SERVING CANADIANS

FAMILY VIOLENCE INITIATIVE EVALUATION
Final Report

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... **i**

1. INTRODUCTION **1**
1.1. The Family Violence Initiative 1
1.2. Purpose of the Evaluation 2
1.3. Evaluation Questions 2
1.4. Evaluation Methodology 4
1.5. Limitations, Challenges and Mitigation Strategies 5
1.6. Structure of the Report 7

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE JUSTICE FAMILY VIOLENCE INITIATIVE **9**
2.1. Activities, Outputs and Outcomes 9
2.2. Governance 11
2.3. Stakeholders and Beneficiaries 13
2.4. Resources 14
2.5. Performance Measurement Strategy 14

3. KEY FINDINGS **15**
3.1. Relevance 15
3.2. Implementation 26
3.3. Effectiveness 28
3.4. Efficiency and Economy 44

4. CONCLUSIONS **49**

5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE **55**

APPENDIX A: Data Collection Instruments **57**

APPENDIX B: Summary of Document Review **117**

ACRONYMS

FCY	Family, Children and Youth Section
FEAI	Federal Elder Abuse Initiative
FTE	Full time Equivalent Employees
FPT	Federal-Provincial-Territorial
FVI	Family Violence Initiative
HRSDC	Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
NGO	Non-government organizations
O&M	Operating and Management Funds
PHAC	Public Health Agency of Canada
PLEI	Public Legal Education and Information
PMS	Performance Measurement Strategy
PPSC	Public Prosecution Service of Canada
TBS	Treasury Board Secretariat

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Family Violence Initiative

The Family Violence Initiative (FVI) is a horizontal initiative of 15 federal departments and agencies, led by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). The goal of the federal FVI is to enhance awareness of family violence issues; build the knowledge base that will help to address these issues; and contribute to a strengthened ability of the communities and the justice, housing and health systems to prevent and respond to family violence.

The Department of Justice Canada (Justice) is a long-term partner in the federal FVI and one of eight departments receiving an initiative-specific funding allocation. In recent years, the resources allocated for the Justice FVI have included an annual budget of $1.13 million and a staff of 3.64 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). These resources support a range of FVI activities (legal policy development and law reform, strategic coordination and partnership development, investments, and information and educational supports) involving various stakeholder groups including other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) organizations, and other non-government organizations.

2. Purpose of the Evaluation

The purpose of the evaluation is to examine the continued relevance of the Justice FVI; its design and implementation; the accomplishments and achievements of activities implemented within the scope of the Initiative, and the demonstrated efficiency and economy. The results will be used by Justice for planning and reporting purposes. The evaluation was completed over a nine-month period. The scope of the evaluation encompasses projects funded from 2005-2010 and policy activities undertaken from 2000-2010.

3. Evaluation Methodology

Reflecting the range of activities and stakeholder groups involved in the Justice FVI, the evaluation methods incorporate multiple lines of evidence including a review of literature and legislation; interviews with 33 key informants including Justice employees, representatives from Justice FVI federal partners, provincial/territorial justice officials, and other stakeholders; a document review of funded projects; and six case studies.

4. Findings and Conclusions

4.1. Relevance

The major findings and conclusions of the evaluation with respect to relevance are as follows:

- **There is a continuing need for the Justice FVI.** Family violence is prevalent in Canada, particularly in certain regions and communities. In 2009, 6% of the Canadian adult population reported having experienced spousal violence, including both current and previous relationships, while 17% reported having been victims of emotional and financial abuse. In 2008, there were 235,842 child maltreatment-related investigations conducted in Canada, which represented a rate of 39 per 1,000 children. In 2009, there were more than 2,400 people over 65 years of age who were victims of violent crimes committed by family members, which represented about one-third of all violent incidents against older adults. Moreover, the prevalence of family violence within Aboriginal communities is much higher than the national average.

  Family violence and bullying have devastating social, health and economic consequences for families, communities and society. Family violence places a significant economic burden on Canadians. Moreover, research has shown that children exposed to violence are 10 to 17 times more likely to have serious emotional and behavioral problems later in life compared to children who are raised in a non-violent setting.

  The relevance of the Justice FVI has increased over time as the result of increasing attention given to family violence issues at the provincial and territorial levels; broader recognition of the different types of family violence (e.g., domestic abuse, bullying, elder abuse, etc.); enhanced understanding of the underlining causes of family violence; increasing awareness of and demand for services for victims of family violence; increasing population diversity, which has increased the need for culturally appropriate responses to domestic violence; a growing proportion of older Canadians, which has contributed to the prevalence of issues

related to elder abuse; and the impact of new technologies such as the Internet, which has given rise to issues such as online sexual exploitation of children by family members.

Even though there are indications that rates of family violence have declined somewhat in recent years, the need for the Justice FVI may have increased because the issues have become more complex and the types of family violence have become more broadly recognized (i.e., domestic abuse, bullying, and elder abuse).

- **The Justice FVI is aligned with federal government priorities as well as Justice strategic outcomes and is consistent with the federal government's role and responsibilities in addressing family violence.** The Justice FVI goals are consistent with the Government of Canada priorities identified in the *Speech from the Throne* in recent years. The activities of the Justice FVI contribute to the departmental strategic outcome, "*A fair, relevant and accessible justice system that reflects Canadian values*", by implementing law and legislative reforms; enhancing coordination and partnership, which strengthen the justice system; and supporting information, knowledge and awareness projects, which facilitate equitable access to the justice system. There is an important role for the federal government in ensuring that family violence issues have a high profile at the federal level, raising public awareness, and providing coordination, collaboration and information sharing among jurisdictions. Over the past several decades, there has been a growing trend to tackle violence against women and children in the international arena. The departmental component of the FVI is consistent with national and international trends in family violence policies and legislation. The objectives of the Justice FVI are consistent with the Government of Canada's commitment under the United Nations General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45 on Elimination of Violence against Women.
- **The Justice FVI is consistent with the federal government-wide FVI.** Federal partners indicated that the Department plays an integral and complementary role in the federal government-wide FVI as a subject matter expert in the areas of criminal and family law as well as a facilitator of public and legal education. The Justice FVI contributes to the federal government-wide FVI by increasing public and professional awareness; enhancing the ability of the criminal justice system to respond to family violence; contributing to the development and implementation of policy and legislation; and supporting data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions.

4.2. Program Implementation

- **The Justice FVI is well designed and delivered effectively**. The Justice FVI is coordinated with other related activities within the Department through joint participation in particular FVI activities as well as through the Justice FVI Working Group. The role of the Justice FVI within the broader federal government FVI is well defined and the mandate and objectives of the Justice FVI are clearly understood by the staff directly involved in the Initiative as well as by others within Justice with whom they work. The long history of the Justice FVI and continued involvement of key personnel have contributed to a strong understanding of the mandate, objectives, structures, roles and responsibilities.
- The activities of the Justice FVI have been implemented largely as intended, producing the types of outputs envisioned under each component. Although no major course corrections were identified, the relative focus on various types of family violence and the approaches taken has evolved somewhat over time.
- The nature of most FVI activities makes it difficult to collect performance data on the impacts of the implemented activities. This challenge is compounded by the fact that the current Performance Measurement Strategy (PMS) was developed in 2004 and does not reflect the most recent changes in the Justice FVI logic model.

4.3. Effectiveness

The major findings and conclusions of the evaluation with respect to performance are as follows:

- **The activities carried out within Justice as part of the FVI, including the funded projects, have made progress against the targeted outcomes.** The Justice FVI is designed to improve the responsiveness of the justice system. In reviewing the progress made, it is important to recognize that the Justice FVI does not provide direct family violence services. Rather, it works to influence the policies, regulations, laws and practices that are in place as well as to increase the level of awareness, knowledge and skills amongst those operating in the system. That being said, the results of the evaluation demonstrate that progress has been made in improving the responsiveness of the justice system by:
  - *Strengthening the capacity of the justice system*. Research projects have identified best practices across the country and internationally while conferences and support for professional development have helped to increase knowledge of emerging issues and have enhanced efforts in addressing various aspects of family violence. Other Justice FVI

activities such as evaluations, support for changes in legislation, research on policies, and development of resources have also contributed to strengthening the capacity of the justice system to address family violence.

– *Enhancing public and professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence.* Justice has developed materials that are language-specific and culturally appropriate; it has supported the development of resources to provide the public with current information about family violence issues, including information about the justice/legislative responses to these issues. Justice has also made public legal educational material and information available through its website; it made materials available through other means including the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, the websites of PLEI organizations, and conferences; and it worked with other organizations such as Citizenship and Immigration Canada, which distributed targeted materials to newcomers. Funding of PLEI groups resulted in the production and distribution of information and materials raising public awareness and educating people on family violence issues and the law. Support for community workshops raised awareness of specific issues such as elder abuse, child sexual abuse, family violence in Aboriginal communities, and abuse in rural areas. Funded projects improved the visibility of family violence issues within targeted communities, increased knowledge of issues and individual rights and responsibilities, and improved the ability of community organizations to respond effectively to family violence. The development of tools, training materials and resources for professionals has led to more informed decision making by courts, police officers and other justice system professionals, and increased capacity of those involved in various justice system processes and services to better address the needs of the victims of family violence.

– *Enhancing the ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs and issues.* Through pilot projects and other activities, Justice has acted as a catalyst bringing together stakeholder and community representatives, thereby creating opportunities for information sharing and dialogue, showcasing effective approaches and best practices, and working together on issues of shared concern. The collaborative approach has resulted in a better, more holistic understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence on the part of each partner as well as higher success rates with victims in terms of obtaining evidence and testimony, which, in turn, has contributed to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in addressing family violence.

4.4. Efficiency and Economy

- **The Justice FVI is delivered efficiently.** The level of investment in the Initiative is very small relative to the cost of family violence in Canada. The Justice FVI has made efficient use of the modest resources available, which have declined in recent years even though the demand for project funding and other support has increased. The activities supported through the Justice FVI have adopted measures such as leveraging and in-kind contributions to ensure that outputs and outcomes are generated at a low cost.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Family Violence Initiative

The Family Violence Initiative (FVI) is a long-term federal commitment to a complex, deeply rooted, and costly long-term societal problem with myriad social, justice, and health dimensions. It was first announced on June 5, 1988, with $40 million in time-limited funding, to provide 200 new short-term shelter units for crisis assistance for abused women and their children, and to establish a process for developing a long-term federal approach to family violence prevention.

Currently, there are 15 federal departments and agencies that participate in the federal FVI, of which eight, including the Department of Justice Canada (Justice), receive an initiative-specific funding allocation. The federal FVI is associated with a $7 million annual allocation. In recent years, the budget for the Justice FVI has been $1.13 million annually with a staff of 3.64 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs).

The mandate of the federal FVI is to enhance awareness about family violence, build the knowledge base, and strengthen the ability of the communities and the justice, housing and health systems to prevent and respond to family violence. The objectives are to:

- Promote public awareness of the risk factors of family violence and the need for public involvement in responding to it;
- Strengthen the ability of the criminal justice, health and housing systems to respond; and,
- Support data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions.

The Justice FVI mandate is grounded in the departmental mandate to ensure that Canada is a "just and law-abiding society with an accessible, efficient and fair system of justice" and to "promote respect for rights and freedoms, the law and the Constitution". Towards this end, Justice reviews, researches, develops and reforms criminal and civil justice laws and policy; provides project funding for community-based family violence projects; and provides public and professional legal education and information support on family violence issues. The Justice FVI is linked to the following departmental initiatives and activities:

- Federal Victims Strategy;
- Youth Justice Renewal Initiative;
- Aboriginal Justice Strategy;
- Supporting Families through Separation and Divorce; and
- Justice Component of the Federal Elder Abuse Initiative, which concluded on March 31, 2010.

1.2. Purpose of the Evaluation

Although the Department conducted periodic internal reviews of the FVI, the Justice FVI has never been formally evaluated. In 2010, in accordance with the TBS Policy on Evaluation, the Department initiated an evaluation of the Justice FVI. The results will be used by Justice for planning and reporting purposes. The evaluation was completed over a nine-month period. The scope of the evaluation encompasses projects funded from 2005-2010 and policy activities undertaken from 2000-2010.

The purpose of the evaluation is to examine the continued relevance of the Justice FVI, the program's design and implementation, the accomplishments and achievements of activities implemented within the scope of the Initiative, and the demonstrated efficiency and economy.

1.3. Evaluation Questions

The evaluation of the Justice FVI addresses issues of design, implementation and performance monitoring, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and economy. The evaluation questions are as follows:

Relevance

- To what extent does the Justice FVI address the needs of Canadians affected by family violence?
- To what extent does the Justice FVI continue to be a relevant partner and program in the federal-wide FVI?

- To what extent are the FVI goals and objectives aligned with federal government priorities and Justice strategic outcomes?
- To what extent is the Justice FVI aligned with the federal government's role and responsibilities in addressing family violence?

Justice FVI Design and Implementation

- Has the Justice FVI been implemented as intended?
- Are the expected activities being undertaken and outputs delivered?
- Are the mandate and objectives of the Justice FVI clear?
- Are governance structures, roles and responsibilities appropriate and understood and being fulfilled as intended?
- What course corrections have been made, why and what is the impact on reaching Justice FVI expected outcomes?
- Is there sufficient capacity to support ongoing performance measurement and evaluation?

Effectiveness

- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to a strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational material and information on family violence?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to increased engagement ability of stakeholders/communities to address needs/issues of those affected by family violence?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence (from national and international perspectives)?
- To what extent has the Justice FVI contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?

Efficiency and Economy

- Has the Justice FVI resource utilization been appropriate, in relation to the resources allocated, activities and outputs produced, and its progress toward expected outcomes?

1.4. Evaluation Methodology

Under the FVI, Justice undertakes a range of activities (legal policy development and law reform, strategic coordination and partnership development, investments, and information and educational supports) involving various stakeholder groups including other federal government departments, provincial and territorial departments, Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) organizations, and other non-government organizations (NGOs). The level of risk associated with the program is considered low given the small budget involved, the long operating period, and the nature of its activities. Reflecting these characteristics, the evaluation methods incorporated multiple lines of evidence including literature review, key informant interviews, six case studies, and a document review of funded projects. The evaluation team adopted a common methodological approach to ensure the reliability validity and reliability of data, observations and conclusions. To that end, an evaluation matrix was developed to guide data collection and analysis.

Literature Review: A literature review was undertaken of family violence in Canada and legislation related to family violence. The review focuses on topics such as FVI alignment with the government priorities, roles and responsibilities, and international obligations; national and international family violence trends; policies and legislation implemented in Canada to combat family violence; and changes in level and nature of public awareness of family violence in Canada.

Interviews: Of the 33 key informant interviews, 12 were undertaken with Justice employees, 8 with representatives from other federal government partners, 6 with provincial/territorial justice officials, and 7 with other stakeholders (health and social services agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions). The questionnaires used for these interviews are provided in Appendix A.

Case Studies: Six case studies covered the activities and projects supported through Justice FVI. The case studies were selected in consultation with Justice employees, considering the impacts reported during key informant interviews. The cases were selected in a manner to ensure balanced representation vis-à-vis types of outputs, location, size and duration, and target groups/beneficiaries. Each case study involved a review of relevant documentation, interviews

with project leads and with partners, users, beneficiaries and participants. Seventeen case study interviews were completed. The guides used for these interviews are provided in Appendix A.

Document Review of Funded Projects: The document review included an in-depth review of documentation related to 30 of the 55 projects funded through the Justice FVI and implemented between 2005 and 2010. A summary of the document review is provided in Appendix B.

1.5. Limitations, Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

The evaluation encountered challenges in aggregating and attributing impacts, reviewing longer-term impacts, assessing delivery costs, and obtaining input from stakeholders and other respondents. These study limitations were mitigated, as much as possible, through use of multiple lines of evidence and triangulation of data to demonstrate reliability and validity of the findings.

***Aggregated impacts*:** It is very difficult to quantify and aggregate program outcomes in a meaningful way, particularly those associated with legal policy development and law reform as well as strategic coordination and partnership development. This challenge has been addressed through the use of case studies and by encouraging key informants to provide specific examples of Justice FVI activities/projects when discussing outcomes.

***Attribution*:** Similarly, it is difficult to attribute and separate out the outcomes of the Initiative from other programs and initiatives undertaken by various levels of government. For example, the Justice FVI provides legal and policy advice, information and research which may influence decisions that have an impact on the capacity and responsiveness of the justice system; however, the Justice FVI is not the decision-maker and the outputs of the Justice FVI may be only one of a range of factors that influence the ultimate decisions. This challenge has been addressed by encouraging key informants to provide specific examples of Justice FVI activities and projects when discussing impacts. In addition, a document review and case studies of specific Justice FVI activities and projects further captured impacts attributable to the Initiative.

***Long-term nature of expected impacts*:** Justice FVI activities are designed to develop or promote tools, methodologies, strategies and resources to be used by policy-makers, organizations, and other target groups to build capacity in addressing family violence. Therefore, it is difficult to measure the long-term impacts of these activities on family violence. In addition, many of the Justice FVI activities included in the evaluation are still underway or only recently completed and the long-term impacts are not yet known. This challenge has been addressed by

identifying key informants and case study interviewees who were in a position to comment on information, tools, resources or assistance that was generated; what was done with that information; what resulted from these actions; and to what extent those results are attributable to Justice FVI activities or projects.

***Limited data available on program delivery costs*:** The program provided information on program budgets and FTE staffing levels. However, given the range of representatives who may be involved in particular activities and the absence of activity-based costing data, it is not possible to determine all of the specific resources dedicated to particular FVI activities. In turn, this constraint has made it more difficult to assess program economy and efficiency. To respond to this limitation, qualitative questions on program efficiency were included in the key informant interviews.

***Low awareness of the full range of program activities amongst stakeholders*:** A notable challenge associated with the evaluation is that many activities associated with the Justice FVI (e.g., legal and policy advice, international contributions, and research) are not visible to most external stakeholders. As a result, when providing feedback on effectiveness, federal partners, provincial and territorial justice officials, and other stakeholders may tend to understate the impacts of the Justice FVI (e.g., by providing lower impact ratings). These external stakeholders have tended to provide higher ratings regarding the impacts of PLEI activities, which are the most visible of the activities and outputs generated by the Justice FVI. This challenge has been addressed by conducting extensive interviews with those most directly involved in the Justice FVI (the Justice employees) as well as conducting document review and case studies.

