

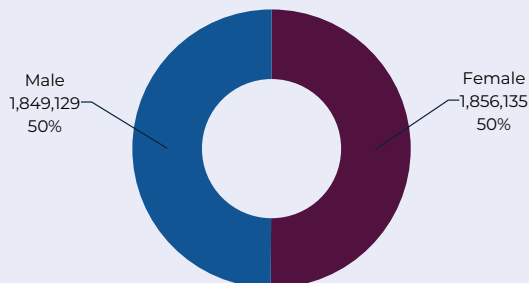


# Ekiti State

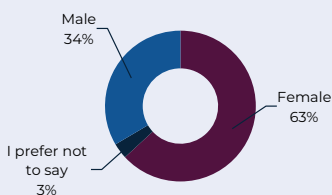




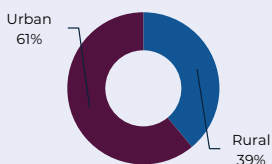
**Total Population**  
**3,705,264**



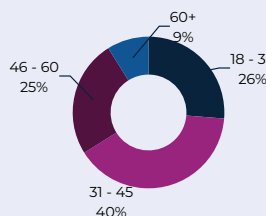
**Respondents: 472**



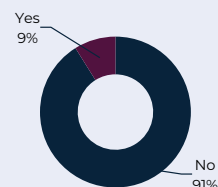
**Location**



**Age Group**



**Disability Status**



**GBV Context**



No. of GBV cases **3,314**



No. of active Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) **3**



No. of active shelters **2**



No. of Family Support Units (FSUs) **N/A**

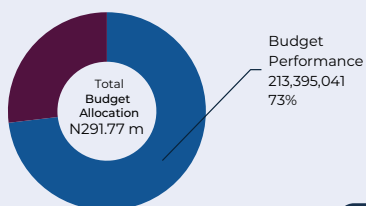


**Index Grades**

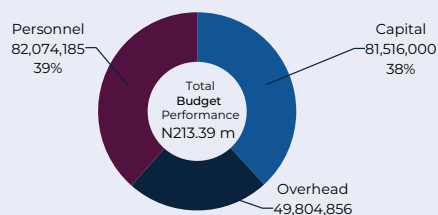
- Laws and Policies ●
- Access to Legal Justice ●
- Support Services ●
- Information and Awareness ●
- Budget and Spending ●

Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

**Budget Performance (2023)**

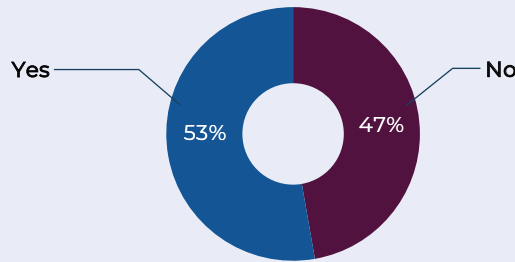


**Budget Expenditure (2023)**

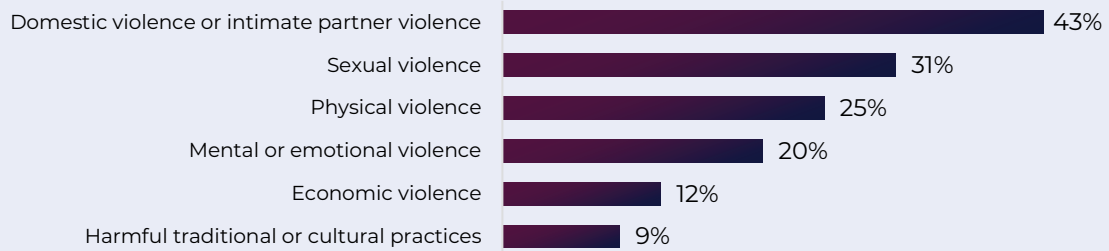


Per Capita Spending **N57.6**

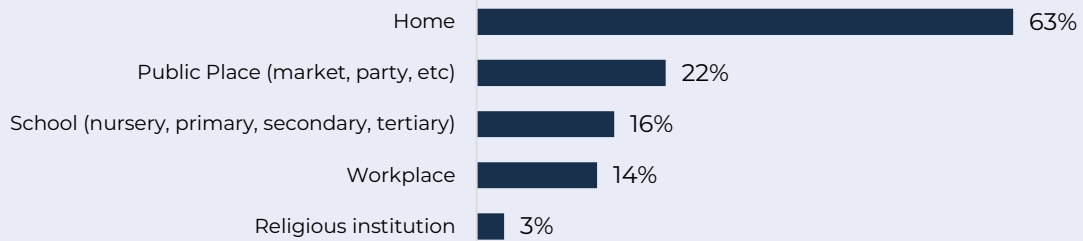
Have you or anyone you know experienced any form of gender-based violence (GBV) in the last five years?



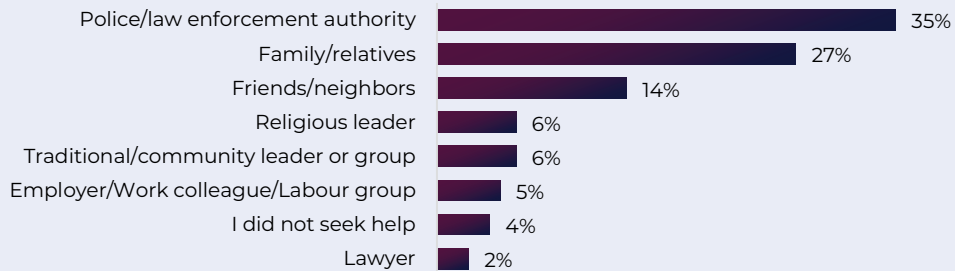
What form of GBV did you or the person experience?



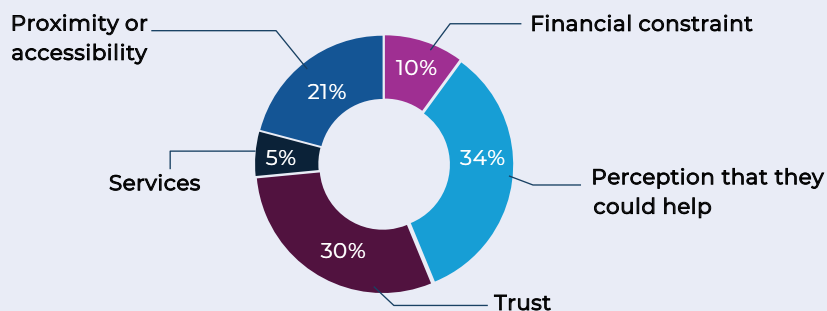
Where did you or the person experience the GBV?



Where did you or the person first seek help?

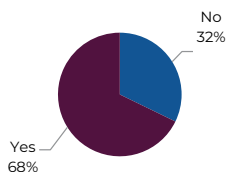


Why did you or the person choose where to seek help?

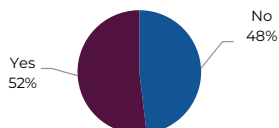


## Laws and Policies

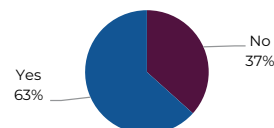
Are you aware of existing laws and/or policies that address gender-based violence (GBV) in the state?



Do you think customary or religious laws and/or practices are sufficient in preventing and responding to GBV in the state?

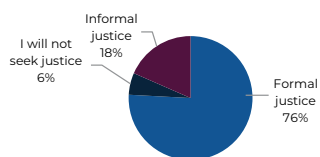


Do you know of anyone who has been convicted for GBV-related offenses?

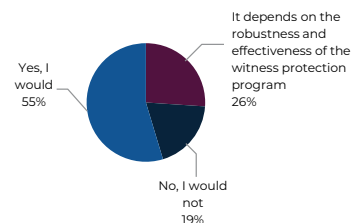


## Access to Legal Justice

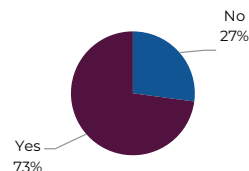
Where would you seek justice if you, or anyone you know, experience GBV?



