



**USAID**  
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**EGYPT COMBATING VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

# QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

**FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2008**

**30 January 2008**

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**FIRST QUARTER FISCAL YEAR 2008**

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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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## ACRONYMS

CAPMAS	Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics
CTO	Cognizant Technical Officer
DHS	Demographic Health Survey
ECWR	Egypt Center for Women's Rights
IT	Information Technology
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NCCM	National Council for Childhood and Motherhood
NCW	National Council for Women
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
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 quarterly progress report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2008 covers the period from October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. During this period, the Combating Violence project worked closely with Egyptian counterparts National Council for Women (NCW) and National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to implement the technical activities outlined in the project's first annual work plan. The achievements from this quarter will lay the foundation for the project's coming years as it addresses violence against women and children in Egypt.

With a little more than six months into the project, the team has made significant progress towards achieving the goals outlined in the first annual work plan. In close partnership with the NCW, the project launched the violence against women study, completing the design of the various study elements and starting implementation. The launch culminated in the first research committee meeting, where consultants and organizations conducting individual elements of the study met to discuss the study objectives, thoughts, and potential ideas with the NCW and USAID.

Under the NCCM component, with the support of USAID, the project resolved the NCCM's concerns regarding the project's role and relationship with the council. After agreeing to a memorandum of understanding outlining this relationship in late October, the project re-launched NCCM activities with much greater buy-in and support from the council, as well as other government ministries. The establishment of a project steering committee has raised the profile of the project as well as laid the foundation for the success of potentially sensitive activities such as establishing an independent monitoring system of facilities where children are deprived of liberty. The project has proceeded to launch key activities related to street children and juvenile justice while approval for the revised version of the work plan is pending.

In terms of general operations, the project recruited, received approval for, and hired all the remaining positions, a total of 10 staff members. The core office and the two satellite offices in the councils are operating smoothly with the arrival and installation of IT equipment, office furniture, and vehicles. The project has also finalized its grants manual and started initial pre-capability assessments of local NGOs.

This quarter's achievements were reached in spite of the multiple holidays during this period, including *Eid Al-Fitr*, *Eid Al-Adha*, and Christmas, as well as unexpected delays obtaining counterpart approvals. As explained in the following section, the project is building close relationships with our counterparts using a consensus-based approach to ensure they have full ownership of project activities and outputs. While this approach is resulting in slight delays, we believe it will strengthen the overall impact of our activities and the long-term sustainability of our efforts.

## **SECTION I - INTRODUCTION**

The \$18-million, USAID-funded Combating Violence Against Women and Children initiative is a five-year project managed by prime contractor Chemonics International Inc., in partnership with subcontractors Blue Law, LLP and Social Planning, Analysis, and Administration Consultants (SPAAC). The project works in partnership and under the technical direction of the National Council for Women (NCW) and National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) to design and implement activities to address violence against women and children in Egypt.

This first quarterly progress report for fiscal year 2008 outlines the activities of the Combating Violence project from October 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007. All activities and tasks are summarized in relation to the first annual work plan approved by USAID on September 13, 2007.

### **A. Project Background**

USAID created the Combating Violence project under Strategic Objective 21 “Initiative in Governance and Participation Strengthened,” and Intermediate Result 4, “Improved Human Rights Environment.” More specifically, the project is designed to “Increase Protection of Women and Children Against Violence” during its five years of operation. In accordance with the Chemonics’ contract with USAID, all of our efforts are designed to achieve two project results:

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

### **B. Initial Challenges**

Over the course of the past quarter, the two main topics of the project—violence against women and violence against children—have proven to be sensitive issues within Egyptian society. As a result, the project has made a concerted effort to ensure that both government counterparts—NCW and NCCM—have full ownership over the project activities and view the activities as “Egyptian” efforts. The project’s consensus-based approach has been successful in ensuring counterpart support for activities; however, it has caused some unanticipated delays in obtaining official approvals and counterpart facilitation letters necessary for activities and project logistics.

These challenges have had a direct effect on project activities, including the violence against women study under the NCW, which is now running a month or so behind schedule. Under the NCCM component, counterpart approval and feedback from both NCCM leadership as well as the project steering committee has delayed finalizing the revised first annual work plan. That said, we have launched NCCM activities on a case-by-case basis, including the reception house inventory of services and the design of the juvenile justice kick-off activities. In spite of the delays, the buy-in from councils in both of these areas is essential to the overall success of these activities. We believe the strong relationships we are developing with our counterparts now will lead

to more efficient processes for activities in the future. Counterpart ownership over the activities will strengthen the project's overall impact and contribute to the long-term sustainability of our efforts within the councils.