Potential for respondent bias: Given the limited availability of secondary data, interviews with Justice employees were a key line of evidence. The evaluation findings, therefore, are based in part on the views of those who may have a vested interest in the program and be potentially biased in their responses regarding program outcomes. Several measures were taken to reduce the effect of respondent biases and validate interview results: (i) interviewers communicated the purpose of this evaluation, its design and methodology, and strict confidentiality of responses clearly to participants; (ii) interviews were conducted by telephone by skilled interviewers; (iii) the respondents were asked to provide a rationale for their assessments, including a description of specific activities which contributed to the reported outcomes; (iv) where selected for review, the impacts generated by particular activities were confirmed through case studies; (v) the answers were cross-checked for consistency and validation with those of other groups as well as with program and project documentation; and (vi) a variety of descriptive and inferential statistical analyses were conducted to further support comparative findings.

1.6. Structure of the Report

This report is divided into four chapters. Chapter 2 describes the design and implementation of the Justice FVI. Chapter 3 presents the findings of key informant interviews, case studies, literature review, and document review, while Chapter 4 discusses the conclusions arising from the evaluation. The appendices contain key informant and case study interview guides, as well as a summary of the document review.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE JUSTICE FAMILY VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

This chapter provides an overview of the design and implementation of the Justice FVI.

2.1. Activities, Outputs and Outcomes

The Justice FVI logic model shown in Figure 1 below illustrates how the Initiative reaches its expected outcomes, given the specific focus of activities and their expected contribution to the ultimate, federal government-wide expected outcome: the reduction of family violence in Canada. The logic model describes the key activities and outputs and expected direct, intermediate and ultimate outcomes. It forms the foundation for the performance measurement and evaluation strategy and ultimately, the accountabilities for the results of this Initiative.

2.1.1. Activities and Outputs

The Justice FVI is designed to take an integrated approach, involving both criminal and family law, which is supported by research, public outreach, public awareness, professional education and collaboration with provincial governments, territorial governments and other partners to ensure appropriate interpretation and application of the law and policies. The Initiative involves three inter-related components, including:

- **Legal Policy Development and Law Reform:** Outputs include policy and legal advice, policy-relevant research, reports, and draft family violence-related legislation or regulations as well as contributions to periodic international reports, resolutions and instruments that relate to family violence;
- **Strategic Coordination and Partnership Development**: Outputs include stakeholder meetings and conferences related to family violence as well as partnerships; and,
- **Investments and Information and Educational Supports**: Outputs include funded projects as well as family violence-related PLEI materials and professional educational materials.

Under the Legal Policy Development and Law Reform component, the Initiative facilitates strengthening legal policy frameworks and legislation to address family violence in national and

international contexts. At the national level, the Justice FVI undertakes a range of activities that contributes to legal policy development and law reform, including advising on legal and policy-related family violence-related issues (intra- and inter-departmentally); monitoring case law and emerging family violence issues; researching policy-relevant issues; and as required, recommending and advising on legislative and regulatory reforms. At the international level, the Justice FVI monitors and reports internationally with respect to Canada's criminal and civil laws and responses to family violence, and contributes to the preparation of Canada's position in regards to questionnaires, reports, resolutions and treaties vis-à-vis various international fora. In some instances, the Justice FVI contributes to development of the federal position on family violence issues and, in conjunction with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, collaborates with other players at the international level.

Through the Strategic Coordination and Partnership Development component, the Justice FVI works with stakeholders to advance coordination and collaboration on the justice system response to family violence. This includes a leadership role in creating opportunities for information sharing and dialogue within and across the justice sector, as well as working together with stakeholders on issues of shared concern.

The Investments and Information and Educational Supports component involves the provision of federal contribution funding for family violence projects, in accordance with the Department's contribution funding priorities and criteria. Two categories of projects are eligible for funding: 1) innovative pilot projects that yield models, strategies and tools to address family violence; and 2) PLEI projects that yield resources to inform and assist those affected by family violence. The Justice FVI also directly produces legal information and educational materials on family violence. It maintains a website dedicated to providing information on selected family violence topics, including information of particular relevance to justice system.

2.1.2. Intended Outcomes

As demonstrated in the logic model, in the immediate term, the Justice FVI efforts are expected to strengthen capacity of the justice system to address family violence, and to improve availability of, and public and professional accessibility to, legal educational material and information on family violence. The activities are expected to increase engagement and ability of stakeholders to address the needs of those affected by family violence, improve public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system, and enhance professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence. These outcomes should lead to the improved responsiveness of the justice system to family violence. The ultimate outcome of

all efforts contributes to a fair, relevant and accessible justice system that reflects Canadian values, and reduction of family violence in Canada.

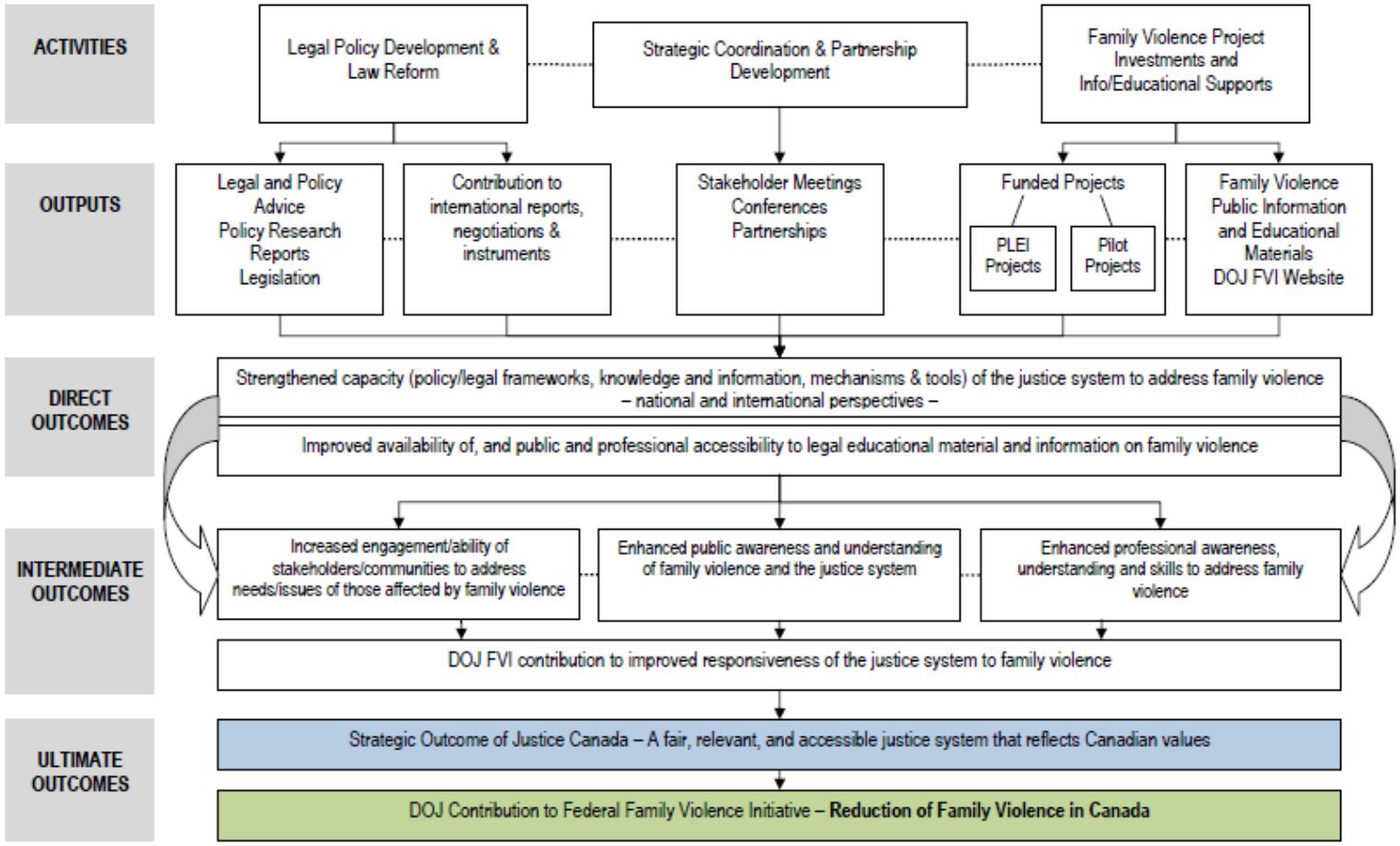
2.2. Governance

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) coordinates the federal FVI on behalf of the federal government and manages the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence. Justice has been a long-term member of the federal Family Violence Interdepartmental Working Group and an active participant in planning discussions related to the Group's membership, proposed activities and mandate.

Within the Department, the FVI is managed and coordinated by the Family, Children and Youth (FCY) Section, which is part of the Policy Sector. The Policy Sector is responsible for the broad policy-related issues, including legislative or regulatory reforms of relevance to family violence, as well as for coordinating work with interdepartmental, federal-provincial-territorial (FPT) governments, NGOs and academic partners on issues related to family violence and the justice system. The Children's Law and Family Violence Policy Unit, within the FCY Section, coordinates the work of the departmental Family Violence Working Group. This involves facilitating information sharing, promoting the development and implementation of tracking and reporting mechanisms, developing and promoting relationship-building among players, coordinating departmental research and programming activities, and promoting best practices. Overall management and administration of the Justice FVI is the responsibility, in addition to other tasks, of a Senior Counsel in the FCY Section.

The funding component of the Initiative is managed under the Justice Partnership and Innovation Program within the Programs Branch under advisement of FCY employees who review funding applications and PLEI products.

Figure 1: The Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative Logic Model



The research component of the Justice FVI is either carried out by the Research and Statistics Division in conjunction with the FCY Section or through contracts with external researchers or academics. The FCY Section is responsible for developing training and PLEI materials as well as hosting conferences on family violence.

2.3. Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Intra- and inter-sectoral cooperation, coordination and collaboration are essential in addressing family violence. Provinces and territories are responsible for the administration of justice and, along with municipal governments, for making provisions for the delivery of many key services (such as policing, social services, health and housing) that are integral to addressing family violence. The Justice FVI interacts with these stakeholders and with a range of others, notably Aboriginal associations, non-governmental associations, academic institutions and research networks.

Justice participates in two FPT government working groups related to family violence:

- FPT Family Violence Prevention Working Group. Under the lead of PHAC, this committee, which is part of the federal FVI, shares information and promotes collaboration on a wide range of issues related to family violence; and,
- Ad Hoc FPT Working Group on Family Violence. Justice co-chairs this recently established committee that focuses on issues related to both the family justice system and the criminal justice system responses to family violence. FPT Deputy Ministers Responsible for Justice approved the establishment of this Working Group in January 2011.

In addition, further information sharing and coordination is facilitated through other related fora such as the FPT Working Group on Victims of Crime, the FPT Working Group on Aboriginal Justice, the Interdepartmental Working Group on Children's Rights, and the Interdepartmental Working Group on Honour-Based Violence in the Family. Justice FVI also engages with other national governments and international bodies (e.g., United Nations, Council of Europe, etc.) on family violence issues. In addition, it provides information to representatives from other countries interested in learning about Canada's legal responses to family violence.

The Justice FVI enters into activity- or project-specific partnerships to advance Justice FVI objectives and encourages partnership-building through its project funding stream. This includes working with PLEI organizations through funded projects. The Initiative also produces legal information for the public and training information for justice system professionals in

collaboration with experts in the field. Finally, the research component of the Initiative involves working with researchers and academics on research issues related to family violence and the justice system.

Other orders of government, justice sector professionals and service providers, allied professionals, as well as community organizations and PLEI organizations are the key beneficiaries of the Justice's FVI. The ultimate beneficiaries of the Initiative are the victims and potential victims of family violence and their families.

2.4. Resources

The Department of Justice is one of eight federal departments that receive funding through the federal government's FVI. In 1998, the Department was allocated annual funding of $1.45 million through the FVI. According to this allocation, the Justice FVI had 4.64 FTEs, $527,228 in operating and management funds (O&M) and $597,725 in contributions annually as of 2002-03. However, due to successive budgetary restraint exercises, there are currently 3.64 FTEs and $258,656 in O&M.

2.5. Performance Measurement Strategy

In 2004, a Performance Measurement Strategy (PMS) was developed that provides indicators, identifies data sources and data collection methods, specifies the body responsible for data collection, and presents timing and frequency of measurement.[1] Performance indicators outlined in the PMS include those that are unique to the Department as well as those required by the federal government-wide FVI. The Department maintains a grants and contributions database that collects and tracks data on funded pilot and PLEI projects in terms of types of projects, their location, target groups, and amounts of funds allocated. In addition, all funded projects are required to submit a final report describing the outcomes of the projects. Performance data on policy research activities include mostly the number and types of research initiatives supported and research and statistical reports generated. The quality of the research reports is assessed through peer review. In addition, some information is collected regarding how the Justice FVI research work is utilized through the Department of Justice FVI website and National Clearinghouse on Family Violence.

[1] Department of Justice Canada FVI, 2004. Project Managers' Guide to Performance Measurement and Evaluation

3. KEY FINDINGS

This chapter presents the findings of the literature review, document review, key informant interviews, and case studies.

3.1. Relevance

The evaluation questions related to relevance focus on the need for the Justice FVI, its role within the federal FVI, and the extent to which they are consistent with departmental and federal government priorities, roles and responsibilities.

3.1.1. Need for the Program

Family violence is prevalent in Canada, particularly in certain regions and communities.

In 2009, 6% of the Canadian adult population reported having experienced spousal violence, including both current and previous relationships, and 17% of Canadians reported having been victims of emotional and financial abuse.[2] Most incidents of spousal violence brought to the attention of police were reported by victims themselves. Although female victims were over three times more likely than male victims to state that they had reported the incident to police (23% versus 7%), the reasons for choosing to report were similar for both groups. Overall, the most common reason for reporting incidents of spousal violence to police was a desire to stop the violence and to receive protection (89%). Other reasons included a sense of duty (49%), wanting their partner arrested and punished (31%), and someone else recommending that they report the incident (16%). Of those victims who did report the victimization to the police, over six in ten stated that they were satisfied with the police response.[3] Also, in 2009, one in ten victims of spousal violence stated that they obtained a restraining or protective order against their abuser.

In 2008, there were 235,842 child maltreatment-related investigations conducted in Canada, which represented a rate of 39 per 1,000 children. The results of the investigations indicated that 84,903 children between 0 and 15 years were maltreated. In 2009, police reported almost 55,000

[2] Statistics Canada, 2011. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile
[3] Statistics Canada, 2010. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile

children and youth (0 to 17 years) were victims of physical assault or sexual offence, about 3 in 10 of which were perpetrated by a family member.[3]

In 2009, police reported over 2,400 senior victims (65 years and older) of violent crime committed by a family member, which represented about one-third of all violent incidents committed against older adults. Over the past ten years, police identified just over 1,500 homicides committed by family members, accounting for about one-third (35%) of all solved homicides. The rate of family-related homicides has ranged from 4 to 6 victims per million population over this period.[4]

In 2008, there were 593 shelters across Canada providing residential services to women and children escaping abuse.[4] In addition to housing, most shelters offered a wide range of other programs, including counseling, advocacy, housing referrals, child support, clothing and food. During the 12-month period between April 2009 and March 2010, 64,500 women were admitted to shelters across Canada. Almost one-third (31%) of these women had stayed at the shelter before, up from 25% in 2007-08.

According to the latest Transition Home Survey, emotional abuse (66%) and physical abuse (53%) were the most common reasons for women to seek shelter. Among those women in shelters, the majority (80%) reported that they had been abused by a current or former spouse or common-law partner.[5] Among abused women, most (67%) were looking for shelter from current partners, and most (60%) had not reported the abuse to police. Fifty-eight percent of shelters indicated the need for additional services, including child care, outreach services, public education and prevention programs, housing resources, and culturally sensitive services. In 2008, one shelter in five had to turn away women and children because their facility was full.[6]

Compared to other regions of Canada, Alberta (7.6%), Manitoba (7.4%) and Saskatchewan (7.4%) have the highest proportion of adult population reporting that they have experienced spousal violence over the last five years.[7] The rates of spousal violence in Newfoundland (4.1%), Quebec (5.3%), Nova Scotia (5.5%) and New Brunswick (5.5%) are relatively low.[8] Nunavut

[4] Statistics Canada, 2010. Shelters for Abused Women in Canada
[5] Statistics Canada, 2011. Shelters for Abused Women in Canada
[6] Statistics Canada, 2010. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile
[7] Data on Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut not included
[8] Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999, 2004 and 2009

(53.4%), Northwest Territories (23.5%), Yukon (18.9%), Saskatchewan (10.5%) and Manitoba (10.5%) have the highest rates of family homicides.[9]

The prevalence of family violence within Aboriginal communities is much higher than the rates for Canada overall. In 2009, those who self-identified as an Aboriginal person were almost twice as likely as those who did not self-identify to report being the victim of spousal violence (10% versus 6%).[10] Aboriginal children are more likely to be maltreated. In 2008, 15% (or about 15,000 cases) of the total number of cases of substantiated maltreatment in Canada involved children of Aboriginal heritage, 10% involved children with First Nations status, 2% involved First Nations Non-Status children, 2% involved Métis children, and 1% involved Inuit children.[11] The Aboriginal population of Canada accounts for about 4% of the total population, according to the 2006 census.

The underreporting of victimization, particularly for domestic violence, is a serious concern in Canada.[12] A growing number of spousal violence victims are not reporting such incidents to police. In 2009, only 22% of spousal violence victims got the police involved, down from 28% in 2004. Victims of spousal violence continue to rely on informal sources of support (such as family and friends) more often than formal services or the police.[13] According to the latest Transition Home Survey, about 6 in 10 abused women residing at shelters had not reported the most recent incident to police.[14] Increased public awareness may encourage more family violence victims to approach formal services or the police.

Rates of underreporting are particularly high in Aboriginal communities, ranging from 40% to 75%. Factors that may contribute to this high rate include the "normalization of violence", lack of services to access in order to report violent incidents, and a lack of culturally appropriate services.[15]

[9] Rates are per 1 million populations from 2000 to 2009. Source: Statistics Canada, Homicide Survey
[10] Statistics Canada, 2009. General Social Survey
[11] Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect - 2008, Public Health Agency of Canada, http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ncfv-cnivf/pdfs/nfnts-incidence2008_final_e.pdf
[12] Scrim, K., 2010. Aboriginal Victimization in Canada: A Summary of the Literature. Victims of Crime Research Digest, Issue 03
[13] Statistics Canada, 2011. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile
[14] Statistics Canada, 2011. Shelters for abused women in Canada
[15] Chartrand, L. and C. McKay, 2006. A Review of Research on Criminal Victimization and First Nations, Métis and Inuit People 1990 to 2001. Department of Justice Canada. Research and Statistics Division

Findings from the literature review highlight the significant impact that family violence has on Canadian families, communities and society.