If you witness GBV, would you feel safe serving as a witness during the investigation and trial?

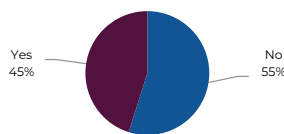


Are you aware of legal assistance and services provided by the State to GBV victims/survivors?

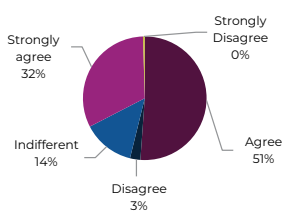


## Support Services

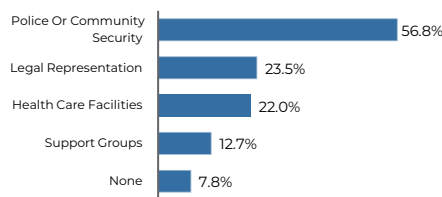
Do you know of, or have you visited, any active shelters and/or Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) for GBV victims/survivors in the state?



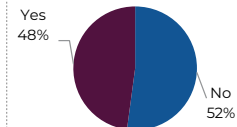
Do you believe that these shelters and/or SARCs are effectively functional, adequately equipped, properly maintained, and sustainable over time?



Which of these processes and procedures for reporting GBV-related incidents are you aware of? (Referral Pathways)

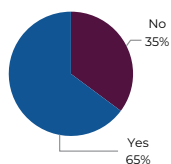


Do you think informal support systems such as family, friends, religious centres, community groups, etc., are helpful to GBV victims/survivors?

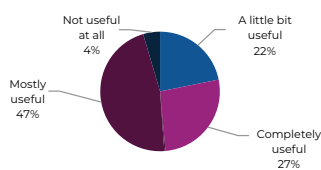


## Information and Awareness

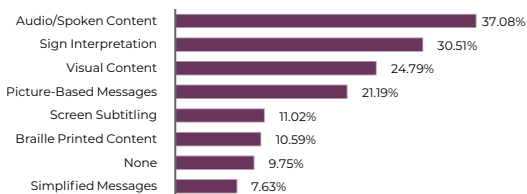
Do you know of any GBV information and/or education programs or materials in the state?



How useful is/was the content of the GBV awareness material in educating you on GBV?



Which GBV information and education materials are you aware of for persons with disabilities?



## Key Insights

### **Laws and Policies**

Ekiti State has laws that speak to GBV, which include Ekiti State Political Offices (Gender Composition) Law, Ekiti State Sexual Violence against Children (Compulsory Treatment & Care) Law, Ekiti State GBV (Prohibition) Law, Ekiti State Gender and Equal Opportunities Law, Ekiti State Child Rights Law, A Law to Prohibit Female Genital Mutilation in Ekiti State and Law to Protect the Rights of Widows in Ekiti State (2002). Despite these, significant challenges hinder the effectiveness of these laws in preventing and responding to GBV. For instance, only a few laws, such as the 2019 GBV Law and the Children Compulsory Treatment Law, are accessible online; this buttresses the survey results on awareness of the law at 68% of the respondents. With improved access to the laws and simplified versions, the level of awareness will improve. Another gap is the limited clarity in Section 27 of the GBV Law regarding the jurisdiction of Gender Courts.

The state has recorded progress in some areas. The Ekiti GBV Management Committee (GBVMC) periodically engages stakeholders, organizes GBV training, and publishes annual reports on GBV issues, fulfilling its mandate under the 2019 GBV Law. There has also been a 400% budget increase for Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs). However, gaps remain, such as translating GBV laws into local languages and making them accessible to persons with disabilities. 63% of the survey population believe that customary or religious laws or practices are sufficient in preventing GBV. However, customary and religious practices often reinforce rather than address GBV, perpetuating harmful norms like female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage. Although Christian and Islamic practices frown at some forms of GBV, like rape, incest, adultery, non-provision of necessities, wife battery, etc., but rarely hold perpetrators accountable and most times the law is not allowed to hold perpetrators accountable.