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

The Combating Violence first annual work plan details the core activities under the NCW component for the first year. The plan for these activities was developed in close coordination with and valuable input from Dr. Furkhanda Hassan and Ms. Omneya Helmy of the NCW. Major activities include:

- Activity 1: Producing a major study on violence against women (VAW) in Egypt with comprehensive recommendations and an action plan.
- Activity 2: Producing an advocacy strategy and plan for capacity building activities, as well as implementing initial capacity building initiatives for the NCW and other stakeholders to implement the recommendations identified in the study.
- Activity 3: Issuing grants to Egyptian NGOs to pilot initiatives designed to reduce violence against women, provide services to women victims of violence, and advocate for social and policy reform in partnership with the NCW and the project.

Building on the previous quarter's activities, the project has achieved significant progress on initiating the various components of the violence against women study. See the adjacent textbox for a summary of achievements from this quarter. While no major problems were encountered during this reporting period, several of the activities were slightly delayed due to the holidays, scheduling conflicts for meetings with the NCW, and the slower-than expected NCW approval process.

### Key Achievements under NCW Component

- Finalized questionnaires for quantitative survey piece.
- Signed subcontracts and consultant agreements for secondary DHS, women's empowerment, media, and legal and regulatory analyses.
- Conducted initial VAW Research Committee meeting with USAID, NCW, project staff, and research consultants.

### A. Activity 1: Study of Violence Against Women in Egypt

The purpose of Activity 1, a national study, is to provide the NCW with accurate information on the types, levels, causes, and perceptions of violence against women as well as recommendations on how levels of violence can be reduced. This study will be composed of several elements that examine violence against women from different perspectives such as the legal and regulatory environment, the media, correlations with women's empowerment, etc. The main elements of the study are outlined in the adjacent textbox. Each element will provide information critical to developing a national strategy to combat violence against women in Egypt.

### Main Elements of VAW Study

- Quantitative survey of levels, attitudes, and knowledge related to VAW in selected locations throughout Egypt, targeting married women, married men, and unmarried male and female youth.
- Secondary analysis of VAW data from 2005 DHS survey.
- Secondary analysis of Women's Empowerment 2007 data set conducted by SRC.
- Qualitative analysis of VAW in the media through focus group discussions with media professionals.
- Assessment of legal and regulatory environment related to VAW.
- Assessment of prevention and treatment services available to women victims of violence.

Following on her trip from the previous

quarter, Violence Against Women Specialist Susan Somach returned to Cairo in early October to review the draft questionnaires for the quantitative study element to be conducted by SPAAC (Task 1.3) and develop scopes of work for the other study elements (Tasks 1.4 and 1.5). Towards the end of her trip, she provided an update on the violence against women study and its various elements to the members of the NCW technical committee.

*Quantitative survey on violence against women.* During the first part of her trip, Ms. Somach reviewed the first draft questionnaires for the quantitative study. SPAAC developed separate questionnaires for four target groups—married women, married men, unmarried female youths, and unmarried male youths. The main topics covered in the questionnaires include community violence (in streets, schools, workplace, etc.), family violence (among husbands/wives, husband’s family, brothers/sisters, etc.), blame and help-seeking behaviors, attitudes, and knowledge (including of violence against women assistance).

After reviewing the initial draft questionnaires, the team requested that SPAAC increase the number of questions to more fully cover the main topic areas originally discussed. Research Manager Gihan Abou Zeid, supported by Ms. Somach, provided substantial comments and edits to the draft questionnaires. The project team then submitted the revised questionnaires to the NCW for their comments and review. Several of the questionnaires were also informally tested with NCW staff. The questionnaires were finalized in late December and submitted to the NCW for final approval. The project is presently responding to several questions related to the methodology of the quantitative survey posed by Dr. Nahed Ramsey, director of research at the NCW. Once these questions have been resolved, the survey package will be submitted to CAPMAS for approval.

*Secondary analysis of Demographic Health Survey (DHS) 2005 data set.* After attending a conference on violence against women sponsored by the Suzanne Mubarak Center for Women and Development in Alexandria, the team identified Dr. Fatima El Zenaty and her firm, El Zenaty and Associates, to conduct additional analysis on the DHS 2005 data set related to violence against women. Dr. Zenaty and her firm conducted the Egypt DHS from 1995 to present.

