

Interim Report Guidelines

Grantee Name: Last Mile4D

Report Due: May 2024

Progress Report Content

Organization Name	Last Mile4D (LM4D)
Project Title	Ending Female Genital Mutilation- A three pillar approach
Grant Amount	48,000
Project Geographic Location	Kenya
Organization Address	3255 Ste. A, Sutton Place, NW, Washington, DC 20016
Organization Website Address	https://www.lastmile4d.org/

Contact Person

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Executive summary¹: We are pleased to report about our progress from September 1st, 2023, to April 30, 2024. With our goal of preventing FGM through our three-pillar approach we demonstrate in this report the impact of combining real time evidence-based data with educational modules that extend beyond raising awareness about FGM and community stakeholders' engagement in stopping FGM. These targeted educational interventions have not only equipped girls with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their health and future but also created a supportive environment in the communities to keep girls safe and in schools.

2. Recap briefly what outcomes the project was designed to achieve.

The overarching goal of our project is to prevent FGM for 1,600 girls in two regions of Kenya. We are actively aiming to achieve the following outcomes:

- a. Increase the participants' knowledge about FGM abandonment by 95% by the end of the program (12 months).
- b. Increase participants' ability to identify benefits associated with FGM abandonment by 90%, after attending the various educational modules throughout the course of the program.
- c. Increase 85% of parents' belief that people in their community approve of FGM abandonment, after participating in community sensitization activities.
- d. Decrease the number of parents who think others will judge them negatively if they do not cut their daughters by 60%, after learning about harms of FGM and its illegality.
- e. Increase 75% number of parents who do not support the continuation of FGM, that have attended one of the 40 community events.

With the generous support of Together Women Rise we have surpassed the goal of reaching 1,600 girls directly and 3,000 women and girls indirectly, have sensitized the community stakeholders at large about the harms of FGM and have prevented the current cohort of enrolled girls from undergoing FGM. For this

¹ Tables and Graphs:

Please note that we have created several Tables to capture and present the data for ease of read. We also are using Graphs, which are pulled directly from our online platform that is utilized by field officers and supervisors to gather information in real time and record it real time as well.

report we have gathered the following information corresponding to the outcomes listed above that we planned to achieve in this project:

Table I: Increase the percentage of participants who do not support the continuation of FGM

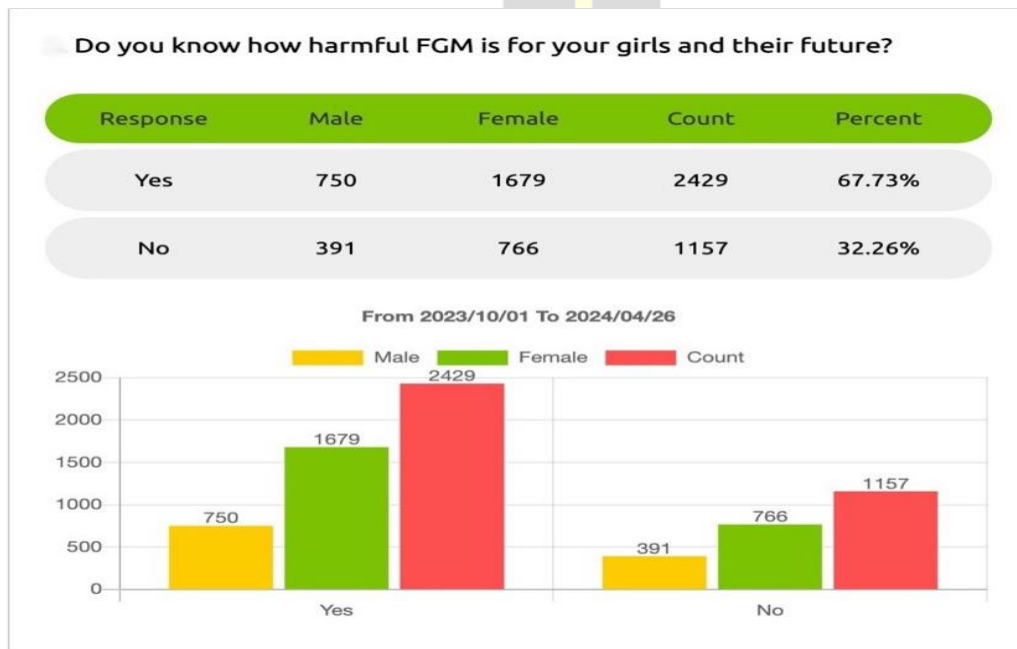
Participants	Percentage
Girls at-risk of FGM	89%
Boys ages 9-14	70 %
Women (parents/community members, stakeholders)	99 %
Men (parents/community members, stakeholders)	98 %