### **Access to Legal Justice**

Ekiti GBV Standard Operating Procedure provides room for multiple entry reportage (Medical, Police, Line MDAS, First Lady Office, NGOS). However, medical service is prioritized, from where referral can be made as the case demands. For sexual violence, reporting commences from SARC, where clients access multiple services: counseling, medical, legal, and shelter, and after that referral to police for detailed investigations and prosecution in court. If the GBV is sexual or if it results in death, the Police will refer to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution. The judiciary ensures fair trials for victims/survivors as well as perpetrators. Perpetrators may be remanded pending the conclusion of the trial and, if found guilty, would serve jail term at the adult or children Correctional Centre, depending on the perpetrator's age. Ekiti GBV Law, 2019, every convicted sexual offender is registered in the Sexual Offenders.

### **Support Services**

Ekiti State has a sexual offences registration book where perpetrators' names are registered and the photograph and details are made public on and off lines, including the community of the convict (family house, palace, market, etc.). In intimate partner violence cases, notwithstanding where the case was first reported, most cases end up being mediated and not prosecuted in court. The customary laws in Ekiti state are not formal. Witness protection programs exist. Victims/survivors are sheltered at the Transit Home (Shelter) until their cases are resolved. Survivors Support Funds, as provided in the GBV law of 2019, help victims/survivors rebuild their lives or relocate in furtherance of safety or reintegration back into society. Informants, however, think that the protection program should be extended beyond victims/survivors and to other witnesses who would testify in GBV cases.

All residents, including PWDs in need of the services of Transit Home and Children Home, have access to it through the Ministry of Women Affairs, SARC, Court, Ministries of Justice, Health and Education, and Office of the First Lady. All security agents now have access to take victims/survivors to Transit and Children Home without the bureaucracy of passing through the Ministry of Women Affairs as it used to be. Ekiti State provides good support services for GBV survivors, anchored by two shelters: the Transit Home in Ado-Ekiti for women and girls (12 years and above) and the Children's Home for vulnerable children (0-11 years). Additionally, three Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs) are operational in Ado-Ekiti, Ikere-Ekiti, and Ikole-Ekiti. Ado-Ekiti SARC is the most effective due to its specialized staff and facilities. Plans

are ongoing to upgrade SARCs in Ikere and relocate the Ikole SARC to Oye General Hospital for improved access.

Survivors, including persons with disabilities (PWDs), can access these facilities via referrals from agencies such as the Ministry of Women Affairs, the judiciary, and law enforcement. Increased advocacy has ensured the inclusion of PWDs in GBV support mechanisms, with some integration into leadership roles in MDAs. Budgetary support for SARCs and shelters has significantly improved, with a 400% funding increase enabling staff recruitment, training, and community outreach programs. However, the state lacks emergency transportation and maintenance for these facilities, which limits their reach and efficiency. Overall, while strides have been made in strengthening support services, addressing critical gaps like emergency transportation and tailored programs for PWDs is necessary to enhance inclusivity and sustainability.

## Information and Awareness

All notable UN GBV/women's/children's Rights such as the 16 days of Activism, Girl Child Day, International Women's Day, and Zero Tolerance FGM Day, etc. are celebrated with IEC materials. These are celebrated with IEC materials including banners usually in English, Yoruba, and Ekiti dialects. GBV Training manuals have also been produced by the state for stakeholder engagement The Adolescent Girls' Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE) Project, with funding support from the World Bank, printed and distributed GBV IEC material across secondary schools in the state as well as erection of Billboards depicting various GBV messages in schools. NGOs complete government efforts also with the production of IEC materials and GBV programs on radio and TV.