The project signed a subcontract with El Zenaty and Associates in December to analyze correlations between violence against women and other factors such as socioeconomic status, age at marriage, geographic location, etc. The analysis will also compare results of DHS surveys from 1995 to 2005 to determine whether there have been any changes in the level, types, and attitudes toward VAW.

Dr. Zenaty submitted a draft report on the analysis in mid-January. Once the initial draft is revised, Dr. Zenaty will present the findings to the NCW, USAID, and other key stakeholders for comment. We anticipate the report will be finalized in February 2008.

*Analysis of Women’s Empowerment 2007 data set.* To supplement the quantitative survey and the secondary analysis of the DHS, the project subcontracted the Social Research Center (SRC) at the American University in Cairo to conduct secondary analysis of data from a 2007 SRC survey on women’s empowerment in Egypt. Under

this assignment, SRC will create a framework representing women's empowerment and then analyze the data on violence against women as it relates to power and control dynamics; the relationship between decision-making in the home and violence; the correlation between empowerment and psychological, emotional, and economic violence; and help-seeking behavior and the capacity of women to make decisions to stop or ameliorate violence.

After signing the subcontract at the end of December, SRC initiated the analysis in January. We anticipate receiving the first draft of their report around the end of February 2008.

*Analysis of the legal and regulatory environment.* During the past quarter, the project identified Nehad Abu Komsen, Director of the Egypt Center for Women's Rights (ECWR), to analyze the legal and regulatory environment related to violence against women. She will conduct a review of existing resources and reports on *de jure* and *de facto* practices related to violence against women, focusing on how VAW relates to family law, criminal law, labor law, civil law, as well as legal procedures and practices, social benefits, and services. To supplement the desk research, Ms. Abu Komsen will also conduct a number of focus group discussions with lawyers working in the NCW Ombudsman Office, mediators working in family courts, and other legal professionals as appropriate.

Ms. Abu Komsen began the assignment in late December and will conduct the majority of focus group discussions during February 2008. We anticipate the analysis and report to be completed at the end of March.

*Inventory of services.* For the inventory of services study element, the project anticipates contracting an experienced service provider working in the domain of women's services to produce a broad inventory of current services and efforts addressing violence against women from physical, legal/ human rights, economic, medical, and psychological perspectives. The services will include but not be limited to prevention and public awareness activities, counseling centers, and women shelters. The consultant will also conduct interviews and focus group discussions with government officials and government service providers, NGO service providers, and violence victims who have used specific services to analyze successful efforts and lessons learned related to VAW services.

The project had originally proposed Dr. Amal Abdel Hadi, a women's rights activist and head of a local NGO, to conduct this assignment. However, after the NCW requested an alternate consultant, the team selected Dr. Issam El-Adawi, a development professional with substantial experience managing USAID projects in the health sector. Mozn Hassan, a research specialist with a background in gender, and Dr. Amal Zaki will support Dr. El-Adawi in conducting the assignment. The project plans to submit an approval request for the consultants in late January and anticipates the completion of the assignment by the end of March 2008.

*Analysis of violence against women in the media.* The project identified senior journalist Amina Shafik to lead an analysis of how violence against women is portrayed in the media, what factors govern how it is presented, and how different subgroups of media cover the issues. Ms. Shafik, supported by Dr. Abdel Ghafar, a

media consultant with the NCW and professor at Cairo University, will conduct a series of focus group discussions with print and broadcast journalists from various news organizations. In addition, she will also observe focus group discussions with members of the entertainment sector (including drama writers, producers, directors, etc.) to discuss how violence against women is portrayed in television entertainment, reasons why it is portrayed in particular manners, and what impact these dramas may have in the larger social context. The entertainment discussions will be facilitated by Mafouz Abdel Rahman, a well-respected Egyptian script writer.

Ms. Shafik and Dr. Abdel Ghafar started work on this assignment in late December. The majority of focus group discussions will be conducted during February with the report to be completed at the end of March 2008.

In addition to the study elements described above, the team is also considering adding a study element to analyze the media monitoring data collected by the Cairo University Media Center.

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

While this activity is scheduled to begin after the completion of Activity 1, we are currently considering focused capacity building efforts that can be implemented with the Council Secretariat and its standing committees while the study process is underway.

