

# Annual Report 2024

ALL SURVIVORS

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### **Foreword**

2024 saw a world with growing conflict and unprecedented challenges to the international human rights system. At such a time, it has become even more important to defend and protect the rights of all vulnerable populations. In situations of armed conflict, victimisation of men and boys in conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) continued to be reported and tragically, responses remained inadequate for all people.

This report presents the work we implemented in 2024 and the impact we achieved in the final year of our first five-year strategic plan. We continued to work closely with victims/survivors to ensure that our interventions prioritised their access to health, justice and protection.

Two years after the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia, we began work in Ukraine, co-creating with victims/survivors strategies to advocate for their rights to healthcare and justice. We began our work with state institutions like the Office of the Prosecutor General, became members of the UN- and Ukrainian government-led Interagency Working Group (IWG) and we started to build a strong national team.

Our work in Colombia continued to expand. While accompanying victims/survivors in accessing their rights to justice, we focused on enhancing the capacity of justice sector institutions. We worked closely with the Delegate for Victims of the Armed Conflict at the Office of the Ombudsman, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace's Independent Advisory and Defence System (SAAD) and the Special Jurisdiction for Peace to support their investigative efforts on sexual and gender-based violence.

This year marked the beginning of a process to build our second five-year strategic plan (2025-2029), which included discussions with our national teams and partners. This new plan reflects our three strategic priorities: to increase awareness of the risks and vulnerabilities of men and boys to CRSV and strengthen prevention; to strengthen healthcare/humanitarian responses for male victims/survivors of CRSV; and to strengthen justice responses for CRSV against men and boys. As in the previous strategic plan, we will continue to work closely with victim/survivor groups to ensure that we are guided by a detailed understanding of the lived experience of victims/survivors of CRSV, explicitly recognising how intersectionality influences their experiences and access to services.

None of this work would have been possible without deep trust from victims/survivors and our partners. I remain deeply grateful to my inspiring team who work with an indomitable spirit and tireless commitment, demonstrating the highest level of care for our work. I would like that thank our growing network of partners who amplify our efforts, ensuring that our work is sustainable and grounded, and our generous donors who share our vision and make our work possible.



Harry

**Charu Lata Hogg**Founder and Executive Director
All Survivors Project

# **About All Survivors Project**

#### **Our Vision**

A world where everyone is protected against conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) and all victims/ survivors have access to appropriate and timely care, support and justice without discrimination.

#### **Our Mission**

Support global efforts to eradicate CRSV and strengthen national and international responses through research and action on CRSV against men and boys.

#### **Our Values**

#### We are:

- *Committed to upholding human rights:* ASP's work is guided by international human rights and humanitarian norms and standards; the best interests, dignity and safety of all victims/survivors of CRSV; and principles of non-discrimination.
- **Survivor-centred:** ASP prioritises the interests and perspectives of victims/survivors, working directly with them wherever possible to inform our research and action and to ensure that their needs and wishes guide efforts to end and respond to CRSV.
- Ethical and accountable: ASP upholds ethical approaches in its research, advocacy and other
  activities and is committed to being accountable, including to the victims/survivors and partners with
  whom it works, and to women's rights organisations working to respond to CRSV against women
  and girls.
- *Independent and impartial:* To protect our independence, ASP ensures that all of our funding is consistent with our mission and values. We preserve our impartiality and do not take sides in armed conflicts.

#### **ASP's Goals & Objectives**

In 2024, we remained focused on achieving our three core objectives under ASP's five-year (2020-2024) strategic plan:



#### Prevention

To strengthen measures to prevent CRSV against men and boys within broader efforts to eradicate CRSV.



#### Justice



To improve access to justice for men and boys who are victims/survivors of CRSV.



#### Healthcare

To improve availability of and access to timely, quality, survivor-centred medical care and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services for male victims/survivors of CRSV.

# Programme Activities and Highlights

Our research, advocacy and capacity-building across different contexts remained focussed on men and boys. This focus was embedded into the broader, critical endeavour of preventing and responding to CRSV against *all survivors*, recognising that women and girls are disproportionately affected. We continue to dedicate ourselves to ensuring that all survivors receive the care and support they require.

