# QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

## FOURTH QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2008 AND ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2008

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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**Contract No. 263-I-02-06-00018-00**

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## ACRONYMS

| | |
|---|---|
| APT | Association for the Prevention of Torture |
| CAPMAS | Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics |
| CEDWA | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women |
| COP | Chief of Party |
| CRC | Child Rights Convention |
| CTO | Cognizant Technical Officer |
| DHS | Demographic Health Survey |
| ECWR | Egypt Center for Women's Rights |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussion |
| GEC | Grants Evaluation Committee |
| IT | Information Technology |
| MOH | Ministry of Health |
| MOSS | Ministry of Social Solidarity |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NCCM | National Council for Women |
| NCW | National Council for Childhood and Motherhood |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| PMP | Performance Monitoring Plan |
| RFA | Request for Applications |
| RFP | Request for Proposals |
| SPAAC | Social Planning, Analysis, and Administration Consultants |
| SRC | Social Research Center at the American University in Cairo |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| VAW | Violence Against Women |

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Combating Violence Against Women and Children project is an $18-million effort funded by USAID to reduce violence against women and children in Egypt. Working in the context of a bilateral agreement between the United States and Egypt, the project supports the objectives of two main government counterparts, the National Council for Women (NCW) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), supplying them with tools and resources needed to accomplish their missions.

This annual report summarizes activities from May 12, 2007 through September 30, 2008, the project's first year.[1] The five-year project is managed by prime contractor Chemonics International Inc., with subcontractors Blue Law, LLP and Social Planning, Analysis, and Administration Consultants (SPAAC).

In partnership with the NCCM, NCW, and USAID, the Combating Violence project recruited and hired staff, established project offices, and launched a wide range of activities to benefit Egypt's women and children during the first year of operations. Importantly, we built strong partnerships with the NCCM and the NCW. While the process of receiving approvals from our partners and USAID on staff hiring and some technical activities has taken time, our partners, especially the NCCM, have shown tremendous commitment to the project's overall objectives and specific initiatives.

In partnership with the NCW, the Combating Violence staff and a team of consultants and subcontractors engaged by the project completed draft reports on all eight pieces of a major study of violence against women (VAW) in Egypt. We worked closely with the NCW on the initial recruitment and study design, and the council hosted roundtable discussions with leading academics, the NCW standing committee members, and other stakeholders to review and comment on the initial results of each of the pieces. As described in the body of the annual report, the preliminary findings from a quantitative survey in seven governorates shed new light on women's experiences and the attitude of women, men, and youth toward violence against women both inside and outside of the home. Other components of the study provide important new information on the legal and regulatory structure (*de jure* and *de facto*), services available to women victims, media attitudes and practices, and secondary research and analysis of existing data sets related to violence against women.

The study pieces include extensive recommendations for policy development and advocacy, as well as improving services available for victims of violence and for enhanced prevention efforts. To complete the study the project staff, consultants, and subcontractors conducted a total of 15 focus groups, roundtables, and workshops, incorporating the experiences, views, and recommendations of more than 200 professionals representing civil society, the government, academia, health care services, the media, international NGOs, donor agencies, and many other stakeholders. In the coming year, we will publish the study as a book, to be released at a major conference hosted by the NCW. With the support of the council, we will begin implementing some of the key recommendations.

Based on the initial findings of the Violence Against Women Study, the NCW and the Combating Violence team launched the first round of a grants program targeting Egyptian

[1] From the start of the project, USAID requested that the project follow a fiscal year reporting system. As such, the project's first year became a 16-month year from May 2007 – September 2008.

NGOs. Jointly, we developed themes for the grants program, established selection criteria, and published an advertisement requesting submissions of interest. We reviewed more than 200 concept papers received in response to the Request for Award (RFA) as the fiscal year came to a close. After approval of the grants evaluation committee composed of the NCW, USAID, and project representatives, we plan to issue 20 to 24 grants valued at approximately $1 million under this component of our program during the coming year.

Also based on the preliminary results of the study, the project developed and proposed two capacity building initiatives to the NCW in Spring 2008: 1) improving the ability of male and female community leaders (*ra'idat al rifiyat*) from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Solidarity to assist women victims of violence and 2) improving the capacity of social workers, psychologists, and managers in shelters for battered women. These initiatives remain subject to NCW approval in the context of approval of the work plan for fiscal year 2009.

In partnership with the NCCM, the Combating Violence project is focused on improving the policy environment and services for street children and children in conflict with the law. Both areas were affected by the passage of new amendments to the Egyptian Child Law in June 2008, amendments that bring Egyptian law largely into agreement with a wide range of international covenants and guidelines, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

To support the NCCM in advocating for passage of the amendments related to juvenile justice, we convened a three-day roundtable series in March 2008. The roundtables covered many new ideas introduced by the amendments, including child protection committees, alternatives to detention, public benefit work for children convicted of violating the law, and raising the age of criminal responsibility from 7 to 12. Participants included judges, prosecutors, representatives from international human rights organizations, donor-funded projects, Egyptian NGO leaders, and many other stakeholders. Additionally, the roundtable series advocated for strengthened judicial inspection of juvenile detention facilities and other places where children are deprived of their liberty and pressed for the introduction of independent inspection mechanisms. We partnered with the Association for the Prevention of Torture for these roundtables, which provided experts *pro bono*.

With the passage of the amendments to the Child Law, NCCM and the project turned our attention toward implementation, starting with the launch of child protection committees mandated by the new law. With project support, the NCCM conducted a series of five, two-day forums to help Egypt's 29 governors create General Committees for Child Protection. In the coming year, we will continue our assistance to the NCCM in this area, helping to launch district level child protection committees in selected areas. On this and other related activities, we are coordinating closely with other donors and projects, including UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan International, and the USAID-funded Family Justice project. Speakers and facilitators for the forums were drawn from the NCCM senior management (including H.E. Ambassador Moushira Khattab), NCCM project directors, and senior representatives from the Ministry of Justice, Office of the General Prosecutor, and Ministry of Social Solidarity. All donated their time without compensation from project funds.

To support Egyptian NGOs, the NCCM and Combating Violence project launched the first round of the violence against children grants program, focusing on improving services for street children and introducing alternatives to locked detention for children in conflict with the law. We received more than 150 concept papers in response to the RFA. A joint

committee comprised of the NCCM, USAID, and Combating Violence selected 12 finalists to develop full proposals. Under the violence against children component, we expect to issue 10 to 12 grants valued at approximately $1 million in the coming year. To prepare for the street children component of the grants program, we conducted an assessment and inventory of all of the reception houses serving street children in Egypt, identifying gaps and capacity building needs. These results were presented jointly with those of a UNICEF study during a workshop for the NCCM professional staff, Egyptian NGO representatives, and international NGOs and projects.

Finally, the project team conducted an assessment and delivered an initial capacity building program to the NCCM Media Unit. Additionally, we drafted communications strategies for street children and children in conflict with the law. We also funded the travel of three senior team leaders to a conference on child abuse and neglect in Hong Kong, allowing them to learn about the latest developments in the field.

While we pressed forward on our technical work, our operations team located and furnished office space, procured information technology equipment, established administrative and filing systems, and officially registered the project with appropriate government agencies. With the Chemonics' home office assistance, we maintained high quality and timely billing systems and contract management throughout the year. All financial and administrative systems and teams are currently fully staffed and running efficiency, forming a strong foundation for the remainder of the life of the project.

# SECTION I - INTRODUCTION

## Project Background

The Combating Violence Against Women and Children project is a five year, $18 million USAID project working to reduce violence against women and children in Egypt. The project supports two main government councils, the National Council for Women (NCW) and the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), supplying them with tools and resources needed to accomplish their missions.

USAID created the Combating Violence project under Strategic Objective 21 "Initiative in Governance and Participation Strengthened," and Intermediate Result 4, "Improved Human Rights Environment." Specifically, the project is designed to "Increase Protection of Women and Children Against Violence." In accordance with the Chemonics' contract with USAID, and in partnership with subcontractors Blue Law, LLP and Social Planning, Analysis, and Administration Consultants (SPAAC), our efforts are designed to achieve two project-level results:

- Improved capacity of the National Council for Women (NCW) and National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to advocate for policy change.

- Improved capacity of NCW, NCCM, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to respond to violence against women and children.

This annual report summarizes the activities from May 12, 2007 through September 30, 2008.

## Achieving Successes, Making Impact

In one of the fastest project launches in the history of Chemonics, the chief of party (COP), operations and communications manager, and home office start-up team arrived in Egypt less than one week after contact award and begin establishing the strong foundation under which the project currently operates. The team embarked upon a search to fill several positions which were not specified in the proposal or where professionals who, despite commitments at the proposal stage, were unable to join the team at the time upon contract award.

Concurrent with establishing offices and recruiting staff, the project worked closely with its counterparts to develop the first annual work plan and to establish relationships with its two main government counterparts, the NCW and the NCCM. The project team successfully established a strong foundation with both partners after overcoming some initial challenges. The following outlines the major accomplishments in Year 1:

- Designing and implementing a multi-dimensional study of violence against women in Egypt.

- Supporting initiatives to promote the passage of the new amendments to the Child Law and engaging stakeholders in capacity-building initiatives surrounding the implementation of these amendments, including conducting the first set of forums for members of the general committees for child protection in each of Egypt's 29 governorates

- Conducting a major assessment of Egyptian NGOs providing services to street children.

- Organizing and designing a roundtable series on changes to the juvenile justice system for leaders from government ministries

- Leading workshops to build the capacity of the NCCM, the NCW, community leaders, and government ministries to advocate for the reduction in violence against women and children in Egypt.

- Launching of the first phase of the $4 million project grants components, which included capacity-building concept paper development workshops, resulting in more than 450 concept papers related to the NCCM and the NCW's requests for local NGO grant proposals

### Encountering Challenges, Finding Opportunities

Starting up any major project is never without challenges. The Combating Violence project was no different. In particular three major challenges confronted the project at start-up: 1) engaging highly qualified professional staff, 2) establishing a strong relationship with the counterparts, and 3) navigating political sensitivities surrounding topics related to violence against women and children. The project successfully overcame these challenges and established a solid foundation for the life of project. Other challenges and opportunities are discussed in the NCCM and NCW sections of this report, as these pertain to implementation of our technical activities.

*Engaging highly-qualified professional staff.* When the COP and the Chemonics start-up team arrived in Egypt, they found that several of the professionals who had previously committed to join the project during the proposal stage had accepted other jobs, wanted to stay with their current employer, or, in one case, were disqualified by one of the project's counterparts. Fortunately, the COP and grants manager, the two key personnel in the Task Order, did join the project team. Among the vacant positions were the team leaders for the NCW and the NCCM components[2] and technical teams, with the exception of the Social Services Specialist Ashraf Abdel Monem.

Searching for the two team leaders was very difficult. Both positions required project management and technical qualifications as well as the ability to earn the trust of our counterparts. Because these two candidates would be sitting in the council offices and serving as the primary liaisons with our partners, finding the right team leaders was crucial a successful project. Fortunately, after an extensive search, interviews, and discussions with our partners, the project engaged two strong team leaders: Samah Said at the NCW and Magda Barsoum at the NCCM. In addition we hired highly-qualified technical staff to work at both councils.

*Establishing a strong relationship with the NCCM.* Upon project start-up the NCCM asked the project to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) outlining roles and responsibilities between the NCCM and the project team. While Chemonics and the

[2] The proposed NCCM team leader accepted another position working for an international NGO in Syria, and the proposed NCW team leader was disqualified by the NCW management team during the proposal review process.

Combating Violence project were not opposed to the idea of the MOU, there was concern about the language allowing council control over hiring staff and the provision of budget information. USAID shared our concerns; the negotiation of an MOU was not mentioned in the Task Order. However, USAID had set a precedent with an MOU between the NCCM and the USAID-funded Family Justice Project.

After extensive discussions between the NCCM, USAID Cognizant Technical Officer Naglaa Mostafa, Chief of Party Garrett Dorer, and Chemonics Home-Office Director Ian Rose, all parties agreed upon the final text of the MOU in October 2008, allowing a formal launch of the violence against children component.

The NCCM had approved the first annual work plan while discussions about the MOU were on-going, though the council's senior management, in particular Secretary General Ambassador Moushira Khattab, had not reviewed the text in detail. After signing the MOU, the NCCM conducted a second review of the work plan in November 2008, resulting in significant changes. Moreover, the, NCCM formed a Steering Committee composed of senior governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to review and approve the updated version of the work plan. After approval by NCCM, USAID provided approval for this modification of the work plan.

While the negotiation of an MOU took considerable time, it resulted in a stronger relationship with the NCCM. The selection of team leader Magda Barsoum by the NCCM senior management, project management, and USAID has strengthened this relationship further.

*Ensuring full partner involvement and high-level support for project activities*. The MOU challenge points to a larger factor in project implementation: how to ensure full involvement and high-level support for project activities. In short, how does the project develop a sense of ownership from its counterparts? Initially, we helped foster this support by developing work plans that met the needs of our partners. Both of our partners, in turn, created steering committees to review and comment on the work plan. These steering committees included council board of directors members and other stakeholders, both from government ministries and civil society. We have also involved the partners extensively in the selection of long-term staff and short-term consultants.

In conducting activities and reporting on accomplishments, we see our project as supporting the agendas of the two councils within the scope of work of the Task Order. At every step, we consult the councils' senior leadership, usually NCCM Secretary General Moushira Khattab and NCW Secretary General Dr. Farkhonda Hassan. Sometimes this process takes more time than expected, though the benefit is stronger relationships and backing for project activities. As of writing of this report, we have very solid support for project activities from the NCCM and the NCW. On both the violence against women and violence against children components of the project, we are very optimistic that this support will be continue and increase as activities move forward.

*Successfully navigating political sensitivities*. Violence against women and violence against children are sensitive topics in Egypt, as parties on all sides consistently make reference to tradition, religion, and culture in making their arguments. The NCW and NCCM each take a human rights approach to the topics based on international agreements, most importantly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Declaration on Violence Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child

(CRC). Both conventions have been ratified by Egypt and form part of Egyptian law. Nevertheless, political sensitivities over the role of the state in family affairs, rights of children, and rights of women sometimes run high. Pundits and politicians invoke religion, tradition, and culture to counter some articles of the law.