Family violence and bullying have devastating social, health and economic consequences for families, communities and society.[16] Family violence places a significant economic burden on the Canadian public. In 1995, a study of selected economic costs of three forms of violence (sexual assault, woman abuse in intimate partnerships, and incest or child sexual abuse) estimated that the annual costs of violence against women totaled $4.2 billion in the areas of social services, criminal justice, health care and medical services, and labour and employment.[17] The Justice FVI recently undertook a study, which is still ongoing, to estimate the current economic costs associated with family violence.

Research shows that children exposed to violence were 10 to 17 times more likely to have serious emotional and behavioural problems later in life compared to children who were raised in a non-violent home. Males who had experienced abuse as children are at high risk to repeat the cycle of violence with their family.[18] The 1999 General Social Survey indicated that approximately half a million children, representing 37% of all households with spousal violence, were reported to have heard or witnessed a parent being assaulted in the preceding five-year period. This figure rose to 47% for Aboriginal spousal abuse victims[19]. Studies show that acts of violence are often committed by individuals for whom violence has become normalized and expected, particularly domestic violence.[20,21] Increasing awareness of different types of victims and their rights can help clarify that acts of violence are not a common or appropriate way to deal with life. Increased victim support and intervention services might help towards breaking the cycle of violence.

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[16] Government of Alberta, Taking Action on Family Violence and Bullying, Report To Albertans 2008. Retrieved from http://www.child.alberta.ca/home/documents/familyviolence/Taking_Action_on_Family_Violence_and_Bullying_Report_to_Albertans_FINAL.pdf

[17] Greaves, L., Olena Hankivsky and Joanne Kingston-Reichers, Selected Estimates of the Costs of Violence Against Women. London, Ontario: Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children Publication Series, The University of Western Ontario, 1995

[18] Claudette Dumont-Smith , 2001. Exposure to Violence in the Home: Effects on Aboriginal Children, Discussion Paper. Ottawa: Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada

[19] Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation, Final Report of the Ad Hoc Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group Reviewing Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation

[20] Scrim, K. (2010). Aboriginal Victimization in Canada: A Summary of the Literature. Victims of Crime Research Digest, Issue 03

[21] Chartrand, L. and C. McKay. 2006. A Review of Research on Criminal Victimization and First Nations, Métis and Inuit People 1990 to 2001. Department of Justice Canada. Research and Statistics Division

There is also increasing evidence indicating a strong relationship between violence and bullying, which represents an opportunity to better coordinate prevention and early intervention responses.[22] The incidence of bullying in Canada is high; amongst Canadian youth, 36% report being victims of bullying, 39% report being bullies, and 20% report being both bullies and victims.[23]

Research indicates that family violence remains a widespread social problem and continues to be an important justice issue. An annotated bibliography developed in 2009 provides much more detailed information on the impact and challenges associated with family violence than can be presented here.[24]

There is a strong perceived need for the Justice FVI. All key informants reported a strong continuing need for the types of activities supported under the Justice FVI. When asked to rate how much of a need there is for such activities, on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is no need at all, 3 is somewhat of a need, and 5 is a major need, federal partners provided an average rating of 5, provincial and territorial justice officials provided an average rating of 4.6, other stakeholders and Justice employees provided an average rating of 4.8. The key informants provided the following rationale regarding the need for the Justice FVI:

- The prevalence of family violence remains relatively high;
- A separate focus is warranted since the nature of family violence is significantly different from other forms of victimization;
- Experiencing family violence can have a long-term impact on individuals, particularly children, and thus family violence can be a contributor to future criminal activities and social issues;
- There is strong demand for research, information, education and input related to family violence policy and legislation;

[22] Government of Alberta, Alberta Roundtable on Family Violence and Bullying, http://www.child.alberta.ca/home/documents/familyviolence/rpt_opfvb_finding_solutions_high.pdf
[23] Boyce, W.F., King, M.A., & Roche, J. 2008. Healthy settings for young people in Canada. Health Canada
[24] Berman, H., Damant D., Fraehlich, C. and Gauthier, S., The Justice System Response to Intimate Partner Violence: An annotated bibliography, Prepared for Canadian Observatory on the Justice System Response to Intimate Partner Violence. June, 2009. Retrieved from http://www.unb.ca/observ/documents/Annotatedbibliography.pdf

- Family violence is a complex issue that can only be addressed through contributions from multiple partners. Justice plays an important role in addressing justice issues related to family violence, which is an integral part of the overall federal government efforts;
- A national approach and leadership are required to coordinate the activities of the justice system to tackle family violence; and,
- There is an ongoing need to monitor and assess the need for legislative reform, such as changes to the *Criminal Code*, and in the implementation of existing laws to tackle family violence.

There are indications that the rates of family violence have declined somewhat in recent years.

The literature review highlights that progress is being made in addressing family violence, although the data cannot be directly linked to the activities of the Justice FVI. The percentage of Canadians who report having experienced spousal abuse has declined since 1999. However, the percentage has remained stable over the period covered by this evaluation. According to results of the Statistics Canada's General Social Survey, 7.4% of Canadians reported experiencing physical or sexual spousal abuse in 1999. The percentage declined to 6.1% in 2004 and rose slightly to 6.2% in 2009. Overall, a similar proportion of males (6.0%) and females (6.4%) reported having experienced spousal violence in 2009. However, between 1999 and 2009, the spousal abuse rates against women had declined more compared to that of men. Self-reported spousal abuse against women declined from 8% in 1999 to 7% in 2004 and 6.4% in 2009. Self-reported spousal abuse against men declined from 7% in 1999 to 6% in 2004, and did not change in 2009.

In a majority of reported spousal abuse incidents, criminal charges were laid against offenders. Since 1986, directives and guidelines have been issued by Attorneys General and Solicitors General of all jurisdictions to ensure that police and Crown prosecutors treat spousal assaults as a criminal matter. Police policies generally require the laying of charges where there are reasonable and probable grounds to believe that an assault has taken place. Crown policies generally require the prosecution of spousal assault cases where there is sufficient evidence to support the prosecution, regardless of the victim's wishes.[25] These charging and prosecution policies on spousal abuse remain in effect in all provinces and territories, and all jurisdictions

[25] Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation, Final Report of the Ad Hoc Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group Reviewing Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation

continue to support a similar criminal justice system response, the primary objective of which is the criminalization of spousal abuse. A review of the literature demonstrates that, although rates of police-reported spousal violence have declined steadily over the last decade, rates of criminal charges laid by police have remained almost the same (76% in 2004 and 73% in 2007).

Rates of family and spousal homicide have declined in the period covered under this evaluation. Overall, Canada has experienced declining rates of homicide over the last decade. In 2004, 1.95 homicides per 100,000 population were committed in Canada. The rate increased to 2.05 in 2005 before declining to 1.86 in 2006 and 1.80 in 2007. That same year, of all solved homicides, about one-third of victims were killed by a family member and 16% by a spouse. In 2004, the rate of spousal homicide was approximately 0.44; by 2007, it had declined to 0.37.[26]

Police-reported rates of violence against children and youth under 18 have remained relatively stable over the most recent five-year period from 2004 to 2008. Nearly 53,400 children and youth were victims of a police-reported assault in 2007 and 25% of these incidents were perpetrated by a family member. In 2004, approximately 900 incidences of police-reported violence against children were reported per 100,000 Canadian population.[27] The rate was the same in 2008.

Even though certain rates of family violence have declined, the need for the Justice FVI may have actually increased because the issues have become more complex and more widely recognized.

Although recognizing the decline in incidence, all federal partners, 83% of other stakeholders, 75% of provincial and territorial justice officials, and 29% of Justice employees indicated that the need for the activities of the Justice FVI has increased over the last ten years. Those who did not note an increase generally indicated that the need has always been strong. According to most key informants, the increased need reflects a greater recognition of the impacts of family violence issues as well as greater diversity in the population, which has intensified the need for culturally appropriate responses to domestic violence.

The ability of immigrant and visible minority women to obtain relevant and appropriate help when they face partner violence can be constrained by various social, cultural, financial, linguistic, and legal and immigration concerns as well as by systemic barriers such as cultural stereotyping, racial discrimination and economic marginalization. Expanded and improved

[26] Statistics Canada, 2009. Family Violence in Canada: A Statistical Profile
[27] Statistics Canada, 2004. Incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Trend Database

services may serve to increase access to such help.[28] The federal government does provide information to immigrants and refugees both prior to immigration and upon their arrival in Canada, emphasizing that there are laws in place to protect women from violence and abuse.[29]

Other factors which have contributed to the increasing need for the program include broader recognition of the different types of family violence (e.g., domestic abuse, bullying, elder abuse, etc.); improved understanding of the underlining causes of family violence; increasing awareness of and demand for services for victims of family violence; a growing proportion of older Canadians, which has contributed to the prevalence of issues related to elder abuse; and the impact of new technologies such as the Internet, which has given rise to issues such as online sexual exploitation of children by family members.

The departmental component of the FVI is consistent with national and international trends in family violence policies and legislation.

Over the past several decades, there has been a growing trend to tackle violence against women and children in the international arena. The United Nations has established several related initiatives such as UNiTE to End Violence against Women, which was launched in 2008 with the aim of preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls in all parts of the world; the UN Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (UN Trust Fund), which was established in 1996 with the objective to support local and national efforts to end violence against women and girls; and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, which provides financial and technical assistance to innovative programs and strategies that promote women's human rights, political participation and economic security worldwide. Since 1993, the Council of Europe has made combating violence against women one of its priorities[30]. Of the 195 internationally recognized countries in the world, 89 states currently have some legislative provisions that specifically address domestic violence, and 60 states have specific domestic violence laws.[31]

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[28] Smith, E. (2004). Nowhere to Turn? Responding to Partner Violence Against Immigrant and Visible Minority Women. Canadian Council on Social Development

[29] Government of Canada (2005). Canada's submission to the UN's in depth study on all forms of violence against women. Retrieved from http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/responses/CANADAweb.pdf

[30] A description of the activities of the Council of Europe, particularly their activities related to a convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence is available at http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/equality/03themes/violence-against-women/index_en.asp

[31] Janette Amer, United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, BGRF Regional Conference on Domestic Violence Legal Reform

3.1.2. Alignment with Federal Government Priorities, Roles and Responsibilities

The mandate of Justice with respect to family violence, namely to improve the responsiveness of the justice system to family violence and to strengthen the criminal justice legal framework, is aligned with federal government roles and responsibilities.

The Government of Canada has the constitutional authority to make laws in relation to criminal law and procedure which apply to all Canadians. Provincial governments are responsible for the administration of civil and criminal justice including policing and prosecuting most *Criminal Code* offences. In the territories, the Public Prosecution Service of Canada (PPSC) is responsible for prosecuting *Criminal Code* offences. Although the *Criminal Code* does not refer to specific family violence offences, most forms of family violence are considered to be crimes in Canada. The *Criminal Code* provides a broad range of measures that are applicable to cases involving family violence. These include provisions prohibiting:

- Sexual offences against children and youth;
- Trespassing at night;
- Child pornography;
- Failure to provide necessaries of life and abandoning child;
- Criminal negligence (including negligence causing bodily harm and death);
- Homicide-murder, attempted murder, infanticide and manslaughter;
- Criminal harassment (sometimes called stalking);
- Uttering threats;
- Assault (causing bodily harm, with a weapon, and aggravated assault);
- Sexual assault (causing bodily harm, with a weapon, and aggravated sexual assault);
- Kidnapping and forcible confinement;
- Abduction of a young person;
- Making indecent and harassing phone calls;
- Mischief;
- Intimidation; and

- Breach of a court order, recognizance (peace bond), and probation order.

With respect to family violence, the mandate encompasses the two specific areas of responsibility outlined in the overall mandate of Justice.[32] Under the first area, *Ensuring that Canada is a just and law-abiding society with an accessible, efficient and fair system of justice*, the responsibility with respect to family violence includes working with provincial and territorial governments to improve the ways in which the criminal justice system responds to cases of family violence. Under the second area, *Promoting respect for rights and freedoms, the law and the Constitution*, the responsibility includes strengthening the criminal justice legal framework by reinforcing existing policies and legislation and creating new policies or laws for dealing with family violence. These efforts must reflect the needs and realities of victims of family violence. They must also be consistent with the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

The Justice FVI is consistent with federal government priorities.

The objectives of the Justice FVI are consistent with the 2010 *Speech from the Throne*, which noted that the government will "ensure that Canada remains the best place in the world to raise a family" by introducing a number of measures including "strengthening justice system and the rule of law, and ensuring the safety and security of our neighbourhoods and communities."[33] Based on interview results, the Justice FVI contributes to strengthening the justice system by enhancing coordination/cooperation and conducting law reforms.

The objectives of the Justice FVI are also consistent with the 2011 *Speech from the Throne*, which stated that "our Government will continue to protect the most vulnerable in society and work to prevent crime. It will propose tougher sentences for those who abuse seniors and will help at-risk youth avoid gangs and criminal activity. It will address the problem of violence against women and girls"[34]. The Justice FVI activities and funded projects address violence against women and girls, elder abuse, and other family violence issues.

All Justice employees and federal partners who expressed an opinion (a few chose not to provide an opinion because they were not very familiar with federal government priorities) indicated that the objectives of the Justice FVI are consistent with the priorities of the Government of Canada.

[32] http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/pi/fv-vf/role.html
[33] Speech from the Throne, 3 March, 2010
[34] Speech from the Throne, 3 June, 2011

The objectives of the Justice FVI are consistent with the Government of Canada's commitment under the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[35] and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45 on Elimination of Violence Against Women.[36]

Key informants perceive a legitimate and necessary role for the federal government in addressing justice issues related to family violence.

All federal partners, 88% of Justice employees, 83% of provincial and territorial justice officials, and 80% of other stakeholders indicated that the activities funded under the Justice FVI are consistent with what they see as the roles and responsibilities of the federal government with respect to addressing family violence. Key informants see a strong role for the federal government in ensuring that family violence issues have a high profile at the federal level, raising public awareness, and providing coordination, collaboration and information sharing across jurisdictions.

The Justice FVI is consistent with the strategic outcomes of the Department.

The FVI objectives are consistent with the strategic outcome, *"a fair, relevant and accessible justice system that reflects Canadian values."* This strategic outcome emphasizes working towards a sustainable national justice system and criminal law reforms to respond to emerging issues; improving compliance by parents with the terms and conditions of family support, custody and access obligations; and ensuring equitable access to the justice system.[37] The activities of the FVI contribute to this strategic outcome by supporting implementation legislative reforms; enhancing coordination and partnership which strengthens the justice system;

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[35] According to UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, *"States should pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating violence against women and, to this end, should: (a) Consider, where they have not yet done so, ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women or withdrawing reservations to that Convention; (b) Refrain from engaging in violence against women; and (c) Exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and, in accordance with national legislation, punish acts of violence against women, whether those acts are perpetrated by the State or by private persons.*" UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, General Assembly resolution 48/104 of 20 December, 1993

[36] UN Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45 on Elimination of Violence against Women also requires states *"to intensify efforts to develop and/or utilize legislative, educational, social and other measures aimed at the prevention of violence against women, including the adoption and implementation of laws, the dissemination of information, active involvement with community-based players, and the training of legal, judicial and health personnel, and, where possible, through developing and strengthening support services."* UN Commission on Human Rights, Elimination of Violence against Women Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45

[37] Department of Justice, Report on Plans and Priorities, 2010-2011

and supporting information dissemination, knowledge and awareness projects which increase equitable access to the justice system.

Justice is a relevant partner in the federal government-wide FVI.

The primary role of Justice within the federal government-wide FVI is "contributing to the improved responsiveness of the justice system to family violence". In carrying out this role, the Justice FVI focuses primarily on events that occur after the domestic violence incident (i.e., on the subsequent legal, police and court response). Given this perspective, the public legal education material and information focuses on describing how family violence is criminalized in Canada, identifying and explaining police and prosecution policies and procedures, and promoting the safety and security of the victim with a view to maintaining confidence in the administration of justice. Similarly, the professional awareness aspect has been directed primarily to justice system personnel.

All federal partners and Justice employees indicated that Department continues to be a relevant partner in the federal government-wide FVI. The Justice FVI contributes to the federal commitment by increasing public and professional awareness, improving the ability of the criminal justice system to respond to family violence, developing and implementing policy and legislation, and supporting data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions. Federal partners indicated that the Department plays an integral role in the success of the federal government-wide FVI as a subject matter expert in the areas of criminal and family law as well as a facilitator of public and legal education.

3.2. Implementation

Activities of the Justice FVI have been implemented largely as planned. The results of the document review and interviews with Justice employees demonstrate that the activities of the Justice FVI have been implemented largely as intended, producing the types of outputs envisioned under each component. No major course corrections were reported by Justice employees or identified in the document review. However, departmental staff reported that the relative focus on various types of family violence and the approaches taken have evolved somewhat over time.

The original focus on spousal abuse has been broadened to include other types of family violence such as sexual exploitation of children and other forms of domestic child abuse, criminal harassment, and elder abuse. Furthermore, research and consultation with stakeholders have

helped in refining particular strategic directions and approaches. For example, there is a major focus at present on the intersection between the criminal law and family law responses to make the overall justice system more effective and expedient.

However, the evolving scope of the federal FVI has had an impact on the clarity of the federal role among program representatives and a few stakeholders. They indicated that there is confusion amongst some stakeholder groups regarding the role of the federal government relative to the provincial and territorial governments in the area of family violence. It was also noted that the apparent scope of the mandate has broadened somewhat to include a greater focus on family law than existed in the past.

The governance structure is appropriate. The governance structure, roles and responsibilities are appropriate, well understood and implemented as intended. The Justice FVI is coordinated with other related activities within the Department through joint participation in particular FVI activities as well as through the Justice FVI Working Group. This committee, which meets three times per year to share information, includes members from the various departmental units contributing to the FVI. The Justice Initiative is coordinated with other components of the overall federal government FVI through participation in the FVI Interdepartmental Working Group and various sub-committees.

