

## UN WOMEN – Essential Services Package for Women and Girls Subject to Violence

The Essential Services Package aims to provide all women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence with greater access to a set of essential quality and coordinated multi-sectoral services. The package reflects the vital components of coordinated multi-sectoral responses for women and girls subject to violence. It includes guidelines for health services, justice and policing services, coordination and governance mechanisms as well as social sector services. The overall framework for the essential services package has been presented below.

Principles	A rights based approach	Advancing gender equality and women's empowerment	Culturally and age appropriate and sensitive
	Victim/survivor centred approach	Safety is paramount	Perpetrator accountability
Common characteristics	Availability		Accessibility
	Adaptability		Appropriateness
	Prioritize safety		Informed consent and confidentiality
	Data collection and information management		Effective communication
	Linking with other sectors and agencies through referral and coordination		

	Health	Justice and Policing	Social services
Essential services and actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identification of survivors of intimate partner violence</li> <li>2. First line support</li> <li>3. Care of injuries and urgent medical treatment</li> <li>4. Sexual assault examination and care</li> <li>5. Mental health assessment and care</li> <li>6. Documentation (medico-legal)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prevention</li> <li>2. Initial contact</li> <li>3. Assessment/investigation</li> <li>4. Pre-trial processes</li> <li>5. Trial processes</li> <li>6. Perpetrator accountability and reparations</li> <li>7. Post-trial processes</li> <li>8. Safety and protection</li> <li>9. Assistance and support</li> <li>10. Communication and information</li> <li>11. Justice sector coordination</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Crisis information</li> <li>2. Crisis counselling</li> <li>3. Help lines</li> <li>4. Safe accommodations</li> <li>5. Material and financial aid</li> <li>6. Creation, recovery, replacement of identity documents</li> <li>7. Legal and rights information, advice and representation, including in plural legal systems</li> <li>8. Psycho-social support and counselling</li> <li>9. Women-centred support</li> <li>10. Children's services for any child affected by violence</li> <li>10. Children's services for any child affected by violence</li> <li>11. Community information, education and community outreach</li> <li>12. Assistance towards economic independence, recovery and autonomy</li> </ol>

Coordination and governance of coordination	
<b>National level: Essential actions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Law and policy making</li> <li>2. Appropriation and allocation of resources</li> <li>3. Standard setting for establishment of local level coordinated responses</li> <li>4. Inclusive approaches to coordinated responses</li> <li>5. Facilitate capacity development of policy makers and other decision-makers on coordinated responses to VAWG</li> <li>6. Monitoring and evaluation of coordination at national and local levels</li> </ol>	<b>Local level: Essential actions</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creation of formal structures for local coordination and governance of coordination</li> <li>2. Implementation of coordination and governance of coordination</li> </ol>

Foundational elements	Comprehensive legislation and legal framework	Governance oversight and accountability	Resource and financing
	Training and workforce development	Gender sensitive policies and practices	Monitoring and evaluation

Given the rising incidence of crime and rapid urbanisation, a need to scale up the interventions, especially to cover emerging urban hubs, is essential.

**Source:** <https://www.unwomen.org/-media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/essential-services-package-module-4-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3630>