### **C. 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**

All tasks under Activity 3 build upon the completion of Activity 1 and are scheduled for future quarters according to the First Annual Work Plan.

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

The Combating Violence first annual work plan detailed key activities designed to support the NCCM in achieving its strategy to reduce violence against children. After recent discussions with the NCCM and the establishment of a project steering committee, the project is in the process of revising the first annual work plan at the same time it launches the initial activities. While the major priorities of the original work plan—street children and children in conflict with the law—will remain, the revised work plan will adjust and expand some of the specific tasks.

Shortly after finalizing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the project and the NCCM in early October, the project worked closely with the NCCM to re-examine the original work plan and ensure that the activities were fully aligned with the NCCM's priorities and goals. Given the sensitivity of the issues under this component, the project has adopted a consensus-building approach to ensure the NCCM has full ownership of technical activities. In addition, since many of the topics overlap with the roles of other government ministries, the NCCM established a steering committee composed of Egyptian government, international donor, and NGO representatives to facilitate buy-in for project activities across the government and NGO community.

Based on meetings with the project steering committee and Ambassadors Moushira Khattab and Hussein al-Sadr of the NCCM, the project has revised the activities of the first year work plan as follows:

- **Activity 1 – Juvenile Justice:** Conduct assessments and awareness-raising on international guidelines related to juvenile justice, independent monitoring systems for facilities where juveniles are deprived of liberty, and assessments of child protection and detention facilities. Using grants, raise awareness on role and purpose of child protection committees and encourage alternatives to formal detention.
- **Activity 2 – Street Children:** Assess reception houses and related services operated by NGOs and disseminate best practices. Using grants, training, and technical assistance, provide targeted awareness and capacity building to NGOs and strengthen physical infrastructure and equipment at reception houses.
- **Activity 3 – Cross-Cutting Tasks:** Conduct a training and capacity building needs assessment for the NCCM and work with staff to improve data usage related to street children, children in conflict with the law, and other at-risk children. Assess opportunities for increasing corporate contributions to support activities for at-risk children, and develop a general code of ethical conduct for professionals working in child protection.

Although not listed as separate activities, targeted communications and advocacy and child participation tasks have been integrated into Activities 1 and 2 in the revised version of the work plan.

According to the revised work plan, the planning for activities began during the past quarter, with major kick-off events scheduled for the second quarter of 2008. The adjacent textbox summarizes the key achievements over the past quarter under this component.

- | <b>Key Achievements under NCCM Component</b>  |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MOU signed between project and NCCM.</li><li>• Steering committee and key priorities redefined.</li><li>• Inventory of street children services initiated.</li><li>• Initial juvenile justice roundtables designed and scheduled.</li></ul> |

### **A. Activity 1: Juvenile Justice**

After signing the MOU between the Combating Violence project and the NCCM, the NCCM established a steering committee for the project made up of representatives from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Solidarity, selected donors, and NGOS to provide input, feedback, and recommendations on the project's work plan. The first steering committee was held in early November, and was attended by former Home Office Director Ian Rose, who provided insight based on his own experience with juvenile justice work in the United States.

In late November, the steering committee met for a second time as the project presented a revised draft of the work plan based on the priorities discussed during the previous meeting. Based on additional feedback from this meeting and subsequent meetings with Ambassador Khattab and Ambassador al-Sadr, the team continued to modify the work plan through the month of December. The team anticipates submitting a finalized version of the plan to USAID for approval in early February.

One of the key additions to the work plan is the projects role in setting up an assessment and independent monitoring system for facilities where children are deprived of liberty. At the suggestion of Ambassador Khattab, the project has entered into a cost-share arrangement with the Association for the Prevention of Torture—an international NGO based in Geneva—to provide experts in this field.

Even while approval of the work plan is still pending, the project has initiated the design and logistical arrangements for a series of kickoff events on juvenile justice the first week of March, including separate roundtables and workshops on General Comment No. 10, independent monitoring systems, and alternative forms of detention with a variety of participants ranging from high-level government officials to local NGOs. These events will launch the first series of assessments related to children in conflict with the law.