The results of the evaluation suggest that these mechanisms have been successful in creating an appropriate level of awareness of each other's activities. For example, when asked to rate their familiarity with the Justice FVI using a scale 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all familiar, 3 is somewhat familiar, and 5 is very familiar, federal partners provided an average rating of 3.3. They tended to be most familiar with the PLEI activities (100%) conducted by the Justice FVI as well as legal policy development/reform activities (67%), policy research and strategic coordination activities (67%), and funding of pilot projects (67%).

Strategic coordination and partnership are crucial success factors for the FVI. The Justice FVI has been successful in developing strong relationships within the Department as well as with other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, NGOs, academic researchers and other subject matter experts active in the field. While working with a diverse group of partners and stakeholders, the Department has focused on common areas of interest in order to build consensus, secure commitment/buy-in, and advance a collective agenda.

There is a need to update the FVI PMS. There have been difficulties in implementing the PMS. Performance measurement data could provide important input into decisions that would

improve the efficiency of the program over time. However, the modest budget and the nature of most FVI activities make it difficult to collect performance data on the impacts of the implemented activities. As described in Chapter 2, the majority of the performance measurement data collected under the Justice FVI focuses on activities implemented and outputs generated. Impacts resulting from the policy and law reform work as well as policy research, and strategic coordination activities under the Initiative have proven difficult to assess. Providing legal advice does not necessarily result in easily quantifiable outputs or immediate impacts. In preparation for this evaluation, the FVI logic model and evaluation strategy were updated in 2010 to reflect the TBS *Policy on Evaluation*. Thus, the 2004 version of the PMS does not reflect the most recent changes, most particularly in terms of some of the outcomes and strategic activity areas.

3.3. Effectiveness

The Justice FVI is designed to improve the responsiveness of the justice system in the intermediate term. In reviewing the progress made, it is important to recognize that the Justice FVI operates with modest resources. Moreover, as the program does not provide direct family violence services, it works to influence the policies, regulations, laws and practices which are in place as well as increase the level of awareness, knowledge and skills amongst those operating in the system.

3.3.1. Strengthened Capacity of the Justice System to Address Family Violence

The results of the document review and key informant interviews indicate that the Justice FVI has undertaken a wide range of activities to facilitate increased capacity of the justice system to address family violence. For example, the Justice FVI has monitored current legal trends, developments, best practices and emerging family violence issues domestically and internationally; identified gaps in existing policies and laws; worked with various multidisciplinary partners to identify options for improvement in policy, legislation, regulation, tools and services; recommended and advised on legal and policy-related family violence-related issues, proposed policy, and proposed legislative and regulatory reforms within the Department and with external groups such as other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, and other international groups and organizations; and supported the development of international treaties, resolutions and reports related to family violence and violence against women.

When asked to rate the impact in strengthening capacity of the justice system, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all and 5 is a major impact, other stakeholders provided an average

rating of 3.6, federal partners and provincial and territorial justice officials provided an average rating of 3.3, and Justice employees provided an average rating of 4.6. In addition to the impact on professional awareness, understanding and skills, which is described later, these key informants specifically highlighted the support for legislative reform at the federal level as well as at the provincial and territorial level, the progress made towards further integrating family and criminal courts, and the program's international contributions.

The Justice FVI has provided input into legislative reform by examining existing and proposed federal legislation through a family violence lens.

In Canada, the federal government has the constitutional authority to make laws in relation to criminal law and procedure. As a result, the *Criminal Code* applies to all Canadians. Although the *Criminal Cod*e does not refer to specific "family violence offences", many *Criminal Code* offences are used to charge people in cases involving family violence. The Justice FVI has supported or contributed to the following relevant legislative reform efforts:

- Bill C-2, which was proclaimed on November 1, 2005 and came into force on January 2, 2006 (except s. 28), amended the *Criminal Code of Canada* and the *Canada Evidence Act* to:
    - Further strengthen child pornography provisions (including increasing penalties, broadening the definition, creating a clearer, narrower, harm-based "legitimate purpose" defence; and introducing mandatory minimum sentences for specific sexual offences against children);
    - Create new offences related to the sexual exploitation of youth (aged 14-18) and voyeurism, prohibiting the secret viewing or recording of another person when there is a reasonable expectation of privacy in three specific situations, and prohibiting the intentional distribution of a voyeuristic recording;
    - Facilitate the testimony of child victims and witnesses under 18 years of age and other vulnerable victims and witnesses by providing a clearer and more consistent test for the use of aids such as screens, closed-circuit televisions, and support persons;
    - Increase protection of victims of spousal violence by measures to facilitate the criminal law enforcement of breaches of civil restraining orders.
- Bill C-47, *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act*, led by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, which represents the first federal legislation offering family violence protection for the family home on reserve (the Children's

Law and Family Violence Policy Unit participated in the policy design and drafting of the family violence portions);[38]

- Bill C-22, in the 37th Parliament 2nd Session, which proposed amendments to the *Divorce Act* and other Acts (died on the *Order Paper*);
- Bill C-14, (enacted as Statutes of Canada 2009, c.22) which extends the duration of recognizance for persons who had previously been convicted of certain offences;
- Bill C-15a, (enacted as Statutes of Canada 2002, c.13), which strengthened legislation related to criminal harassment and Internet crime; and
- Bill C-2, (enacted as Statutes of Canada 2002, c.32), which includes a requirement for the trial judge to appoint counsel for a self-represented accused who would otherwise conduct the cross-examination of the victim, in order to prevent continuation of the harassment that might occur if the accused was permitted to personally cross-examine the victim.

Examples of other recent or proposed changes to the *Criminal Code* include strengthening the peace bond provisions concerning those previously convicted of sexual offences against children; ending the use of "house arrest" for offences involving serious personal injury; increasing mandatory minimum penalties for serious offences where a firearm is used; and addressing other issues such as the age of consent, parental child abduction (with the goal of amending s. 282 and s. 283 of the *Criminal Code* to make them consistent with the changes proposed in Bill C-22 and with the Child Centred Family Law Strategy), and reasonable use of force by parents to correct a child (proposed amendments through Private Members Bills to s. 43 of the *Criminal Code*).

Through working with its provincial and territorial partners, the Justice FVI has also influenced the development of provincial and territorial family violence legislation.

Six provincial governments (Alberta, Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Saskatchewan) and the three territorial governments have

[38] Bill C-47 was first introduced as Bill C-47 during the 2nd Session of the 39th Parliament and died on the *Order Paper* when Parliament was dissolved on 7 September 2008. Bill C-8, the *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act*, was introduced in the House of Commons on 2 February 2009 but it died on the *Order Paper* once again when Parliament was prorogued on 30 December 2009. It was introduced a third time as Bill S-4 during the 3rd Session of the 40th Parliament. Bill S-4 was passed by the Senate on 6 July 2010, and was introduced in the House of Commons on 22 September 2010. Bill S-4 died on the *Order Paper* when Parliament was dissolved on 26 March 2011. Bill S-2, the *Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act*, was introduced in the Senate on 28 September 2011 by the Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate

proclaimed specific legislation on family violence that complement the *Criminal Code* and offer further protections to victims by providing for emergency protection orders, limits on contact and communication, and temporary exclusive possession of the home. All provinces and territories also have child protection laws that provide for state intervention where parents or legal guardians are unable or unwilling to meet the child's physical, emotional and psychological needs.

The 2009 *Symposium entitled Family Violence: The Intersection of Family and Criminal Justice System Responses* represented a step towards increasing capacity, beginning the process of identifying and addressing challenges posed by differing objectives and legal standards of the criminal and family justice system responses to family violence.

Hosted by the Justice FVI, the February 2009 Symposium brought together over 300 lawyers, judges, law enforcement officers, child protection workers, academics and government officials from across Canada as well as presenters from the United States and the United Kingdom to address the challenges posed by the different objectives and legal standards of the criminal and family justice system responses. The following day, a meeting of approximately 75 federal, provincial and territorial government officials was held to discuss key issues and how those issues directly affect their respective areas. The purpose of the meeting, as set out in the agenda for the day, was "to provide officials with an opportunity to discuss the issues raised during the Symposium, to enhance linkages between the different federal-provincial-territorial committees, to share information on the challenges posed by the different objectives and legal standards of the criminal and family justice systems, and to showcase promising practices in responding to these challenges."

The Symposium has led to various initiatives. Terms of reference for a new federal-provincial-territorial working group were established and there are plans to conduct research on gaps and possible best practices. Some provinces (e.g., Prince Edward Island) have established their own committees to explore how to coordinate the family and criminal law systems better. In a first for the Canadian justice system, a new initiative launched in Ontario (2011) aims at minimizing the hardships for families in crisis by merging some family court and domestic violence cases.[39] The Integrated Domestic Violence Court will serve people who are dealing with family court issues as well as criminal charges related to domestic abuse. It will operate as a pilot project in one Toronto courthouse with a view to expanding in the province, if deemed a success. The court is

[39] http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/toronto/court-integrating-domestic-violence-family-court-cases-opens-in-toronto/article2056490/

largely aimed at helping women, but will also benefit children and the family unit as a whole. As part of its efforts to coordinate the family and criminal law systems better, Manitoba recently concluded a feasibility study on how to link/share protection orders. Saskatchewan is conducting a feasibility study on a similar protection order registry and also secured funding from Justice to provide training for police officers to improve their understanding of abductions within the context of family and criminal law systems.

The Justice FVI has contributed to international initiatives related to family violence.

The Children's Law and Family Violence Policy Unit is active in monitoring and reporting internationally with respect to Canada's criminal and civil laws and responses to family violence; contributing to the preparation of Canada's position in regards to questionnaires, reports, resolutions and treaties (e.g., presenting Canada's position on resolutions related to family violence before the UN General Assembly, the UN Commission for the Status of Women, the UN Commission on the Rights of the Child, and the UN Human Rights Committee). It also actively engages other national governments and international bodies (e.g., United Nations, the Council of Europe) on family violence issues; provides legal policy input to a variety of international activities; and leads federal coordination on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

3.3.2. Enhanced Professional Awareness, Understanding and Skills to Address Family Violence

According to stakeholders, federal partners, provincial and territorial justice officials, and Justice employees, the Justice FVI has helped to improve awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence amongst professionals in the justice system. When asked to rate the impact to date in enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all and 5 is a major impact, federal partners and provincial and territorial justice officials provided an average rating of 3.2, Justice employees provided an average rating of 4.4, and other stakeholders provided an average rating of 3.5. The development of tools, training materials and resources for professionals has led to more informed decision making by courts, police officers, and other justice system professionals, and increased capacity of those involved in various justice system processes and services to better address the needs of the victims of family violence.

The Justice FVI has contributed to enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence through the development of knowledge, tools and resources.

Key informants reported that the knowledge, tools and other resources for professionals developed through research and funded projects have led to more informed decision making by courts, police officers and other justice system professionals. For example, the "Handbook for Police and Crown Prosecutors on Criminal Harassment", published in March 2004, was distributed to police, Crown Attorneys, victim services personnel, corrections services personnel, judges, and other criminal justice personnel across Canada. It was developed after the Department of Justice monitored and reviewed s. 264 of the *Criminal Code*, including case-law and case file reviews as well as interviews with criminal justice personnel across the country. As part of the process to update the Handbook, a literature review was conducted on criminal harassment that examined current trends and research findings in light of recent legislative changes and the emergence of Internet harassment as a serious risk.

A user-friendly information manual that was designed for police officers provides information on family violence, its impacts on children, and special considerations for police officers responding to domestic violence calls. The Brief Spousal Assault Form for the Evaluation of Risk (B-Safer) involved the development and pilot testing of a tool to help police agencies identify spousal assault risk situations and respond in a more timely fashion. "An Inventory of Spousal Violence Risk Assessment Tools" was developed which covers various spousal violence risk assessment tools used in the provinces and territories.

Booklets were developed to aid the implementation of Bill C-2, *Special Accommodations and Testimonial Aids measures to facilitate the testimony of children*. The booklets provided an overview of issues related to children as witnesses and testimonial aids such as closed circuit television, sequestration screens and video-recorded testimony. Guidance was provided for identified support persons. Moreover, the introduction of hearsay evidence and children testifying in domestic violence court were other topics covered by the material.

Research on the link between family violence and parenting arrangements is available for use by practicing lawyers as well as for policy development. Research has also been undertaken on topics such as: mandatory minimum penalty, how to respond better to victim needs, and the impact that technology has made in identifying the needs of professionals with respect to training and information. The document "Practical Guide on Forced Marriages" is intended for on-the-ground care professionals. Various other reports have also been prepared, such as a paper on best

practices for family law lawyers and evaluations of various projects and initiatives (e.g., dedicated domestic assault courts).

Departmental research on issues related to family violence and the justice system is carried out in conjunction with the Research and Statistics Division or through contracts with external researchers. Common methodologies include file and literature reviews, and interviews with service providers. The focus of this research has varied widely, covering such topics as: the evaluation of legislative reforms, roles and experiences of victims of family violence involved in the justice system; understanding family violence and sexual assault in the North; the timeliness of court proceedings; barriers to reporting family violence; better understanding on how the bail system responds to individuals accused of spousal violence; the impact of family violence on children; the need for enhanced understanding of family violence in ethno-cultural minority communities; effective interventions related to the prevention and reduction of family violence; judicial perceptions of testimonial aids; and court observation studies on the use of testimonial aids by children. To facilitate access to other research, the Justice FVI maintains links with the Alliance of Canadian Research Centres on Violence and the Canadian Observatory on the Justice System Response to Family Violence.

The projects supported under the Justice FVI most commonly focus on professionals in the justice system, helping to increase their understanding of family violence or enhancing their skills in addressing that violence.

The document review conducted as part of this evaluation sampled 30 of the 55 projects funded under the Justice FVI. The impact most commonly mentioned, when multiple responses are possible, included the enhanced understanding and skills among professionals to tackle family violence (reported by 55% of projects). The next most commonly mentioned impacts were: the enhanced awareness and understanding of family violence issues among the public (40% of projects); the improved availability and accessibility to information and services related to family violence (20% of projects); the increased engagement of stakeholders/communities and the improvement/development of support/education/outreach programs to address family violence (20% of projects); an improved responsiveness of the justice system (15% of projects); and the establishment of partnerships/collaborations to address family violence (5% of projects).[40]

The Justice FVI has also funded or participated in conferences, symposia and other events that have disseminated information to professional groups, enhanced professional

[40] Multiple responses are possible in the project documentation which means that a particular project could have identified more than one objective, target group, partners, impact and challenge

awareness and understanding of emerging issues, and encouraged greater cultural competency in order to increase knowledge of emerging issues and enhance efforts in addressing various aspects of family violence.

These events help to sensitize justice system professionals to the unique dynamics of family violence matters. The recent conference, "Dialogue on Family Violence in Culturally Diverse Communities", staged by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in March 2011, informed participants of the efforts made to eradicate violence against women. The target audience included representatives from justice, public health, education, immigration, victim services, culturally diverse communities, and all orders of government.

The Conference "Northern Responses and Approaches to Victims of Crime: Building on Strength and Resilience", co-sponsored with the Policy Centre for Victims Issues, was a three-day conference held in Yellowknife in 2009. It brought together victim services professionals who work with victims of crime in the northern regions of Canada to participate in practical workshops and presentations.

A think-tank session, built on the activities of the Ontario Domestic Violence Death Review Committee, brought together policy representatives, justice officials, service providers and others from various provinces. The session encouraged establishment of similar committees in four provinces as well as an annual conference, the "Canadian Conference on the Prevention of Domestic Homicides".

The results of two spousal abuse fora (1998 and 2001) led to the establishment of a FPT committee and research that examined issues, emerging trends, policies, processes, and possible strategies, actions and criminal law reforms. The result was a report entitled "Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation: Final Report of the Ad Hoc Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group Reviewing Spousal Abuse Policies and Legislation" prepared in 2003. Follow-up activities identified as improving the responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence include the various amendments to the *Criminal Code* that strengthened existing provisions and created new offences; working with provincial and territorial counterparts to develop protocols for handling cases of spousal abuse; supporting the establishment and evaluation of specialized domestic violence courts; supporting the development and expansion of court and police-based victim witness programs; conducting research to better understand and deal with spousal abuse; and informing the public about the nature and prevalence of the spousal abuse problem.

Finally, the 2009 Symposium on the Intersection of Family and Criminal Justice System Responses was an opportunity to share information among professional groups and increase knowledge of emerging issues as mentioned above.

The Justice FVI has also increased access to training resources that will enable those involved in various justice system processes and services to address the needs of the victims of family violence better.

As an example, the Justice FVI contributed to editing substantial documents that are part of the Canadian Red Cross training materials for Canadian professionals and paraprofessionals working directly with children and in related professions. These documents enhance awareness and provide definitions for concepts such as impacts, vulnerable populations, disclosure, protection, intervention, investigation and Canada's laws in relation to child sexual abuse. Another contribution directed to professional training is the project to develop culturally appropriate training materials for federal Crown Attorneys, undertaken in collaboration with the PPSC.

With funding from the Justice FVI, the Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada developed a national mobile training module for frontline workers in women's shelters in Inuit communities. The group had identified the need for a culturally appropriate module for these workers in remote/isolated communities. The results of the case study indicate that, to date, staff members at ten shelters in the Arctic region have been trained. The remaining four shelters are in the process of introducing the training module to their respective staff. To ensure that new shelter workers will continue to have access to the training module, a web component of the module has been developed along with a train-the-trainer approach. Those who received the training reported that the module enabled them to provide better services to the women at the shelters (e.g., by making it easier to identify suicidal tendencies in a timely manner). Due to this success, the training module has also been adopted by the Government of Nunavut and Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services. The module can be adapted to the unique needs of each community/organization, which increases the efficacy of knowledge transfer to trainees, giving them the knowledge they need to provide effective support to victims of abuse and family violence. The Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada is currently working on developing another module to address the issue of vicarious trauma.

3.3.3. Enhanced Public Awareness and Understanding of Family Violence and the Justice System

The results of the document review and interviews with key informants indicate that the Justice FVI has helped to increase public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system, primarily by increasing the availability and accessibility of PLEI material and information.