Through the Adolescent Girls' Initiative for Learning and Empowerment (AGILE) Project, with funding support from the World Bank, the Ministry of Education is sensitizing secondary schools across Ekiti to Comprehensive Sex Education. GBV Clubs and Safe Spaces have been established across secondary. For Ekiti-owned higher institutions, Comprehensive Sex Education has been incorporated into orientation programs for new students. Interpreters are usually provided at State GBV sensitizations, training, and capacity-building programs. There are no available Braille ICE materials for the Blind, however, there are posters depicting GBV image messages that are accessible to other categories of PWDs. GBV laws and policies are also not available in braille format.

## Budget and Spending

In 2023, Ekiti State allocated N291.78 million to the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender Empowerment, and Social Welfare, but only N213.39 million (73%) was utilized. A significant portion of this spending (N82.07mn) was directed towards personnel costs, while overheads accounted for N49.80 million. Capital expenditure, critical for infrastructure such as shelters and SARCs, received a minimal allocation of N81.5 million. Additionally, per capita spending was N57.6, with N60 million spent on the implementation of the GBV Prohibition Law, N75 million on the renovation and maintenance of sexual assault referral centers, and N20 million allocated for the Ministry of Health's support for SACs centers, including GBV and FGM prevention programs. To improve budget efficiency and effectiveness, Ekiti State should enhance the utilization of allocated funds. Increasing capital expenditure for critical infrastructure will ensure better support for vulnerable populations. Furthermore, bolstering investments in GBV and FGM prevention programs will enhance the support and services available to those affected.



## Human Angle Story



A 24-year-old woman, who was sexually abused by her neighbor at the age of 9, recently received justice. The perpetrator, now a pastor, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment. The victim first reported the abuse 15 years after the incident when the man contacted her on Facebook, confessing to the abuse and expressing a desire to resume their sexual relationship. Due to the existence of the Child Rights Law at the time of the abuse, it was possible to hold the perpetrator accountable. However, the Criminal Code Law limits the prosecution of cases involving minors to within six months of the incident.

# Ekiti State

Indexes	Key Findings	Recommendations
<b>Laws and Policies</b>  	There are no current efforts to review existing Ekiti State GBV laws. The last time the Ekiti GBV prohibition law was amended was in 2019. However, in 2020, a new Law named the Sexual Violence Against Children (Compulsory) Treatment and Care Law, 2020 was enacted to make GBV services more accessible to children.	Gender-based violence (Prohibition) Law should be reviewed to reflect the designation of Gender Courts at the Customary, Magistrate, and High levels.
	Lack of adequate funding to properly implement and enforce the GBV laws.	Gender-responsive budgeting in all line MDAs and partners saddled with implementing GBV Laws/ Policies.
	The GBV Laws do not protect from stigma and reprisals attacks.	Reviews of the GBV law/policies to criminalize stigma and protect witnesses and service providers.
	There is no clarity on designated courts as provided by The GBV Law, 2019, on whether they should operate at Customary, Magistrate, High, or all three levels of courts.	The Ekiti state GBV law should be amended to address existing gaps and fit current realities.
	In-school dependents above 18 years are not envisaged to enjoy support from their parents by the Child Rights Law, 2006.	The Child Rights Law should be reviewed with a provision that dependents above 18 years, still in school (secondary) be supported by their parents and guardians to finish their education.
<b>Access to Legal Justice</b>  	Customary practices fuel Patriarchy/Culture/Religion/Non-Community Ownership.	Increase engagement of Traditional/Religious leaders to own the GBV laws/policies and become the champions of its effectiveness in holding perpetrators accountable.
	Non-Designation of the Gender Courts as envisaged by Section 26 GBV Law, 2019. Also, the Family Court (Magistrate & High Court Levels) only exists in Ado-Ekiti.	The Chief Judge should, as a matter of urgency and following section 26 of the GBV Law, 2019, designate the Gender Courts across the 3 senatorial zones at the High Court, Magistrate Court, and Customary Court levels and decentralize the Family Court to other LGAs to bring justice closer to the people. Police and other Law enforcement agents should designate and train Gender Desk officers across their divisions in Ekiti State.
	Slow Judicial Processes—Apart from the protection order, which must be heard within 7 days, other aspects of the GBV Law, 2019, have no timeframe within which cases should be heard.	Review GBV laws to include timeframes for all GBV matters and offences to speed up justice so that victims/survivors can move on with their lives.
	Lack of adequate access of PWDs to Justice Institutions.	The government should make all justice sector buildings and services accessible to PWDs by immediately providing ramps, designated parking spaces, toilets, and bathrooms, providing interpreters, and producing ICE materials in Braille.
	Acceptance of money by the family of the Victim/Survivor and or succumbing to intimidation of perpetrators due to poverty.	The government should prosecute community enablers, influencers, and beggars who prevent victims and survivors from pursuing justice to a logical conclusion.
<b>Support Services</b>  	Lack of adequate funding. However, the monthly running grant to Ado-Ekiti SARC, the Transit Home, and the Children Home has increased by 400 percent, but this has been caught up with inflation.	Institutionalized funding: The SARCs and Transit Home should have their direct budgets instead of receiving funding from the Ministries of Women Affairs and Health.
	Non-decentralization of support services, especially the SARC and the Transit/children Home.	The SARC/Transit Home services should be decentralized to reach more people in the communities.
	Inadequate Personnel, especially at the Ikere and Ikole SARCs.	More trained and permanent staff should be assigned to all 3 SARCs and Transit Home.