Our work continued to show that, although women and girls are disproportionately affected by CRSV, men and boys can also be at significant risk in conflict and post-conflict settings and that CRSV against them is often rooted in the same structural inequalities and discrimination that undergird CRSV against women and girls. We work with women's rights and feminist organisations to ensure that our work complements the critical work being done to address sexual violence against women and girls in all their diversity. Our work was also informed by different, intersecting identity characteristics including, for example, sex, age, (dis)ability, ethnicity, nationality, religion, political affiliation and socio-economic and migratory status, and/or sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and/or sex characteristics (SOGIESC). We continued to seek to understand how these characteristics and related systems of inequality can contribute to vulnerability, result in differing harms, and affect access to appropriate care and services.

#### **Prevention**

Progress in addressing CRSV against men and boys remains uneven. Rates of CRSV against men and boys are increasing as the number of armed conflicts grow<sup>1</sup> and international law is blatantly ignored by some parties to conflict. Although the true scale is not known, since 2020, CRSV against men and boys has been documented by the UN in 18 recent or ongoing armed conflicts.<sup>2</sup> Recognition of the risks to and vulnerabilities of men and boys to CRSV is essential for its prevention. ASP therefore focused on deepening the understanding of CRSV against men and boys, including spotlighting the problem and encouraging all those involved in responding to CRSV to include male victims/survivors in their work.

<sup>1</sup> PRIO, "New data shows record number of armed conflicts", 10 January 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Since 2020, the UN has documented CRSV against men and boys in: Afghanistan, the Central African Republic (CAR), Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Haiti, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, Libya, Mali, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine, and Yemen.

#### Shining a light on vulnerabilities of men and boys as victims/survivors of trafficking

Security Council Resolution 2331 recognized that "trafficking in persons in armed conflict and post-conflict situations can also be associated with sexual violence in conflict". Following this resolution, the UN Secretary General's annual reports on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence have included "trafficking in persons when committed in situations of conflict for the purpose of sexual violence/exploitation", as a form of conflict-related sexual violence.

While the normative framework's connection between conflict-related sexual violence and trafficking

is established, and data shows that men account for most victims of reported violence worldwide, there is limited attention provided to men in protection efforts for both anti-trafficking and financial inclusion, (a way to improve addressing vulnerability to trafficking). This understanding led us to work with Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST), an initiative at the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR). Together we undertook a short qualitative research study conducted between March and



UN Security Council Open Debate side event "Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys to Maintain International Peace and Security" - *New York*.

September 2023 and released in January 2024. Our study focused on anti-trafficking protection policy and interventions and helped us develop insights into how international and national anti-trafficking protection policy and interventions can both support intersectional, gender-sensitive assessments of men's financial vulnerabilities to trafficking, and can facilitate their safe access to financial services. We followed the release of this study by co-organising an event focused on this issue with FAST and a large number of UN member states and NGOs. Partners included the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children; UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially in Women and Children; UN Office on Drugs and Crime; UN Inter Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking (ICAT); Permanent Missions to the UN of Canada, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Norway, Spain, Switzerland and Belgium; the Liechtenstein Institute on Self Determination; Princeton University; and Plan International.

In September 2024, we presented learnings from the research we developed as an implementing partner of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG CAAC). Research projects covered various contexts including the Central African Republic (CAR), Colombia and Nigeria. And we took part in a moderated panel on Tackling the Intersections of Armed Violence, Armed Conflict and Criminal Networks – Child Trafficking, Migration and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence hosted by the Dallaire Institute in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

#### Focusing attention on the risk of CRSV in detention settings

We have consistently pointed to situations of deprivation of liberty as among the highest risk situations for men and boys. Indeed, rape and other forms of sexual violence against males are reported more frequently in situations of deprivation of liberty than in most other settings. However, the full extent of the problem is not known, and responses remain inadequate.

In April 2024, we made a submission to the Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, following her open call for information on her Thematic Report on Crimes of Sexual Torture. We were heartened to see that in her report to the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Special Rapporteur on Torture explicitly recognised in paragraph 24 that "Men and boys are also victims, probably at levels never fully disclosed. Sexual torture is perpetrated against them for similar reasons: to humiliate, to dominate, to strip them of their humanity and dignity. Some armies seek to "feminize" their enemies through sexual assaults and humiliations, which often exploit cultural or religious codes. The perpetrators of sexual crimes are overwhelmingly male".<sup>4</sup> In paragraph 50, the report cites ASP when outlining the fear of prosecution faced by male victims/survivors in contexts where same-sex relations are criminalised.

