Deployment contracts	Donor partner
East Africa (South Africa)	Jessica Gorham	Ongoing October 2014 – 31 Dec 2016 Maternity leave: March-July	GenCap until 30 June 2016 NRC (Norway), July - 31 Dec 2016 OFDA funds regional workshop and contract from January 2017
Central and West Africa	Catherine Andela	Ongoing/ 8 Dec 2014 – 1 Jan 2016	GenCap , until 30 June 2016 Switzerland , 1 July – 31 December 2016 (and continues into 2017)
Arab States and North Africa	Alexina Rusere	Ongoing/ February 2016 – February 2017	DFID funded in 2015-2016
South East Asia and the Pacific	Andrea Cullinan	Ongoing/ August – 31 December	DFID funding in 2015 and 2016
Asia and the Pacific (plus Central Asia)*	Sarah Martin	Completed 15 Nov 2015 – 15 Feb 2016	DFID , exceptional short term deployment
REGA Manager based in Geneva	Astrid Haaland	Ongoing/ 1 August 2015- 31 December 2016	DFID funded in 2015 and 2016. Switzerland , seconds from Jan 2017

3. Country mission deployment focus



The REGA provide country level support to GBV sub-cluster coordinators and members, HCTs and UNCTs,

² NRC funds were financed through NorCap contributions by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

national governments, civil society organizations, and national and international NGOs by responding to requests for inter-agency country missions. The missions, varied in content, last anywhere from several days to five weeks. The mission requests are developed through an inter-agency consultative process and require at least two agencies at the country level to sign off. The requests are then shared with the GBV AoR core members, who are also the requesting agencies’ global technical focal points.

2016 Country Missions Outputs

Missions listed in order of implementation (starting with January 2016)

Countries	Dates	Mission focus	Requesting agencies
Ethiopia	9-12 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalised GBV section of the Rapid Response Assessment implemented by partners in April. - Meetings with key partners in the WASH and Food Security Sector with the aim of developing a “GBV mainstreaming” strategy for drought affected communities (10 participants). <p>A first mission to Ethiopia was conducted in December 2015, during which the REGA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitated psychological first aid training for GBV/Child Protection (CP) front line service providers working in drought affected communities. - Provided technical support on the development of the Humanitarian Requirements Document and substantial feedback on the GBV/CP assessment tool. 	UNICEF/UNFPA
Ukraine	8-14 March	<p>Global Cluster Coordinators (GCC) Mission - Humanitarian Architecture Review, by REGA manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GCC gave recommendations to improve coordination and these were endorsed by the HCT. - Specific to GBV, the REGA manager attended a GBV sub-cluster meeting and met with sub-cluster coordinator to follow up on specific needs for support. - The GBV sub-cluster in Ukraine is well-functioning with active national partners and effective coordination takes place close to the conflict lines. - REGA manager provided remote support in setting up the first Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring process, in consultation with the GPC. <p>In brief, the mission team found the cluster coordination architecture too elaborate for the humanitarian context, and that coordination needed to be moved closer to</p>	HCT

		field operations (but that Protection Cluster and GBV to continue at both capital and sub-national levels). The inter-cluster coordinators were not sufficiently linked to the HCT. The Protection cluster and AoRs to better coordinate time and place of meetings. A clear need to bring national NGOs into the coordination structure.	
Nigeria	16-27 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Led a joint mission to NYSC and Malkohi IDP camps in North East to identify sectoral needs. - Mission participants: UN Women, UNFPA, ActionAid, and the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development (MoWA). - Supported the MoWA and the GBV SWG in developing SOPs outlining the referral pathway of the multi-sectoral response. - In Abuja: capacity development of GBV sub-sector (15 actors) on GBV prevention and response. - SOP workshop/training in Adamawa state for 30 actors. - SOPs for Adamawa state were endorsed/ signed defining the legal context, international standards for the GBV response, Child Protection specific considerations, and roles and responsibilities of each organization and the multi-sector GBV service provision. - Annual operation plan and a set of indicators for the GBV SWG. 	UNFPA
Nigeria	April	<p>The second Nigeria mission focused on Borno state, and resulted in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mapping of actors, - SOP working group discussions with 60 participants; national and local government and (local) service providers - Revised Standard Operational Procedures for Borno State (SOPs) expected to give increased accountability to the survivors, as roles and responsibilities to standards and service delivery are defined. - Facilitated session on safe communication of protection and GBV issues at Protection Mainstreaming Workshop (by UNHCR, OCHA and national Disaster Management Agency) in Abuja (19-21 April). 	UNHCR and UNFPA
Libya	27 June – 2 July	<p>Mission results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendations, in agreement with the UNHCR Regional Protection Officer, on how to support NGO service providers inside Libya and to establish a GBV Working Group in Libya. 	UNFPA sponsored mission

