

B. NATIONAL CONSULTATION PHASE

The national consultation phase is a key aspect of the costing project. It is important to involve government at the highest level possible, especially the offices involved in the preparatory phase. It is also important to establish a national high-level platform to ensure a commitment to sharing existing information. In terms of governance of the costing project, there are three options: government-led, non-governmental organization-led or National Women's Machinery-led (see below table international examples).

Good Practice

To ensure ownership and implementation of the research findings, a multi- or interagency project that is led by the government is recommended. NGOs can play a useful role in advocating for the government to undertake a costing study.

Governance options

United Kingdom 2004: Government-led Project

The United Kingdom's Government Equalities Office commissioned Professor Sylvia Walby in 2003 to address gaps in the existing data on domestic. International experts contributed research assistance and the Home Office Economics and Resource Analysis Unit personnel provided expert advice. Data on the extent and nature of domestic violence was taken from the report on the 2001 British Crime Survey

Ukraine 2008: Non-governmental Organization-led Project

The non-governmental organization La Strada-Ukraine initiated a costing exercise and conducted it in partnership with the Institute for Social Studies and the Ministry of Interior (International Women's Rights Center "La Strada – Ukraine" 2008).

Egypt 2016: National Women's Machinery-led Project

Under the leadership of the National Council for Women, UNFPA coordinated the study in Egypt, which was conducted in partnership with the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics. A National Advisory Committee was established to manage this nationwide project, which enlisted an international and a national economics expert. Consultations were also conducted with relevant ministries and institutions providing protection and response services to survivors.

The study estimated the cost of the problem for women and households could cost Egypt as much as LE 6.15 billion or about \$769 million (based on an exchange rate of LE 8 to the \$1) if the rates of violence are maintained.^a

^a Costing studies are an expensive undertaking. In the case of Egypt, where the study cost approximately LE 350,000, it is important to note that Central Agency for Mobilization and Statistics was a key part of this study. If the employees of the national statistics office do not conduct the analysis of quantitative data, outside researchers will need to be hired, increasing the cost of the study.