### **B. Activity 2: Street Children**

During the initial project steering committee meeting, the team also discussed its plans and objectives related to street children. After receiving approval from the NCCM on the inventory of services assessment for street children reception houses, the project initiated activities in spite of the pending revised work plan. Working with the NCCM, the project hosted an orientation meeting for 16 local NGOs working with street children in late November. During this orientation the Social

- | <b>Recommendations from Street Children Orientation Meeting</b>  |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specific programs should target street children ages 15-18.</li><li>• Media awareness campaigns should be conducted to change public attitudes towards street children.</li><li>• Mechanisms should be institutionalized to facilitate NGO collaboration and coordination on street children issues.</li></ul> |

Services and Reception House Specialist Ashraf Abdel Monem presented the assessment objectives and provided information on the inventory of services. Afterwards the NGOs participated in an open discussion on the priority areas for addressing street children. The major recommendations are listed in the textbox above.

The inventory was launched in late December, after Ambassador Khattab sent official letters to each of the NGOs. Mr. Abdel Monem and a research assistant are in the process of conducting the inventory and anticipate finalizing the results in late February. This information will then be used to design interventions and grant solicitations.

In a related activity, the NCCM undertook an extensive survey on street children in December, trying to determine an accurate count of the children and the reasons behind the phenomenon. Mr. Abdel Monem provided training to the social workers on ways to approach and interact with the street children while conducting the survey. Most likely, the project will also support the NCCM with analyzing the data collected from this survey in spring 2008.

### **C. Activity 3: Improving Egyptian and NCCM Capacity Related to Violence Against Children (Cross-Cutting Tasks)**

According to the revised work plan, the project's cross-cutting tasks under this activity will take place in the remaining quarters of 2008 as listed below:

- Capacity building and training needs assessment for NCCM (Quarter 3-2008)
- Recommendations for more effectively using data on at-risk children (Quarter 2-2008)
- General code of conduct for professionals working in child protection (Quarter 3-2008)

## SECTION IV – PROJECT GRANTS AND OPERATIONS

Since the project's inception in May 2007, the Combating Violence team has established efficient and flexible systems to support the implementation of technical activities. The project has finalized its grants manual, established efficient administrative and financial operations, and initiated project support elements for training, events, public awareness, and performance monitoring.

### Key Achievements under Grants & Operations

- Grants manual presented to councils and feedback incorporated.
- Staff approved for all remaining positions.
- Office furniture and IT equipment installed and operational.
- Project vehicles obtained and operational.

All activities during this quarter have been completed without major problems. However, during the quarter we experienced minor delays obtaining facilitation letters from government counterparts for customs clearances and work permits for expatriate staff. CTO Naglaa Mostafa provided substantial assistance working with the counterparts to issue the letters. At present, no essential logistical requests are pending at either council. Expected results during this period (i.e. finalizing the grants manual, regular reporting, and smooth project operations) have been accomplished. This section describes in detail the progress made in each of these areas.

### A. Project Grants

After incorporating feedback on the grants manual from USAID late in the last quarter, the team presented the project's grant manual to project counterparts. Grants Manager Sahar Mourad spent a substantial amount of time discussing the grants management process with the NCW as this project will be the council's first experience working with a USAID grants under contract program. The feedback from both councils has been incorporated into the manual. The finalized version was submitted to the Contracting Officer for approval at the end of January.

Ms. Mourad and her team will be working with the NCW and NCCM technical teams in the next month to develop initial solicitations for the grants program. Once the initial technical assessments are complete in late spring, the team will issue another round of solicitations based on the assessment results.

In the meantime, the grants program officer and financial analyst will be accompanying Mr. Abdel Monem on his visits to local NGOs to conduct the assessment of services for street children. During these visits, the grants team will conduct a pre-capability assessment examining both financial and technical capacity of these organizations.

### B. Project Operations

Building on the office administration, finance, and compliance systems and procedures established during the previous quarters, the Combating Violence project is operating in a smooth and efficient manner.

## **B1. Staffing**

Over the past quarter, the project has made significant progress in staffing, proposing candidates and receiving USAID approval for all remaining project positions (a total of 10 staff members). See the organization chart on page 12 for details.

Under the NCW component, NCW Team Leader Samah Said joined the project in October. Once on board, she conducted interviews and selected candidates for the violence against women specialist and program officer positions. Both candidates have been approved by USAID and the NCW and will join the project in February.

After an extensive recruitment and multiple newspaper ads, the project and the NCCM finally agreed on a candidate for the NCCM team leader position. Magda Barsoum, previously employed with the US embassy, joined the project on a part-time basis as team leader and will begin full-time at the end of February. The project also received approval from the NCCM and USAID for the proposed juvenile justice specialist, Judge Mohamed Moheb. He will join the project after receiving official approval from the Ministry of Justice to take a temporary leave of absence from his current position as judge.