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The starting point is mapping of organizations and identifying key protection partners to lead the group. - Strong advocacy for the need to provide protection for women and girls in detention centers. - Provision of remote support to projects on the protection of women. 	
Cameroon Mission 1	4-15 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inter-agency mission to the far north to assess GBV situation - Advocacy based on GBV findings during mission at regional HRP workshop (capital) in support of GBV mainstreaming. - Training of actors. 	UNFPA, UN Women and UNHCR
Sudan	10-29 July	<p>The mission greatly helped revitalize GBV coordination which had reached a stand still, this was done through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outreach to key ministries and raising the visibility of the GBV sub-sector, - Recommendations to address gaps that were impeding the functioning of the sector. - Familiarized stakeholders in Khartoum and North Darfour on key tools and priorities, including the IASC Guidelines. - Provided a roadmap for implementing SOPs, a GBV Strategy and strengthening referral pathways. (Follow up mission in April 2017 to continue this work) - UNFPA deployed a surge coordinator to Khartoum from July to September; she and the REGA worked as a team. The surge deployment enabled to significantly strengthen coordination and have more sustained impact. 	UNFPA and UNHCR
Iraq	7 - 31 October	<p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The REGA successfully managed to organize SOP workshops in four governorates and built partners' capacity there (Sulamaniya, Erbil, Dohuk and Baghdad). - Participants were drawn from civil society, women organizations, local NGOs, INGOs, UN and representatives from key ministries. - Remote support to complete the regional SOP documents. <p>Context and timing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The timing of the REGA mission enabled continued support to the different regions, while country resources were being focused on the upcoming Mosul attack. - A fifth workshop was supposed to be held in 	UNFPA and NRC

		Kirkuk, which was attacked just a day before the workshop, so all travel there was cancelled.	
Central African Republic	19 July - 5 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A thematic paper on “Gender Equality, Women’s Empowerment and Sexual and Gender-based Violence. - Advocacy for GBV and gender equality in the recovery process and at the Brussels High Level Talks/Roundtable. - A group of women leaders were invited to travel to Brussels (based on REGA initiative) to advocate for their role and needs in the recovery process. - Sensitization and mobilisation of representatives of the authorities, civil society and UN agencies on the importance of gender, GBV and youth participation. - A training session on GBViE with religious community leaders (60) 	UNFPA and UN Women
Cameroon Mission 2	11-21 October	<p>Upon wide-ranging consultation with national and international stakeholders at capital and local level, the REGA trained more than one hundred GBV SWG members and GBV service providers in Yaonde and the far north on GBV mainstreaming and programming. Along with the capacity building, she guided the actors in the development of SOPs for the entire far north region of Cameroon as well as the formulation of a roadmap for the institutional rollout of the SOPs and outreach to communities and IDP sites. REGA focused on two departments that she could not reach on her earlier mission due to security, including Mayo Tsanaga (Mokolo) and Mayo Sava (Mora).</p> <p>Follow-up: Regional GBV analysis on emergency situation in Cameroon, Nigeria and Mali was presented to Regional Protection Network in Dakar (UNHCR).</p>	UN Women, UNHCR, UNFPA
India	1-6 Nov	Participation in regional ministerial conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to support substantive issues on gender equality and GBV in the Asian Regional Plan for DRR 2016 – 2020 (in follow up to Sendai Framework). The REGA supported the Regional Gender Stakeholders Group in its engagement at the conference, including on the advocacy briefing. <i>See more details below.</i>	Official travel, paid by NRC
Bangladesh		Scoping mission in support of the newly established GBV disaster preparedness sub-cluster in Dhaka.	Scoping mission (no request)

The REGA conducted 12 country missions in 2016, compared to 19 country deployments in 2015. The decrease was the result of the team not being fully staffed during the first half of the year, in addition to the challenging environment for obtaining VISAs for mission travel in the Middle East and North Africa region, and in particular for Palestine and Yemen.