Political sensitivities came to a peak during debates over important amendments to the Egyptian Child Law in the spring of 2008, as well as after passage of the amendments during in June.[3] Even members of the ruling National Democratic Party were not united in their support for the amendments. While debating, some opposition figures argued against specific provisions in the amendment, arguing these ran counter to Islamic values and Egyptian traditions, arguing that the amendments had a foreign origin and were being pushed on Egypt. Ambassador Moushira Khattab, the Sheikh Al Azhar, and other important public figures countered that the amendments accorded with Islamic and Christian scripture and values, thereby marshaling considerable support.

In the sensitive environment directly following the passage of the amendments, the NCCM asked the project to cancel a planned high-profile event for street children. Additionally, the NCCM asked the project to reprogram a planned set of workshops with high-profile international figures from the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child and to focus on using Egyptian consultants. The project agreed with this approach, realizing this would increase the chance of success in implementing the NCCM and USAID's joint objectives. As testament to the s sensitivities surrounding the project's objectives, USAID had previously granted the project a waiver from branding requirements for juvenile justice activities involving the general public or press.

To replace the internationally-led workshops and maintain momentum in the implementation of the amended Child Law, the NCCM planned a series of forums to help Egypt's 29 governors launch the General Committees on Child Protection mandated by the amendments. The project supported this effort, used its own Egyptian staff and volunteer presenters drawn from government ministries, NCCM project leaders, and other highly respected Egyptians. The result was an Egyptian-led effort which gained a great deal of positive coverage in the press and succeeded in launching the committees.

Addressing violence against women is also a controversial topic in Egypt, especially when it relates to the relationship between husbands and their wives. In this area, the project's activities were not very high-profile during the first year, as efforts focused on the completion of the Violence Against Women study. To address political sensitivities surrounding this topic and ensure backing from opinion leaders and other stakeholders, the NCW requested and the project agreed to expand the scope of the study and contract with a variety of leading Egyptian academics and activists. As described in Section II of this report, the NCW and project team designed an Egyptian study team that represents various stakeholders and sectors, including private-sector research firms, university research centers, individual academics and researchers, a senior journalist and screen writer, and an NGO activist. We also used the services of a highly-experienced international consultant, but she has remained in the background and the public focus of our work remains almost exclusively Egyptian. While this strategy has been more complex and taken additional time than initially planned,

[3] Controversial provisions of the amendments include raising the age of marriage for girls from 16 to 18 years of age, criminalizing the practice of female genital cutting/mutilation, requiring medical tests prior to marriage, discouraging corporal punishment of children by their parents (although this provision was substantially weakened during the parliamentary debates), and raising the age of criminal responsibility for children from 7 to 12.

the NCW and project team hope this will yield a higher quality report to serve as a strong basis for advocacy moving forward.

### Annual Report Meets USAID Requirements

The Task Order requires Chemonics to submit reports on its activities every quarter, with the fourth quarter report serving as an annual summary of activities, progress, and challenges. The Task Order also requires that we provide an update on specific initiatives, such as training and procurement, as well as budget information. This report fulfils all of the Tasks Order's requirements for the fourth quarter progress report, as well as for the annual report for FY2008. We also hope that it includes some interesting information on our activities, generates thoughts about lessons learned that could be used by other projects, and, in general, allows the reader to understand more about efforts and challenges related to reducing violence against women and children in Egypt.

## SECTION II – SUPPORTING THE NCW EFFORTS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The NCW has shown commitment to strengthening the rights of women, increasing the participation of women in public office, and other issues related to furthering the development of women in Egypt. With the creation of the Combating Violence Against Women and Children project, the NCW has furthered its commitment to protecting the rights of women by targeting domestic violence against women and violence in society, including harassment on the street and in the work place. Beyond the framework of the Combating Violence project, the NCW is supports other initiatives related to violence against women led by the Secretary General and Standing Committees, including advocating for important legal amendments designed to strengthen punishment for sexual harassment and to guarantee women (and indeed all citizens) their inheritance rights.

**Major Achievements in Year 1**

- Completed drafts of all eight research papers which will become part of the overall Violence Against Women study.
- Presented draft results from all research papers (excluding the literature review) to NCW expert groups.
- Designed and launched the first phase of the Violence Against Women grants program, after receiving approval from the Secretary General.
- Received more than 350 concept papers in response to the advertisement for the first phase of the grants program and accompanying workshops.
- Designed two capacity-building initiatives for implementation under the FY2009 Work Plan.
- Established offices within the NCW and engaged a team of three professional team members to lead our violence against women activities in partnership with the NCW management.

To support the NCW's efforts, USAID created the Combating Violence project. The project has two objectives, in accordance with the grant agreement between Egypt and the United States under which the project was founded. These objectives are further detailed within the Task Order:

- Support the NCW's efforts to advocate for policy change related to violence against women.
- Help the NCW, other GOE institutions, and the NGO community increase their capacity to respond to violence against women.

In the project's first year of operation, it worked with the NCW's senior management, including Secretary General H.E. Dr. Farkhonda Hassan and a Steering Committee appointed by the NCW, to design and launch a major, multi-dimensional study of violence against women in Egypt. The study will form the basis for policy development and advocacy over the remainder of the life of the Combating Violence project and beyond.

The preliminary results of the study are also being used to design capacity-building initiatives and the first round of a grants program to Egyptian NGOs, launched with the approval of NCW in August 2008. Capacity building and grants are designed to help improve the capacity of the NCW, and NGOs to respond to violence against women, the second major project objective.

Throughout the year, we have kept the NCW fully informed about our activities through regular reports and meetings with our primary point of contact, Director General Omneya Helmy, during quarterly steering committee meetings, and in other meetings and communications with Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan. The NCW has had a significant role in staff selection, with NCW representatives interviewing all candidates.

This section of our annual report describes the project's work with the NCW from May 2007 through September 2008, the first year of the project's operation. The narrative follows the outline of the project's 2008 Work Plan, with the bulk of the discussion focused on the violence against women study, our most important activity during the year.

### Activity 1: Survey of Violence Against Women in Egypt

By the end of September 2008, the project has completed drafts of all of the elements of a comprehensive, national examination of violence against women in Egypt, including preliminary recommendations. The Egyptian experts writing each study element presented their preliminary results to expert groups chaired by the NCW Secretary General by the end of the fiscal year, and the project used many of the recommendations as the basis for developing its FY 2009 work plan. In the coming year, the study pieces will be published as a book and distributed in a major conference chaired by the NCW Secretary General or, subject to availability, the First Lady of Egypt.

The goal of the multi-dimensional survey of violence against women is to provide accurate qualitative and quantitative *information* on violence against women in Egypt and a set of *recommendations* designed to guide NCW leadership in policy development and support advocacy activities — as well as serve as a basis for specific interventions by the NCW, other government institutions, NGOs and donors—to reduce violence in the lives of Egyptian women.

When developing the original proposal based on the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Violence Against Women and Children project, we expected to conduct a limited survey in selected governorates, led by local subcontractor SPAAC and expatriate consultant Susan Somach. Upon discussions with the NCW Secretary General and Steering Committee for the project's violence against women component, it became clear that such a limited survey would not meet the needs of the council. Therefore, at the request of the NCW, we expanded the scope of the study with the agreement of USAID.

Most importantly, the NCW requested a study that could help develop initiatives to advocate for policy change along multiple dimensions at the national level. These included the legal and regulatory environment, services available to women victims of violence, media attitudes and practices, and secondary research on other data sets to learn more about violence against women in Egypt.

In addition to increasing the number of elements in the study, the Secretary General also recommended that the project increase the number and variety of authors. Rather than using a single, private-sector firm to conduct the survey with an expatriate consultant, she suggested that we utilize a variety of highly qualified Egyptian academics, university research institutions, journalists, and women's rights activists. In this way, the results would not seem as if they were the opinions of a single firm working for the NCW, the Combating Violence project, or foreign experts; rather, the results will reflect the knowledge and views of

**Planned Outline of the Violence Against Women Study**

I. **Preface**. By H.E. Dr. Farkhonda Hassan, Secretary General of the NCW.

II. **Introduction and Methodology**. By Susan Somach, a noted international consultant, and Gihan Abu Zeid, the Combating Violence project's Research Manager.

III. **Overview of literature on violence against women in Egypt and internationally.** By Gihan Abu Zeid and Susan Somach.

IV. **Knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to violence against women in seven Egyptian governorates**: Results of a survey of over 4,000 married men and women, and unmarried men and women. By SPAAC, an Egyptian private-sector research firm.

V. **Basic evidence on violence against women in Egypt:** Secondary analysis of violence against women panels in Egypt's Demographic Health Surveys in 1995 and 2005. By Fatima Zinaty & Associates, the authors of the DHS survey.

VI. **What can we know about the connection between violence against women and women's empowerment?** Secondary analysis of data on women's empowerment from three governorates in Egypt. By the Social Research Center, American University in Cairo.

VII. **An analysis of the de jure and de facto legal structure to protect women from violence in Egypt**. By Nihad Abul Komsan, Egyptian Center for Women's Legal Rights.

VIII. **Empirical evidence about how violence against women is portrayed in the visual and audio media in Egypt**. Secondary analysis of the data on the portrayal of women in print and broadcast media conducted by the NCW Media Watch Unit. By Inas Abu Yousef, director of the Women and Media Center at Cairo University.

IX. **Coverage of violence against women in the print and broadcast media and portrayal of violence against women in television serials and movies**. The results of focus groups with journalists, editors, media personalities, drama writers, and producers. By Amina Shafeek, *Al Ahram* newspaper, Dr. Adel Abdel Ghafar, Cairo University, and well-known screenwriter Mahfouz Abdel Rahman.

X. **Services available to prevent violence against women in Egypt and assist its victims**: What can be done for improvement? By the Samah Said, Violence Against Women team leader, with Amal Zaki, Mozn Hassan, Ashgan Farag, and Hala Abdel Kader.

XI. **What can be done to reduce violence against women in Egypt and better protect its victims**? Recommendations from a retreat with the NCW, external experts, NGO leaders, and government policy makers, and officials.

*Egyptian experts and institutions in a variety of fields*. As shown in the highlighted box above and described in the remainder of this subsection, the final study is being produced by private sector research firms, university research institutions, a noted journalist, a well-known screen writer, a women's rights activist, and the project's own team. With these highly-regarded Egyptian experts participating in the study process, the results and recommendations will carry a great deal more weight with senior decision makers, parliamentarians, and the general public. USAID agreed to our new approach verbally, in approving the First Annual Work Plan, and by approving scopes of work for the various study elements.

As described in the subsections below, the study elements have yielded some very valuable preliminary results, results that are being conveyed to decision makers and used to define the remainder of our joint activities with the NCW.

*Overview of literature on violence against women in Egypt and internationally*. Research Manager Gihan Abou Zeid and Violence Against Women (VAW) specialist Susan Somach have led the project's efforts to summarize the findings of the existing research studies of violence against women from the past 10 years in Egypt, as well as relevant research studies

of violence against women in the region and internationally, including both Arabic and English language sources. Many of the other authors of the study pieces also conducted literature reviews in their respective areas of expertise. The draft annotated bibliography, produced in March, reveals considerable gaps in understanding violence against women in Egypt, particularly concerning the role of men as perpetrators of violence. The final literature review, following input on relevant studies from the authors of the other study pieces, is expect in the first quarter of FY 2009.

*Knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to violence against women in seven Egyptian governorates*. This study, based on a quantitative survey in seven governorates of Egypt, measures incidence, attitudes, and knowledge regarding violence against women in four demographic groups – ever-married women, currently married men, unmarried young women age 15-24, and unmarried young men age 15-24. In total, a team of 30 data collectors, led by our subcontractor, SPAAC, interviewed 4,408 individuals between April and May 2008.

**Quantitative Survey**

The survey fills the gaps in other recent surveys on violence against women, by the following:

- Selecting a sample that is representative of a large portion of the Egyptian population, including persons from various regions, economic backgrounds, and education levels;
- Including interviews with not just married women, but also married men, unmarried young women, and unmarried young women in order to gauge their views on violence against women;
- Including a larger, more in-depth set of questions regarding violence against women (including questions that examine non-spousal domestic violence and community violence), the attitudes that underlie violence against women, and responses to violence.

The extensive questionnaire for the survey was rigorously designed by SPAAC, Ms. Somach, and Ms. Abou Zeid based on international best practices and focus groups with prototypical respondents. It was designed with the goal of providing useful data to analyze the following issues: 1) the types, levels, and causes of violence against women; 2) perceptions of violence among men and women and in different social groups and regions; and 3) options women currently have and or would like to have if they are victims of violence.
The draft reported a variety of findings, listed below:

- Roughly the same percentage of ever-married women report having been victims of physical spousal violence (28.3 percent) as married men who report perpetrating physical spousal violence (28.6 percent). Incidence of psychological violence was considerably higher, with 62.8 percent of ever-married women reporting having been victims of psychological violence by their spouse and 77.4 percent of married men reporting that they perpetrated psychological violence on their spouse.

- Only a quarter of ever-married women victims of spousal violence asked for help, primarily from their family, or secondarily, from their husband's family. Fewer than half of all ever-married women (46.6 percent) and just over a quarter of married men (27.7 percent) of men believe that women should complain to the police if her husband beats her.

- Approximately one-third of ever-married women have experienced psychological violence from their in-laws, such as insults or the inciting of her husband to beat or divorce her.

- 81.5 percent of unmarried female youth who have brothers report that their brothers have inflicted them or their sisters with psychological or physical violence. In addition, 79.3 percent of unmarried female youth report that their fathers have inflicted them or their sisters with psychological or physical violence.

- The vast majority of unmarried female youth (94.2 percent) have experienced at least one form of sexual harassment in the street, such as verbal flirting, being touched, or stalked, while 62.1 percent of unmarried male youth report sometimes flirting with girls in the street.

- Slightly less than half of ever-married women (42.9 percent) report having experienced sexual harassment on transportation, with a significantly higher percentage of such women in Cairo and Alexandria (61.5 percent) having experienced sexual harassment on transportation and a lower percent in rural areas. Both ever-married women and unmarried female youth consider buses and microbuses the forms of transportation that are the most likely to sites of sexual harassment.