Increase participants’ ability to identify benefits associated with FGM abandonment in Table II, Graph 1a and Graph 1b

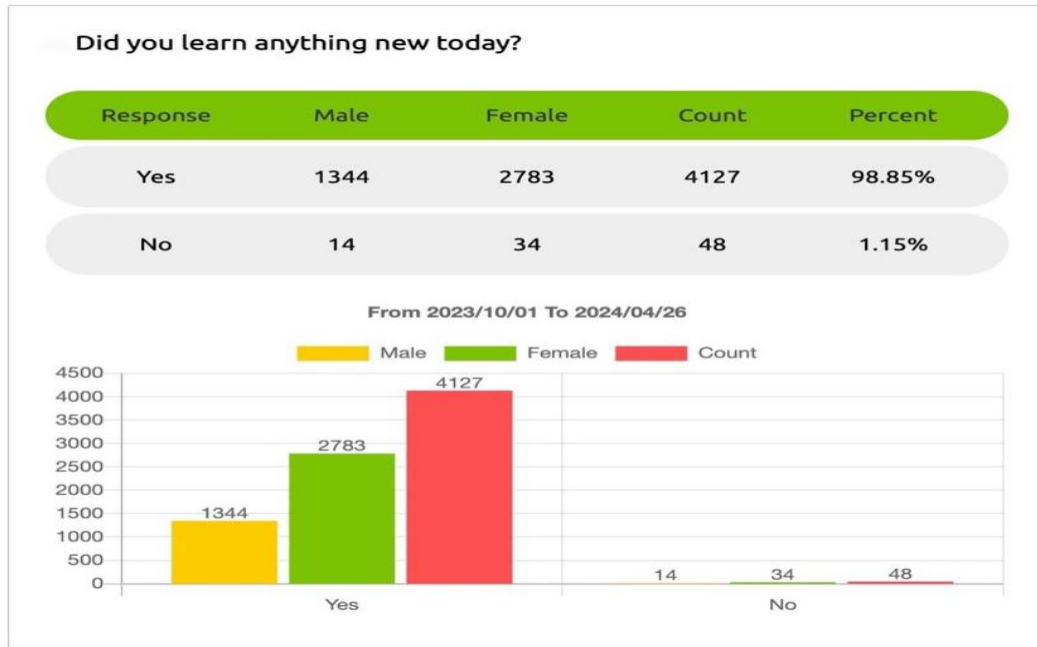
Table II: Survey responses-evidence based data recorded on the platform over time for uncut girls

Question		Baseline N=2070	Midline N=1995
Do you fear you will be cut soon?	Yes	53.8%	27.5%
	No	42.6%	72.2%
	I am cut	3.6%	0.25%
Are you confident about speaking up against FGM if you are to be cut?	Yes	39%	87%
	No	61%	13%
Are you able to convince your parents not to cut you?	Yes	27%	62.5%
	No	28%	8%
	Unsure	45%	28.5%
Do you know what actions to take if you cannot convince your parents not to cut you?	Yes	38%	89.5%
	No	62%	10.5%