We were equally pleased to see that the concluding observations by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the fifth periodic report of Iraq highlighted the need to address discrimination on a range of grounds including sexual orientation and/or gender identity. This followed reports of widespread and normalised violence and torture of persons based on their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, including by law enforcement agencies. It also called for conducting "public education programmes on discriminatory norms and beliefs to combat the stigmatization of sexual orientation and gender identity by government officials, including for judges, prosecutors, law enforcement authorities, the media and the general public, including comprehensive awareness-raising activities". We have a long-standing MoU with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq and which has included delivering limited sensitisation on the issue of sexual violence against men and boys with human rights activists.

<sup>4</sup> Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, 18 July 2024, UN. Doc. A/79/181.

<sup>5</sup> Committee on Social, Cultural and Economic Rights, 14 March 2024, UN. Doc. E/C.12/IRQ/CO/5.

We were called upon at NATO's seminal conference in February 2024, convened to develop an action plan for the agency's Children and Armed Conflict Policy, to speak to gender-specific risks that children face in detention settings. We were proud to have contributed to the development of the Policy and ensured that it takes into consideration gender in relation to violations against children and the recognition of boys as victims of sexual violence.

In February 2024, the Harvard Alumni for Global Women's Empowerment invited ASP to speak on its work and explore connections with and impacts on women and girls. The Alumni group is dedicated to the empowerment of women through education, dialogue and connection among individuals working for women's rights and freedoms worldwide.

In Ukraine, we convened the first Gender Equality & Women Empowerment (GEWE) group in Ukraine, set up to ensure that our work continues to support efforts to address gender inequality and enhance coordination.

#### **Justice**

The pace of justice for victims/survivors of CRSV remains painfully slow and the victimisation of men and boys continues to be largely overlooked in both judicial and non-judicial justice processes. Throughout 2024, we continued work to deepen our understanding of context-specific barriers; these barriers can prevent male victims/survivors from accessing equal and effective justice, and can prompt effective reparations for harms suffered as a result of CRSV. We also sought to identify and elevate the specific needs and preferences of male victims/survivors to ensure justice processes are responsive, accessible, and survivor-centred.

Our work on justice was largely implemented in two contexts: Colombia and Ukraine. However, learnings from both situations informed our work and globally.

#### Ukraine

Since armed conflict broke out in eastern Ukraine in April 2014, CRSV has been a significant and ongoing issue and represents many of the 140,000 war crime cases being prosecuted in the country. Initial UN-documented incidents were attributed both to Ukrainian armed forces and pro-Russian armed groups, frequently occurring in situations of deprivation of liberty and often targeting people accused of being affiliated with the respective opposing side.

More recently in October 2024, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine concluded that Russian authorities have committed torture in a widespread and systematic manner in detention settings. Sexual violence, used as a form of torture, has been documented in at least 41 detention facilities. The Commission's report underscored that CRSV affects all genders, civilians, and prisoners of war (PoWs), with the majority of PoWs being men. Most PoWs detained by Russian

authorities report having been subjected to sexual violence.<sup>6</sup> Understanding barriers that these male survivors face in relation to access to justice for the crimes they suffered and enabling their access to justice is a key pillar of our work in Ukraine.

In March 2024, we were invited to attend an international conference focused on restoring rights for survivors of CRSV. The conference was hosted in Kyiv, Ukraine, by the Government of Ukraine with support from the Government of the United Kingdom, in collaboration with the Ukrainian Women Lawyers Association "JurFem" and Women's Ukrainian Fund. We spoke on a panel discussing male survivors of sexual violence and were subsequently invited by the Office of the Prosecutor General (OPG) to enter into a partnership with them, which we signed in June 2024. This partnership marked the begin-

ning of our work on improving access to justice for male survivors in Ukraine.

Bringing international attention on the widespread scale of torture, including sexual violence against men in Ukraine, remained intrinsic to our goal of advancing justice for this crime. In April 2024, we hosted a side-event on the margins of the annual UN Security Council Open Debate on CRSV entitled "Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys to Maintain International Peace and Security". The event was co-hosted



Workshop with the Office of the Prosecutor General (OPG) and their regional representatives - *Ukraine*.

with the Permanent Missions of Canada, Liechtenstein, Ukraine and the Government of Colombia. This followed a series of sensitisation workshops we delivered on survivor-centred and transitional justice learnings for male survivors to civil society organisations in Ukraine in partnership with JurFem.