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- The vast majority of ever-married women (84.5 percent), married men (88.1 percent), unmarried female youth (82.5 percent), and unmarried male youth (92.2 percent) believe that girls who wear tight clothes deserve to be harassed.

The report was completed and delivered to the NCW in September, and NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan led a roundtable discussion on the findings from the report. The project and SPAAC are currently working on a summary report for inclusion in the final study.

*Basic Evidence on Violence Against Women in Egypt.* The Combating Violence Project subcontracted with El-Zenaty & Associates, led by Dr. Fatma Zenaty, to provide a secondary analysis of the Egypt Demographic Health Survey (DHS) data sets for 1995 and 2005, the two most recent years in which the DHS included a violence against women module. This study, completed in April, provides quantitative indicators of the prevalence of domestic violence against women, risk factors associated with violence, and attitudes of women toward domestic violence. In addition, the analysis compares the 2005 survey data to the 1995 DHS survey data to identify changes over time. Based on a representative sample of 7,121 ever-married women aged 15-49 in 1995 and 5,613 ever married women aged 15-49 in 2005, these surveys represent the most accurate quantitative data available women's experiences with violence in Egypt. Some findings include the following:

- As of 2005, 47.4 percent of ever-married women surveyed have been hit, slapped, kicked, or subjected to some other form of physical violence since the age of 15. Husbands were overwhelmingly identified as the main perpetrators of violence against women.

- In 1995, 16 percent of currently married women reported being beaten by their husbands in the 12 months preceding the survey. In 2005, 20 percent of currently married women reported physical and/or sexual violence by their husbands in the preceding 12 months. However, differences in the questions asked in 1995 and 2005 make it difficult to determine if there were any real changes in the extent of spousal violence between 1995 and 2005.

- Women's attitudes about marital violence have changed somewhat between 1995 and 2005; women were less willing in 2005 to agree with justifications for wife beating. For instance, in 1995, 70 percent of surveyed women believed a husband is "justified" in beating his wife for refusing sex, compared to 34 percent of surveyed women in 2005 who agree with this justification.

- In general, the experience and overall patterns of violence against women were similar across both urban and rural areas. Notable differences between rural and urban areas can be seen largely in women's help-seeking behaviors and general attitudes towards marital violence. A greater percentage of rural women believe husbands are justified in beating their wives compared to urban women. Urban women who are victims of violence tend to seek help in response to marital violence more frequently than women in rural areas (39 percent to 32 percent), particularly among women who are *often* victims of violence (60 percent of urban women to 44 percent of rural women).

- Analysis of a variety of socio-demographic variables and their relationship with a woman's ever having experienced physical violence reveals that women with higher levels of education and greater wealth are less likely to be victims of spousal violence. However, when controlling for a variety of socio-demographic factors, higher levels of education among a woman and her spouse appear to be significantly associated with a lower likelihood of a women having experienced violence, but wealth does not.

The final report has been reviewed, edited, and presented in a roundtable discussion chaired by NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan and open to representatives from the NCW, USAID, the study team, independent researchers, and other stakeholders. The report is ready for distribution with the final versions of the other pieces.

*What can we know about the connection between violence against women and women's empowerment?* The Combating Violence Project contracted the Social Research Center (SRC) at American University in Cairo to conduct a secondary analysis of their Women's Empowerment data set. This data set includes a wide variety of indicators of women's empowerment based on a 2007 pilot survey of 2,400 ever-married women in Cairo, Sharkeyah, and Menya. SRC designed the study to contribute to a better understanding of the prevalence of violence against women and the various demographic and other factors that correlate to higher and lower incidence of violence against women in Egypt. Their analysis involved developing a conceptual framework for women's empowerment within the Egyptian context based on direct and indirect indicators of empowerment, such as woman's attitudes towards gender roles, age at first marriage, level of education, participation in organizations, etc. Using the empowerment framework, SRC used factor analysis to identify operational dimensions of empowerment and logistic regression analysis to examine the relationship

between these measures of empowerment with exposure to domestic violence, attitudes toward domestic violence, and help seeking behavior. Their findings include the following:

- Education does appear to be significantly related to the likelihood of being a victim of spousal violence. Women who have completed secondary education or higher were less likely to be victims of spousal violence.
- Some measures of a woman's autonomy, particularly regarding whether a women is able to buy things for herself or seek a medical advice by herself, appear to be significantly related to the likelihood of spousal violence, with higher levels of autonomy associated with a decrease in the likelihood of being a victim of spousal violence.
- However, most of the measures of women's empowerment that were examined, such as participation in elections, having a bank account, and attitudes on gender relations, did not appear to be significantly related to the likelihood of a woman being a victim of spousal violence.

The final report has been reviewed, edited, and presented in a roundtable discussion chaired by NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan and open to representatives from the NCW, USAID, the study team, independent researchers, and other stakeholders. The report is ready for distribution with the final versions of the other pieces.

*An analysis of the de jure and de facto legal structure to protect women from violence in Egypt.* The Combating Violence Project contracted short-term consultant and director of the Egypt Center for Women's Rights (ECWR), Nehad Abu Komsan, to conduct a comprehensive literature review of the legal and regulatory environment in Egypt and to lead focus group discussions with attorneys to discuss the application of laws and regulations regarding violence against women. These focus groups included 65 lawyers and other legal professionals and activists from the NCW Ombudsman Offices, private legal practices, and NGOs. Findings include the following:

- No specific provisions in the Penal Code cover crimes of honor and judges often mitigate or reduce sentences in such cases, according to participants. In particular, the Penal Code (Article 237) provides for a reduced sentence in cases where a husband kills his wife after surprising her in the act of adultery. There is no parallel reduction in the penalty for women who surprise their husbands.

- While the Penal Code criminalizes sexual assault, the Labor Law does not protect women from most forms of on-the-job harassment. The Labor Law provides no articles or regulations on this subject.

- The Civil Code and Family Law do not provide adequate protection and equality to women. In cases of violence where the woman should file a police complaint or separate from her husband for her own safety, she is often deterred from doing so because of fear of loosing her rights to alimony, child visitation, and other factors where the law does not provide her with adequate protections.

- Lawyers participating in focus groups said that it is difficult to prove cases of sexual harassment and assault and that during investigations the woman's right to privacy is

often violated. Furthermore, procedures—including investigations, court sessions and forensic medical examinations—are often very intrusive and, in effect, add to the violation of the woman victim.

- Lawyers participating in the focus groups reported that it is particularly difficult for women to prove violence within the marital relationship, and it is difficult to protect the wife from further violence after she files a complaint with the police.

- Many focus group participants said that, in passing judgments in cases where husbands assault their wives, judges often consider that it is the husband's right to discipline his wife, dismissing cases or assigning lesser sentences. Article 209 of the Sharia provisions of the Personal Status Law supports the husband's right to inflict "moderate" violence on his wife.

NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan chaired a roundtable discussion on the draft report. This discussion included representatives from NCW, USAID, the study team, independent researchers, and other stakeholders. The final report will be complete in the fall of 2008.

*Empirical evidence about how violence against women is portrayed in the visual and audio media in Egypt*. The Combating Violence Project contracted Dr. Inas Abu Yousef, director of the Women and Media Center at Cairo University, to conduct a content analysis of the NCW Media Watch Unit data on the issues related to violence against women in print and broadcast media. The NCW Media Watch data includes detailed observations from a sample of 20,160 hours of TV transmissions and 20,160 hours radio transmissions, excluding news and films. The sample of print media includes 672 issues of the Egyptian daily newspapers (national, party, and private) and 96 issues of Egyptian weekly print newspapers or magazines. Finally, a sample of dramas includes TV and radio series broadcasted from April 2005 to March 2006 and from February 2007 to February 2008. Findings from the report include the following:

- Results indicate that the discourse in the Egyptian media is generally opposed to, rather than supportive of, violence against women, although it is not uniformly opposed, and stereotypical views of women are common in the media.

- The issue of violence against women received more attention in the print media compared to TV and radio.

- A wide variety of types of violence against women were addressed in all of the media studied, but more variety in print media than on radio or TV. Types of violence covered, included wife-battering, marital rape, and female genital mutilation, sexual harassment, and coercive marriage, though some of the more controversial subjects were not covered in broadcast media.

- While dramas sometimes critically address issues of violence against women, many dramas suggest that women are responsible for the marital problems, violence, and conflict taking place within families. The characters in dramas who commit violence against women often support their actions with appeals to customs and traditions.

NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan chaired a roundtable discussion on the draft report. This discussion included representatives from NCW, USAID, the study team,

independent journalists, and other stakeholders. The final report will be complete in the fall of 2008.

*Coverage of violence against women in the print and broadcast media and portrayal of violence against women in television serials and movies.* Amina Shafeek, *Al Ahram* newspaper, Dr. Adel Abdel Ghafar, Cairo University, and well-known screenwriter Mahfouz Abdel Rahman were contracted by the Combating Violence Project to conduct seven focus groups with 81 print journalists, TV and radio personnel, drama writers, and drama producers to examine what men and women who work in the media think about the way violence against women is portrayed in the media. Findings include the following:

- Most focus group participants acknowledged the prevalence of violence against women in society and agreed that improvements could be made in how the media addresses violence against women.

- Print, radio, and TV journalists noted that violence against women is often either underreported or treated in a sensationalistic manner. When reporting on a particular event regarding violence against women, journalists remark that the media does not to try report the broader social context.

- Radio and TV personnel stated that privacy concerns are respected for all individuals in cases of violence, but print journalists contradicted that privacy is only available to the upper class.

- Drama writers mentioned that, when writing dramas, they are constrained by the demands of the censors, the interests of the producer, and the demands of the drama's star. Producers stated that drama production is a business, and marketing their product to the Gulf affects their production decisions; combating violence against women is not on their agenda.

- Drama writers and producers agree that TV dramas can be a vehicle for changing attitudes on violence against women, but this would require changes to their constraints and incentives, and will not solve the problem alone.

- Focus group participants identified the absence of a gender policy in their institutions, a lack of information about violence against women, a lack of proper resources, and the conservative attitudes of reporters and policy makers as the main challenges to addressing violence against women.

NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan chaired a roundtable discussion on the draft report. This discussion included representatives from NCW, USAID, the study team, independent journalists, and other stakeholders. The final report will be complete in the fall of 2008.

*Services available to prevent violence against women in Egypt and assist its victims.* Samah Said, the project's Violence Against Women team leader, along with Amal Zaki, Mozn Hassan, Ashgan Farag, and Hala Abdel Kader conducted a study to map services currently available in Egypt to prevent violence against women and help victims. As part of the this study, the team conducted workshops with seventy Egyptian NGO representatives and

meetings with representatives from Ministry of Health, health units and hospitals, forensic units, shelters, and other stakeholders, including international donors.

The preliminary results indicate there is critical lack of services available in this area, despite some valuable programs provided by NGOs and the hard work of doctors and nurses in state-run hospitals and clinics, as well as in the eight shelters for battered women currently operating in Egypt. Preliminary findings of this piece of the violence against women study include the following:

- Health providers stated that while some women victims of violence go to the hospital in order to receive the medical reports needed to file a complaint at the police station; many others merely seek treatment and are reluctant to speak out to avoid escalating their marital problems.

- Doctors said they do not have the time nor resources time to deal with the emotional and psychological effects of violence against women. Nurses often sympathized with the women victims but advised them not to provoke or escalate problems in the household in order to maintain the integrity of the family. Nurses said if they were better informed about community resources to which to refer the women, they could provide better help to victims of violence against women.

- Many interviewees stated that family planning units and other health care providers have a particular responsibility to help because reproductive health care providers, notably nurses and community leaders of MOHP, are strategically placed to help identify victims of violence and connect them with support services.

- The NCW established an Ombudsman Office in 2002 to receive complaints from women with regard to gender discrimination. The office has appointed lawyers and installed a toll-free hotline. The complaints deal with gender discrimination at the work place, Personal Status Law, domestic violence and inheritance among other issues. In addressing violence against women, the Ombudsman office cooperates with the Ministry of Social Affairs to refer victims of violence against women to their shelters

- Eight shelters have been established for victims of violence against women in Egypt. Shelter staff and managers reported that, despite the existence of unified regulations and procedures, there exists disparity in adherence to these regulations and procedures from one shelter to another. The management of a particular center can make a significant difference to the quality of the interventions.

- Two managers of shelters said there is a budget allocation for training and capacity building; however, little training has been delivered. Staff would benefit from both theoretical and practical knowledge in order to serve victims of domestic violence.

- Very few NGOs work extensively on VAW; those that do are located primarily in Greater Cairo and tend to focus on VAW campaigns for women's legal issues at large. These efforts, however, are visible, catchy, and manage to gain media attention and key actors at the policy level.

- NGO representatives noted there are sporadic activities and initiatives providing legal assistance to battered women and counseling services, however there is a need to adopt a holistic approach to address violence against women (VAW) from different dimensions with all key actors.

NCW Secretary General Farkhonda Hassan chaired a roundtable discussion on the draft report. This discussion included representatives from NCW, USAID, the study team, independent journalists, and other stakeholders. The final report will be complete in the fall of 2008.

*What can be done to reduce violence against women in Egypt and better protect its victims?* Each study leader provided policy recommendations to the Combating Violence Project along with the drafts of the individual study pieces. The Combating Violence Project has collected these recommendations and will present them at a retreat with the NCW and a wide range of stakeholders to establish consensus on shared recommendations, based on the results of the various research pieces of the study. The recommendations will not only inform the NCW's planned strategy on violence against women, but also help further shape work planning over the remainder of the life of the Combating Violence Project.

### Activity 2: Increase the Capacity of the NCW to Advocate for the Reduction of Violence Against Women in Egypt.

Activities intended to increase the capacity of the NCW to advocate for the reduction of violence against women in Egypt were expected to begin following the completion of the Violence Against Women study described in Activity 1, with the intent of ensuring capacity-building activities were based on a solid foundation of evidence based research. However, due to the expansion of the scope of the Violence Against Women study and the extended timeline required to complete it, the NCW and the project felt that it was prudent to move forward on some capacity-building initiatives, particularly those initiatives that would assist NCW in preparing to use the Violence Against Women study findings and those initiatives for which there was strong support, based on the preliminary findings of the study.