In addition to the country missions outlined above, the REGA team engaged in regional protection groups and gender networks to integrate GBV concerns and analysis and contribute actively to regional capacity development on GBV, such as the Asia and Asia-Pacific Gender in Humanitarian Action Network, the WFP regional workshop on Gender Analysis, Empowerment and Humanitarian action (Dakar, June), the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crisis (Dakar), the West and Central Africa Gender Thematic Group and the IFRC's regional Africa-wide GBV workshop (Nairobi). They shared updated tools between countries in the region, for example between the drought affected countries in the Horn of Africa. They also provided substantial remote support, including coaching and mentoring. For example, REGA remote support to Yemen (before a dedicated GBV coordinator was hired by UNFPA), included reviewing the HCT Protection Strategy, feedback to the Intersos co-chair in Yemen on the mapping of service providers, connecting the sub-cluster with specific donors and contributing to donor communication materials. REGAs have inputted on project proposals for multiple agencies and helped draft and provide feedback on CERF proposals to ensure adequate funding for GBV responses. The team provided guidance on HRP and HNO processes and documents, and on GBV prevention mainstreaming during the regional HPC workshop in Cameroon. The REGAs also contributed to IOM's global DTM tool for GBV risk analysis in camp settings.

4. New REGA initiatives

4.1 Internships for GBViE master students at Nairobi University

A special NorCap deployment was requested by the REGA Manager and the UNFPA Kenya Country office to ensure continued support to building the capacity of Nairobi University Masters students.

In 2015, the REGA had piloted a two-week GBViE module at master degree levels in partnership with the University of Nairobi and an inter-agency steering committee. The program was initiated in line with the objectives of the GBV AoR's five-year GBV AoR Capacity Development Strategy which had identified the need to be more innovative in finding new candidates to be trained and mentored in response to the dearth of GBV professionals to work on GBV prevention and response in humanitarian action, to ensure better provision of GBV services and coordination for protection outcomes, along international standards.

This was the background to Grace Chirewa's deployment to Nairobi for a three months period (30th May to 30th of August). Grace worked in close coordination with the REGA project, to coordinate and launch the internships and mentoring. A total of nine students (six females and three males) were provided with internships with organizations providing direct GBV services. In addition, Grace was able to secure one international mentor for each student.

The above achievements were continued through the resumption of the Nairobi based REGA deployment, taking the lead on coordinating the second year of the master's GBViE course for a new group of students (26th September – 7 October). The REGA then held monthly meetings with the group of interns to coordinate their learning. Finally, the REGA and the AoR have shared the lessons learned and the actual training modules with the UNFPA to enable potential replication in other regions by one agency.

4.2 Stronger emphasis on Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

REGA pilots three-day GBViE preparedness training, Nairobi

Many development-focused countries are exposed to cyclical droughts and floods due to the El Nino affect. These countries don't often have the resources to adequately respond to these emergencies. The REGAs have been assisting GBV sub-clusters/working groups in these countries to better prepare for the gendered impact these disasters have on the most vulnerable, particularly women and girls. It is well noted that conflict related violence also tends to follow seasonal patterns; therefore, these preparedness measures benefit actors across all contexts.

Thirty participants working on GBV programming/coordination from seven different countries in East Africa as well as global and regional focal points attended the event held in Nairobi (29 November – 1 December). Approximately half of the participants were government counterparts. Many participants noted in their final evaluations that their attendance created a greater sense of partnership and confidence that preparedness activities would actually be implemented. Each country team developed a three-point preparedness action plan that will be followed up at country level by the REGA. The Zimbabwe team has since organized a follow-up preparedness workshop at capital level, as a follow up to the REGA training, testifying to the workshop's success in instilling ownership on GBViE among national counterparts.

The regional approach to preparedness planning enabled participants to share lessons learned and best practice during the highly participatory sessions. For example, Burundi colleagues shared the steps they took to pre-position supplies in targeted locations in anticipation of the election violence while participants from South Sudan showed how they used early warning indicators from the food security sector to anticipate potential GBV "hotspots." The workshops focus on identifying opportunities rather than focusing on challenges helped government counterparts and their humanitarian/development partners work cohesively.