The PLEI activities of the Justice FVI are intended to identify the need for public information materials on family violence; support the development of resources, such as fact sheets, brochures, training programs and workshops; deliver PLEI on family violence issues by working with PLEI organizations across Canada; and evaluate education and information materials. When asked to rate the impact in increasing availability and access to PLEI materials and information on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all and 5 is a major impact, federal partners and provincial and territorial justice officials provided an average rating of 3.6, Justice employees provided an average rating of 4.5, and other stakeholders provided an average rating of 3.8. When asked to rate the impact in enhancing public awareness and understanding, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all and 5 is a major impact, federal partners and provincial and territorial justice officials provided an average rating of 3.5, other stakeholders provided an average rating of 3.4, and Justice employees provided an average rating of 4.1.

By highlighting the characteristics and incidence of family violence, PLEI materials help to draw public attention to the issue and raise awareness of the seriousness of the problem. The document review and key informant interviews indicate that the Justice FVI has developed materials that are language-specific and culturally appropriate, supported the development of other resources including fact sheets, made PLEI material available through the Department's FVI website and the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, and provided project support to PLEI organizations.

The "Abuse is Wrong in any Language" booklet (written for immigrant and refugee women on spousal abuse) is available in 17 languages, including Braille. "Stalking Is A Crime Called Criminal Harassment" has been produced in five languages and explains the types of behaviour that count as criminal harassment and what victims can do to protect themselves better. "Abuse is Wrong in Any Culture" is a booklet for Inuit women who are suffering from abuse in a family or other relationship. It is available in English, French, Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut and Labradorimiut. These materials have been tailored to reach specific cultural groups. Seeking input from community members to incorporate culturally sensitive language into materials and informing

communities of such materials were identified as important steps in improving the accessibility of PLEI materials.

Other resources, including fact sheets which were developed, provide the public with up-to-date information about family violence issues, including the justice/legislative responses to these issues. Topics such as family violence, spousal abuse, child abuse, abuse of older adults, dating violence, and sexual abuse and exploitation of children and youth are included.

The public legal educational material and information has been available through the Department's FVI website since 2002. In 2010, over 115,000 unique visitors generated over 1.6 million hits on the websites. The top entry pages for the family violence site were the "Child Abuse Fact Sheet" (9%), the French Language Home Page for the youth site (4%), the "Spousal Abuse Fact Sheet" (3.4%), and the English Language Home Page (2.4%).

An evaluation of the Justice FVI website was undertaken in 2010. It examined the relevance of the website to its users, the extent of the website's reach, the effectiveness of the layout and design, the quality and extent of content of the FVI site, and the Youth site in particular. The FVI site was deemed to be useful, but would have been considered of greater use if visitors could be confident that the information is up-to-date. Accessing the site through a search engine was seen to be challenging for first-time users, particularly as the search engine was more likely to find the FVI website if the word "abuse" was used rather than "family violence". A recent test on a few search engines demonstrates that this is no longer the case. The view was also expressed that relevant legislation from both the federal and provincial/territorial governments should be accessible from the site.

Among the key findings with respect to the Youth FVI site were that no other government site in Canada or internationally provides similar information to the Youth FVI to that site. This finding is similar to that of a review of websites conducted in 2006. However, research indicated that to be relevant to the informational needs of youth, the Youth site needed to be visually attractive, interactive, easily navigated and address the issues of family violence that affect youth. Youth who were asked to review the site found it challenging to navigate when seeking information about "where to get help" and relied more on community resources for this type of information. These issues have subsequently been addressed.

Materials are also made available through other means including: the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence (which is maintained by the PHAC); the websites of the ten provincial and two territorial PLEI organizations; the hosting of and attending and presenting at conferences (where

staff can distribute materials, answer questions, and provide referrals to other sources of material and information on family violence); and the work with other groups that distribute targeted materials to newcomers. The Initiative is also planning to work with provincial and territorial representatives to distribute materials to appropriate target audiences. "An Inventory of Family Violence and Victim Public Legal Education and Information Materials" has also been developed which can be searched by such criteria as "jurisdiction, year, audience, topic and format."

Support is provided to PLEI organizations for projects designed to inform and assist those affected by family violence. Over the past five years, 20 projects have been supported with funding totaling $678,000. Examples of activities undertaken by these projects include: holding workshops, publishing and distributing new materials, updating and reprinting existing materials, providing related training, and developing, implementing and assessing an innovative model of PLEI service delivery.

In addition, the key informants noted the contribution of community workshops (which raised awareness of specific issues such as elder abuse, child sexual abuse, family violence in Aboriginal communities, and abuse in rural areas) and other projects which improved the visibility of family violence issues/topics within targeted communities, increased knowledge about the issues and individual rights and responsibilities, and improved ability of community organizations to effectively respond to family violence.

Case studies of two activities carried out through the Justice FVI demonstrate how they have contributed towards increased public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system.

The "Abuse is Wrong in any Language" and "Abuse is Wrong in Any Culture" were designed for immigrant and Inuit women, respectively, experiencing spousal and family violence. The "Abuse is Wrong" publication was developed to address family violence issues in general and was designed for the general public in order to address an information gap for anyone who is suffering from abuse in a family or other relationship. It provides information on various abuse-related topics in layman's terms. In total, 30,000 copies of the publication were printed and distribution is proceeding. The publication has been requested frequently by community organizations for use in their work. At the federal level, "Abuse is Wrong in Any Language" has been used by Citizenship and Immigration Canada in the delivery of its orientation program to facilitate the settlement, adaptation and integration of future Canadians. Service Canada also orders publications in this series from time to time, though their "Feature of the Month" program

has recently been cancelled. The publication is also available from Justice. Between July 1, 2009 and June 8, 2011, the HTML version of "Abuse is Wrong in Any Language" was viewed 17,173 times. During the same period, 2,556 PDF versions of the publication were downloaded.

As one of the partners in the Federal Elder Abuse Initiative (FEAI), the Department developed elder abuse-related resources and tools such as an online quiz on elder abuse, a fact sheet on financial fraud, and four fraud awareness brochures. These resources and tools complemented the FEAI public awareness campaign launched by HRSDC in 2009 and demand has been high. For example, between October 2010 and March 2011, 21,464 publication orders for the four fraud awareness brochures came through Service Canada's "1- 800 O-Canada" telephone line and the majority of these calls was made by members of the general public. The Department has also produced a publication titled "Elder Abuse is Wrong", which is intended for older adults who may be suffering from abuse by someone they trust (e.g., a partner or spouse, a family member, a caregiver, a service provider or another individual).

Opportunities exist to further improve public awareness and understanding of justice-related family violence issues.

Stakeholders suggested that efforts to enhance public awareness and understanding of justice-related family violence issues would benefit from a greater focus on the prevention of family violence. It was noted that the PLEI materials are targeted largely to those who had been victimized and limited efforts have been made to raise awareness of the issues related to family violence within the general public to prevent victimization. Similarly, the primary focus of the Justice FVI has centered on those who have been victimized (i.e. events that occur after the domestic violence incident). Moreover, several representatives noted that the Justice FVI has been effective in developing PLEI materials, particularly materials in plain language, but efforts to widely disseminate those materials have proven less successful. In addition, Justice has utilized the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence for PLEI material distribution but, effective June 30, 2011, the Clearinghouse no longer disseminates hard copy publications.

3.3.4. Improved Engagement/Ability of Stakeholders and Communities to Address Needs and Issues of Those Affected by Family Violence.

The Justice FVI employs various strategies, including project funding, to engage local organizations in addressing family violence issues.

In addition to PLEI projects, the Justice FVI provides funding for innovative projects that develop, implement, test and assess models, strategies and tools to improve the criminal justice system's response to family violence. These projects increase the ability of communities to respond to and meet the needs of persons impacted by family violence, to develop resources, to collaborate with other organizations, and to communicate better with target groups as well as partners. A document review of a sample of 30 of the 55 projects funded under the Justice FVI found that the majority (87%) of the projects involved formal or informal partnerships and collaborations among organizations and communities. The partners and stakeholders included FPT government bodies and health agencies, organizations providing services to victims of family violence, advocacy organizations, associations representing legal and justice professionals, community organizations, and organizations representing specific groups such as women, seniors, youth, immigrants, Aboriginals, and minorities defined in terms of language, ethnicity or religion.

The projects targeted a range of project beneficiaries and target groups. The groups most commonly mentioned (when multiple responses are possible)[41] included: legal and justice professionals/frontline workers/service providers (reported by 67% of projects); hard-to-reach communities and the general public (53% of projects); victims of family violence (30% of projects); and stakeholders such as community and advocacy organizations (30% of projects). Of the projects reviewed, 16 were targeted to women, 13 to francophone communities, 11 to service providers, 7 to Aboriginal communities, 7 to justice professionals, and 5 to children and youth.

The projects are designed to address a range of issues. The project objectives mentioned most commonly (when multiple responses are possible, i.e., a particular project could have more than one objective) include: providing family violence-related training and education for frontline workers and service providers (47% of projects); developing family violence-related resources and tools for community organizations and hard-to-reach communities (40% of projects); increasing access to and availability of family violence-related information and services for the public (37% of projects); establishing partnerships/collaborations among organizations and

[41] Multiple responses are possible in the project documentation (i.e. in the following data, a particular project could have identified more than one objective, target group, partners, impact and challenge)

communities for an integrated response to family violence (37% of projects); strengthening the capacity of the justice system (23% of projects); increasing awareness and understanding of family violence issues among legal and justice professionals, victims of family violence, and the general public (reported by 33% of projects); and identifying and addressing services gap in legal, justice and community programs related to family violence (17% of projects).

The impact of many of the projects continues. Thirty percent of the proponents reported that the programming, services or outputs that resulted from the funded projects would continue to be available as originally intended, whereas 17% of the projects reported undertaking follow-up work to build on the outputs/outcomes of the funded projects.

In addition to providing project funding, the Justice FVI is also described as a catalyst bringing stakeholder and community representatives together, creating opportunities for information sharing and dialogue, showcasing effective approaches and best practices, and working with stakeholders and communities on issues of shared concern. For example, the *Forum on Justice Programs in Northern and Remote Aboriginal Communities* showcased the *Rankin Inlet Spousal Assault Counseling Program* and the *Hollow Water Community Holistic Circle Health Program* to highlight effective approaches in addressing family violence in Aboriginal communities.

The case studies and key informant interviews provide examples of how projects have contributed towards engaging stakeholders and communities as well as improving their ability to address the needs and issues of those affected by family violence.

Recognizing that there tends to be a very short window of opportunity to intervene in high-risk domestic violence situations, the *Domestic Violence Urgent Response* project in Regina developed a tailored and immediate intervention strategy for victims of domestic violence and abusers in extremely high-risk relationships. The focus was to ensure better coordination of services following denunciation of violence (i.e. police officers take immediate measures to address the violent incident). This involved encouraging, and helping to facilitate the gathering of evidence from victims immediately following a violent incident. The project partners (Family Service Regina, Regina Police Service, Regina District Prosecutions, Regina-Qu'Appelle Adult Probation Services, Regina Region Victim Services, and Regina Correctional Centre) developed protocols and criteria to identify high-risk abusers, formulated uniform guidelines to ensure immediate actions after denunciation of violence, and trained applicable staff (e.g., new police recruits, emergency call centre operators, volunteer workers, etc.) for timely intervention. The collaborative approach was found to have resulted in a better understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence on the part of each partner. As well, the case study found that the project

resulted in higher success rates with respect to obtaining evidence and testimony from victims which, in turn, has contributed to more effective prosecutions. Family Service Regina, the lead partner, is currently working towards bringing Addiction Services on board to better assist victims with drug addiction as well as secure their cooperation in prosecuting their abusers.

The *Sharing Lessons Learned* from the Muslim Family Safety Project developed a culturally sensitive resource guide for distribution to social service agencies and members of minority community groups. The guide incorporates the best practices and lessons learned from the *Muslim Family* Safety Project. On the one hand, the project successfully engaged the Muslim community in London, Ontario by raising their awareness and understanding of the Canadian family violence framework and system. As a result, more Muslim women who have been victims of family violence have come forward to seek help. Muslim community leaders including imams have also started openly discussing family violence issues and acting as sources of referral for service providers. On the other hand, the Project enhanced the understanding of Muslim religion and cultural values among mainstream service providers so that they could better understand and address family violence issues within the Muslim community. The guide and the related workshops/presentations are designed to equip service providers working in minority communities to provide their services in a culturally and religiously appropriate manner, as the means to bring about the changes they are seeking.

The *Beyond Shelter Walls* project contributed to raising awareness of violence against women. The resulting report, targeted at federal, provincial, and territorial policy-makers, focused on reducing violence against women in Canada through policy in the areas of criminal justice and policing, law, housing, income support, employment training, immigration, health and social services. Another ongoing project provides rehabilitative support programs to men who have just been charged with violent crimes against their spouses. The project incorporates community education programs aimed at changing the current culture of male dominance and violence against women to one in which men are involved in creating a culture of mutual respect and non-violence.

The Justice FVI has also collaborated with a variety of other stakeholders including others in the Department, other federal government departments, and provincial and territorial departments.

The Justice FVI works with others in the federal government, particularly with respect to supporting or contributing to legislative reform efforts. The Justice FVI examines existing and proposed legislation through a family violence lens and, where issues are identified, has

attempted to address them by developing resources that help Justice officials to better apply the existing legislation. Justice has also been a partner in the three-year FEAI led by HRSDC. Since the Justice had already carried out elder abuse work in the past as part of its family violence mandate, implementation of select components of FEAI was delegated to the Department in order to leverage its expertise and experience. One of the components involved funding legal and social science research to complement the limited elder abuse research work that had been carried out in Canada (e.g., develop more comprehensive legal definitions of elder abuse and neglect with a view to informing the *Criminal Code*, incorporate Aboriginal and ethnic perspectives into elder abuse policy work, and better understand the types and dynamics of elder abuse). The Justice FVI has also funded research on elder abuse awareness, reporting and the legal aspects of elder abuse; produced materials for seniors to raise awareness of the risk of fraud; and provided funding to regional PLEI organizations working on the legal aspects of elder abuse. It is expected that when the findings of these research studies are released, they will inform and influence elder abuse policy and programming in the future and will ultimately improve the responsiveness of the justice system in addressing elder abuse.

By sharing information and facilitating dialogue, the Justice FVI was seen to also support provincial and territorial governments in taking action and building on the approaches, best practices and lessons learned.

3.4. Efficiency and Economy

3.4.1. Use of Existing Resources

The level of investment in the Initiative is very small in comparison to the cost of family violence in Canada.

Although it is difficult to put a monetary value on the full cost of family violence in terms of damages to society, emotional impacts of family members, and lifetime suffering of victims, an estimate of the dollar value for tangible costs can highlight the economic importance of programming such as the FVI.

Cost studies in two specific areas of family violence suggest that the general costs of violence against women and children could be over $19 billion and the criminal justice costs could be $1.5 billion per year. One study reviewed the costs of various forms of violence against women, including women abused in intimate relationships, and estimated that Canadian society pays $4.2 billion per year in social services, education, criminal justice, labour, employment, health and

medical costs.[42] The total criminal justice costs alone were about $900 million per year. Another study estimated the costs of child abuse in Canada (i.e., the judicial, social services, education, health, employment and personal costs) to be in excess of $15 billion, of which more than $600 million was in judicial costs.[43]

The total investment in the overall FVI ($7 million per year) would be equal to only 0.03% of these estimated costs. It should be noted that these figures represent very rough estimates, as they do not include the costs of violence against other members of a family (e.g., older adults) as well as the cost of pain, suffering, or loss in quality of life.

The Justice Family Violence Initiative has made efficient use of the resources available.

The results of the interviews, case studies and document review highlighted various strategies through which the FVI has been able to limit expenditures to outside parties. By undertaking certain functions internally, such as typesetting and translation for the production of the "Abuse is Wrong" publication, Justice was able to reduce contract costs.

Other efficiencies have been realized by working in conjunction with other federal partners to achieve returns of scale. For example, as part of its involvement in the FEAI, the Department commissioned three public opinion studies to measure and track changes in public awareness and perception vis-à-vis elder abuse issues. Justice worked closely with HRSDC during the second public opinion study so that HRSDC could add some follow-up questions for comparison to results of its earlier baseline study. The coordinated efforts eliminated the need for a separate follow-up study by HRSDC.

The FVI-supported projects have also leveraged funding from other sources. For example, the Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada developed a web component for its training module along with a train-the-trainer approach to circumvent the need to make costly trips to remote/isolated communities to conduct the training for new shelter workers. Twenty-nine of the 30 projects included in the document review provided data on total project budget, which were used to calculate leverage ratios. Eighteen of the 29 projects reported receiving funding from at least one additional source and the average leverage ratio was 57%. Other funding sources included other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, community

[42] Greaves, L., Hankivsky, O., & Kingston-Riechers, J. Selected estimates of the costs of violence against women. London, Canada: Centre for Research on Violence against Women and Children, 1995

[43] Bowlus, A., McKenna, K., Day, T., Wright, D., The Economic Costs and Consequences of Child Abuse in Canada, Law Commission of Canada, 2003

organizations, non-profit foundations, other Justice funding streams, and quantifiable in-kind contributions. In addition, all three project proponents included in the case studies reported extensive use of in-kind contributions, both on their part as well as on the part of partner organizations. In addition, where alternative funding was available, the FVI referred project applicants to other sources funding (e.g., the Victims Fund).

3.4.2. Factors Contributing to and Constraining Program Efficiency

The efficiency of the FVI has benefited from the continued involvement of key personnel and the long history of the Initiative, which together have contributed to a strong understanding of the mandate, objectives, structures, roles and responsibilities.

The Initiative was originally supported through two five-year major funding initiatives before converting to a permanent annual allocation in 1997. The Department staff has a long history of working within the Justice FVI. Key informants noted that this extensive experience contributes to efficiency of operation by providing staff with a strong understanding of the issues related to family violence, the roles, responsibilities and activities of the Department with respect to those issues, and the objectives and mandate of the Justice FVI as well as those of federal partners, provincial and territorial governments, and other stakeholders. It was further noted that the efficiency of the FVI benefits from the clear understanding of the mandate and objectives of the Justice FVI which exists not only amongst the staff directly involved in the Initiative, but amongst their colleagues within Justice.

The results of the key informant interviews, case studies and document reviews highlighted some best practices and lessons learned.