As mentioned in the previous quarterly report, we received approval for the remaining staff positions on the grants management team—grants program officer and grants financial analyst—and the institutional development team—training and events coordinator, public awareness specialist, and translator. Each of the staff approved for these positions officially joined the project during the first quarter of 2008. Additionally, Institutional Development Team Leader Jerome Gallagher—approved in Chemonics original proposal—joined the project in early January.

## **B2. Office Administration**

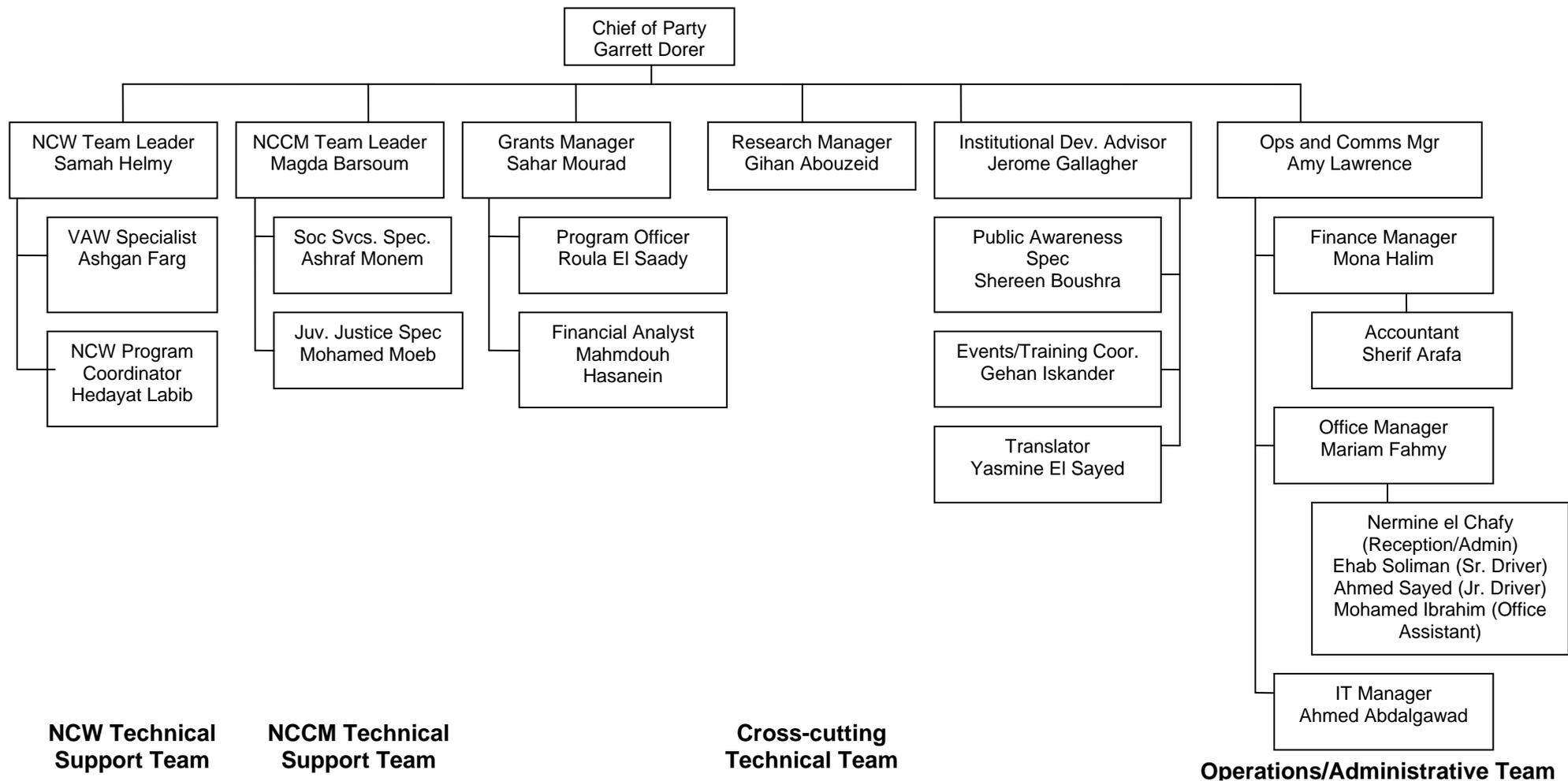
Over the past quarter, the team finalized the office set-up, installing all permanent office furniture and IT equipment. The team also received the project vehicles in December—due to difficulties in obtaining custom clearance facilitation letters, the cars were held in port for three and one half months before they were released.