Throughout the year, we delivered trainings to nearly 80 public officials from the OPG both in-person in October and online in December. Working in close partnership with the OPG in Ukraine and their regional representatives, we focussed on informing gender-sensitive investigation and prosecution of CRSV against men and boys.

In October 2024, we were invited by Global Rights Compliance (GRC) in Ukraine to present our learnings from ongoing research in Colombia in an event titled "SGBC Victims' Pathway Through the Criminal Process: Ukraine and Best Practices". In addition, in December 2024, we worked with Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice to provide training to the Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group's Community of Practice on strengthening access to justice for men and boys affected by CRSV. In November 2024,

<sup>6</sup> Report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, 25 October 2024, UN Doc. A/79/549-A/HRC/52/62549.

we were invited to present our work at an event in Warsaw on accountability for international crimes committed in Ukraine, co-hosted by the Polish Prosecutor's Office, and NGOs the Sunflower Project and the Helsinki Foundation on Human Rights. All our work, like elsewhere, was informed by survivors themselves and we conducted workshops with male survivors in Ukraine to improve their understandings of international justice mechanisms and make strategic choices on engagement with these processes.

#### Colombia

In Colombia, our work on supporting male victims/survivors of CRSV in understanding their options for and meaningfully accessing justice grew deeper. In June 2024, we met with 44 male victims/survivors in the department of Cesa for an informational workshop. At the workshop, affected people received information about their rights and options directly from the Office of the Ombudsman, the Victims Unit, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace and the Attorney General's office. Individuals were able to participate in peer, group and individual psychosocial support activities to help make informed decisions on whether they wanted to participate in the July workshop on access to justice. Then, in July 2024, we brought together 79 male victims/survivors of CRSV for this workshop, supporting them as they realised their rights to health, justice and reparations for the crimes they have endured. Following these events, we supported those victims/survivors who wanted to seek accreditation before the Special Jurisdiction for Peace in Colombia. We monitored the status of individual cases before the Victims Unit and the Attorney General's Office to ensure they were updated in an individual and timely manner, in line with a survivor-centred approach.

While accompanying victims/survivors in accessing their rights to justice, our approach also focused on enhancing the capacity of justice sector institutions. In May 2024, we delivered an online sensitisation session on CRSV against men and boys to 129 members of the Delegate for Victims of the Armed Conflict at the Office of the Ombudsman. In October 2024, we delivered two sets of trainings to lawyers under the Special Jurisdiction for Peace's Independent Advisory and Defence System (SAAD) to prepare them to represent cases of male victims/survivors of CRSV. In November 2024, we held a half-day workshop with officials from the Special Jurisdiction for Peace to support their investigative efforts on sexual and gender-based violence under Macro Case 11. And in December 2024, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace renewed our joint MoU for another two years.

#### Healthcare

Despite the devastating physical and psychological consequences of CRSV, quality, timely, survivor-centred medical care and MHPSS continue to be frequently unavailable.

Against this background, in 2024 we continued our multi-country, multi-year project on survivor-centred healthcare. We built on previous research and capacity-building in Afghanistan and took forward new research in CAR aimed at increasing understanding of male victims'/survivors' needs and wishes to ensure these are addressed in medical and MHPSS responses. We also continued our work on

improving access to healthcare and strengthening healthcare responses to victims/survivors of CRSV in Colombia and Ukraine.

#### Afghanistan

Despite the challenge of operating in a severely restricted space, we were able to progress our assessment on the resilience of healthcare providers in Afghanistan's current climate. Our work highlighted significant gaps in training and support available to healthcare workers, inadequacies of existing health system infrastructure and protocols, and pervasive societal barriers to effective sexual violence response. While most healthcare workers demonstrated supportive attitudes in relation to sexual violence response and prevention, they often lacked comprehensive knowledge and skills, particularly regarding male survivors. The healthcare system itself faces acute challenges including a lack of protocols, absence of data on sexual violence, limited inter-sector coordination and decreased funding. At the societal level, strong stigma, cultural barriers, and a lack of supportive institutions and legal frameworks continued to impede effective response for sexual violence victims. While most healthcare workers have received some basic gender-based violence (GBV) training previously, it was often insufficient in duration and depth, particularly regarding male survivors. Challenges include the existence of limited resources for comprehensive training, high staff turnover and cultural sensitivities that make discussing certain aspects of sexual violence difficult.