Collaboration and coordination with other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, and other partners/stakeholders are critical to the success of the activities supported through the FVI. Since addressing family violence is a complex process that warrants a coordinated and comprehensive approach involving multiple jurisdictions and organizations, an integrated approach to address family violence focused on sharing best practices (identified informally by staff or through formal evaluations) and leveraging resources and expertise with other organizations is appropriate. Partnerships and leveraging have also helped the Department to continue carrying out the Justice FVI without compromising the breadth and depth of activities/projects despite resource constraints.

Ongoing communication and interaction with other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, and other partners and stakeholders are best practices given the importance of collaboration and coordination. Communication and information sharing vis-à-vis FVI activities help to identify and capitalize on opportunities for collaboration as well as to follow up on previous projects. Information sharing also helps to convey how the Justice FVI fits into and contributes to the overall federal government-wide FVI.

The efficacy of FVI activities and projects is enhanced when there is strong understanding of the values, experiences and needs of those targeted. As such, undertaking extensive consultation and building strong relationships with the target groups are identified as best practices. A strong understanding of values, experiences and needs also contributes to more productive working relationships.

4. CONCLUSIONS

The major findings and conclusions are as follows:

There is a continuing need for the Justice Family Violence Initiative. Research indicates that family violence remains a pervasive social and economic problem that continues to be an important justice issue. The prevalence of family violence within Aboriginal communities is much higher than the national average.

Family violence and bullying have devastating social, health and economic consequences for families, communities and society. Family violence places a significant economic burden on Canadians. Moreover, research has shown that children exposed to violence are 10 to 17 times more likely to have serious emotional and behavioural problems later in life compared to children who are raised in a non-violent setting.

The relevance of the Justice FVI has increased over time as the result of increasing attention given to family violence issues at the provincial and territorial levels; broader recognition of the different types of family violence (e.g., domestic abuse, bullying, elder abuse, etc.); enhanced understanding of the underlining causes of family violence; increasing awareness of and demand for services for victims of family violence; increasing population diversity, which has increased the need for culturally appropriate responses to domestic violence; a growing proportion of older Canadians, which has contributed to the prevalence of issues related to elder abuse; and the impact of new technologies such as the Internet, which has given rise to issues such as online sexual exploitation of children by family members.

Even though there are indications that rates of family violence have declined somewhat in recent years, the need for the Justice FVI may have increased because the issues have become more complex and the types of family violence have become more broadly recognized (i.e., domestic abuse, bullying, and elder abuse).

The Justice FVI is aligned with federal government priorities as well as Justice strategic outcomes and is consistent with the federal government's role and responsibilities in addressing family violence. The Justice FVI goals are consistent with the Government of

Canada priorities identified in the *Speech from the Throne* in recent years, particularly with the federal government's commitments to ensure safe and secure communities and neighborhoods, prevent crimes, protect and support victims of crime, and increase the attention given to murdered and missing women. The activities of the Justice FVI contribute to the departmental strategic outcome, *"A fair, relevant and accessible justice system that reflects Canadian values"*. There is a major role for the federal government in terms of ensuring that family violence issues have a high profile at the federal level, raising public awareness, and providing coordination, collaboration and information sharing among jurisdictions. The objectives of the Justice FVI are also consistent with the Government of Canada's commitment under the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45 on Elimination of Violence against Women.

The Justice FVI is consistent with the federal government-wide Family Violence Initiative. The Department plays an important role in an integrated national approach to addressing issues related to the justice component of family violence. Federal partners indicated that the Department plays an integral and complementary role in the federal government-wide FVI as a subject matter expert in the areas of criminal and family law as well as a facilitator of public and legal education. The Justice FVI contributes to the federal government-wide FVI by increasing public and professional awareness; enhancing the ability of the criminal justice system to respond to family violence; contributing to the development and implementation of policy and legislation; and supporting data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions.

The activities carried out by Justice employees under the Justice FVI, as well as the funded projects, have been implemented largely as intended, producing the types of outputs envisioned under the Initiative's three interrelated components. The activities carried out internally and the funded projects focus on a variety of issues related to family violence. These projects and activities reach/benefit a number of target groups such as legal and justice professionals (including front-line workers and service providers), victims of family violence, hard-to-reach communities, and stakeholders such as community and advocacy organizations, as well as the general public.

The Justice Family Violence Initiative is appropriately designed and delivered effectively. The relative role of the Justice FVI within the broader federal government is well-defined and its mandate, objectives and structure of the Justice FVI are clearly understood by the staff directly involved in the Initiative, as well as their colleagues within the Department. The Justice FVI is coordinated with other related activities within the Department through joint participation, in

particular FVI activities, as well as through the Justice FVI Working Group, which meets three times per year to share information and includes members from the various departmental units contributing to the FVI. The Justice FVI is coordinated with other components of the overall federal government FVI through participation in FVI Interdepartmental Working Group and various sub-committees.

The Justice FVI has been successful in developing strong relationships within the Department as well as with other federal government departments, provincial and territorial governments, NGOs, academic researchers and other subject matter experts active in the field by focusing on common/shared areas of concern/interest in order to effectively build consensus, secure commitment/buy-in, and advance a collective agenda.

The nature of most FVI activities makes it difficult to collect performance data on the impacts of the implemented activities. This challenge is compounded by the fact that the current PMS was developed in 2004 and does not reflect the most recent changes in the Justice FVI logic model.

The activities carried out by the Department under the Justice FVI have made progress against the targeted outcomes. The Justice FVI does not provide direct family violence services; rather, it works to influence the policies, regulations, laws and practices which are in place as well as to increase the level of awareness, knowledge and skills amongst those operating in the system. While recognizing the limits of its modest budget and staff complement, the results of the evaluation indicate that the Justice FVI has made notable progress in:

- **Strengthening the Capacity of the Justice System**. The Justice FVI has provided input into legislative reform by examining existing and proposed federal legislation through a family violence lens. Various research projects, conferences and support for professional development created by the FVI help identify best practices, increase knowledge of emerging issues, and enhance efforts in addressing various aspects of family violence in the justice system across the country and internationally. Policy analysis supporting changes in legislation, legal research and development of training and other materials have also contributed to strengthening the capacity of the justice system to address family violence.
- **Enhancing Public and Professional Awareness, Understanding and Skills.** The Department has developed materials that are language-specific and culturally appropriate; supported the development of resources to provide the public with current information about family violence issues; made public legal educational material and information available

through its website; made materials available through other means including the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence, the websites of PLEI organizations, and conferences; and worked with other organizations such as Citizenship and Immigration Canada, which distributed targeted materials (e.g., "Abuse is Wrong in any Language") to newcomers. Various activities and materials developed by the Department such as particular PLEI materials as well as funding of PLEI groups, and supports provided for community workshops raised awareness of specific issues such as elder abuse, child sexual abuse, family violence in Aboriginal communities, and abuse in rural areas. Funded projects improved the visibility of family violence issues and topics within targeted communities, increased knowledge of the issues and individual rights and responsibilities, and improved ability of community organizations to effectively respond to family violence.

The development of tools, training materials and resources for professionals generated through research and funded projects have led to more informed decision making by courts, police officers, and other justice system professionals. It also increased the capacity of those involved in various justice system processes and services to better address the needs of the victims of family violence. Events such as workshops/conferences helped to sensitize justice system professionals to the unique dynamics of family violence matters.

Stakeholders suggested that efforts to enhance public awareness and understanding of justice-related family violence issues would benefit from a greater focus on the prevention of family violence. Although the evaluation has found that the Justice FVI has been effective in developing PLEI materials, particularly materials in plain language, its efforts to disseminate these materials widely have proven to be less successful. In the past, Justice has also utilized the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence for the distribution of PLEI materials. However, as of June 30, 2011, the Clearinghouse no longer disseminates hard copy publications.

- **Improving the Ability of Stakeholders and Communities to Address Needs and Issues.** The Department has acted as a catalyst to bring stakeholder and community representatives together, which created opportunities for information sharing and dialogue, demonstrated effective approaches and best practices, and resulted in stakeholders and communities working together on issues of shared concern. The collaborative approach used in developing projects such as the *Domestic Violence Urgent Response Project* has resulted in an improved understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence on the part of each partner involved. It has also contributed to higher success rates with victims in terms of obtaining evidence and

testimony, which in turn has contributed to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in addressing family violence.

The Justice Family Violence Initiative is delivered efficiently. The level of investment in the Initiative is very small relative to the cost of family violence in Canada. The Justice FVI has made efficient use of the modest resources available, which have declined in recent years even though the demand for project funding and other support has increased. The activities supported through the Justice FVI have adopted measures such as leveraging and in-kind contributions to ensure that outputs and outcomes are generated at a low cost.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Dissemination of Public Legal Education and Information materials

Several representatives noted that the Justice FVI has been effective in developing PLEI materials, particularly materials in layman's terms, but efforts to widely disseminate these materials have proven less successful. In the past, Justice utilized the National Clearinghouse on Family Violence for the distribution of PLEI material. However, effective June 30, 2011, the Clearinghouse no longer disseminates hard copy publications.

Recommendation 1: It is recommended that the Director, FVI, in consultation with departmental partners, explore options to disseminate PLEI materials.

Management Response:

We agree with the conclusion and the recommendation. We will consult with partners to determine the best strategic options for disseminating individual publications, and evaluate the effectiveness of those options when considering future dissemination strategies. In keeping with the "greening" of government, the primary focus will be on electronic distribution.

Performance Measurement Strategy

The Justice FVI is a modest, well-run program, with highly experienced staff. Given the limited resources available to it, the program has reached out to partners in the Department, other federal departments, provincial and territorial governments and NGOs. However, the capacity of the Justice FVI to measure the results attributable to its work has proven to be challenging.

In 2004, the Justice FVI developed a PMS to monitor the effectiveness of its activities and to collect the related data. More recently, the logic model was updated and as a result, the current PMS does not reflect these changes. There is a need to align the PMS with the updated logic model. Where possible, the new PMS should focus on measurement of the impact of the program more than on documenting its activities. In so doing, any changes made to the departmental PMS

should reflect the modest resources available to the Justice FVI and support its performance measurement and evaluation.

Recommendation 2: It is recommended that the Director, FVI, in consultation with departmental partners, revise and update the PMS to reflect the recent changes to the Justice FVI logic model.

Management Response:

We agree with the conclusion and the recommendation. We will consult with partners and work with the Evaluation Division to develop a PMS to reflect the most recent logic model and facilitate, where possible, systematic performance reporting of the impact of the Initiative.

APPENDIX A:
Data Collection Instruments

Interview Guide for Department of Justice Program Representatives

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice Canada, we are conducting an evaluation of your role in the Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting interviews with representatives of the Department of Justice Canada who have been involved in the FVI. Do you have time now to answer questions? The information we collect from you will be held confidential and will be reported only in summary form with the responses of other representatives whom we interview.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Phone Number	
Region	

A. ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

1. Every year, Justice Canada receives $1.13 million in funding through the Family Violence Initiative to undertake a series of activities. In which activity or activities are you most involved?(check all that apply)

- ☐ **Legal policy development and law reform** (review, develop and reform criminal and civil justice laws and policy)
- ☐ **Policy research** (conduct research to develop family violence policy and laws)
- ☐ **Strategic coordination and partnership development** (stakeholder meetings and events)
- ☐ **Funding pilot projects** (project funding for community-based family violence projects)
- ☐ **Public legal education and information on family violence**
- ☐ **Other** (_____)

1a. (If involved in legal policy development) **The focus of the Department's Family Violence Legal Policy development is to work with provincial and territorial counterparts and federal partners to review and strengthen the justice system responses to family violence.**

i. How has this activity been undertaken?_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

ii. In what areas has legal policy development been particularly successful in helping to strengthen the justice system responses to family violence? (provide examples)

iii. What further improvements need to be made to strengthen the responses of the justice system?

1b. (If involved in legal policy development) **In Canada, the Government of Canada has the constitutional authority to make laws in relation to criminal law and procedure. The provinces, however, prosecute most Criminal Code offences, but Justice Canada carries out prosecutions under all other federal laws, including drug offences. In the territories, Justice Canada conducts all criminal prosecutions, including those under the Criminal Code.**

i. In what areas has the federal and provincial/territorial legislation been particularly successful in addressing family violence and the needs of Canadians?

ii. What changes have been made (e.g., changes to the Criminal Code) **that have improved the criminal justice response to family violence issues? How has the departmental component of the FVI contributed to these changes?**

iii. What further improvements have to be made on the federal and provincial/territorial legislation to strengthen the response to the justice system?

1c. (If involved in strategic coordination and partnership development) **Responsibility for the criminal law and the administration of justice is shared between the federal, provincial and territorial governments. Accordingly, Justice Canada collaborates closely with its provincial and territorial partners in developing and implementing criminal policy and legislative reforms and best practices in the justice systems responses to family violence.**

i. What events or activities were successful in supporting this shared responsibility?

ii. What impact did these events have (e.g., what issues emerged, what lessons were learned, what progress was made)**?**

iii. What are the plans for building on the progress that was made? What's next?

1d. (If involved in research) **The Department of Justice Canada is actively involved in producing social science research and statistical services for the Family Violence Initiative.**

i. What research has been particularly effective in increasing understanding of family violence issues? In what areas?

ii. What research has been particularly effective in increasing knowledge about effective interventions related to the prevention and reduction of family violence? In what areas?

iii. How have the research and the resulting knowledge helped to inform policy analysis, development and decision making?

1e. (If involved in funding pilot projects and PLEI) **The Family Violence Initiative is a special initiative under the Justice Partnership and Innovation Fund. The Initiative supports the development, implementation, testing and assessment of models, strategies and tools.**

i. What pilot projects or activities have been particularly successful in improving the justice system's response to family violence? In what areas?

ii. What pilot projects or activities have been particularly successful in raising public awareness of the issue and encouraging public involvement in responding to family violence? In what areas?

iii. What aspects of the pilot projects and PLEI have worked well and what needs to be improved?

2. Taken together, these activities could potentially generate a variety of different types of impacts. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all in that area, 3 is somewhat of an impact, and 5 is a major impact, how much of an impact do you believe that the departmental component in the FVI has had to date in terms of:

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
a	**Strengthening capacity of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?							
b	**Improving the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials?							
c	**Increasing ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has increased ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?							
d	**Enhancing public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
e	**Enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?							
f	**Improving responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?							
g	**Contributing to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the departmental FVI has contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?							

3. **What other impacts, positive and negative, have been generated by the activities of the Department's FVI?**

4. **What major factors have contributed to the success of the Initiative?**

5. What do you see as some of the factors or challenges that may have constrained its success to date? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

6. What recommendations do you have regarding how the departmental component in the FVI could be more successful in achieving intended outcomes? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

B. RELEVANCE

I would like to ask questions about the need for the Initiative and the need of those affected by family violence.

1. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no need at all, 3 is somewhat of a need, and 5 is a major need, how much of a need do you think there is for this type of DOJ Initiative?

Not need at all		Somewhat of a need		Major need
1	2	3	4	5

1a. What needs is the departmental component of FVI designed to address? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Would you say that the need for the departmental activities under the FVI has increased, stayed about the same, or decreased over the last 10 years?

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Decreased
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Not sure

2a. (If a change is noted) **What factors have contributed to this change (provide examples)?**_____

C. CONSISTENCY WITH GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES AND ROLES

The Family Violence Initiative (FVI) is an ongoing federal commitment to a long-term societal problem. The long-term goal of the FVI is to reduce the occurrence of family violence in Canada. The objectives of the current phase of the federal Initiative are to:

- **Promote public awareness of the risk factors of family violence and the need for public involvement in responding to it;**
- **Strengthen the ability of the criminal justice, health and housing systems to respond; and**
- **Support data collection, research and evaluation efforts to identify effective interventions.**

In its efforts to contribute to the objectives of the government wide FVI, Justice Canada reviews, researches and reforms criminal legislation and policy, funds community-based family violence projects, and provides public legal education and information support on family violence issues.

1. Are the objectives of the Department of Justice Canada component in the Family Violence Initiative consistent with:

		Yes	Somewhat	No	Don't know/ Not sure
1a.	**The strategic outcomes of the Department of Justice Canada?**	**Yes**	**Somewhat**	**No**	**Don't know**
In what ways are they consistent? In what ways are they not consistent?					
1b.	**The priorities of the Government of Canada?**	**Yes**	**Somewhat**	**No**	**Don't know**
In what ways is it consistent? In what ways is it not consistent?					

1c. Are there particular documents that you recommend we review regarding departmental and/or government-wide priorities relevant to the Initiative?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure/Don't know

1d. (If yes) **Which documents?**_____

2. Is the departmental role in the FVI aligned with the federal government roles and responsibilities with respect to addressing family violence?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

2a. In what ways is the Initiative aligned or not aligned?_____

3. I would like to ask you two questions about the partnerships within the federal-wide FVI. First, what do you see as the role of the Department of Justice Canada in the federal-wide FVI, relative to other federal partners?_____

3a. Second, does the Department of Justice Canada continue to be a relevant partner and program in the federal-wide FVI?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

3b. Why do you say that?_____

D. EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY

We are going to ask you several questions about the related issues of cost efficiency and economy.

1. **The term cost efficiency focuses on relationship between Initiative outputs and costs** (e.g., a program becomes more efficient if it is able to generate greater output with same or reduced level of inputs). **In your opinion, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all cost efficient, 3 is somewhat cost efficient, and 5 is very cost efficient, how cost efficiently has the departmental FVI been delivered?**

No at all cost efficient		Somewhat		Very cost efficient	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

1a. A program is said to be economical when the costs approximate the minimum amount that would be required to achieve the expected outcomes. In your opinion, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all economical, 3 is somewhat economical and 5 is very economical, how economical is the FVI?

No at all economical		Somewhat		Very economical	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

1b. In what respects is the Initiative particularly cost efficient or economical?_____

1c. In what respects is the Initiative specifically not cost efficient or economical?_____

2. **How could the cost efficiency or economy of the Department's component of the FVI be improved?**_____

E. DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. **We have developed a series of statements related to the design and implementation of the departmental component of the FVI. For each statement, we would like you to indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree or disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that:**

We would like you to indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree or disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that:		Rating of Impact				
		Strongly Agree	**Somewhat Agree**	**Neither Agree or Disagree**	**Somewhat Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**
a	**The departmental FVI has been implemented (activities) as intended (2004-present)**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(if less than strongly agree) What changes or modifications occurred? What was the effect of the changes and modifications?						
b	**The activities of the Initiative have been undertaken and outputs (**policy and legal advice, policy-relevant research, reports, and draft family violence related legislation or regulations**,** stakeholder meetings and conferences funded projects, PLEI material) **delivered as expected**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(If less than strongly agree) What expected activities of the Initiative have not been undertaken or outputs not delivered? Why did that occur?						
c	**The mandate and objectives of the Department of Justice FVI are clear and understandable**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(If less than strongly agree) What aspects of the mandate and objectives of the Initiative are not clear?						
(If less than strongly agree) How could mandate and objectives been improved?						