Indexes	Key Findings	Recommendations
	Lack of motivation and care (burnout) of service providers.	The government should provide incentives for all service providers (State and Non-State Actors) as motivation for efficient service delivery.
	Limited capacity/expertise of some service providers.	The government should ensure that GBV services are accessible to all persons, including PWDs, in terms of infrastructure, information, communication, and data management, especially at the treatment, psychosocial support, investigations, and prosecution levels.
<p data-bbox="124 472 309 521"><b>Information and Awareness</b></p> 	Lack of adequate funding.	The government should provide adequate funding for information and awareness activities across the state, including traditional and social media, community engagements, general sensitizations across the board (all stakeholders), training, and capacity building on GBV prevention and response.
	Sensitization and awareness are mostly in the state capital, especially the UN gender-related celebrations.	Sensitization and awareness should be taken to the grassroots for community ownership of GBV prevention and response.
	There are no government Radio and TV information and awareness programs.	Physical or radio and TV information and awareness programs should be inclusive of PWDs with the availability of interpreters.
	The few available IEC materials are mostly in English and are usually not inclusive of PWDs.	In addition to donor-funded GBV sensitizations, the Ministry of Information, by their mandate, should run constant GBV Radio and TV programs.
<p data-bbox="124 1064 371 1090"><b>Budget and Spending</b></p> 	The spending per capita Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender Empowerment, And Social Welfare at N57.6.	The government should increase budget allocation and disbursements to the Ministry.



WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER  
2023 Policy Recommendations  
Ekiti State