Nonetheless, we continued to engage policymakers in different forums, exploring how to ensure systems are continuously supported and donor interest is maintained. In that vein, in November 2024, we convened human rights experts, academics, donors and practitioners for a high-level event at Princeton University. This brought the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan in dialogue with other experts on these issues.

#### Central African Republic

Our research on survivor-centred healthcare and barriers to healthcare access faced by male victims/survivors of CRSV in the Central African Republic (CAR) was finalised within the year. This offered rich material to inform our sensitisation and capacity-building work with the health and justice sectors.

#### Colombia

Validation workshop on research on survivor-centred healthcare and barriers to healthcare access - Central African Republic.

During 2024, we continued to deliver a

three-year project in Colombia aimed at improving access to healthcare for male victims/survivors of

CRSV. We worked to drive changes in both policy and programming related to healthcare in the country. In particular, we focussed on:

- New mapping of services available to male victims/survivors of sexual violence in Colombia. Our research in 2022 and 2023 in Colombia pointed to a lack of understanding regarding existing services and referral systems for male victims/survivors. As a result, during 2024, we successfully designed and launched the first mapping of services for male victims/survivors of sexual violence in Colombia in partnership with the humanitarian clusters. The interactive mapping includes both quantitative and qualitative information on available services and can be filtered by department, organisation, type of services and coordination area. It can be accessed online and offline to help facilitate its accessibility for everyone regardless of access to the internet. The mapping allows ongoing updates to be made regarding existing services in order to facilitate its future applicability and use.
- Direct support to access specialised medical services and MHPSS for male victims/survivors in Colombia. In May 2024, we entered into a formal partnership with the organisation Corporación Vínculos for the provision of group and individual psychosocial support to male victims/survivors of CRSV. During 2024, 117 male victims/survivors participated in in-person group MHPSS sessions organised by us and facilitated by Corporación Vínculos.

In addition, we assessed individual victim/survivor healthcare needs which pointed to the need for improved access to specialised healthcare services that respond to the various impacts endured. These included ophthalmology, neurology, orthopaedics, psychiatry, internal medicine and surgery. In line with ASP's survivor-centred approach and in order to both respond to victim's/survivor's identified needs and ensure long-term sustainable access to healthcare, we directly supported the travel expenses to health services for most urgent cases. In keeping with our survivor-centred approach, we also filed legal petitions to health insurance providers (and in some cases to the courts); this ensured that the state covered victims'/survivors' transportation and accommodation expenses when specialised health services outside their municipality were needed. From January to December 2024, we provided legal advice and support to a total of 16 victims/survivors of CRSV who were being denied their right to transportation and accommodation coverage for medical appointments outside their municipalities, thereby limiting their access to specialised healthcare. During 2024, we filed 18 petitions (derechos de petición) on behalf of nine direct victims, six petitions on behalf of four indirect victims (family members), four tutela actions for four direct victims, and four tutela actions for four indirect victims. We also pursued two second instance tutela rulings for one direct victim and filed two contempt motions for two direct

The mapping is now publicly available in different formats for the use of all humanitarian cluster members. The mapping was done in partnership with the National Protection Coordination Space (Espacio de Coordinación Nacional de Protección - PROT ECN), the National Gender-Based Violence Coordination Area (Espacio de Coordinación Nacional de Violencias Basadas en Género – GBV ECN), the National Child Protection Coordination Area (Espacio de Coordinación Nacional de Protección de la Niñez – CP ECN), the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Gender-Based Violence Subcluster (Subcluster de Salud Sexual y Reproductiva y Violencias Basadas en Género – SRH GBV Subcluster) under the Health Cluster. Eight tools were designed as a result of the mapping of services that can be consulted on the ReliefWeb GBV Colombia website: <a href="https://response.reliefweb.int/colombia/violencia-basada-en-genero-vbg">https://response.reliefweb.int/colombia/violencia-basada-en-genero-vbg</a>.

<sup>8</sup> This included paying for travel expenses for a total of 10 male survivors and 3 family members.

victims. We conducted 35 legal counselling sessions for 28 direct victims to address health-related barriers to care.

The work stated above resulted in 16 male victims/survivors and their family members receiving State-funded support for transportation costs (and in certain cases, accommodation and subsistence expenses) to enable access to specialised medical care unavailable in their municipality or place of residence.



Informational jornada (workshop) - Colombia.