We would like you to indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree or disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that:		Rating of Impact				
		Strongly Agree	**Somewhat Agree**	**Neither Agree or Disagree**	**Somewhat Disagree**	**Strongly Disagree**
d	**The** (departmental component of the FVI) **governance structures, roles and responsibilities are appropriate and understood**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(If less than strongly agree) What aspects of the governance structure, roles and responsibilities are not appropriate or understood? Why is that?						
How could this been improved?						
e	**The strategies in place to measure performance of the departmental component of the FVI are appropriate**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(If less than strongly agree) In what areas is the performance measurement strategy not appropriate? Why is that?						
(If less than strongly agree) How could the performance measurement strategy be improved?						
f	**The Initiative has sufficient capacity to support ongoing performance measurement and evaluation?**	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(If less than strongly agree) Why do you say that?						

We would like you to indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree or disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that:	Rating of Impact				
	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(if disagree) What is needed to improve capacity?					

2. **Apart from what you mentioned already, what recommendations do you have regarding how the departmental component of the FVI could be improved?**_____

3. **Do you have any final comments you would like to make regarding the departmental component of the FVI?**_____

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

Interview Guide for DOJ FVI Federal Partners

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice Canada, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting interviews with representatives of federal departments involved in nation-wide FVI. Do you have time now to answer questions? The information we collect from you will be held confidential and will be reported only in summary form with the responses of other representatives whom we interview.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Region	
Phone Number	

A. ACTIVITIES AND RELEVANCE

1. **What has been your department's role with respect to the federal-wide FVI?**_____

2. **What is your particular role with respect to this Initiative?** _____

3. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all familiar, 3 is somewhat familiar and 5 is very familiar, how familiar have you been with the activities undertaken by the Department of Justice Canada under the FVI?**

No at all familiar		Somewhat		Very familiar	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

IF NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR,
CONFIRM AND ASK IF THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE IN THEIR ORGANIZATION WHO WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE ROLE OF JUSTICE CANADA IN THIS INITIATIVE

4. **Every year, the Department of Justice Canada receives $1.13 million in funding through the FVI to undertake a series of activities. Are you familiar with the following activities undertaken by the Department which are funded under the Initiative?** (check all that apply)

   - ☐ **Legal policy development and law reform** (review, develop and reform criminal and civil justice laws and policy to enhance the response of the criminal justice system to family violence)
   - ☐ **Policy research** (conduct research on issues related to family, children and youth; research on criminal law; and statistical and methodological research to support development of family violence policy and laws)
   - ☐ **Strategic coordination and partnership development** (stakeholder meetings and events including regional, national and/or international discussions and activities around family violence)
   - ☐ **Funding of pilot projects** (project funding for community-based family violence projects)
   - ☐ **Funding of Public Legal Education and Information (PLEI) projects on family violence**
   - ☐ **Other (_____)**

4a. Are you familiar with any other activities? _____

5. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no need at all, 3 is somewhat of a need, and 5 is a major need, how much of a need do you think there is for these types of activities?**

Not need at all		Somewhat of a need		Major need
1	2	3	4	5

5a. Why do you say that? What needs do these activities address? _____

6. Would you say that the need for these types of activities has increased, stayed about the same, or decreased over the last five years?

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Decreased
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Not sure

6a. (If a change is noted) **What factors have contributed to this change?**_____

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have the FVI activities of the Department of Justice Canada been to date in addressing these needs?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

7a. In what respects have the FVI activities of the Department of Justice Canada been particularly successful?_____

7b. In what respects have these activities been less successful?_____

8. What do you see as the role of the Department of Justice Canada in the federal-wide FVI relative to other federal partners?_____

9. In your opinion, does the Department of Justice Canada continue to be a relevant partner and program in the federal-wide FVI?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

9a. Why do you say that?_____

10. Are the objectives of the Department of Justice Canada FVI consistent with the priorities of the Government of Canada? Are they aligned with federal government roles and responsibilities with respect to addressing family violence?

Is the FVI:		Yes	Somewhat	No	Don't know/ Not sure
a	**Consistent with the priorities of the Government of Canada?**	**Yes**	**Somewhat**	**No**	**Don't know**
In what ways is it consistent? In what ways is it not consistent?					
b	**Aligned with federal government roles and responsibilities?**	**Yes**	**Somewhat**	**No**	**Don't know**
In what ways is the Initiative aligned or not aligned?					

B. EFFECTIVENESS

1. The activities of the Department of Justice Canada under the Family Violence Initiative could potentially generate a variety of different types of impacts. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all in that area, 3 is somewhat of an impact, and 5 is a major impact, how much of an impact do you believe that these activities have had to date in terms of:

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
a	**Strengthening capacity of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?							
b	**Improving the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials?							
c	**Increasing ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has increased ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?							
d	**Enhancing public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
e	**Enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?							
f	**Improving responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?							
g	**Contributing to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?							

2. **What other impacts, positive and negative, have been generated by the activities of the Department of Justice component of the FVI?**_____

3. **What major factors have contributed to the success of the Department of Justice component of the FVI?** _

4. What do you see as some of the factors or challenges that may have constrained its success to date?

5. What recommendations do you have regarding how the activities of the Department of Justice related to the FVI could be improved?

6. Are there different approaches, structures, or strategies to achieving the objectives of the Department of Justice component of the FVI that may be more effective or efficient?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure/Don't know

6a. (If yes) **What alternative approaches, structures or strategies would you suggest?**

7. Do you have any final comments or recommendations you would like to make regarding the Department of Justice component of the FVI?

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Interview Guide for Provincial or Territorial Officials from Justice

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting interviews with provincial/territorial justice officials. Do you have time now to answer questions? The information we collect from you will be held confidential and will be reported only in summary form with the responses of other representatives whom we interview.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Region	
Phone Number	

A. PARTICIPATION

1. **What programs, services and activities does your Ministry offer related to family violence?**_____

2. **What has been your particular role or involvement with respect to the Federal Government's FVI?**_____

3. **What interactions have you or your Ministry had with the Department of Justice Canada FVI?**_____

4. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all familiar, 3 is somewhat familiar and 5 is very familiar, how familiar have you been with the activities undertaken by the Department of Justice Canada under the FVI?

No at all familiar		Somewhat		Very familiar	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

IF NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR,
CONFIRM AND ASK IF THERE IS SOMEONE ELSE IN THEIR ORGANIZATION WHO WOULD BE BETTER ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE INITIATIVE

5. Every year, the Department of Justice Canada receives $1.13 million in funding through the Family Violence Initiative to undertake a series of activities. Are you familiar with the following activities undertaken by the Department which are funded under the Initiative? (check all that apply)

- ☐ **Legal policy development and law reform** (review, develop and reform criminal and civil justice laws and policy to enhance the response of the criminal justice system to family violence)
- ☐ **Policy research** (conduct research on issues related to family, children and youth; research on criminal law; and statistical and methodological research to support the development of family violence policy and laws)
- ☐ **Strategic coordination and partnership development** (stakeholder meetings and events including regional, national and/or international discussions and activities around family violence)
- ☐ **Funding of pilot projects** (project funding for community-based family violence projects)
- ☐ **Funding of Public Legal Education and Information projects on family violence**

5a. Are you familiar with any other activities?_____

6. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no need at all, 3 is somewhat of a need, and 5 is a major need, how much of a need do you think there is for these types of activities?

Not need at all		Somewhat of a need		Major need
1	2	3	4	5

6a. Why do you say that? What needs do they address?

7. Would you say that the need for these types of activities has increased, stayed about the same, or decreased over the last five years?

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Decreased
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Not sure

7a. (If a change is noted) **What factors have contributed to this change?**

8. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have the FVI activities of the Department of Justice Canada been to date in addressing these needs?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

8a. In what respects have the activities of Department of Justice Canada FVI been particularly successful?

8b. In what respects have the activities been less successful?

9. Do you view the FVI activities of the Department of Justice as being consistent with the priorities of your government?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

9a. In what ways do you see it as consistent?_____

9b. In what ways do you see it as inconsistent?_____

10. In your opinion, are the FVI activities of the Department of Justice Canada consistent with what you see as the roles and responsibilities of the federal government with respect to addressing family violence issues?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

10a. In what ways (is it consistent and/or inconsistent)?_____

B. EFFECTIVENESS

1. The activities of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative could potentially generate a variety of different types of impacts. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all in that area, 3 is somewhat of an impact, and 5 is a major impact, how much of an impact do you believe that the Initiative has had to date, in your region, in terms of:

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		Somewhat		Major Impact	N/A
		1	2	3	4	5	N/A
a	Strengthening capacity of the justice system to address family violence?	1	2	3	4	5	N/A

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?							
b	**Improving the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials?							
c	**Increasing the ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has increased the ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?							
d	**Enhancing public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
e	**Enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?							
f	**Improving responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?							
g	**Contributing to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?							

2. **What other impacts, positive and negative, have been generated by the activities of the Department of Justice Canada FVI?**

3. **What major factors have contributed to the success of the Department of Justice Canada FVI?**

4. What do you see as some of the factors or challenges that may have constrained its success to date? _____

5. What recommendations do you have regarding how the Department of Justice Canada FVI could be improved?

6. In your opinion, are there alternative approaches, governance structures or strategies that may have achieved the intended results more effectively or efficiently?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Do not know

6a. (If yes) **What alternative approaches, structures or strategies would you suggest?**

7. Do you have any final comments or recommendations you would like to make regarding the Department of Justice Canada FVI?

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Other Stakeholders

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting interviews with various stakeholders who may be familiar with the Initiative. Do you have time now to answer questions? The information we collect from you will be held confidential and will be reported only in summary form with the responses of other representatives whom we interview.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Phone Number	

A. ACTIVITIES AND RELEVANCE

1. **What activities, programs or services does your organization offer related to family violence?**_____

2. **What has been your particular role with respect to the FVI or its related services?**_____

3. **Every year, the Department of Justice Canada receives $1.13 million in funding through the FVI to undertake a series of activities. Are you familiar with any of the following departmental activities funded under the Initiative? (check all that apply)**

   - ☐ **Legal policy development and law reform** (review, develop and reform criminal and civil justice laws and policy to enhance the response of the criminal justice system to family violence)
   - ☐ **Policy research** (conduct research on issues related to family, children and youth; research on criminal law; and statistical and methodological research to support development of family violence policy and laws)

- ☐ **Strategic coordination and partnership development** (stakeholder meetings and events including regional, national and/or international discussions and activities around family violence)
- ☐ **Funding of pilot projects** (project funding for community-based family violence projects)
- ☐ **Funding of Public Legal Education and Information projects on family violence**

4. What direct involvement have you had with departmental activities funded under the Initiative or the outputs of those activities? (Please check all that apply)

- ☐ Participated in *development of policy, legal advice and recommendations* to enhance criminal justice systems' response to family violence.
- ☐ Attended *regional, national and/or international discussions and activities around family violence* (e.g., International Convention on the Rights of Child, international family violence conferences, etc.).
- ☐ Participated in *development and/or utilization of policy research* related to family violence (e.g., research on issues related to family, children and youth; research on criminal law; and statistical and methodological research).
- ☐ Participated in development and/or implementation of *pilot family violence projects* supported within the framework of the FVI.
- ☐ Participated in development and/or implementation of *public legal education and information (PLEI) projects* supported within the framework of the FVI.
- ☐ *Used PLEI resources, tools or information* developed or made available through the Department of Justice Canada FVI.
- ☐ Other (_____)

4a. Comments/description: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

IF NOT AT ALL INVOLVED, CONFIRM AND END THE INTERVIEW

5. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no need at all, 3 is somewhat of a need, and 5 is a major need, how much of a need do you think there is for the types of activities implemented by the Department of Justice Canada under the FVI?

Not need at all		Somewhat of a need		Major need
1	2	3	4	5

5a. What needs do you see?_____

6. Would you say that the need for this type of activities has increased, stayed about the same, or decreased over the last five years?

- ☐ Increased
- ☐ Stayed about the same
- ☐ Decreased
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Not sure

6a. (If a change is noted) **What factors have contributed to this change?**_____

7. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have the activities of the Department of Justice Canada funded under the FVI been to date in addressing these needs?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

7a. Why do you say that?_____

8. In your opinion, are the activities of the Department of Justice Canada funded under the FVI consistent with what you see as the roles and responsibilities of the federal government with respect to addressing family violence issues?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

8a. In what ways (is it consistent and/or inconsistent)?_____

B. EFFECTIVENESS

1. The activities of the Department of Justice Canada FVI could potentially generate different types of impacts. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all, 3 is somewhat of an impact, and 5 is a major impact, how much of an impact do you believe that the FVI activities with which you are familiar have had to date in terms of:

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
a	**Strengthening capacity of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?							
b	**Improving the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
c	**Increasing the ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has increased the ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?							
d	**Enhancing public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?							
e	**Enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?							
f	**Improving responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
g	**Contributing to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
(if 3 or more) In what way? What would you highlight as specific examples where the Department of Justice Canada FVI has contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?							

2. **What other impacts, positive and negative, have been generated by the activities of the Department of Justice Canada funded under the FVI?**

3. **What major factors have contributed to the success of the Department of Justice Canada activities?**

4. **What do you see as some of the factors or challenges that may have constrained its success to date?**

5. **What recommendations do you have regarding how the Department of Justice Canada activities funded under the FVI could be improved?**

6. **In your opinion, are there alternative approaches, governance structures or strategies that may have achieved the intended results more effectively or efficiently?**

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Do not know

6a. (If yes) **What alternative approaches, structures or strategies would you suggest?**

7. Do you have any final comments or recommendations you would like to make regarding the Department of Justice Canada and the FVI?

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Case Study Interview Guide: General
(For Lead Proponents of Case Studies)

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting case studies of particular activities supported funded through the FVI. According to our information, you were involved with _____. Do you have time now to answer some questions about this?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Telephone Number	
Case Study	

A. EFFECTIVENESS

1. **We understand that you were involved with the _____ which was supported through the Department of Justice Canada under the FVI. What was your role with respect to this project, event or activity?**_____

2. **What other staff resources are involved in delivering the project, event or activity? What is the role of these other resources relative to yours?**_____

IF NOT A PROJECT OR EVENT, SKIP TO SECTION B

3. (If a project or event) **What led to the development of this project or event?**_____

4. Was this project or event developed in response to the availability of funding from the Initiative or was it already being considered or developed?

- ☐ Developed in response to funding from the Strategy
- ☐ Was already planned
- ☐ Other (_____)
- ☐ Don't know/don't recall

Comments:_____

5. What was the total budget for the project or event?

_____

6. Apart from the funding provided by the Department of Justice Canada FVI component, what other sources of funding were used for this project or event?_____

7. What is the current status of the project or event?

- ☐ Completed (when)_____
- ☐ Ongoing
- ☐ Suspended (started but not completed)
- ☐ Start-up
- ☐ Cancelled
- ☐ Other (_____)
- ☐ Don't know/don't recall

Comments:

8. **Was the event or project implemented as planned? Were the expected outputs produced?**

		Yes	Somewhat	No	Don't know/ Not sure
a	**Implemented as planned**	Yes	Somewhat	No	Don't know
b	**Expected outputs produced**	Yes	Somewhat	No	Don't know

8a. (If no or somewhat) **What changes or modifications occurred?**

8b. (if no or somewhat) **What was the rationale for those changes or modifications?**

8c. (If no or somewhat) **What was the effect of the changes and modifications on the success of the project or event?**

B. EFFECTIVENESS

1. **What did you see as the primary objectives of the project or event? What key issue(s) are they designed to address?**

2. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful and 5 is very successful, how successful do you think the project or event has been in achieving these objectives?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

2a. Why do you say that? _____

3. In what respects has the project or event been particularly successful? _____

4. In what respects has the project or event been less successful? _____

5. The projects and events funded through the Department of Justice Canada FVI could potentially generate a variety of different types of impacts. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no impact at all in that area, 3 is somewhat of an impact, and 5 is a major impact, how much of an impact do you believe that your project or event has had to date in terms of:

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
a	**Strengthening capacity of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?							
b	**Improving the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational materials and information on family violence?							
c	**Increasing ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has increased ability of stakeholders and communities to address needs of those affected by family violence?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
d	**Enhancing public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?							
e	**Enhancing professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?							
f	**Improving responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							

		Rating of Impact					
		No Impact		**Somewhat**		**Major Impact**	**N/A**
		1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**N/A**
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence?							
g	**Contributing to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Why do you say that?							
(if 3 or more) What would you highlight as specific examples where the activity has contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?							

6. **What other impacts (negative or positive) were generated?**

7. **What are some of the key factors that contributed to the success achieved?**

8. **What do you see as some of the factors that have constrained the success?**

9. In your opinion, were the resources provided by the Department of Justice for this project or activity used efficiently?

☐ Yes ☐ Somewhat ☐ No ☐ Not sure/don't know

9a. Why do you say that?

10. What actions have been taken since the activity was completed? How are the results being used? By whom? How widely have they been used? Will it lead to future initiatives or projects?

11. Looking back over your involvement in this activity, what do you see as some of the key lessons that have been learned and best practices that have developed?

12. Who else do you recommend that we contact as part of this case study?

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Case Study Interview Guide for Research and Policy on Elder Abuse

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting case studies with several initiatives supported through the FVI. According to our information you have worked on development and implementation of policy and research related elder abuse through the Initiative. Do you have time now to answer some questions about this work?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Telephone Number	

A. INVOLVEMENT

1. **We understand that you are involved with the development and implementation of a policy and research on elder abuse through the Department of Justice Canada FVI. What is your role?**_____

2. **What specific actions have been taken or outputs produced by your organization over the last three years with respect to policy and research on elder abuse?**_____

3. **What did you see as the primary objectives of your work related to policy and research on elder abuse? What key issue(s) were the activities designed to address?**_____

4. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful and 5 is very successful, how successful do you think the departmental policy and research activities on elder abuse have been in achieving these objectives?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

4a. In what respects have the activities been particularly successful?

4b. In what respects have the activities been less successful?