1. [Advocacy at Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction \(AMCDRR\)](#)

As noted in the mission outcome table, the REGA based in Bangkok participation in this regional high level event, along with inter-agency colleagues including UNFPA, was a strategic opportunity to engage with key regional stakeholders including senior government representatives. The purpose was to influence discussions and outcomes to ensure inclusion of GBV and protection concerns in the disaster risk reduction framework. This was achieved through active participation in various fora and informally through networking and bilateral discussions. The REGA was actively involved as a member of the Gender in Humanitarian Action working group supporting the Civil Society Gender Stakeholder's Group on Women and DRR, which had been established following Sendai. The REGA engagement aimed at advocating for GBV prevention and response in national commitments to DRR, including women's leadership and participation; assessing strategic entry points to support national and local actors; support regional gender/GBV actors through the regional civil society network; and to highlight GBViE whenever possible as relevant in the proceedings both via bilateral and group discussions. Combined agency (in particular UNFPA) and stakeholder group advocacy efforts resulted in inclusion of important language in outcome documents³.

4. Management of the REGA Initiative

4.1 REGA Review and 2016 management response

One year into operations, the GBV AoR Coordination Team organized a review of the REGA mechanism in November 2015. The review was conducted for internal learning purposes to reflect on how to improve the mechanism, strategic direction and the extent to which the project was fit for purpose. The review report⁴ outlines the methodology and consultative process leading up to the review and gives main conclusions,

³ The REGA mission report gives an overview of final language concerning gender and GBV in outcome documents. This is available upon request to haaland@unfpa.org.

⁴⁴ The REGA Review report is available upon request to haaland@unfpa.org.

evidence of impact and highlights key lessons learned and recommendations.

In brief, the REGA review concluded that the REGA project was relevant and responded to a clear capacity gap as identified in the GBV AoR five-year Capacity Building Strategy, that the REGA was a valued resource by country colleagues, and that the first year of operations had already been a success in providing evidence of impact, in particular through the country missions and field support. The main risks and challenges facing the REGA and its potential for continued strong impact were found to be funding sustainability, the difficulty in finding new strong candidates to fill REGA positions, GBV AoR organizational leadership⁵ and the shortcomings in agencies' investment in long term GBV capacity at country level.

Since then, the GBV AoR has progressed immensely in establishing clear and effective organizational leadership with the transition of sole leadership to UNFPA, the revised membership structure, Standard Operational Procedures on the GBV AoR Ways of Working, all of which enables the AoR to engage with a longer-term vision and inclusive planning around an overarching strategy. This opens new opportunities for the REGA to engage on a more strategic level in 2017 and beyond.

The 2015 review brought four key recommendations and these were all acted upon in 2016.

Recommendation 1: Ensure more predictable and diversified funding for the REGAs through a more systematic donor outreach.

In February 2016, the REGA project issued a funding appeal to key selected donors and the GBV AoR Coordination Team followed up with bilateral meetings during the first half of the year. A request for funds was also included in several UNFPA proposals. In September, the GBV AoR organized a donor engagement lunch hosted at the Swiss Permanent mission in Geneva to showcase the impact of the REGA team on regional and country GBV capacity to respond to emergencies.

The new push and donor outreach resulted in funding from new partners securing the continuation of the previously GenCap funded positions through 2016. Switzerland provided funds for the REGA Dakar position and OFDA agreed to fund the Nairobi REGA position for seven months in 2016-2017, plus the cost of the December GBViE preparedness training. Finally, UNFPA made internal project funds available to pay for the three-month Nairobi NorCap deployment that partially replaced the REGA during maternity leave.

Recommendation 2: Re-introduce inter-agency surge in parallel with completing the REGA team to leverage impact through a two-pronged approach to GBV operational support and capacity building.

2016 was the first year during which the REGA were not called into surge deployments. This was the result of a stronger prioritization and communication on the need to preserve the role of the REGAs in building long term sustainable capacity and laying base capacity on GBV. Equally important, this shift was made possible due to the strong UNFPA investment in GBV surge capacity. The new UNFPA surge roster with dedicated focus on GBV expertise has to a large extent taken on the role that the GBV AoR Rapid Response Team used to have in the past.

The GBV AoR still aims to increase its capacity with IM dedicated staff, available for in-country support missions, but requests (December 2016) for standby partner capacity were not prioritized. The GBV AoR and UNFPA are also exploring the potential to have a UNFPA GBV surge expert contribute to the GBV AoR team in Geneva and for immediate deployments to the field.

5

Recommendation 3: Further strengthen the inter-agency nature of deployments, in particular through encouraging more systematic sub-cluster level discussions on the elaboration of mission Terms of References (TOR) for the REGA, stepping up and broadening communication on the availability of the REGA resource.