## **B3. Finance and Compliance**

The financial and compliance systems established during the previous quarter continued to function effectively over the past three months.

In response to the NCCM's request for more detailed budget information, the project established internal Cost Line Item Numbers to track expenses directly related to each counterpart without a formal contract modification. This system will improve budget planning and quarterly reporting with counterparts. It will be implemented on the December invoice.

**Figure 4.1 Combating Violence Organizational Chart**



## **C. Cross-cutting Support**

The first annual work plan laid out 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, public awareness, and performance monitoring are all cross-cutting elements that will play key roles in NCW, NCCM, and grant activities. Our activities in each area are described in this report (Sections II and III) and the annual work plan.

### **C1. Training and Events**

During the past quarter, Training and Events Coordinator Gehan Iskandar has worked closely with the NCW and NCCM teams to organize several roundtable meetings and workshops. Since most of these events take place within the counterpart councils, Ms. Iskandar has developed close working relationships with the council staff to facilitate the events. She also spent the quarter reviewing the USAID TraiNet system and applicable regulations to ensure the project is in full compliance once training activities begin in the upcoming quarters. In the next months, Ms. Iskandar will continue to work closely with the project teams as the project hosts a series of focus group discussions and roundtable meetings under both the NCW and NCCM components.

### **C2. Public Awareness and Media Monitoring**

Shereen Boushra, public awareness specialist, joined the project this past October to lead major public awareness activities for our councils and conduct general media monitoring on topics related to violence against women and children. Since joining the project, Ms. Boushra has worked closely with Ambassadors Khattab and Al-Sadr of the NCCM and Chief of Party Garrett Dorer to develop a media and communications strategy for the NCCM. She is also working to create a media strategy for the initial juvenile justice activities under the work plan.

Ms. Boushra also produced the project's first monthly media report in early December and has since produced subsequent monthly reports. To produce these reports, she conducts daily media monitoring in popular newspapers and magazines for articles related to violence against women and children as well as project counterpart activities. These reports are then shared with relevant USAID contacts and Chemonics' Washington DC office.

### **C3. Performance Monitoring**

The Combating Violence project finalized the project performance monitoring plan (PMP) during November. The PMP is designed to measure the project's progress towards achieving its two main results:

- Improved capacity of the NCW and NCCM to advocate for policy change.
- Improved capacity of NCW, NCCM, and non-governmental organizations to respond to violence against women and children.

USAID PMP consultant Larry Beyna and CTO Naglaa Mostafa worked closely with the project to identify three main operational indicators:

- 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 assistance to address violence against women and/or children.

To augment the formal reporting on the output-oriented indicators above, the project also identified four areas to measure progress and overall impact during the life of the project. For each area, we will develop a framework for tracking the achievement of interim milestones on a 6-month basis and conduct a thorough impact assessment at the end of the project. Baseline information will be collected through the already planned assessments under the NCW and NCCM components. We will provide updates to USAID on the progress of these areas through our annual progress reports and a final assessment at the end of the project.

#### **Impact Assessment Areas**

- Assessment of positive policy changes related to juvenile justice
- Assessment of implemented policy recommendations from violence against women (VAW) 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

## ANNEX A – PROCUREMENT UPDATE

Significant progress was made on the procurement plan during the reporting period as reflected in the table below. At present the project has no planned procurements.

<b>Procurement Activity</b>	<b>Achievements and Status</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
1. Vehicle procurement	Vehicle procurement is complete and vehicles have arrived at project office.	Project Office	\$45,100
2. IT equipment procurement	IT equipment procurement is complete and IT equipment has been installed in project office.	Project Office	\$62,380
3. Office furniture procurement	Office furniture procurement is complete and furniture has been installed in project office.	Project Office	\$22,323

## **ANNEX B – INDIVIDUALS TRAINED OVERSEAS**

There were no Combating Violence observational studies planned or implemented during the reporting period. No individuals were trained overseas.

## **ANNEX C – IN-COUNTRY COURSES AND SEMINARS**

There were no training courses planned or implemented during the reporting period.