#### **Ukraine**

With all of our work, we approach the issues of access to justice and healthcare in parallel; in keeping with this, our work on justice in Ukraine included a focus on ensuring that survivors have access to appropriate healthcare. We hosted in 2024 the first in-person meeting of service providers and other actors engaged with male survivors of sexual violence. This was facilitated with our partners, the members of the Alumni Network of Ukrainian Men who Survived Captivity and Torture (Alumni), to ensure both dialogue and transparent and accountable service provision for victims/survivors.

#### **Boys/Children**

Given our focus on intersectional approaches, age remains a key consideration in determining the scope of our work. Although CRSV involving boys is increasingly being recognised as a concern for child protection actors, it remains significantly underreported and unaddressed. As a result, their rights, needs and wishes are often overlooked in prevention and protection strategies and in healthcare and other responses to CRSV. As boys constitute the majority of children recruited and used in conflict settings (a key site of vulnerability for abuse including sexual violence crimes), it is critical that reintegration programming takes into account this particular violation to ensure that all children get a full chance at recovery. For this reason, Children And Armed Conflict (CAAC) and Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAFAAG) conflict continues to be one of our key thematic areas of work across settings.

We were delighted that our dedicated programme of work on CRSV against boys in partnership with the OSRSG CAAC continued in 2024. In September, we co-hosted a validation workshop on a guidance note for humanitarian actors in child protection and on the fight against gender-based violence. The

workshop was co-hosted with our national partners, Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR) and Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) in Bangui, CAR, and was developed to provide context-specific guidance on addressing sexual violence against boys, including in the context of their association with armed forces and groups. We were honoured to partner with the GBV AoR, CP AoR and the CAR Ministry for the Promotion of Women, of the Family, and the Protection of the Child, to finalise and launch this guidance note in CAR. In Colombia, we were an implementing partner of a research report published by OSRSG CAAC and completed in collaboration with the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare (ICBF) on "Responding to CRSV against children associated with armed groups in the process of reintegration in Colombia". We co-hosted a launch event for the report alongside OSRSG CAAC, the ICBF and UNICEF Colombia.

Our work on mainstreaming the issue of sexual violence against boys in policy events has gained strength. We have collaborated on the launch of the Global Alliance on the Protection of Boys from Sexual Violence (GAPB) as one of its founders and Steering Committee members. We are also proud to have brought the issue of sexual violence against boys to the agenda in two separate events at



Discussion of plans of the Global Alliance on the Protection of Boys from Sexual Violence (GAPB) - Panama.

the annual Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPHA) meeting in Panama. In the first event, we presented our research in Colombia on strengthening responses for boys associated with armed groups, and in the second event, we participated in discussing the GAPB's plans, including how to strengthen coordinated prevention and response efforts as part of broader efforts to eradicate sexual violence against all children.

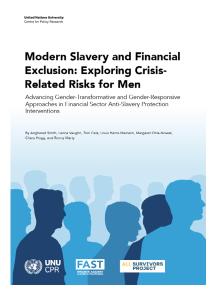
# **Summary of Key Activities and Outputs**

#### 10-12 January: Event

ASP participated in the first in-person meeting of the Global Alliance on the Protection of Boys from Sexual Violence (GAPB) in Madrid, focused on strengthening responses and prevention to sexual violence against boys.

#### 31 January: Report

ASP co-authored a report with FAST/UNUCPR titled "Modern Slavery and Financial Exclusion: Exploring Crisis-Related Risks for Men".



#### 10 February: Training

ASP presented at Harvard Global Women's Empowerment Discussion Circle on sexual violence as a weapon of war and terrorism.

#### 4-5 March: Event

ASP attended an international conference focused on restoring rights for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence, hosted in Kyiv, Ukraine by the Government of Ukraine with support from the UK Government, in collaboration with JurFem and Women's Ukrainian Fund.

#### 17, 19, 22 April: Training

ASP hosted a webinar series with JurFem dedicated to survivor-centered approaches to reparations and other assistance to men and boy victims/survivors of CRSV.



#### 23 April: Event

ASP co-hosted a side-event on the margins of the annual UN Security Council Open Debate on CRSV entitled *Addressing Sexual Violence against Men and Boys to Maintain International Peace and Security*, with the the Permanent Missions of Canada, Liechtenstein, and Ukraine, and the Government of Colombia.

#### 23 April: Submission

<u>Submission</u> on the prevalence of sexual violence against men/boys to the Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment's Thematic Report on Crimes of Sexual Torture.