The GBV AoR Coordination Team issued its first Newsletter (glossy magazine) in July 2016 featuring articles on specific GBV sub-clusters and dedicated REGA support. The REGA Manager put together a REGA request package to facilitate the request of missions for all agencies/organizations. The requests are channeled and consolidated through the sub-clusters, in consultation with the Protection Cluster Coordinator in country. The REGA Manager continues to update GBV AoR membership of upcoming and ongoing REGA missions, sharing mission reports and information on requests. REGA mission requests continue to be based on requests signed by at least two agencies, to ensure solid inter-agency ownership of the missions. The Manager reaches out to the field to discuss specific requests, to ensure the requests are based on sub-cluster shared priorities for support.

REGA updates are included in all GBV AoR Monthly Updates to the larger membership, they contribute regularly to GBV AoR calls, and they took part in the GBV AoR core members stocktaking meeting in Geneva (November 2016). To ensure effective information flow and linkages between global cluster discussions and initiatives and field developments, and to strengthen joint work planning, joint approaches and real time problem solving, the REGA team has bi-weekly meetings on skype which has been very helpful in bringing the team together despite their distant geographical locations (and time zones).

Recommendation 4: Develop a stronger focus for REGA engagement, through establishing a work plan, reviewing the REGA TORs, more clearly defining priority countries and responses to requests for REGA involvement and support.

The scope of REGA work was further refined in 2016, through regional work plans and a more coherent prioritization of countries in need; the idea of planning for follow-up missions already from the beginning led to a more coherent approach in Ethiopia and Nigeria. The REGA regional TOR was also revisited. The REGA team developed shared themes and projects, for example on launching GBViE preparedness workshops. This work will continue in 2017, and as funding is made available, the REGA team is also planning for regional coordination workshops, to build coordination skills, but also strengthen linkages between sub-national and national coordination and solving bottlenecks and context specific issues. While the REGAs developed late 2016 a Menu of REGA services for sub-cluster colleagues, the GBV AoR is also striving to further lift the REGA capacity building efforts to a more strategic level. In this regard, it was decided in March 2017 that core members of the AoR will, together with the REGA Manager and the Coordination Team, develop an accountability framework for the REGAs based on shared strategic objectives. This will help frame the REGA country support, to avoid being pulled into filling needs that the sub-clusters should ideally be able to prioritize with internal resources. The strength of the REGAs have been their agile, tailored and timely response to country needs, and the REGA management will balance this bottom-up approach with applying a more structured accountability framework in 2017.

4.2 Monitoring: Capturing country colleague feedback

The REGA Manager developed a post mission feedback form which has been used to monitor REGA missions and plan for follow-up support in 2016.

Summary of country feedback:

In terms of **mission impact satisfaction levels**,

- The average scoring for mission satisfaction in 2016 was 4.4, on a scale from one to five, with ‘five’

being the highest level of satisfaction.

- The average scoring for impact of capacity building mission was 3.8, on a scale from one to five, with 'five' illustrating the highest level of impact.
- The feedback also points to a very high rate for follow-up of mission recommendations and practical planning.

5 Challenges

The regional focus of the REGA positions has been highly valued by regional and country partners. It continues to be difficult to effectively communicate on the impact of their work to the global level actors. The GBV AoR Coordination Team will continue to reinforce communication between the country, regional and global levels.

Challenges to building sustainable capacity also relates to the humanitarian system more broadly; impacted by short-term funding and staffing modalities at country level. The bottom-up approach to mission requests creates strong ownership of the REGA missions, but it also creates the risk for the REGAs to be asked to fill gaps that the countries should be able to prioritize differently. As mentioned earlier, there are ongoing discussions on how to best maintain the field driven nature of the REGAs work, with a stronger framework to enable more strategic or unified engagement by the REGA team.

GBV continues to be underfunded, and the sub-clusters often do not have the capacity to provide a strong analysis to demonstrate the need for life-saving GBV services. Therefore, the REGA missions focus on raising the visibility and funding levels for the GBV sector at country level. The REGAs are well placed to take on a strong advocacy role for the inclusion of GBV at regional HRP workshops, and briefing the HCT and donors at country level. However, this attention to senior level advocacy could in the longer-term take away attention from more in-depth consultations with the sub-clusters on practical steps to achieve more effective and protection outcome focused coordination related to services to survivors.