S/No.	Recommendations	Implementation Status	Remarks
<b>Laws and Policies</b>			
1	Review the VAPP Law to make provision for periodic (e.g., annual) report on implementation of the law.	Partially Implemented	section 60 of the Ekiti GBV Law, 2019 mandates the GBVMC to submit an annual audited report of the GBV survivors' Support Fund established by section 55 of the Law. In preparing this report, the GBVMC also prepare and publish annual GBV report which is subbited to the Governor as part of activities for 16days of activism.
2	Engaging with policymakers, legislators, and community leaders to emphasize the importance of sustained efforts in GBV prevention and response.	Fully Implemented	The Ekiti GBV MC periodically engaged all stakehoders, especially during the 16 days of activism. Section 40 of the Ekiti GBV Law provides for GBV training and education
3	Increase budget allocation for the implementation of GBV laws and policies and collaborate with international organizations, NGOs, and private sector partners to secure additional funding for GBV prevention and response programs	Fully Implemented	there has been significant increasement in GBV budgetary allocation in all line MDAs. since the establishment of Ekiti SARC, this year has witnessed the prompt release of SARC budget to date and also 400percent increase in allocation.
4	Work on translating GBV laws and policies into local languages and formats accessible to PwDs.	Not Implemented	
5	Conduct community outreach programs to educate the public about the GBV laws and policies, especially in rural areas.	Partially Implemented	GBVMC, Ministries of Women Affairs, Health, LGA, Education etc with active support and partnership of development partners and NGOs regularly do this
<b>Access to Legal Justice</b>			
6	Specify timeframes for hearing cases under different aspects of the GBV Law to ensure prioritization and timely resolution of GBV cases.	Partially Implemented	the Ekiti GBV GBV law provides that occupation interim protection order be heard within 7 days. howver, in practice, this is not usually so. Apart from the interim protection orders, there is no time frame allocated for hearing GBV substantive cases, However, due to the political will in the state, the Ministry of justice ensures that all GBV cases that comes to the Ministry are filled in within 2 weeks of the receipt of such cases including the issuance of legal advice
7	Collaborate with the judiciary and legal institutions to establish dedicated GBV courts and appoint judges with expertise in gender-based violence.	Partially Implemented	The Family Court established in accordance with the Child Rights Law, 2006 is fully operational both in the magistrate and high courts levels. presently, most civil GBV cases are heard at the Family court, while criminal GBV cases are heard in the regular courts. However, the GBVMC in collaboration with Minisrty of Justice and Women Affairs is leading the advocay on ensuring that the Gender Courts are inugurated

**WOMANITY INDEX IMPLEMENTATION TRACKER**  
**2023 Policy Recommendations**  
**Ekiti State**

8		Engage with religious and community leaders to foster understanding and support for legal interventions in GBV cases.	Fully Implemented	Although the GBV law did not specify in section 46 that traditional and religious leaders be statutory members of the GBVMC, they have been co-opted as members in recognition of their strategic roles in the prevention and response to GBV. Beyond their membership, the GBVMC, Ministries of Women Affairs and Health with active support of NGOs and development partners actively engage community and religious leaders on GBV
<b>Support Services</b>				
9		Collaborate with disability advocacy groups to ensure inclusivity in the design and implementation of support services while advocating for the development of comprehensive support services tailored towards their needs.	Partially Implemented	there is presently increased advocacy to ensure that PWds are included in the State GBVMC. However, at the levels of MDAs leadership or activities concerning GBV, PWds have been fully integrated
10		Increased funding and budgetary allocation is needed to strengthen and sustain the SARCs and shelters so as to, for instance, recruit and train permanent staff while creating avenues for step-down trainings to community volunteers.	Fully Implemented	There is presently 400percent increased funding to SARC and shelters, promptly released upto date.
11		Ekiti State government should work with relevant stakeholders to establish emergency transportation, fueling and maintenance for the SARCs and shelters.	Not Implemented	
<b>Information and Awareness</b>				
12		Increase funding for information and awareness programs, emphasizing the importance of prevention through education.	Fully Implemented	There generally increased funding this year for all line MDAs on GBV including sensitisation and education activities
13		Explore partnership with media outlets, NGOs, and community organizations to amplify awareness efforts.	Fully Implemented	Ekiti is very huge on this and enjoy the support, partnership and collaboration with NGO on GBV prevention and response. As a matter of Fact the SARC is been coordinated by the NGO sector on behalf of the State government. But all the relevant staff of the SARC are government empowered and the SARC is fully owned by the government but activities is coordinated by the NGOs
14		Translate existing IEC materials into local languages, also making funding provisions for their wide distribution across both urban and, especially, rural areas of the state.	Partially Implemented	This exist but ic can be better with wither coverage
15		Conduct targeted sensitization and awareness programs in rural communities to bridge the information gap through town halls meetings and collaborations with traditional and religious leaders within the communities.	Fully Implemented	This is a recurrent activity by the Ministry of Health and Women Affairs especially on FGM



WomaniTY  
**INDEX**  
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