The project conducted its first training and capacity-building activity for the NCW in March 2008—an introduction to gender, development, and human rights focusing on the issue of violence against women for the NCW Secretariat led by Violence Against Women specialist Susan Somach (see below). The project expected to follow this with another workshop on advocacy and the use of research and data in advocacy efforts, but NCW did not see a pressing need for such a workshop. The NCW Secretary General has requested a de-emphasis on internal capacity-building initiatives, and requested the project pursue other activities.

In response, the project moved forward in recommending capacity-building efforts for violence against women services external to the NCW that the Combating Violence Project could conduct in partnership with the NCW. The preliminary recommendations from the Violence Against Women study included many suggestions related to capacity building and training. NCW team leader Samah Said presented the NCW steering committee with three capacity-building activities: training for community leaders from the Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS); capacity building for shelters operated under the auspices of the MOSS; and training for media personal. After deliberating, the NCW preferred to concentrate efforts on the former two activities (see below).

*Workshop for NCW on gender and human rights.* Violence Against Women Specialist Susan Somach conducted two three-hour sessions in March on violence against women for approximately 27 staff members of the NCW Secretariat. The training covered the following topics:

- Gender Issues in Egypt
- Gender in a Human Rights Framework
- Gender Analysis Techniques & Gender Requirements
- Violence Against Women in the Human Rights Framework
- Violence Against Women/Gender-based Violence
- Concepts, Legal Frameworks, Myths & Truths, Considering Causes & Effects, Approaches toward Services and Prevention
- Trafficking in Persons

Written evaluations after the conclusion of the workshop were very positive, with participants asking for more training on violence against women in Egypt and in the region that include examples and exercises from the Egyptian culture. The participants also requested topics such as trafficking and legal rights for women for discussions and trainings in the future.

*Training for Community Leaders from MOH and MOSS.* The inventory of services piece of the Violence Against Women study indicates that community leaders (*ra'idat al rifiya*) are often the first to hear about cases of violence against women and women victims often turn to these workers when they have problems. However, community leaders have little training in working with victims of violence against women. The findings of the DHS survey show that while levels of violence against women are approximately the same in rural and urban areas, rural women are much less likely to seek help. In these rural areas, community leaders are often the only source of help.

NCW team leader Samah Said and her team met with the Ministry of Health and Population, the Ministry of Social Solidarity, and other stakeholders to discuss the needs of community leaders and collaboration with the project to provide training courses for them. In July the NCW team met with 18 community leaders from Cairo and Giza to further assess their needs and understand the types of domestic violence that they encounter. The NCW team has developed a set of training topics, including listening skills and gender-based violence. Additionally, the team has identified potential consultants to conduct training courses for the community leaders. This activity is a critical component of the capacity-building initiatives proposed to the NCW for implementation under the FY 2009 work plan.

*Capacity building for shelters operated under the auspices of the MOSS.* The inventory of services study, based on interviews with all eight shelters for battered women operating in Egypt, indicates that the management and staff of these institutions could benefit from a significant amount of capacity building in order to effectively help women victims of violence. The NCW team leader Samah Said and her team met managers of women's shelters and NGO stakeholders to discuss general shelter management in the region and their specific experiences. Additionally, the NCW team met with representatives of MOSS to discuss opportunities for collaboration between the project and the ministry regarding capacity building for shelter personnel. The NCW team has developed a set of training topics, including listening skills and gender-based violence, and identified potential consultants to conduct training courses for the shelter personnel. Implementation of this activity is planned under the FY 2009 work plan.

### Activity 3: Support NGO Initiatives to Increase and Enhance Preventative Measures for Women at Risk of Violence and Services to Victims of Violence and Reduce the Level of Violence Against Women in Egypt.

Similar to Activity 2, the Violence Against Women Study was intended to inform Activity 3. Still, the NCW and the project felt that it was prudent to move forward on some capacity-building initiatives based on the preliminary findings of the study.

As such, the project secured approval from the NCW to proceed on a parallel track with the launch of the project grants program while the study of violence against women continued. The grants themes are as follows:

- Enhancing social awareness and building capacity for professionals working in the field of violence against women

- Strengthening and expanding services for women victims of violence

- Reviewing and revising legislation and laws related to violence against women

The above grant themes provide several possibilities for working with local NGOs, based on the preliminary results of the violence against women study. As the project progresses over the next four years, we will recommend additional capacity-building initiatives based on the final results and recommendations of the violence against women study.

The NCW team worked closely with the grants team to develop the grant solicitation, which appeared in the *Al Ahram* and *Al Masry Al Youm* newspapers and drew wide interest from local NGOs. We held four, Arabic-language grant orientation training sessions, attracting 189 participants (110 men and 79 women) from 168 NGOs, representing 18 governorates, resulting in more than 200 concept papers.

As of this writing, the project staff is still reviewing concept papers, with the Grants Evaluation Committee (GEC) expected to meet in mid-November to narrow down the field. We expect to sign grant agreements with approximately twenty NGOs in March 2009.

## SECTION III – SUPPORTING THE NCCM EFFORTS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

The National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) showed substantial commitment in strengthening protections for the rights of children during fiscal year (FY) 2008 by championing the drafting and eventual passage of extensive amendments to the Egyptian Child Law of 1996 as well as continuing to expand a wide range of efforts designed to help Egypt's children, including efforts to reduce female genital mutilation (FGM), child labor, and street children. In a new initiative, the NCCM started working with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to improve the treatment of children in conflict with the law.

**Major Achievements in the First Year**

- Established project offices and engaged long-term violence against children team.
- Conducted a major assessment of Egyptian NGOs providing services to street children, in particular through reception houses, and presented the results to stakeholders.
- Designed and launched the first phase of the violence against children grants program.
- Selected 12 concept papers for development into full grant proposals to improve services for street children and help introduce alternatives to detention for children in conflict with the law.
- Conducted a three-day roundtable series on changes to the juvenile justice system for leaders from government ministries and civil society.
- Conducted five forums for newly appointed members of the General Committees for Child Protection in 29 governorates. Forums helped create the General Committees and served to convey important information about their roles and responsibilities.

The Combating Violence Against Women and Children project was launched during this exciting political chapter in Egypt when it started to support the NCCM in its objectives. In particular, this component together with NCCM and USAID is focused on two groups of at-risk children: children in conflict with the law and street children. The NCCM component has two objectives in accordance with the grant agreement between Egypt and the United States under which the project was founded, which are further focused on issues related to violence in Chemonics' Task Order with USAID:

- Support the NCCM's efforts to advocate for policy change related to violence against children, in particular street children and children in conflict with the law; and,
- Assist the NCCM, other GOE institutions, and the NGO community increases their capacity to respond to violence against children.

Following the signing of the MOU, detailed in Section I, the project team completed the recruitment of this component's technical team, based inside the NCCM premises. Recruited in partnership with the NCCM senior management, the team is led by Magda Barsoum, with Social Services and Street Children Specialist Ashraf Abdel Menem and Juvenile Justice Specialist Judge Mohammed Moheb.

In the subsections that follow, we describe our joint activities over the last year in line with the sections in the approved First Year Work Plan. As the reader will see, we had significant success in both the areas of juvenile justice and street children. We were flexible in modifying our approach, as the political and social environment changed and needs of the NCCM changed, especially with the passage of the amendments to the Child Law. These activities form the basis of our work moving forward, as discussed in our Work Plan for FY 2009.

**Implementing the Amended Child Law at Center of Project Activities**

In 2003, Egypt embarked on a far-reaching legal reform process to strengthen the rights of the child. The process continued for five years, representing a broad participatory process. The NCCM led these efforts, starting by raising awareness of the rights of children in need of special protection—working children, street children, children born out of wedlock, child victims and witnesses to crimes, and children in conflict with the law. These advocacy efforts paved the way for the passage of a package of significantly progressive amendments to the 1996 Child Law in June 2008.

The new system created by the amendments strengthens protections for all of Egypt's children and guarantees their rights in accordance with those enshrined in the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Egypt was one of its first signatories. The amended child law protects children, inter alia, from abandonment, neglect, mistreatment, abuse, sexual and commercial exploitation, female genital mutilation, child labor, violence in the family and institutions, and trafficking. The amended law also strengthens protections for children in the juvenile justice system and for child victims and witnesses to crimes, and guarantees the rights of all Egyptian children to health care, education, and other basic social services.

To enforce these provisions, the amendments create a new and integrated system for child protection that includes a reformed juvenile justice system, newly-created child protection committees at the regional and district levels, and a child helpline with the power to investigate and refer cases to police, the prosecution, and to social and other services.

As the project progressed throughout the year, passage and then implementation of the amended Child Law took center stage in the NCCM's overall efforts and those of the Combating Violence Against Children project component. During March, we supported roundtable discussions to help build support for a new system for the treatment of children in conflict with the law and to advocate for new mechanisms to help these children, such as diversionary programs, alternatives to detention, public benefit work, and independent inspections. Then, after passage of the amendments, the NCCM convened the first set of forums for members of the general committees for child protection in each of Egypt's 29 governorates with support from the Combating Violence project. In the coming year, we plan to expand greatly our support for NCCM's efforts in this area, focusing on the development of executive regulations to the law; training and awareness building for social workers, prosecutors, judges, and other professionals working with children in the juvenile court system; and the launch of the district child protection committees, among many other activities implemented by the NCCM with support from the project team.

## Activity 1: Juvenile Justice

The project designed a series of roundtables on juvenile justice, featuring local and international presenters on the following topics: international standards and practices; independent monitoring, and alternatives to detention. Ambassador Moushira Khattab opened the roundtable series and stated the two goals of these roundtables: to introduce and generate discussion about the central components of General Comment 10 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child; and to increase awareness and understanding about a wide variety of alternatives to formal detention among key governmental and non-governmental groups in Egypt.

Forty-nine Egyptian professionals and key stakeholders from academia, NGOs, and the GOE, including Deputy Minister of Justice Counselor Bishry El Shorbagy, Deputy Prosecutor General and Head of Prosecution Inspection Counselor Dr. Adnan El Fangar, and representatives from the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS), the Ministry of Manpower, and the Ministry of Interior participated in this event. Participants highlighted the representation of various key government stakeholders as an important step in moving forward on juvenile justice, and noted the existing demand for training in the areas of international standards across both government and non-government personnel. In addition, contributors requested more training on topics related to raising the legal awareness of children who come into conflict with the law, rehabilitating the child within the family after criminal offenses, and raising awareness of society for dealing with children. Details of the individual sessions follow below:

- *International Standards and Practices.* The first roundtable focused on international guidelines related to children in conflict with the law, current practices in Egypt, and practices in other parts of the world, including the United States. International experts offered presentations on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and General

Comment 10 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, as well as juvenile justice practices in several countries. Participants subsequently discussed implementing these standards and practices in Egypt.

- *Independent Monitoring*. This roundtable included experts from the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) who delivered presentations on independent monitoring systems used in various countries in the world. Building on the International Standards and Practices Roundtable discussed above, APT experts presented examples of the purpose and functioning of independent monitoring systems, as well as specific international standards in this regard.

- *Alternatives to Detention*. The last roundtable in this series focused on comparative practices on alternatives to detention. International experts presented alternatives as used in other countries, and participants discussed which of these alternatives might be suitable to the Egyptian environment.

With the NCCM's support, we incorporated a child participation element to supplement the expert roundtables and recommendations, by discussing workshop topics and findings with children currently involved in the juvenile justice system. The project team, in partnership with MOSS officials, conducted three focus group interviews with children at various detention centers, including a facility housing young women. The roundtable series and focus group discussions shaped the project's initial grants program.

As a result of the roundtables and focus groups, the project, in collaboration with the NCCM, planned a three-part training and discussion series for judges, prosecutors, social workers, NGOs, and media personnel on implementing a new system for dealing with children in conflict with the law. These were in accordance with the amendments to the Child Law, which authorized creation of General Committees for Child Protection.

**Roundtable Recommendations:**

1. Advocate for passage of proposed amendments to the Egyptian Child Law.
2. Expand the knowledge of international guidelines and alternative practices for the treatment of children in conflict with the law among key groups of governmental and non-governmental professionals in Egypt.
3. Devise and implement a national advocacy and awareness-raising strategy.
4. Publish a guide of the rights, responsibilities, and obligations of those involved in the juvenile justice system.
5. Increase the number of women involved in the juvenile justice system.
6. Establish projects to pilot restorative justice principles and alternatives to locked detention facilities, such as public benefit work, tracking programs for children, and day and evening reporting systems.
7. Implement the legal provisions mandating judges and prosecutors to regularly visit places of deprivation of l berty for juveniles.
8. Develop a proposal to establish a dedicated, specialized committee of well-trained members to conduct independent inspections of places of detention for juveniles.
9. Agree upon and establish an independent and accessible complaints system invested with adequate powers giving priority concern to the issue of complainant and witness protection.

The committees are an integral part of establishing the new child protection system, taking a leading role in dealing with cases of at-risk children, thereby taking a leading role in reducing juvenile delinquency and the conditions which cause it. Additionally, the committees will assist in reintegrating children who have been assigned to juvenile detention facilities after they are released.

In the sensitive environment which followed the passage of the amendments to the Child Law, the NCCM asked the project to reprogram a planned set of workshops with high-profile international figures from the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child and to focus on using Egyptian consultants. As originally proposed, the program would have included partnering with the International Institute for the Rights of the Child, an international NGO based in Sion, Switzerland. The project agreed to replace the internationally-led workshops and assisted the NCCM in planning a series of forums to help Egypt's 29 governors launch the General Committees on Child Protection mandated by the amendments.

In addition to the Combating Violence staff, the project recruited volunteers drawn from government ministries, NCCM project leaders, and other highly respected Egyptian institutions to present at the forums. In preparation for these events, the project staff prepared a paper on the committees authorized under the amendments to the Child Law.
Within the span of one month, the project held five, two-day workshops for 183 participants, led by Egyptian experts, all of whom volunteered their time. These workshops included members of the General Committee for Child Protection in each of Egypt's governorates. The result was an Egyptian-led effort which gained a great deal of positive coverage in the press and succeeded in launching the committees.