#### 9 May: Training

ASP presented to the Delegate for Victims of the Armed Conflict at Defensoría del Pueblo in Colombia on CRSV against men and boys

#### 22 May: Event

ASP co-hosted a side-event on Advancing Gender-Transformative and Gender-Responsive Approaches in Protection Interventions: Trafficking, Conflict-Related Sexual Violence and Financial Exclusion at the UN Protection of Civilians week alongside FAST, UNU-CPR, UNODC, IOM, SRSG VAC, LISD, Plan International, Siobhan Mullally and the Permanent Missions of Belgium, Canada, Haiti, Switzerland, Spain, Norway, Liechtenstein.

#### 4-6 June: Event

ASP participated in two panel discussions at the annual Child Protection in Humanitarian Action (CPHA) meeting in Panama. At the first event, ASP presented their research from Colombia on Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Groups (CAAFAG), and at the second, ASP discussed the plans of GAPB and how to strengthen coordinated prevention and response efforts as part of broader efforts to eradicate sexual violence against children.

#### 12-15 June: Workshop

ASP held an informational workshop in Valledupar where 44 victims/survivors of conflict-related sexual violence received information about

their rights and options from the Office of the Ombudsman, the Victims Unit, the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP) and the Attorney General's Office. Participants were able to participate in peer and psychosocial support activities and were supported in making informed decisions regarding whether they wanted to participate in the July 2024 Jornada on access to justice. Individuals already involved in the accreditation process also received in-person updates about their case.

#### **June: Report**

ASP published a report titled "Responding to conflict-related sexual violence against boys associated with armed groups during the process of reintegration in Colombia".



#### 19 June: Event

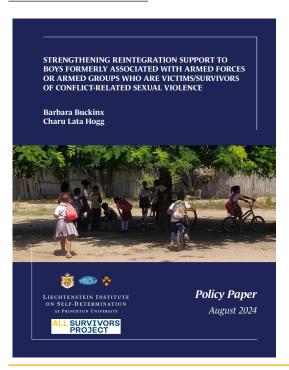
ASP participated in the Deep Dive on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence & the Gender Perspective at NATO HQ.

#### 21-27 July: Workshop

ASP hosted a Jornada with 79 male victims/survivors of CRSV in Colombia, supporting them as they realised their rights to health, justice, and reparations for the crimes they have endured.

#### **August: Policy Paper**

ASP co-authored a policy paper titled
"Strengthening Reintegration Support to Boys
Formerly Associated with Armed Forces or Armed
Groups Who Are Victims/Survivors of ConflictRelated Sexual Violence".



#### 17 September: Training

ASP presented learnings from OSRSG CAAC research projects in CAR, Colombia and Nigeria as part of a moderated panel on *Tackling the Intersections of Armed Violence, Armed Conflict and Criminal Networks – Child Trafficking, Migration and Conflict-Related Sexual Violence* in an event hosted by the Dallaire Institute titled *Women Leading in Building Peace and Security* in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

#### **October: Workshop**

ASP co-hosted a validation workshop on a guidance note for humanitarian actors in child protection and the fight against gender-based violence, with our national partners GBV AoR and CP AoR Marjana Badas in Bangui, Central African Republic.

#### 3 October: Training

ASP presented its Colombia work at an event hosted by Global Rights Compliance in Ukraine titled SGBC Victims' Pathway Through the Criminal Process: Ukraine and Best Practices.

#### 12-13 October: Workshop

ASP hosted a two-day workshop in Ukraine for male survivors of sexual violence and torture with our partner Alumni Network.



#### 14 October: Workshop

ASP hosted the first Gender Equality & Women Empowerment (GEWE) convening in Ukraine, set up to ensure that our work continues to support efforts to address gender inequality.

#### 14 October: Workshop

ASP hosted first in-person meeting of service providers and other actors engaged with male survivors of sexual violence with members of the Alumni Network to ensure dialogue and transparent and accountable service provision to affected populations.

#### 15 October: Workshop

ASP hosted an in-person workshop with the Office of the Prosecutor General (OPG) in Ukraine and their regional representatives, focusing on informing gender-sensitive investigation and prosecution of CRSV against men and boys.

#### 21-22 October: Training

ASP delivered trainings to JEP lawyers under the division of SAAD in Colombia to prepare them to litigate cases of male victims/survivors.

#### 28-29 October: Training

ASP delivered a second round of trainings to JEP lawyers under the division of SAAD in Colombia to prepare them to litigate cases of male victims/ survivors.

