

**AUDIT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 5 TARGET 5.2: THE CASE OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE,
Management 2017-2021**

Q1 : This year, the Court of Auditors of Madagascar is conducting an audit on gender-based violence. What motivated you to choose this audit topic?

The Court of Auditors has defined in its Strategic Plan 2020-2024 the Strategic Objective 2: Promote controls focused on gender, inclusion and diversity of Strategic Result No. 1 (The SAI contributes to the promotion of the integrity, accountability and transparency of public bodies in correlation with the priorities of the State).

The Strategic Result No. 1 in the Strategic Plan of the Court of Auditors (2020-2024) provides the contribution of the SAI to the promotion of the integrity, accountability and transparency of public bodies in correlation with the priorities of the State. Then, Strategic Objective 2 of the plan aims to promote gender, inclusion and diversity controls while defining as activity A1.2.1 "Conducting Gender-Based Performance Audits."

1.2 State of play/statistics on national GBV while the State has committed itself through the MDGs and relayed by the SDGs

From the universe of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through its goal n°3 "Promote gender equality and empower women" which has subsequently been relayed since 2015 by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls", the Malagasy State is demonstrating its commitment to making progress in this area. Moreover, various reports show that Madagascar has clearly defined the targets that the country intends to implement directly through policies, strategies, programs, action plans and other related instruments.

Furthermore - given that the promotion of gender equality is a universal concept essential for development - public and private actors, technical and financial partners as well as civil society organizations should all be called upon to contribute to improving the situation.

Yet, gender-based violence remains a recurring problem in Madagascar.

1.3 The National Millennium Development Goals Monitoring Survey (ENSOMD) conducted in 2012-2013 indicates that:

- Women experience various forms of violence, including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence.
- The data collected shows that 30% of women aged 13 to 49 have experienced at least one form of violence in the last 12 months prior to the survey.
- The most common form is emotional abuse (19%) and physical abuse (12%).
- Sexual violence accounts for 7.2% of cases and economic violence for 5.3%.
- The survey results also show that women and girls living in urban areas (14%) are also more exposed to physical violence than those in rural areas (12%), while women and girls in rural areas (7.5%) are more exposed than those in urban areas (6%) when it comes to sexual violence.

The Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) Madagascar conducted in 2018 mentions that:

- 32% of women reported experiencing violence in the 12 months prior to the survey
- 14% of women have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime.
- 41% of women compared to 29% of men interviewed find violence against women acceptable.
- According to the data, domestic violence is more prevalent in urban areas than in rural areas (30% vs. 21%)
- 2 out of 5 girls marry or enter into conjugal unions before the age of 18, making Madagascar one of the countries with one of the highest rates of child marriage in the world
- Child marriage is more pronounced in rural areas.

So, the question arises, 'Why do these problems and practices persist? What about the performance of public policy and public actions as well as state interventions in this field ?'

1.3 For the specific implementation of SDG 5, the State has adopted a strategy (SNLCVBG) as a strategic document for the fight against GBV, which is a pioneering strategy.

Faced with the worrying situation regarding GBV-related issues, in 2017 the Government of Madagascar through the General Directorate for the Promotion of Women of the Ministry of Population, Social Protection and the Promotion of Women (MPPSPF) adopted the "National Strategy to Combat Gender-Based Violence" whose aim is to contribute to the reduction of the prevalence of gender-based violence, as with SDG 5 target 5.2. Indeed, this is the only measure taken by the Government to combat GBV in Madagascar.

1.4 The choice of the Court's control of the theme in accordance with its Strategic Plan and the more specific verification of target 5.2 of SDG 5 which is "eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls from public and private life (...)"

The Value and Benefits of Supreme Audit Institutions – Making a Difference in the Lives of Citizens (By implementing the 12 INTOSAI principles in 2019 ranked in 3 areas).

This is a continuation of the SAI's monitoring of the progress of the SDGs (SDG Readiness Audit) but specifically focused on gender.

Q2 : When you started working on this audit, what were the challenges you faced?

2.1 Possession of important data at the TFP level, particularly UNFPA, such as national GBV statistics at the level of the 23 M/car regions - it was not possible to obtain the reasons why UNFPA chose its areas of intervention.

2.2 The Court of Auditors does not have supervisory authority at the level of the TFPs.

2.3 Availability of complete data at the level of public actors in the absence of access at the level of TFPs, including UNFPA:

Availability of data from visited entities - most visited entities do not have complete data (2017 to 2021) in their possession.

Q3 : In your opinion, what can this audit and other similar audits contribute to gender equality in Madagascar?

The Audit Objectives of this audit focus on: the legal environment related to the fight against GBV; the control management framework, the capacities of the actors involved in the fight; Information-Education-Communication (IEC) in the struggle.

Through the SNLVBG 2017_2021, these 04 areas form the national mechanism set up to fight against GBV.

The evaluation of the performance of the achievements carried out within the framework of the SNLCVBG would make it possible to opine on the effectiveness of the fight against GBV and to have a conclusion on the situation of gender equality in Madagascar and the system that aims to promote it.