In the coming year, the project will conduct a training program for judges, prosecutors, social workers, NGOs, and media personnel to ensure proper implementation of a new system for dealing with children in conflict with the law in accordance with amendments to the Child Law. Additionally, with the efforts of high-level legal experts, the NCCM team will assist the NCCM management in the drafting of the executive regulations required to implement the amendments. The team has already consulted with UNICEF and the USAID-funded Family Justice Project to coordinate efforts to launch the training for the child protection committees and develop the associated executive regulations. International NGOs and other stakeholders have been part of our planning meetings for the implementation of the committees at the general and district levels.

On the communications side, expatriate consultant Brenda Pearson worked with local consultant Ramona Canaan to develop a juvenile justice communications plan. This plan, along with local consultant Rania Fouda's companion piece on street children, includes recommendations for the NCCM's communications within the organization, to media members, and to the general public over the next four years. Next year's work plan also includes several media and communications activities resulting from this plan and Ms. Pearson's needs assessment of the NCCM media unit and subsequent workshop for the media unit.

**Launching Juvenile Justice and Street Children Grants Activities**

The NCCM team worked closely with the grants team to develop the grant solicitation, based on the results and findings from the juvenile justice workshops and the street children assessment (detailed below.) We advertised the grants program and applications for reception house renovations in *Al Ahram* newspaper. This drew wide interest from local NGOs. In response, the grants and NCCM teams hosted four, Arabic-language grant orientation training session. In an effort to expand the reach of the project, we held workshops in both Cairo and Minya. These workshops and supporting materials included information on how to write a concept paper, financial compliance, USAID rules and regulations, and monitoring performance.

There were 214 participants (35 men and 79 women) from 160 NGOs and 13 governorates. We received more than 150 concept papers, and the project staff short-listed 24 NGOs for further consideration. The GEC narrowed the list to 14, NGOs and after site visits and financial assessments, the grants team worked with 12 NGOs to fully develop their formal proposals.

We expect to sign grant agreements with the selected NGOs in January 2009, with activities continuing throughout the year. Also during the year, we will proceed with additional steps toward renovation of selected reception houses.

## Activity 2: Street Children

Social Services and Reception House Specialist Ashraf Abdel Monem and local consultant Hana Ahmed, conducted an in-depth assessment of street children reception centers and shelters in Cairo, Giza, and Alexandria. The assessment focused on three areas:

- Service – the team evaluated services provided at these centers and NGO's capacity to implement them.
- Staff – the team gathered demographic, background and education/experience information for all staff working in the program. In addition, they measured the staff's ability to interact with the children and meet their needs.
- Beneficiaries – the team interviewed the street children about whether the services provided met their needs and expectations.

Amreyah Field Visit- May 2008

Working closely with the NCCM, the assessment began with a meeting with 16 local NGOs working with street children. We presented the assessment objectives and held a discussion on priority areas for addressing street children. In a related activity, the NCCM undertook an extensive survey on street children, with the goal of obtaining an accurate count of the children and the reasons behind the phenomenon. Mr. Monem provided training to the social workers on ways to approach and interact with the street children while conducting the survey.

Based on this work, Mr. Monem drafted an extensive report outlining the current situation, the major findings, and recommendations for street children services. The project held a joint workshop for UNICEF in late spring to present the project's and SPAAC's respective surveys on street children. UNICEF and SPAAC's portion of the presentation covered their assessment of 21 NGOs working with street children and examined the entire operation of NGO operations, including financial and administrative systems, staff qualifications, and programs offered. Following the workshop, the NCCM team completed additional research and revised the inventory of services for street children. The findings from the assessments, detailed in the text box, informed the previously-described grant solicitors how to improve the services for street children. Highlighting the importance of this survey, the final publication of this assessment will include an introduction by Ambassador Khattab.

As an initial communications activity, local consultant Rania Fouda instituted plans for a major street children event that would have provided street children in Cairo with a day of sports and art activities. This was intended to draw media attention to the plight of street children. However, upon passage to the Child Law and the subsequent political controversy, this high profile event was cancelled at the request of the NCCM.

Ms. Fouda also worked with Brenda Pearson, communications consultant in developing a communications and advocacy strategy for street children. They met with NCCM and project staff, local NGOs, and other donors to determine appropriate communication

objectives, strategies and tactics which will form the basis for the NCCM's communications internally, to media members, and to the general public over the next four years.

**Major Findings from Street Children Assessment**

- The geographic locations of the reception centers are not adequate to serve the street children population. Several reception centers are located very near one another while large areas with a significant population of children have no centers.
- The quality of health and psychological services provided by the centers is extremely poor and limited. Of all the centers assessed there were only 4-5 psychologists working with the centers.
- There are insufficient numbers of staff to provide adequate services to the children, particularly women staff. In addition, they have limited capacity to interact with children.
- In almost all cases, children participated very little in the design, implementation, and evaluation of the programs serving them.
- The children view the reception centers primarily as a source of free services – including food, clothing, etc. The major incentive for them to visit the centers is the opportunity to socialize with friends.

## Activity 3. Improving Egyptian and NCCM Capacity Related to Violence Against Children (Cross-Cutting Themes)

In support of the project's central focus on street children and children in conflict with the law, NCCM also requested assistance in building its own capacity and that of other government entities charged with assisting at-risk children. Under this activity, the First Annual Work Plan identified five subtasks, which are described below. In many of the areas, the project changed focus as the situations developed, other projects launched their activities, and NCCM priorities shifted with the passage of the amendments to the Child Law.

Consultants engaged by the Combating Violence team evaluated the training needs of the NCCM Media Unit, producing recommendations for improvement both in terms of the structure of the department and skills of the staff members. As an initial capacity-building effort, the team delivered training that covered the following:

- Media Monitoring, Analysis, and Codes of Ethics
- Public Relations
- Media Relations
- Overview of the Egyptian Media Market
- Overview of Ramadan Media
- Components of a Communications Office

Led by Ms. Pearson, Ms. Fouda, and Ms. Canaan, the team also delivered a series of technical recommendations to media unit personnel, as well as overall organizational and managerial recommendations. These latter recommendations focused on possible scenarios for reorganizing the unit and/or changing its responsibilities to make it more effective within the NCCM. We will follow up with the Media Unit and the NCCM senior management on these recommendations in the next work plan year.

In addition to assessing the capacity of the media unit and providing initial training, the project planned to roll out training needs assessments for other departments, as initially requested by the NCCM during work plan development. As specified in the work plan, the Combating Violence team first reviewed work done on organizational restructuring by a project funded by the European Commission. At about the same time, UNICEF initiated

efforts to help the NCCM create three new departments, in essence reorganizing many of the NCCM's core functions. UNICEF also plans to provide capacity-building assistance to the new departments, and in some cases, plans to fund staff for some of the newly created positions. In such a changing institutional environment, it was not appropriate to complete a full training needs assessment, as originally planned, or to initiate the monitoring and evaluation program contemplated in the work plan, as UNICEF indicated that it would provide such capacity-building assistance to the NCCM.

**Microfinance Capacity Building for NGOs**

The Combating Violence Project sponsored a workshop on how microfinance can help at-risk children. This workshop, led by Michael Spingler, COP for the USAID-funded Egypt Microfinance Project, included 60 attendees from NGOs and NCCM staff.

Beyond monitoring and evaluation training, the project developed a plan for delivering training in communications skills and report writing to selected NCCM staff members. This program was put on hold until after the summer holidays and Ramadan. Subsequently, it was reprioritized as the project changed focus to helping governors launch the child protection committees and in the development of capacity-building initiatives in the FY2009 work plan, which includes work with a wide range of actors, including internal NCCM staff members, in areas directly related to the amended Child Law's provisions on children in conflict with the law and child protection committees.

In the revised work plan, the NCCM management asked the Combating Violence project to investigate ways in which various data sources could be better unified and utilized. During FY2008, we conducted limited research in this area, investigating data currently collected by the Child Helpline and from other sources. We found that the Helpline collects a great deal of valuable information and that it produces good "top-line" reports, categorizing telephone calls and actions taken on specific cases. That said, the Helpline team could use assistance in producing more analytical reports on the data collected to better inform policy decisions.

The remainder of this task was reprioritized during the year. We planned to conduct an introductory workshop on integrated policy analysis and advocacy methods, which was reprogrammed because of the UNICEF work on the creation of a monitoring and evaluation unit. As we investigated further, we discovered that there was no framework for deciding which data would be needed and how it should be analyzed. Such a framework should be developed in the context of a monitoring and evaluation system. Therefore, we have included a task in the FY2009 work plan to develop an overall monitoring and evaluation framework to evaluate progress in implementing the amended child law. This framework can then be used to determine the types of data, needed data quality and connections, and the way in which this data should be analyzed. The NCCM has accepted our new approach.

The first year work plan included developing and achieving a consensus on a general code of ethical conduct for professionals working in the field of child protection, particularly children in conflict with the law and street children. This task was reprioritized. We did not conduct more than preliminary research in this area. The plan to produce a code of conduct for the media was postponed pending issuance of the new Child Law, which includes more severe penalties for journalist or media outlets that publish the names of child victims and witnesses, as well as children accused of crimes. Through research, we also learned that the Journalists' Syndicate already has a code of conduct that covers some of these issues. We will address this issue in the coming year in the context of media training and roundtables with senior editors and producers.

As we closed out the project year, three members form the NCCM team accompanied Ambassador Khattab to the 17th Annual International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) in Hong Kong, where she delivered the keynote speech on the new amendments to the Child Law. Participants Dr. Azza El Ashmawy, head of the NCCM Trafficking Unit, Dr. Manal Shahin, head of the NCCM Child Helpline/Child Labor Units, and Ms. Somaya El Alfy, head of the NCCM Street Children/Reduction of Poverty Projects attended the conference to acquire a comprehensive view of the various forms of child maltreatment, physical abuse, sexual assault, and similar topics. The conference offered NCCM participants a unique platform to share knowledge and learn from the successful experiences of other countries.

We will continue documenting the project's progress through the first year, as well as lessons learned and success stories. Throughout the year, we regularly reported on progress, challenges, and lessons learned to both the NCCM senior management and USAID.

# SECTION IV – PROJECT GRANTS AND OPERATIONS

## Project Grants

Shortly after project award, Rebecca Sherwood, Chemonics grants specialist, and Sahar Mourad, Grants Manager, conducted meetings with other project staff, as well as external meetings with the USAID-funded Family Justice Project grants team and the Egypt NGO Service Center to gather information on existing grants programs and general grantee capacity. The result was a comprehensive grants manual, detailing the grant program's policies and procedures, roles and responsibilities of project staff, applicants, grantees, and council representatives, and eligibility criteria for the grants program.

In finalizing the manual, Ms. Mourad worked closely with the NCW to discuss the grants process, as this project is the council's first experience working with a USAID grants under contract program. The feedback from both the NCW and the NCCM became part of the Combating Violence grants manual. Upon USAID's approval in the second quarter of FY 2008, the grants team conducted a workshop on grants management for the entire project staff, with particular emphasis on the roles of the NCW and the NCCM technical teams. The grants team explained the roles of each team, grants workload, the grants cycle, and the timeline of activities.

**Key Achievements under Grants**

- Conducted training for 403 participants from 328 NGOs .
- Reviewed 354 grant concept papers for the NCCM and NCW grants program.
- Conducted 14 on-site financial and administrative assessments for the NCCM grants program.

The initial solicitation for the NCCM grants, based on the results and findings from the juvenile justice workshops and the street children assessment, appeared in *Al Ahram* newspaper in early April and drew wide interest from local NGOs. The grants and NCCM teams hosted four, Arabic-language grant orientation training sessions, attracting 214 participants from 160 NGOs from 13 governorates. After reviewing 150 concept papers, the project staff short-listed 24 NGOs for further consideration. The GEC narrowed the list to 14, and after site visits and financial assessments, the grants team worked with 12 NGOs to fully develop their formal proposals. We expect to sign grant agreements with the selected NGOs by the end of the first quarter of FY 2009, with activities continuing throughout the next year. Additionally, our grants solicitation included an opportunity for NGOs to request renovations and procurement for reception houses. We received 12 requests. During the second year of the project we will proceed with further steps towards renovation of selected reception houses.

The NCW grants program followed a similar process. The grants team and technical team consulted with the NCW to determine the grant themes, informed by the preliminary results of the VAW study:

- Enhancing social awareness and building capacity for professionals working in the field of VAW
- Strengthening and Expanding Services for Women Victims of Violence
- Reviewing and revising Legislation and Laws related to VAW

The grants solicitation in the newspaper drew wide interest from local NGOs. We held four, Arabic-language grant orientation training sessions, attracting 189 participants from 168 NGOs, representing 18 governorates, resulting in 204 concept papers. As of this writing, the project staff is still reviewing concept papers, with the Grants Evaluation Committee (GEC) expected to meet in mid-November to narrow down the field. We expect to sign grant agreements with approximately a dozen NGOs in the second quarter of FY 2009.

NGO Abagaia Fall 2008

**Rapid Response Start Up and Project Launch**

Within a week of contract award, Chemonics COP Garrett Dorer and a start-up team from the Chemonics home office arrived in Egypt to launch the project. They quickly established the office and began developing the Year 1 work plan.

The team launched a cooperative work planning process that involved extensive meetings with the leadership of the NCCM and the NCW, USAID, local experts, and NGO representatives. Both the NCCM and the NCW approved their respective sections of the work plan but took more time than anticipated to come to conclusions on which activities to include in the final work plan. Furthermore, the signing of the NCCM Memorandum of Understanding, took several months to negotiate and had an impact on both the NCCM work plan development and staff hiring. Ultimately, the NCCM had to submit a revised version of its work plan after USAID's approval, which cause further delays in the Year 1 activities launch. These efforts, however, were critical in establishing a project foundation that reflected the true goals of the project counterparts. Although the delays affected the project schedule, they were important steps in establishing a project that is set up to successfully take initiative in reducing the violence against women and children in Egypt.

The Combating Violence team has established efficient project management systems and a solid foundation upon which technical activities are designed and implemented to meet the needs of its counterparts and adhere to the project's main objectives. In Year 1, the project established a strong team of over 20 professionals, overcame the challenges of a rapid start up, established good relationships with USAID, its counterparts and subcontractors, and instilled reliable financial and reporting best practices and systems.