#### 29 October: Newspaper Article

ASP was featured in a Guardian newspaper article titled "'Carved on bodies and souls': Ukrainian men face 'systemic' sexual torture in Russian detention centres".

#### **November: Report**

ASP published a report titled "<u>Note d'Orientation</u> <u>Pour la Prevention et la Réponse aux Violences</u> <u>Sexuelles Faites aux Garçons en RCA</u>".

#### 5 November: Workshop

ASP co-organised a discussion in Princeton on preliminary findings from our latest research on strengthening healthcare responses to sexual violence in Afghanistan, focused on understanding the factors that influence the health system's ability to respond to survivors of sexual violence in Afghanistan.

#### 13 November: Training

ASP presented online at a one day event in Warsaw on accountability for international crimes committed in Ukraine, co-hosted by the Prosecutors Office, Poland, the Sunflower Project and the Helsinki Foundation on Human Rights.

#### 26 November: Event

ASP launched a report on research findings on responding to CRSV against children associated with armed groups in the process of restoring rights in Colombia, carried out by OSRSG CAAC with ASP with the support of Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with ICBF. ASP presented findings and discussed recommendations. This event was co-hosted by ASP, OSRSG CAAC, ICBF and UNICEF Colombia.

#### 28 November: Workshop

ASP held a half-day workshop with JEP officials to support invesigative efforts under Macrocase 11.

#### 10 December: Training

ASP provided training to Ukrainian Legal Advisory Group's Community of Practice on Strengthening access to justice for men and boys affected by conflict-related sexual violence.

#### 23 December: Workshop

ASP delivered a workshop on conflict-related sexual violence against men and boys, exploring lessons from survivor-centred approaches with over 50 justice sector professionals, as part of partnership with OPG.

# Organisational Development

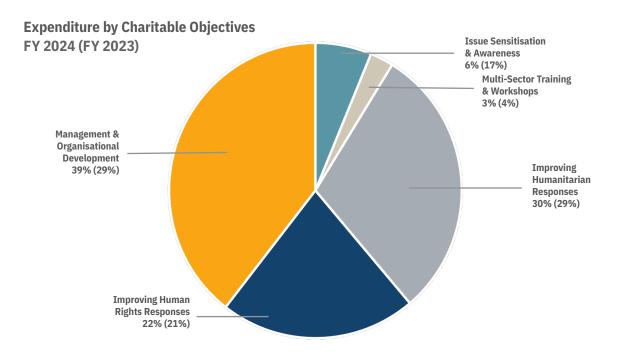
During 2024, we strengthened our country teams in both Ukraine and Colombia to enhance context-specific understanding of CRSV and existing responses, and to ensure the sustainability of our work by learning from and supporting national expertise. Our team expanded with two additional team members in Ukraine, three additional team members in Colombia and one additional Senior Legal and Policy Advisor in the UK.

Measures have been taken to strengthen and develop the organisation by enhancing the policy framework and improving project management. And during 2024, we finalised our second five-year strategic plan (2025-29) which builds on work between 2020 and 2024 and helps facilitate robust and sustainable work.

### **Financials**

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	CHF	CHF
ASSETS		
Tangible	0	709
Cash in bank	676,184	630,531
Receivables	6,701	7,614
Prepayments	41,700	29,122
Total current Assets	724,585	667,975
TOTAL ASSETS	724,585	667,975
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Other Liabilities	47,927	88,479
Payables	47,927	88,479
Accrued expenses and deferred income	26,624	21,032
Capital	30,000	30,000
Retained earnings	528,464	671,607
Loss/Profit for the Year	91,569	(143,143)
Equity	650,033	558,464
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	724,585	667,975

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	CHF	CHF
EXPENSES		
Administration Expenses		
Personnel & Related Costs	389,140	376,935
Contractual Costs	100,579	124,425
Grants to Other Organisations	22,430	18,927
Operations & Office Costs	79,907	72,394
Travel & Meetings	108,039	65,422
Financial Expenses	3,321	2,696
Loss/(Gain) on Foreign Currencies	3,772	(1,316)
Taxes	44,649	45,202
	751,836	704,686
Profit of the year	91,569	(143,143)
	843,404	561,542
INCOME		
Programme Income	835,821	561,542
Financial Income	7,583	
	843,404	561,542
873,341		<del></del>

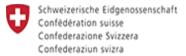


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