

### Guide for completing sexual violence protection plan

This form is only for sexual violence cases, not general domestic violence cases. In domestic violence cases where there is also sexual violence, you should also fill this in.

The form should be filled in early, within the first week of receiving a case. It acts as a brainstorming exercise to ensure paralegals discuss the various issues affecting the client – support on these wider issues will not only help the client but will also assist in advancing the case, if survivors feel fully supported. You can add to this form later as appropriate as new information arises.

Please note, it is asking you whether you have talked about the issue. If you think it is not a relevant question (eg. Schooling when the client is an adult) then write n/a.

This form should ALWAYS be kept confidential.

This form will act as a protection plan for the client and for you. It should act as a guide for your action, and you should follow-up on it and ensure it is implemented in full. Progress against the plan can be added to the action log.

<b>Have you and the survivor talked about:</b>	<b>Possible questions/ issues</b>
Prosecution?	What action do you need to take towards prosecution? What evidence could you collect?
Where to stay?	Where is the client living now? Does she feel safe at home? Is she living with the abuser? Are other family members involved in the abuse? Do people in her family blame her? Could the paralegals help the parents understand it is not her fault? Where is she going to stay? Do the community know about it? Will there likely be pressure from community members/ relatives of the perpetrator? What could you do to protect against this?
Schooling?	Is she going to school? How will she cope with taking time off for court? Can it be kept confidential so not everyone in school knows? Can the paralegals help with this?
Financial support?	Where is she going to get support from? Does it need to be from the perpetrator and if so how could you get that? Longer term, does she need to support herself and does she have the skills to do that? Are there any skills training programmes and any microfinance programmes that would help and that you could connect her to?
Medical care?	Does she need medical attention? If needed, how can she access medical attention?
Pregnant?	Is she pregnant? How will that be handled?
Children?	Does she have any children with the perpetrator? Does she have children from other relationships? Are they somewhere safe? Who is looking after them? Does the abuser physically abuse the children or threaten to harm them? What physical, emotional, cognitive and behavioural symptoms does the client notice in her children?
Counseling?/	Does she have someone she can speak to confidentially who she finds supportive?

emotional support?	Friends/ family/ church etc. What physical, emotional, cognitive and behavioural symptoms does the client notice in herself? Would she like counseling? Can you help her access it locally? (nb. Rainbo centres/ trained phu nurses in some areas). What can she do to support herself? How can she distract herself from thinking about it?
Advice on separation?	Does she need advice on separation/ divorce?
Protection against perpetrator?	Is there an ongoing threat? What contact does she have with the abuser if she is not living with him? What are her present feelings toward the abuser? Can she avoid the perpetrator and how? Can you protect other community members from the perpetrator? (eg. If he is a school teacher/ community member)
Follow-up?	What follow-up will there be by the paralegals?
Compensation?	How could she obtain compensation from the perpetrator?
Other?	What assistance was the client hoping for? Has she sought assistance in the past regarding her situation? If so with whom? (social services, courts, hospitals, police, mental health setting etc)