**Personnel and Staffing**

The Combating Violence project is represented by a solid team of over 20 Egyptians and expatriates working cohesively together to achieve the project objectives. The staff has developed strong working relationships together to fluidly implement activities, and the long-term team leaders have become liaisons between the project, important outside Egyptian counterparts, and the COP.

At the start-up phase many of the proposed staff were not able to join the. Furthermore, it was very important that the NCCM and the NCW played an active role in selecting team leaders.

Delays in finding the right people for the job and delays related to obtaining approvals caused setbacks in the implementation of Year 1 activities. The importance, though, of finding the right mix of professionals was a critical step in laying the foundation for a successful project that would make significant change in the rights of women and children in Egypt. The project believes the team it has on board now is the best team to accomplish this mission.

Moving into Year 2, the project has proposed adding critical long-term and short-term staff members. Both the NCCM and the NCW teams will bring a core team of short-term specialists to work at least two days per week leading the training development process and serving as the technical backbone in implementing other project activities. Having this core unit of reliable staff members will result in stronger partnerships and streamlined activities.

The project is also proposing the addition of two long-term technical specialists to aid the NCW and NCCM team leaders in implementing activities. The NCW team has plans to engage a full-time violence against women legal specialist and the NCCM team will hire another senior-level Child Protection Legal Specialist.

### Cross-Cutting Support

The first annual work plan outlined the project's plans for providing cross-cutting support to government counterparts and NGOs to increase protection of women and children from violence. Training and events, financial and contractual compliance, subcontractor relationships, and public awareness, are all cross-cutting elements that have played key roles in the Year 1 NCW, NCCM, and grant activities. Our Year 1 activities in each area are described below.

*Training and Events*. During the first year of project implementation, The Combating Violence Project provided a limited yet engaging set of training activities focusing on targeted capacity building for the NCW, NCCM, and potential grantees. These training activities are summarized in Annexes F and G. Additionally, the Combating Violence project, in consultation with our counterparts, has identified key training needs for meeting project objectives in the second year. The project has identified individuals and groups of professionals as audiences for training and has assessed the critical gaps in knowledge, skills, and abilities that could be addressed through targeted training activities.

The training plan of the Combating Violence Project is built on the following principles and standards that will support achievement of performance objectives while developing and sustaining the human and intellectual capacity of training participants beyond the life of the project: needs-based; appropriately targeted; results-oriented; sensitive to the local context; supported by comprehensive written materials; and evaluated thoroughly.

In Year 1 the project sent three NCCM team members to a conference in Hong Kong to dialogue with other international leaders on topics of child abuse and neglect. The conference coincided with the recent Child Law amendments that were adopted by the Egyptian Parliament in 2008 and offered the NCCM participants a unique platform to share knowledge and learn from the successful experiences of other nations in order to move towards a safe and caring environment for the optimal growth and development of children in Egypt.

During the second year of the project, the Combating Violence team will develop and implement an ambitious set of training courses, based on the information gathered and

analyzed during Year 1. While the bulk of training courses will be short in-country trainings, the project also plans to implement two U.S. study tours to introduce new ideas and models not common in Egypt or the Middle East region. Furthermore, the project will implement an extensive training program targeting local judges, prosecutors, social workers, NGOs and other key stakeholders to build understanding of the new Child Law amendments as well as build their capacity to respond more effectively to policy makers to successfully advocate for changes that will help reduce violence against women and children.

*Contractual and Financial Compliance.* Using the financial and contractual compliance systems and procedures established during the previous quarters, the Combating Violence project is operating in a smooth and efficient manner, including our satellite offices located within the NCW and the NCCM.

The project works in partnership with the home office, Operations and Communications Manager Lisa Marie Chávez, and the in-house finance team of Ms. Mona Halim and Mr. Sherif Arafa to ensure the project is diligently following USAID rules and regulations as well as implementing a program that is cost efficient and cost compliant. Several home-office visits from the PMU members as well as the Field Accounting and Compliance Team have served as a second set of eyes to ensure the implementation of smooth and compliant operating systems.

*Subcontractors.* Chemonics works in partnership with subcontractors Blue Law, LLP and Social Planning, Analysis, and Administration Consultants (SPAAC) to provide support mainly under the NCW component. Blue Law employs our long-term research manager, Gihan Abou Zeid, leading the Violence Against Women study. Blue Law has been consistent in delivering high-quality service and attention to invoicing and subcontractor management as well as providing the project with important technical short-term expatriates, when needed.

Additionally, SPAAC is playing the major role in collecting and synthesizing the data for the study. The parameters for the Violence Against Women study widened, resulting in an expansion of the subcontract scope and increase in the subcontract value for SPAAC. At this time, the project does not expect SPAAC to play a large role over the remainder of the project.

As part of the Violence Against Women study, the Combating Violence project negotiated fixed-price subcontracts with El-Zenaty & Associates and Social Research Center (SRC) at American University in Cairo to conduct a secondary analysis of the Egypt Demographic Health Survey, and a secondary analysis of their Women's Empowerment data set, respectively.

*Public Awareness and Media Monitoring*. On a bi-weekly basis, the team reviews major daily and weekly newspapers for stories related to violence against women, violence against children, and news related to our two government counterparts. Public Awareness Specialist Shereen Boushra took the lead in creating a format for regular media monitoring reports and cataloging all the major public awareness activities in the sector to ensure coordination and avoid duplication between the Combating Violence project and other donors and NGOs. To streamline the process, the project signed a subcontract with a local media research firm to compile daily articles related to the project topic areas. Nermine el Chafy now leads the initiative and the project now holds a relevant database of media history to reference in topics surrounding women's and children's issues in Egypt.

# ANNEX A – PERFORMANCE MONITORING PLAN ANNUAL REPORT

## A. Introduction

To capture and report on the impact of project interventions, the Combating Violence project uses a combination of operational reporting indicators, qualitative impact assessments, and activity milestones. These include:

*Operational reporting indicators.* The Combating Violence Project tracks three indicators for regular operational reporting based on the State/F Indicators for "Governing Justly and Democratically." The indicators are as follows:

- Number of public advocacy campaigns on human rights supported by the project.
- Number of key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders trained in the context of activities related to violence against women or children.
- Number of local NGOs receiving project funds or in-kind assistance to address violence against women and/or children.

*Qualitative impact assessments.* To augment the formal reporting on the output-oriented indicators above, the project has identified four assessment areas in which we can measure progress and overall impact during the life of the project. These are:

- Assessment of positive policy changes related to juvenile justice.
- Assessment of implemented policy recommendations from Violence Against Women study.
- Assessment of project impact on quality and quantity of services provided to street children.
- Assessment of project impact on quality and quantity of services provided for the prevention and treatment of women victims of violence.

*Milestones.* In addition to the indicators and impact assessments listed above, the project tracks progress according to activity milestones (outputs) defined in each annual work plan.

Each of the operational reporting indicators and qualitative impact assessments are discussed below. Activity milestones are discussed in the main body of the report. Overall, the Combating Violence project met or exceeded its target in one out of the three operational indicators. In addition, the project has drafted baseline reports for three of the four qualitative impact assessments, all of which are expected to be completed in their final form in the fall of 2008, with the exception of the baseline recommendations from the VAW study which is expected to be completed in early 2009.

**Performance Monitoring Plan Background**

The project PMP was introduced in the first annual work plan with the understanding that indicators would be finalized after the start of implementation of the work plan and based on discussions with USAID. The final Combating Violence Project PMP was approved by USAID in November 2007.

All of the indicators and assessments described in this PMP annual report are the same as those listed in the November 2007 PMP with one exception.

Following discussion with USAID in October 2008, the second operational reporting indicator was changed from, "Number of local NGOs receiving project assistance to address violence against women or violence against children" to "Number of local NGOs receiving project *funds or in-kind* assistance to address violence against women or violence against children".

The former definition would have counted NGOs that participated in trainings or received technical assistance from the project, but which did not receive grant funds or project procurement of goods and services. The new definition only counts NGOs that have received grant funds or project procurement of goods and services.

## B. Operational Reporting Indicators

| 1. Operational Indicator | FY 2008 Target | FY 2008 Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Number of public advocacy campaigns on human rights supported by the project | 3 | 2 |

As described in the annual PMP, the Combating Violence Project counts as a single "campaign" the set of all the related organized outreach activities intended to build support for a specific cause aiming to improve the rights of women or children, including protection from violence. Project support may include technical assistance on the technical subject matter, advocacy training and strategic guidance, direct project funding (including grants), etc.

During the past year, the Combating Violence project supported two distinct public advocacy campaigns, one less than our target of three. The project also provided support for additional campaigns that were planned during the year, but whose implementation was delayed.

### B1. Advocacy for Passage of the Amendments to the Child Law: Improving the Treatment of Children in Conflict with the Law

The NCCM has been working for more than two years to develop and advocate for the passage of amendments to the Egyptian Child Law. These amendments are an important step in bringing Egyptian into line with international human rights instruments with respect to the treatment of children. As one of its first initiatives, the project helped the NCCM build understanding and support for the portion of the amendments concerning reforms to the juvenile justice system by conducting a three-day roundtable for government leaders and civil society representatives on the importance of instituting a new system for the treatment of children in conflict with the law. Among the topics, the three days of roundtable sessions covered alternatives to detention for children who commit minor crimes, public benefit work as an alternative to detention, rehabilitation programs, raising the age of criminal responsibility from 7 to 12, and judicial and independent inspections of places where children are deprived of their liberty. After the roundtables, we provided the NCCM with information on the benefits of changes to the juvenile justice system as seen in other countries, most notably the United States, and a document summarizing frequently asked questions and

answers that would help the NCCM advocate for passage of the juvenile justice portions of the amendments. The amendments were successfully passed by the Egyptian parliament in June 2008 and signed into law by the President of Egypt.

### B2. Implementation of the Child Law: General Committees for Child Protection

After passage of the amendments to the Egyptian Child Law in June 2008, GOE counterpart the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood embarked on an effort to facilitate implementation of the law. As one of its first initiatives, the NCCM and USAID-funded Combating Violence Against Women and Children project conducted 5, 2-day forums for the members of general committees for child protection in each of Egypt's 29 governorates. The forums, as well as individual communications with the governors and their staffs, were designed to advocate for the governors to implement the law by appointing the members of the committees (as required by the amendments) and inform them and the committee members about their roles and responsibilities under the law. The forums were also an opportunity for the NCCM, with the project's assistance, to raise awareness and support among key government officials and civil society leaders about the overall philosophy behind the law and all of the amendments, a philosophy that emphasizes the human rights of the child and his or her best interest. In accordance with the law, the general committees are composed of the most senior civil servants from the line ministries concerned with the welfare of children in each governorate, in addition to representatives from civil society. As of the end of the fiscal year, all 29 general committees had been created.

A planned campaign to reduce violence against women in Egypt and improve the services for and treatment of its victims was not implemented. We planned to help USG counterpart, the National Council for Women, launch advocacy and public awareness efforts related to violence against women during FY2008 after the public release of a major study of violence against women conducted with USAID support through the Combating Violence Against Women and Children project. The size and the scope of the study were increased by the counterpart with USAID agreement, and the final results have not yet been released as described in section II. During the coming fiscal year, we expect to provide substantial assistance to advocacy efforts in this area.

### B3. In-country and Overseas Training

| 2. Operational Indicator | FY 2008 Target | FY 2008 Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Number of key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders trained in the context of activities related to violence against women or children. | | |
| Total | 170 | 485 |
| Male | 85 | 281 |
| Female | 85 | 204 |

As described in the annual PMP, key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders refers to personnel within the NCCM, NCW, or other GOE representatives such as social workers, prosecutors, judges, et al., and non-governmental actors such as civil society activists, journalists, and academics. Training refers to training or education activities, short-term or long-term, conducted in-country or overseas provided by the project. Training subject matter may be on technical issues of violence against children/women or general organizational

capacity issues. Each training participant is counted only once in a given year, even if he/she has attended more than one training event.

In FY 2008, the Combating Violence Project conducted six in-country training courses and one overseas training activity for the purpose of training key governmental and non-governmental stakeholders in the context of activities related to violence against women and children. A list of the in-country training courses, overseas training, and attendance for each are provided in Table 1. As is evident above, the actual number of key stakeholders trained (485) far exceeded the expected number of stakeholders trained (170). This is primarily due to the overwhelming response from the NGO community to participate in the two grants orientation workshops for NCCM and NCW. Consequently, most of stakeholders trained by the project in FY 2008 were non-governmental (450) rather than governmental (35).

**Table 1. In-Country and Overseas Training Activities, FY 2008**

| | Number of Participants[4] | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **In-Country** | **Total** | **Male** | **Female** |
| Gender Training for NCW; March 2008 | 26 | 3 | 23 |
| NGOs Grants Orientation Workshops (Violence Against Children Grant); four workshops, May 2008 | 214 | 135 | 79 |
| Workshop for the NCCM Media Unit, July 2008 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| NCCM Microfinance Training for NGOs, July 2008 | 60 | 38 | 22 |
| Grants Proposals Writing for NCCM Grant applicants; two workshops, August 2008 | 24 | 15 | 9 |
| NGOs Grants Orientation Workshop (Violence Against Women Grant); four workshops, September 2008 | 189 | 110 | 79 |
| **Overseas** | | | |
| The 17th ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect; September 2008, Hong Kong | 3 | 0 | 3 |

### B4. NGOs Receiving Project Assistance

| 3. Operational Indicator | FY 2008 Target | FY 2008 Actual |
|---|---|---|
| Number of local NGOs receiving project assistance to address violence against women and/or children | 18 | 0 |

As described in the annual PMP, this indicator counts the number of local Egyptian NGOs receiving project assistance in the form of grant funds or procurement of goods and services. Project assistance will be used to support activities to address violence against women or children, such as providing services, reporting, advocacy, outreach, education or protection of

[4] Please note that because some individuals attended more than one Combating Violence Training activity, the sum of the these columns will exceed the total number of participants noted for PMP Indicator 2. Duplicate attendees are removed for PMP indicator 2, as required by USAID.

victims. NGOs that receive grants and procurement will also receive technical assistance to address violence against women or children. This figure includes grants continuing for more than one year.

In FY 2008 the Combating Violence Project intended to award grants to eighteen NGOs, working to address violence against women or children; we intended to first award grants addressing violence against children. Due to delays in finalizing an approved NCCM work plan and the extended timeframe required to award grants to NGOs in Egypt, we were not able to award funds by the end of FY 2008. However, the grants process is well under way as described in the main body of the report and funds are expected to be disbursed to the selected grantees by February 2009.