5. What major impacts did your policy and research work on elder abuse have?

6. What are some of the key factors that contributed to the success of the policy and research work on elder abuse?

7. What do you see as some of the factors that have constrained the success?

8. **Looking back over your involvement in this activity, what do you see as key lessons that have been learned and best practices that have developed?**

9. **What recommendations do you have regarding how the Department of Justice policy and research work on elder abuse could be improved?**

THANKS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Case Study Interview Guide for Participants of Family Violence Symposium

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting case studies with several initiatives supported through the FVI. According to our information, you have participated in the Justice Canada Symposium on Family Violence: The Intersection of Family and Criminal Justice System Responses organized in February 2009 in Ottawa. Do you have time now to answer some questions about this Symposium?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Telephone Number	

A. EFFECTIVENESS

1. What were your objectives for getting involved?_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have you and your organization been to date in achieving these objectives?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

2a. What did you find particularly useful from participating?_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2b. What parts or aspects were less useful to you?

3. What did you learn personally from your involvement in the Symposium?

4. What actions (if any) **did you take as a result?**

5. Did you report back to others in your organization (and/or, if an NGO, to the groups you represent) about the results of your involvement in the Symposium?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

5a. To whom did you report these results? What information did you provide?

6. What actions, if any, have been taken based on the information provided?

7. The objective of the Symposium was to address challenges posed by the different objectives and legal standards of the criminal and family justice system responses to family violence. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful has the Symposium been to date in achieving these objectives?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

7a. Why do you say that?

8. What impact would you say that the Symposium has had?

9. What are some of the key factors that contributed to the success of the project?

10. What do you see as some of the factors that have constrained its success?

11. Did you also attend the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Meeting on Family Violence: The Intersection of Family and Criminal Justice System Responses the following day?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 16

12. What were your objectives for getting involved?

13. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have you and your organization been to date in achieving these objectives?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

13a. What parts or aspects did you find particularly useful? _____

13b. What parts or aspects were less useful to you? _____

14. Did you or your organization take any actions or make any changes as a result of this event?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

15. Looking back over your involvement in this Symposium, what do you see as some of the key lessons that have been learned and best practices that have developed? _____

16. What recommendations or suggestions do you have regarding how the Symposium could have been improved? _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Case Study Interview Guide for Users of Guidelines on Minority Communities

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting case studies with several initiatives supported through the FVI. According to our information, you have received *Guidelines for Service Providers: Outreach Strategies for Family Violence Intervention with Immigrant and Minority Communities* developed within the scope of the FVI. Do you have time now to answer some questions about this Guide?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Telephone Number	

A. INVOLVEMENT

1. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all familiar, 3 is somewhat familiar, and 5 is very familiar, how familiar are you with the *Guidelines for Service Providers:* Outreach *Strategies for Family Violence Intervention with Immigrant and Minority Communities* developed within the scope of the FVI?**

No at all familiar		Somewhat		Very familiar
1	2	3	4	5

Comments:_____

_____

_____

_____

IF NOT AT ALL FAMILIAR, CONFIRM AND ASK FOR CONTACT INFORMATION OF OTHERS IN THE ORGANIZATION WHO MAY BE MORE FAMILIAR

2. **What activities or services does your organization offer related to minority communities and/or family violence?**

3. **What has been your particular role with respect to this initiative or services?**

B. EFFECTIVENESS

1. **What were your objectives for reviewing the Guidelines for Service Providers: Outreach Strategies for Family Violence Intervention with Immigrant and Minority Communities?**

2. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all successful, 3 is somewhat successful, and 5 is very successful, how successful have you and your organization been to date in achieving these objectives?**

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

2a. **Why do you say that?**

3. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not useful at all, 3 is somewhat useful, and 5 is very useful, how useful have the Guidelines been to you in your work with minority communities?**

No at all useful		Somewhat		Very useful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

3a. What parts or aspects did you find particularly useful?

3b. What parts or aspects were less useful to you?

4. Did you or your organization take any specific actions as a result of using this guide?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

4a. (If yes) **What actions did you take?**

4b. (If yes) **What impact did these actions have?**

5. What recommendations or suggestions do you have regarding how the Guidelines could be improved or made more useful to you?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Case Study Interview Guide -
National Mobile Training Module for Shelter Workers in Inuit Communities

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is _____ and I am calling from X Company. On behalf of the Department of Justice, we are conducting an evaluation of the Department of Justice Canada Family Violence Initiative (FVI). As part of this process, we are conducting case studies with several initiatives supported through the FVI. According to our information, you have participated in the National Mobile Training Module for Shelter Workers in Inuit Communities implemented within the scope of the FVI. Do you have time now to answer some questions about this training?

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	
Position	
Organization	
Telephone Number	

A. EFFECTIVENESS

1. What was you involvement in this training?_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is not at all useful, 3 is somewhat useful, and 5 is very useful, how useful do you believe the training module is for shelter workers?

No at all successful		Somewhat		Very successful	
1	2	3	4	5	N/A

2a. In what respects is it particularly useful?_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2b. In your opinion, what parts or aspects tend to be less useful?

3. What did you learn personally from the training and/or use of resources and tools?

4. How are the results of the training used? For example, what if any actions tend to be taken or changes made based on the information provided? Did this training or the information provided change the way you offer services?

5. (If so) **What impact do these actions or changes have?**

6. What recommendations or suggestions do you have regarding how the training modules could be improved or made more useful to you?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

Preliminary Case Study Focus Group Questions

Thank you for participating in the evaluation of the Family Violence Initiative (FVI). X Company is a management consulting firm and has been hired by the Department of Justice Canada to evaluate this initiative. As part of this evaluation, we are also conducting case studies with several funded projects as well as focus groups to better understand the activities implemented under those projects and their outcomes.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of participants	
Name of project	
Date	

B. FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS

1. **What were the main activities, tools and resources of the project you were involved in? Were the provided materials appropriate/useful?**

2. **Which parts of activities, tools and resources did you find most useful?**

3. **Which parts were less useful?**

4. **What evidence suggests that the project contributed to a strengthened capacity of the justice system to address family violence?**

5. **What evidence suggests that the project improved the availability and accessibility of public and professional legal educational material and information on family violence?**

6. **What evidence suggests that the project increased the ability of stakeholders or communities to address needs/issues of those affected by family violence?**

7. **What evidence suggests that the project enhanced public awareness and understanding of family violence and the justice system?**

8. **What evidence suggests that the project enhanced professional awareness, understanding and skills to address family violence?**

9. **What evidence suggests that the project improved responsiveness of the justice system to address family violence (from national and international perspectives)?**

10. **What evidence suggests that the project contributed to Canada's progress in reducing family violence?**

11. **What are your suggestions for the future of the Department of Justice Canada FVI? Which components of the Initiative should continue? Which components should be discontinued?**

Case Study Observation Notes

The observation notes will be used to observe case study project activities during site visits to determine whether implemented activities have generated desired results.

Activity:	**Contact Person (Staff):**
Number of Participants:	**Category/Role of Participants:**
Date:	**Telephone:**
Key points of activity:	
What worked well:	
What didn't work well:	

Lessons learned:
Suggestions for the future:
Other comments:

APPENDIX B:
Summary of Document Review

Summary of Document Review

Thirty projects were examined. These included interim and project summary reports, project funding applications and agreements, and final reports and deliverables. These documents were then summarized in terms of objectives, target population, activities, challenges, partners, next steps, impacts, and communication methods and targets. The projects were then categorized and grouped in each of these aspects. Categories were initially based on the logic model presented in the methodology report, and were expanded and adjusted to more suitably fit the information and data presented by the project documents. In cases where there was insufficient data or information to categorize a project, it is stated as such. Programs with multiple project numbers (multi-phase projects) were combined. The tables are provided below.

The projects are identified in the tables by their project numbers. Projects with multiple phases are identified with the first project number listed. A listing of the projects with their names and numbers follows:

- **6154-19-11:** Best Practices and Strategies for Developing Culturally Appropriate Family Violence Services for Minority Communities: Sharing Lessons Learned From The Muslim Family Safety Project;
- **6154-19-19:** Presentation Kit for Family Violence Public Awareness Campaign (Safer Families ….Safer Communities/Familles en sécurité… Collectivités sûres);
- **6145-23-16:** Victim Focused Services for the Elderly: Access and Effectiveness in Alberta;
- **6154-19-28:** Using PLEI to Help Build a BC Coalition TO END Violence Against Women;
- **6154-18-6:** Domestic Violence Urgent Response;
- **6154-18-28:** Early Identification and Intervention for Refugees and Immigrants Affected by Family Violence;
- **6154-19-3:** Family Violence Information Package Project;
- **6154-18-14:** Aligning Child Sexual Abuse Awareness, Prevention, Disclosure, Investigation, and Prosecution: The Need for New Guidelines and Educational Material for Parents and Front-Line Professionals;
- **6154-18-33:** Safe Women, Accountable Men;
- **6154-19-6:** Recognizing and Responding to Family Violence;

- **6145-35-55:** French Language Institute of Professional Development;
- **6154-18-27:** 2010 Eeyou Istchee Family Violence Symposium;
- **6154-18-41:** A Dialogue on Family Violence in Culturally Diverse Communities: Practical Approaches to Prevention and Response;
- **6145-24-61:** Inter-Personal Relationship Abuse and Violence Prevention Initiative for Aboriginal Communities in New Brunswick;
- **6154-18-34:** Identifying Criminal and Civil (Family) Justice System Interventions that Prevent Suicide and Femicide-Suicides by Estranged Male Partners and which Promote Parental Collaboration Between Separated an Divorced Parents;
- **6154-19-7:** Family Violence Issues - How to Reach Minority Communities;
- **6154-18-4:** Life Beyond Shelter: Toward Coordinated Public Policies for Women`s Safety and Violence Prevention/Beyond Shelter Walls Phase III;
- **6152-15-80/6145-24-89:** Development of a National Mobile Training Module for Shelter Workers in Inuit Communities;
- **6152-15-13/6145-23-20:** "A Full and Candid Account" Using Special Accommodations and Testimonial Aids to Facilitate the Testimony of Children;
- **6145-23-18/6145-23-23/6152-15-64:** Yellowknife Family Violence Protocol;
- **6145-24-59:** 30 ans d'intervention, ça change le monde;
- **6154-19-16:** La violence transparente volet II;
- **6145-35-93:** Guide pour les femmes de la Saskatchewan et leurs droits;
- **6145-24-62:** Femmes francophones en milieu minoritaire: Solidaires dans la lutte à la violence faite aux femmes;
- **6145-23-21:** Une juste justice pour les Sourds;
- **6145-24-52:** Information juridique sur l'exploitation sexuelle des enfants et la protection de la jeunesse;
- **6145-35-126/6145-24-72):** Vulgarisation d'information juridique: Dépliants et textes sur le site Internet de l' l'Association des juristes d'expression française de la Colombie-Britannique;

- **6154-19-21:** Guide pratique sur les mariages forcés à l'usage des intervenants et intervenantes de terrain;
- **6154-18-15:** Connaissances et compréhension des causes de la violence familiale dans les communautés minorités raciales et ethnoculturelles francophones et des conséquences légales liées à celles-ci; and
- **6154-19-17:** 5e congrès international francophone sur l'agression sexuelle.

Objectives																																				
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Training/Education for Frontline Workers and Service Providers and Legal and Justice Professionals			X	X	X						X		X	X				X	X		X			X	X	X		X		X	14	47%
Develop Resources and Tools for Anti-Violence Agencies and Hard-To-Reach Communities	X					X		X		X				X					X	X		X	X		X		X	X		12	40%
Partnerships/Collaborations Between Agencies and Communities for Integrated Response				X							X	X		X						X	X		X		X	X	X		X	11	37%
Increase Accessibility and Availability of Information and Services to the Public	X		X	X						X	X					X					X		X	X		X	X				11	37%
Increase Awareness and Understanding of Family Violence Among Victims, the Public, and Members of the Justice System		X			X					X	X	X								X		X	X						X	X	10	33%
Strengthen Capacity of the Justice System			X			X	X					X					X								X	X						7	23%
ID/Address Services Gaps and Effectiveness of Justice and Community Programs																				X	X		X		X				X			5	17%
Direct Support Services and Advising for Victims					X				X						X															X			4	13%
Target Population																																				
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Community (Hard-To-Reach Communities, General Public)	X	X		X			X			X		X		X		X						X	X	X	X	X		X	X	16	53%

Stakeholders (Anti-Family Violence Agencies/Organizations)						X		X				X	X	X			X			X	X							X			9	30%
Victims		X	X		X		X		X			X			X					X	X										9	30%
Justice and Legal Professionals/Police		X											X						X						X		X		X	X	7	23%
Francophone Communities and Individuals																							X	X			X		X	X	5	17%
Other Front-Line Professionals (Service Workers, Support Staff)	X	X	X	X		X	X			X	X	X	X					X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	20	67%
Implementation (Activities)																																
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Fact Sheets and Resources to Public		X	X	X		X				X				X					X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X		14	47%
Training for Front-Line Workers, Service Providers, Professionals	X		X	X	X	X							X					X						X	X			X			10	33%
Published Articles, Reports, Policy Papers								X							X	X	X				X			X				X			7	23%
Focus Groups, Interviews, Surveys							X					X													X					X		4	13%
Victim and Abuser Support (Counseling, Support Groups, etc.)			X		X				X																						3	10%
Legislation Review			X																	X											2	7%
Fact Sheets and Resources to Public		X	X	X		X				X				X					X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X		14	47%
Implementation (Challenges)																																
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Insufficient or Underestimated Resource Requirements (Human, Time, etc.)												X	X				X	X	X					X	X		X				8	27%
Participation/Response Rate			X							X	X									X					X							5	17%
Coordination of Multiple Agencies/Organizations				X										X						X												3	10%

Effectively Addressing Problem With Culture/Religion in Consideration	X																													1	3%
No Comments/Data Available		X			X	X	X	X							X	X					X	X	X			X		X	X	X	14	47%
Implementation (Partnerships)																																
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Justice and Police Organizations		X			X	X			X				X				X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X	14	47%
Women's and Other Community Networks (Women's Support Agencies, Cultural Agencies)	X		X			X	X						X				X			X		X	X	X		X		X	X		13	43%
Other Resource Centres (Senior Centres, Immigrant Assistance, etc.)				X			X				X	X	X				X			X		X			X			X			10	33%
Victims Services Organizations		X		X		X	X				X						X	X												X	8	27%
Youth Support Networks						X	X										X					X				X	X				6	20%
Other Non-Justice/Police Government Organizations (Health Authorities, Government, Legislators, Anti-Violence Government Groups)	X	X					X			X		X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		17	57%
None																			X													1	3%
No Data Available								X							X	X																3	10%
Implementation (Next Steps)																																
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
End of Program (Report Made)/No Further Steps Stated	X					X		X							X	X					X					X	X	X	X	X	11	37%
Continuation of Programs Implemented/Developed		X			X		X			X	X			X					X					X	X							9	30%
Continuation (Project Incomplete)				X					X								X	X		X		X										6	20%
Further Related Projects			X									X	X										X		X							5	17%

Impacts																																		
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Enhanced Professional Understanding and Skills	X		X	X	X						X		X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X						15	50%
Enhanced Public Awareness and Understanding	X	X		X	X							X		X			X			X		X	X	X			X				12	40%
Improved Availability and Accessibility to Information and Services			X				X			X	X											X					X				6	20%
Improvement or Development of Programs (Support, Education, Outreach)							X										X							X	X						4	13%
Improved Responsiveness of Justice System					X						X								X						X						4	13%
Partnership/Coalition Creation																				X				X						X	3	10%
Increased Engagement of Stakeholders/Communities				X								X															X				3	10%
No Data Available						X		X							X	X					X					X		X	X		8	27%

Communication Methods																																		
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Website	X	X	X	X			X	X					X				X		X					X			X		X	X	13	43%
Conferences	X		X		X			X					X	X			X		X		X			X	X						X	12	40%
Meetings			X	X	X		X	X							X		X			X			X	X	X						11	37%
Reports		X	X		X		X				X	X	X		X		X				X									X		11	37%
Local Media	X				X								X		X		X						X			X	X		X	X	10	33%
Workshops			X		X	X													X						X				X		6	20%
Newsletters				X						X		X					X							X								5	17%
National Media													X		X		X															3	10%
Other	X	X			X	X		X		X	X	X					X			X	X	X				X	X	X	X		16	53%
None Specified																X		X														2	7%

Communication Targets																																
Categories/Projects	6154-19-11	6154-19-19	6145-23-16	6154-19-28	6154-18-6	6154-18-28	6154-19-3	6154-18-14	6154-18-33	6154-19-6	6145-35-55	6154-18-27	6154-18-41	6145-24-61	6154-18-34	6154-19-7	6145-18-4	6154-24-89	6152-15-13	6145-23-18	6145-24-59	6154-19-16	6145-35-93	6145-24-62	6145-23-21	6145-24-52	6145-35-126	6154-19-21	6154-18-15	6154-19-17	Count	%
Criminal Justice Personnel			X		X	X					X		X		X		X		X	X					X		X		X	X	13	43%
Family Violence Organizations	X		X	X		X							X			X	X	X	X	X				X							11	37%
Visible Minority Groups/ Organizations	X		X	X						X		X				X	X							X		X			X		10	33%
DOJ Canada	X		X								X				X		X		X	X				X	X						9	30%
Aboriginal Communities				X								X		X		X	X		X	X						X					8	27%
Canadian Public		X	X							X												X				X	X			X	7	23%
Victims' Families		X	X		X										X									X		X					6	20%
Francophone Community																			X				X	X		X	X			X	6	20%
Victims of Crime			X		X										X									X							4	13%
Provincial/Territorial Departments			X								X								X	X											4	13%
Disability Groups/Organizations																				X					X	X					3	10%
Other Victims' Organizations	X		X		X	X							X			X	X	X	X		X			X							11	37%
Other Federal Government Departments											X		X																			2	7%
Other Professionals			X	X	X	X					X	X	X					X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	16	53%
Other							X	X											X	X	X					X					6	20%

Information regarding the lessons learned by the projects was also reviewed, as detailed in the project summary reports and deliverables. Half of the projects (15) did not provide any information or details regarding the lessons learned, and one project is still in progress. Of the projects that provided information, lessons learned included how to:

- Change and improve the activities performed for the project (12 respondents); and
- Refine the scope of the project and future projects (2 respondents).