Still, it is worth remarking that the project has provided non-financial assistance to NGOs in the form of training. During FY 2008, 318 NGOs participated in training courses provided by the project particularly, the NCCM and NCW grants orientation workshops, but also the NCCM microfinance training, and NCCM grants proposal writing workshop.

## C. Qualitative Impact Assessments

To augment the formal reporting on the output-oriented indicators above, the project has identified four assessments for measuring progress and overall impact during the life of the project. Each qualitative impact assessment is structured to begin with a baseline report followed by tracking of interim progress on a six month basis and ending with an impact assessment at the conclusion of the project. Each of the baseline reports is either in progress or completed as of the end of FY 2008. The six-month interim progress tracking begins in FY 2009.

### C1. Assessment of Positive Policy Changes Related to Juvenile Justice

This assessment seeks to determine what, if any, positive policy changes related to juvenile justice have occurred during the life of the project, and what was the project's impact on these changes. As described in the annual PMP, a policy "change" may include a change in legislation, executive regulations, or implementing policies (whether formal or informal). A change that moves Egyptian policy closer to the international best practices as described in General Comment no. 10 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is considered as a "positive" policy change.

The baseline report for this assessment consists of a gap analysis, comparing the international best practice recommendations in General Comment no. 10 to current Egyptian law on the issue of juvenile justice. The task of completing this baseline was complicated, though, by the significant changes to Egyptian policies on juvenile justice resulting from the recently passed Child Law amendments. Consequently, the baseline report compares the international standards to Egyptian law regarding juvenile justice both before and after the passage of the Child Law amendments. Although currently being revised, the table below provides some of the highlights of the baseline report.

### Highlights from the Baseline Report

| Recommendation from General Comment No. 10 | Accepted in Egyptian Law *before* new child law amendments? | Accepted in Egyptian Law *after* new child law amendments? |
|---|---|---|
| ***Age of Criminal Responsibility***. The minimum age of criminal responsibility should be set at 12 or higher, without any exceptions. For children under 12 in conflict with the law, special protective measures should be taken. | No: Age of criminal responsibility is 7 years of age. | Partially: age of criminal responsibility is 12 years of age, although some exceptions exist. For children under 12 and in conflict with the law, the child's case should be addressed by child protection committees created under the new child law. |
| ***Diversion***: Intervention without resort to judicial proceedings and referral to alternative social services (i.e., diversion) should be available and a well established practice in most cases of child criminal misconduct, particularly minor offenses and first time offenders. | No: If child commits offence under 7, then no judicial procedures occur, but for children 7 and over there is no option of diversion from judicial proceedings to alternative social services | No: If child commits offence under 12, then no judicial procedures occur, but for children 12 and over there is no option of diversion from judicial proceedings to alternative social services |
| ***Alternatives to Detentions***: State should have alternatives to detention for sentencing child offenders, including social/educational measures. Alternatives should include guidance and supervision orders, probation, community monitoring, day report centers, and early release from detention | Yes: Alternatives to detention for sentencing child offenders include:<br>1. Reprimand<br>2. Delivery to father and mother w/instructions<br>3. Vocational Training<br>4. Committing to classes for awareness and rehabilitation<br>5. Probation<br><br>Judges have the authority to stop any sentences of detention following a sentence of detention. | Yes: Alternatives to detention for sentencing child offenders include:<br>1. Reprimand<br>2. Delivery to father and mother w/instructions<br>3. Vocational Training<br>4. Committing to classes for awareness and rehabilitation<br>5. Probation<br>6. Public benefit work<br><br>Judges have the authority to stop any sentences of detention following a sentence of detention. |
| ***Deprivation of Liberty.*** Deprivation of Liberty should be stated as a measure of last resort to be used for the shortest possible time. | No. | Yes: Child law amendments affirm that deprivation of liberty is a measure of last resort and should be used for the shortest time possible in sentencing. |
| ***Death Penalty for Children*.** Death penalty should be prohibited for persons under 18 at the time of the offence. | Yes: The death penalty is prohibited for children under the age of 18 at the time of the offense. | Yes: The death penalty is prohibited for children under the age of 18 at the time of the offense. |

Changes to the law and its implementation regarding the juvenile justice issues mentioned in the table above as well as additional issues to be included in the baseline report will be tracked throughout the life of the project.

### C2. Assessment of Implemented Policy Recommendations from Violence Against Women Study

The project is currently conducting a broad study on violence against women including both quantitative and qualitative methods. The study will serve as the basis for developing policy recommendations on addressing violence against women in partnership with the NCW and the recommendations will serve as the baseline report for this assessment. On a six-month basis the project will tack the progress on the recommended policy interventions. Because the policy recommendations of the VAW study have not yet been completed, though, there is no data to report for this assessment at this time.

### C3. Assessment of Project Impact on Quality and Quantity of Services Provided to Street Children

This assessment seeks to determine how services provided for street children have changed in terms of both quantity and quality and what impact the project has had on these changes. As part of this assessment, Ashraf Abdel Monem of the Combating Violence Project NCCM team conducted a baseline report on the quantity and quality of services to street children, focusing on those organizations that provide, at a minimum, overnight care or day care (drop-in) services. From December 2007 to March 2008, the Combating Violence Project conducted an inventory of street children services to asses the quantity and quality of street services available to street children. The Combating Violence project will track interventions by the Combating Violence Project that address quantity and quality of services to street children on a 6 month basis beginning in FY 2009 and a final assessment will be completed at the end of the project.

*Methodology.* While there are many government and NGO services which may directly or indirectly benefit street children, the baseline survey focused on the two most critical services whose primary constituents are street children: residential shelters and day care (drop-in) centers. Residential shelters are those facilities that provide overnight care to street children – at minimum a bed for sleeping. They typically provide other services as well, such as food and activities, during the day. The residential shelters included in our study do not include other forms of institutional care for children, such as orphanages, that do not target street children. Drop-in centers are facilities that provide street children with a place to stay, food, activities, and other services during the day, but which close in the evening. Both of these services are distinguished from similar types of services that may be provided to disadvantaged children by the fact that their primary constituents are street children. Service providers that provide services that may benefit some street children or that actively target services to street children but do not provide residential shelters or drop-in centers were not included in the study due to the difficulties of fully capturing such information.

The study used a snow-ball methodology to ensure a complete inventory of the residential shelters and drop-in centers for street children in Egypt. Well known street children NGOs were interviewed about their services and asked to provide information on other NGO services providers. Due to the small number of providers and the well-established connections between them, this method is likely to capture all service providers. Still, to supplement the information provided by NGO service providers, international donors were asked about street children NGOs that they are aware of or fund. Finally, at each service provider visited, between 2 and 10 street children were interviewed on a wide range of questions including other shelters and centers that they were aware of. Any new information provided by the respondents was followed-up on. While there is always the possibility that other service providers no included in our study exist, we have a high degree of confidence that the list is complete.

At each residential shelter the number of beds available for street children was counted and shelter managers were asked a limited number of questions regarding the services they provide. At drop-in centers, managers were asked a more in-depth series of questions about the quantity and quality of services provided. At both shelters and drop-in centers, a small sample of children was asked their opinions about the services that they receive at the shelter and other relevant questions.

*Findings.* The survey revealed that there are currently only ten residential shelters for street children in Egypt, offering a total of 313 beds, as noted in Table 2. All of these shelters are in Greater Cairo or Alexandria with number of beds nearly evenly split between the two cities. There over three times as many street children shelter beds for boys as for girls. Although high-quality data about street children in Egypt are not available, UNICEF estimates that there are tens of thousands of street children, only a small fraction of which could be served by the 313 beds available.[5] is could not enough to serve even a small fraction even the most conservative estimates suggest that there are not nearly enough beds available for street children in Alexandria or Cairo.

Drop-in centers for street children are similarly situated in Greater Cairo and Alexandria. As shown in Table 2, twelve drop-in centers were operating at the time of the survey, ten of which were located in Greater Cairo, two in Alexandria. Half of these serve both girls and boys, while 4 serve only boys and two serve only girls. Unlike shelters, where capacity can be measured in terms of beds, measuring capacity of drop-in centers is more difficult. Square meters of space that the drop-in centers occupy and staff size can provide some indication of the service capacity of drop-in centers. On average drop-in centers occupy about 461 square meters of inside and outside space ranging from 75 square meters in the smallest drop-in center to 1,350 square meters in the largest drop in center. Only three of the drop-in centers, though, have any outside space at all. The number of workers per drop-in center varies from five workers to thirty-four workers with the average center having eleven workers

**Table 2: Residential Shelters, Drop-in Centers, and Mobile Units for Street Children, 2008**

| | |
|---|---|
| ***Total Number of Shelters*** | ***10*** |
| For Boys, Cairo | 3 |
| For Girls, Cairo | 2 |
| For Boys and Girls, Helwan | 1 |
| For Boys, Alexandria | 3 |
| For Girls, Alexandria | 1 |
| ***Total Number of Shelter Beds*** | ***313*** |
| For Boys, Cairo/Helwan | 100 |
| For Girls, Cairo/Helwan | 43 |
| For Boys, Alexandria | 145 |
| For Girls, Alexandria | 25 |
| ***Total Number of Drop-in Centers*** | ***12*** |
| For Boys, Cairo/Giza | 3 |
| For Girls, Cairo/Giza | 2 |
| For Boys and Girls, Cairo/Giza | 5 |
| For Boys, Alexandria | 1 |
| For Boys and Girls, Alexandria | 1 |
| ***Average $m^2$ of Space of Drop-in Centers*** | ***461$m^2$*** |
| ***Average Staff size of Drop-in Centers*** | ***11.4*** |
| ***Total Number of Mobile Units*** | ***4*** |
| Cairo | 3 |
| Alexandria | 1 |

All twenty-two of the residential shelters and drop-in centers available for street children are operated by only thirteen of Egyptian NGOs, none by government agencies. However, while the government does not operate any reception houses or shelters specifically for street children, it does operate a network of thirty Social Defense Houses, which are capable of sheltering street children overnight. In addition, the government operates three locked or semi-locked detention facilities where street children may be placed by court order.

While most of the thirteen NGOs operate a single shelter or drop-in Center, the NGO Hope Village manages four shelters and three drop-in centers in Cairo, while the NGO Caritas manages one shelter and two drop-in centers in Alexandria. These two NGOs are notable, as well, in that they are the only two of the thirteen NGOs that operate street children mobile

[5] Street children estimate from http://www.unicef.org/egypt/protection html, retrieved October 28, 2008

units – specially customized vans visit urban neighborhoods where street children tend to aggregate to provide them with services, such as medical check-ups, in-situ. Hope Village operates two mobile units in Cairo, while Caritas operates one mobile unit in Cairo and one in Alexandria.

### C4. Assessment of Project Impact on Quality and Quantity of Services Provided for the Prevention and Treatment of Women Victims of Violence

This assessment seeks to determine how services provided for the prevention and treatment of women victims of violence have changed in terms of both quantity and quality and what impact the project has had on these changes. As part of the VAW study described in the main body of this report, Samah Said of the Combating Violence Project team has drafted an inventory of services report addressing violence against women. The final version of this report, once completed, will serve as the baseline for this assessment.

## ANNEX B – PROJECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: Second Quarterly Progress Report May-June 2007, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, July 31, 2007.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: First Annual Work Plan through September 2008, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, August 15, 2007.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: Fourth Quarterly Progress Report May-September 2007, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, October 30, 2007.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: First Quarterly Progress Report October-December 2007, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, January 30, 2008.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: Second Quarterly Progress Report January-March 2007, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, April 30, 2008.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: Third Quarterly Progress Report April-June 2007, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, July 30, 2008.

Combating Violence Against Women and Children: Second Annual Work Plan through September 2009, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, September 30, 2008.

Juvenile Justice Roundtable Report, unpublished report prepared for USAID/Egypt by the Combating Violence Project, Spring 2008.

Please note that many other draft reports were produced during the project year, including all eight components of the Violence Against Women Study, the street children assessment, and the communications plans. These final versions of these reports will be reflected in subsequent reporting periods.

# ANNEX C – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

## Short-Term Technical Assignments

| Name | Purpose | Dates/Duration | Achievements | Issues/Challenges |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ian Rose | Project start-up (technical) | May 17-June 8, 2007<br><br>20 days of LOE | Clarified working relationships by meeting with USAID and key host government counterparts. Defined first steps in work plan development. Interviewed several technical staff candidates. | |
| Daria Kaboli | Project start-up (administrative) | May 17-June 6, 2007<br><br>16 days of LOE | Identified office space, rental furniture, and temporary IT equipment. | |
| Rebecca Sherwood | Develop initial grants concept paper | May 26-June 9, 2007<br><br>14 days of LOE | Drafted grants concept paper later incorporated into first annual work plan. | |
| Frances Abouzeid | Lead recruit efforts for Council support staff and provide input into public awareness portion of annual work plan | July 9-28, 2007<br><br>13 days of LOE | Identified top candidates for NCW team leader, violence against women program officer, NCCM team leader, and juvenile justice specialist. | |
| Susan Somach | Develop survey design for violence against women study | July 2-August 6, 2007 (includes prep work in the US)<br><br>24 days of LOE | Developed and presented survey design to NCW steering committee. | |
| Katie Queen | Establish project financial systems and procedures and provide training | August 10-16, 2007<br><br>7 days of LOE | Trained financial team on Chemonics' financial systems and trained project staff on fraud prevention. | |
| Rebecca Sherwood | Draft grants manual | August 3-16, 2007<br><br>15 days of LOE | Drafted grants manual. | |
| Ian Rose | Serve as acting COP and complete initial research on juvenile justice | September 29-October 11, 2007<br><br>12 days of LOE | Drafted new version of NCCM MOU. Worked with CTO to develop allocations for 3 CLIN budget. Resolved differences on approach to NCW questionnaire with subcontractor SPAAC. | Was unable to conduct preliminary juvenile justice research due to other pressing needs related to the NCCM, including the lack of fully established relationship with the council. |
| Susan Somach | Review quantitative survey instrument (questionnaire), develop scopes of work for additional portions of the survey, present questionnaire to NCW technical committee | September 28-October 19, 2007<br><br>22 days of LOE | Presented the current status on the survey to the NCW technical committee, provided detailed feedback and testing on draft questionnaires, developed action plan and conducted initial meetings for additional portions of the survey. | Presentation of finalized questionnaire for NCW technical committee was delayed due to scheduling conflicts and revisions to the draft questionnaire. |
| Brenda Lee Pearson | Serve as a Communications Advisor to the project team for the purpose of advising on the development of a communications strategy on street children and juvenile justice. | May 24-June 7, 2008<br><br>18 days LOE | Met with NCCM, local communications consultants, and other stakeholders to gather information for drafting a communications plan for the NCCM on street children and juvenile justice. | |
| Brenda Lee Pearson | Serve as a Communications Advisor to the project team for the purpose of advising on | July 11-24, 2008<br><br>17 days LOE | Conducted media unit training workshop, prepared evaluation of the media unit and prepared | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | the development of a communications strategy on street children and juvenile justice. | | communications plan for the NCCM on street children and juvenile justice. | |
| Susan Somach | Participation in review reports for various elements of the study, and present preliminary summary of overall findings | March 14-April 2<br><br>19 days LOE | Coordinated with and met all study consultants to ensure quality control and conducted gender and human rights training for NCW staff. | |
| Aurelie Croze | Review the project's core systems and work with administrative, grants, and technical teams to implement improvements and recommendations. She will also assemble documentation and create a timeline and context of project start-up events, including submission of core deliverables, formalizing relationships with counterparts, and finalizing office set-up. | February 1-16, 2008<br><br>15 days LOE | Successfully completed review and recommendations related to financial and administrative systems and assembled documentation on start up. | |
| Maha Schroder | Review the project's performance thus far with the chief of party and technical teams and strategize ways to move the project forward in Year 2 in line with the goals of the work plan; meet with the chief of party, local staff, USAID, NCCM and NCW component leaders and other project partners to establish solid working relationships; brainstorm capacity-building activities with the technical teams and NCW counterparts in line with the discussions recently held at the NCW strategy session. | May 29-June 12, 2008<br><br>14 days LOE | Reviewed performance and established tracking systems for project tasks and deliverables. Met with counterparts and USAID. | |
| Maha Schroder | Assist the chief of party, Garrett Dorer, in the development and submission of the Year 2 project work plan | August 23-September 13, 2008<br><br>18 days LOE | Produced project budget in new format (with three components), allowing project to budget Year 2 work plan tasks. Supported technical teams in development of the Year 2 technical sections of the work plan. | |
| Lauren Barnard | Serve as Acting Operations and Communications Manager while Ms. Lisa Chavez returns to the U.S. during the month of August | August 8-September 19, 2008<br><br>27 days LOE | Ensured smooth operations functioning; facilitated overseas study tour for NCCM participants; drafted and edited selected work plan sections. | |
| Susan Somach | Work to streamline data and edit information given from SPAAC to begin formulating the final version of the VAW study | September 20-October 1, 2008<br><br>18 days LOE | Reviewed study pieces. Produced plan for finalizing study pieces and timeline. Coordinated closely with Egyptian consultant to produce new, edited version of assessment of legal structure and practice related to violence against women. | |

## ANNEX D – INDIVIDUALS TRAINED OVERSEAS

The following individuals were trained overseas in Hong Kong, China for an off-the-shelf program titled, "The 17th ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect – Theme for the 2008 Congress, *"Towards a Caring and Non-Violent Community: A Child's Perspective."* This program was in pursuit of Strategic Objective 21: "Initiatives in Governance and Participation Strengthened."

| Name | Purpose | Dates/Duration |
|---|---|---|
| Dr. Azza El Ashmawy | NCCM Trafficking Unit | September 6-10, 2008 (including travel) |
| Dr. Manal Shahin | NCCM/Child Help Line/Child Labor | September 6-10, 2008 (including travel) |
| Ms. Somaya El Alfy | NCCM/Street Children/Reduction of Poverty Project | September 6-10, 2008 (including travel) |

## ANNEX E – IN-COUNTRY COURSES AND SEMINARS

The list below outlines the in-country courses and seminars implemented in FY 2008 of the project, broken down by courses and seminars. Courses include training activities that were counted in our Performance Monitoring Plan as described in Annex B. Seminars include all other roundtables, workshops, and events where information may have been shared with or among attendees, but were not specifically training activities in nature.

In total, the Combating Violence Project conducted six in-country training courses and seventeen in-country seminars with over 1,000 attendees in total from a wide range of stakeholders from NCW, NCCM, other organizations in the Government of Egypt, the NGO community, the media, etc.

### Courses

1. *NCW Component*: Gender, Human Rights, and Violence against Women Workshop
   Instructor: Susan Somach
   Dates: March 27-28, 2008
   Topics: Gender Issues in Egypt, Gender in a Human Rights Framework, Gender Analysis Techniques, VAW in Human Rights Framework, VAW/Gender-based Violence, etc.
   Training Participants: NCW Secretariat Staff
   Total Trainees: 26
   *Male: 3*
   *Female: 23*

2. *NCCM Component:* NGO Grants Orientation Workshop
   Instructor: Combating Violence Grants Team and NCCM Team
   Dates: May 18, 19, 20, 22 2008
   Topics: Street Children Activities, Juvenile Justice Activities, Proposal Development and Budgeting
   Training Participants: NGOs
   Total Trainees: 214
   *Male:* 135
   *Female:* 79

3. *NCCM Component:* Media Unit Training
   Instructor: Brenda Lee Pearson
   Dates: July 14, 15, 16, 2008
   Topics: Public relations and media relations in Egypt, the Egyptian media market, writing press releases, and roles and responsibilities in a model communication office
   Training Participants: NCCM Media Unit
   Total Trainees: 6
   *Male:* 1
   *Female:* 5

4. *NCCM Component:* Microfinance Training
   Instructor: Michael Spingler,
   Dates: July 27, 2008

Topics: How microfinance can help at-risk children
Training Participants: NGOs and NCCM staff
Total Trainees: 60
*Male:* 38
*Female:* 22

5. *NCCM Component:* Grants Proposal Writing
Instructor: Combating Violence Project Grants Team and NCCM Team
Dates: August 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 2008
Topics: Juvenile Justice proposal writing, Street Children proposal writing
Training Participants:
Total Trainees: 24
*Male:* 15
*Female:* 9

6. *NCW Component:* NGO Grants Orientation Workshop
Instructor: Combating Violence Grants Team and NCW Team
Dates: September 15, 16, 17, 18, 2008
Topics: Violence Against Women, Proposal Development and Budgeting
Training Participants: NGOs
Total Trainees: 189
*Male:* 110
*Female:* 79

**Seminars**

1. *NCW Component:* Focus Group Discussions (5) – Legal Element of VAW Study
Dates: February 2, 2008 – March 9, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: NCW Ombudsman Office (Cairo and Branch offices), freelance lawyers, legal specialists from NGOs
Total Number of Participants: 65

2. *NCW Component:* Focus Group Discussions (3) – Media Element of VAW Study
Dates: February 28, 2008 – March 27, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Print journalists, TV and radio personnel, and drama writers
Total Number of Participants: 58

3. *NCCM Component:* Juvenile Justice Roundtables (3)
Dates: March 3-5, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Ministries of Interior, Manpower, Justice (including Office of General Prosecutor), Social Solidarity; National Center for Social and Criminological Research; AUC Social Research Center; Local NGOs; and International Organizations
Total Number of Participants: 49

4. *NCW Component:* Workshop – Inventory of Services Element of VAW Study
Dates: April 2, 2008

Location: Alexandria
Participant Affiliation: NGOs working in Lower Egypt
Total Number of Participants: 18

5. *NCW Component:* Focus Group Discussions – Analysis of VAW in the media element of the VAW Study
Dates: April 3, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Male media professionals working in print, television, and radio media
Total Number of Participants: 15

6. *NCCM Component:* Focus Group Discussions (3) – Children in Detention Centers Study
Dates: April 14, April 15, April 16
Location: Giza and Cairo
Participant Affiliation: boys and girls in detention centers
Total Number of Participants: 45

7. *NCW Component:* Workshop – Inventory of Services Element of VAW Study
Dates: April 23, 2008
Location: Menya
Participant Affiliation: NGOs working in Upper Egypt
Total Number of Participants: 21

8. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Assessment of NGO Services Provided to Street Children
Dates: May 5, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: NGOs, UN representatives, research/academic institutions, NCCM staff
Total Number of Participants: 45

9. *NCW Component:* Focus Group Discussions – Analysis of VAW in the Media element of the VAW Study
Dates: May 6, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Private sector media producers
Total Number of Participants: 9

10. *NCW Component:* Workshop – Inventory of Services Element of VAW Study
Dates: June 30, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: NGOs
Total Number of Participants: 23

11. *NCW Component:* Roundtable – Findings and Recommendations from VAW Study's Legal and Media Analyses
Dates: July 14, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: NCW and other stakeholders
Total Number of Participants: 27

12. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Governorate Forums on General Child Protection Committees

Dates: July 20, 21, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Governorate General Child protection Committee members (Cairo, Helwan, 6 October, Giza, Sharkia)
Total Number of Participants: 47

13. *NCW Component:* Roundtable – Findings and Recommendations from VAW Study's Quantitative Analyses and Inventory of Services

Dates: July 28, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: NCW and other stakeholders
Total Number of Participants: 22

14. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Governorate Forums on General Child Protection Committees

Dates: July 29, 30, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Governorate General Child protection Committee members (Menofeya, Dakahlia, Kalyoubia, Qena & Sohag)
Total Number of Participants: 32

15. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Governorate Forums on General Child Protection Committees

Dates: August 5, 6, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Governorate General Child protection Committee members (Alexandria, Marsa Matrouh, Kafr El-Sheikh, Beheira & Aswan)
Total Number of Participants: 42

16. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Governorate Forums on General Child Protection Committees

Dates: August 10, 11, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Governorate General Child protection Committee members (Assiut, Menya, Beni Suef, Fayoum, New Valley & Red Sea)
Total Number of Participants: 25

17. *NCCM Component:* Workshop – Governorate Forums on General Child Protection Committees

Dates: August 18, 19, 2008
Location: Cairo
Participant Affiliation: Governorate General Child protection Committee members (Suez, Ismailia, Port Said, Damietta, North Sinai & South Sinai)
Total Number of Participants: 37

# ANNEX F – PROCUREMENT UPDATE

The procurements for Year 1 are reflects in the below table. Procurements related to the refurbishment of reception houses will be launched in the middle of Year 2.

| Procurement Activity | Achievements and Status | Destination | Total Cost |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vehicle procurement | Vehicle procurement Vehicle procurement is complete and vehicles have arrived at project office. | Project Office | $45,100 |
| IT equipment procurement | IT equipment procurement IT equipment procurement is complete and IT equipment has been installed in project office. | Project Office | $86,580 |
| Office furniture procurement and supplies | Office furniture procurement is complete and furniture has been installed in project office. | Project Office | $59,434 |
| Freight | | | $22,703 |

# ANNEX G – ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

The following expenditures were incurred under the Combating Violence contract:

**Expenditures as of September 2008**

| | Total QTR | Cumulative (by quarter) |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| First quarter expenditures, May 13 – Sept 07 | $682,653 | $682,653 |
| Second quarter expenditures Oct 07 – Dec 07 | $542,804 | $1,225,457 |
| Third quarter expenditures, Jan – Mar 08 | $547,236 | $1,772,693 |
| Fourth quarter expenditures, April – June 08 | $741,373 | $2,514,066 |
| First quarter expenditures, July – Sept 08 | $733,405 | $3,247,471 |

**numbers rounded

**Financial Analysis**

The Combating Violence project was off to a healthy implementation of activities resulting in healthy financials for Year 1. The project spent roughly 18 percent of its total budget with cumulative expenditures at $3.2 million in Year 1. The success over the past year has been achieved in spite of several challenges related to the Work Plan approval process and the signing of the NCCM MOU. This translated into the deferral of some activities e.g. procuring the necessary project equipment and shipments.

In terms of financial systems and operations, the project achieved its objectives and was on target meeting its systems and staffing goals. Under the direction of Amy Lawrence, operations and communication manager, the team developed flexible financial systems and operating procedures that ensured the highest financial accountability, while offering streamlined procedures given the limited staff and high demands for start-up expenditures.

Recognizing the importance of "best value" to the Government, the project was successful in conducting a number of activities that helped achieve the best value to the Government, as detailed below.

*International cost- sharing technical assistance*. One of the key activities under the Year-One work plan is the projects role in setting up an assessment and independent monitoring system for facilities where children are deprived of their liberty. Under this activity, the project has entered into a cost-share arrangement with the Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT) —an international NGO based in Geneva—to provide short-term experts in this field. The negotiated arrangement package will make available, for the life of the project, a cadre of short-term technical experts and a team of senior specialists who will consult on a pro-bono basis provided the project secures their lodging and per diem.

*Egyptian pro-bono technical assistance.* As noted in the NCCM component technical section and accompanying success story, the Combating Violence project recruited high-level, specialized advisors to assist in the General Child Protection Committee forums. In addition to their contributions in the first year of the project, as we train committee members at the

regional and district levels, we will use our network of *pro-bono* experts for some modules of the training program.

*Leveraging donor resources.* One of the hallmarks of a successful project is non-duplication of donor efforts. We have collaborated with UNICEF, the USAID-funded Family Justice project, and the USAID-funded Egypt Microfinance project on several events and will continue to reach out to other projects to combine our joint efforts.

*Office equipment Procurements*. The project was able to achieve the most competitive bids by maintaining a transparent bidding process and financial management standards which in the end led to receiving the most advantageous offers

**Grants and Financial Management**

The Combating Violence team finalized its grants manual, established efficient administrative and financial operations, and initiated project support elements for training, events, public awareness, and performance monitoring.

The Combating Violence Grants team estimates the award of a total value of $750,000 - $1,000,000 under fiscal year 2009. The grants values will vary from $50,000 up to $100,000 each, with durations of up to 18 months. Our target number of grantees is about 9-12 NGOs for the NCCM grants and 20-24 NGOs for the NCW grants.

**Proprietary financial information deleted for publication.**