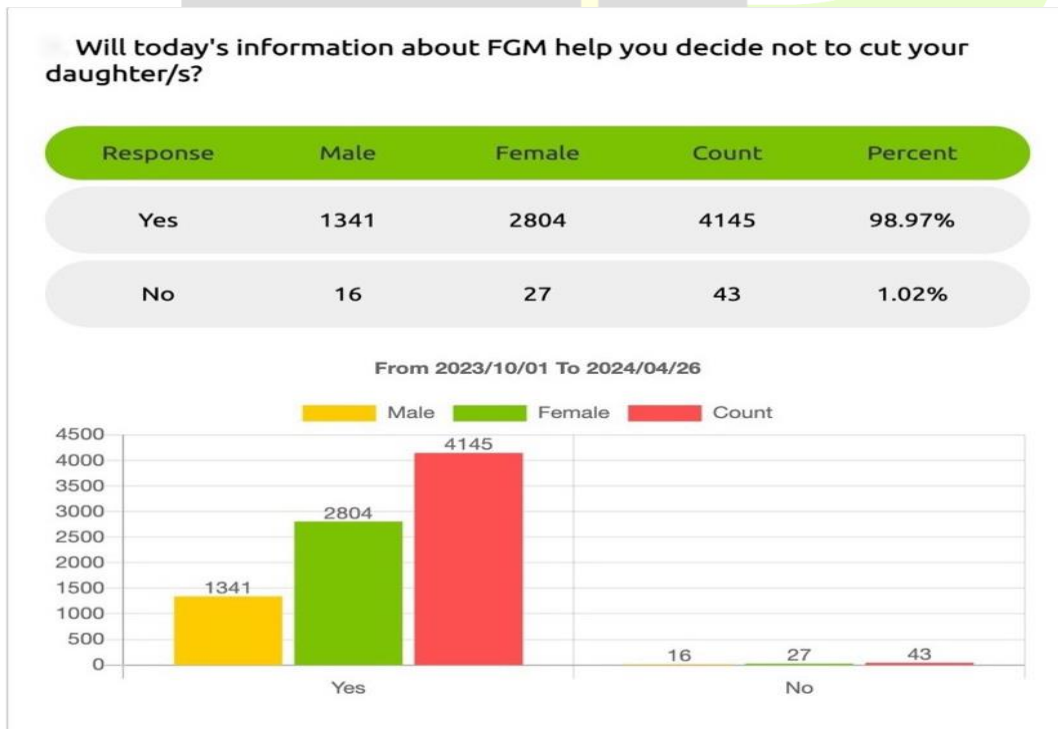
Graph 1a:



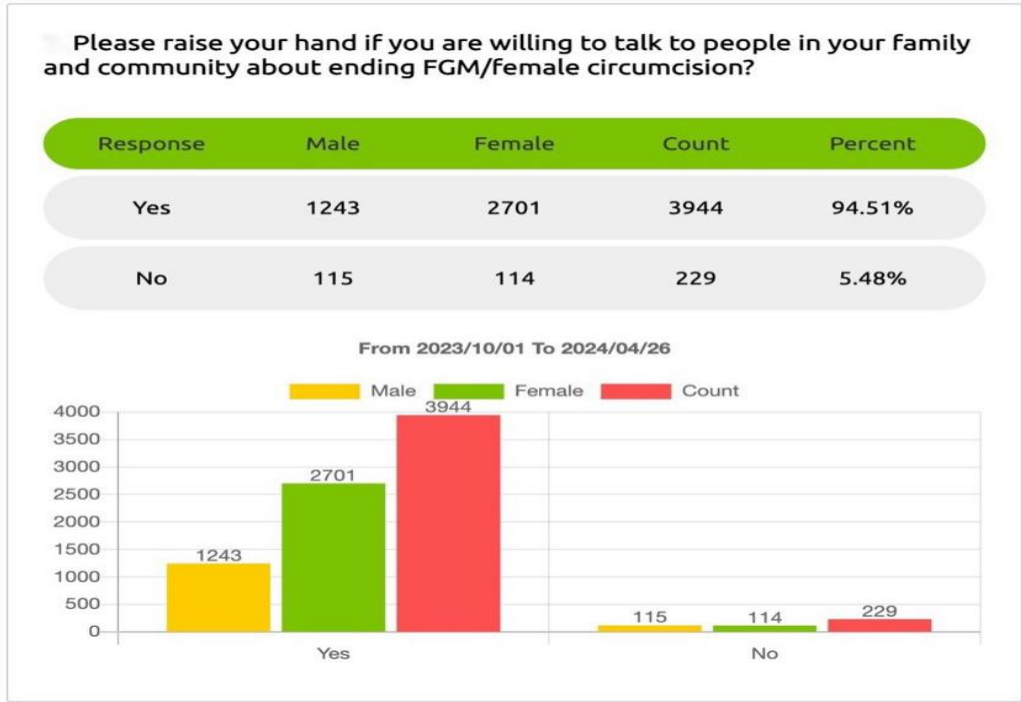
Graph 1b:



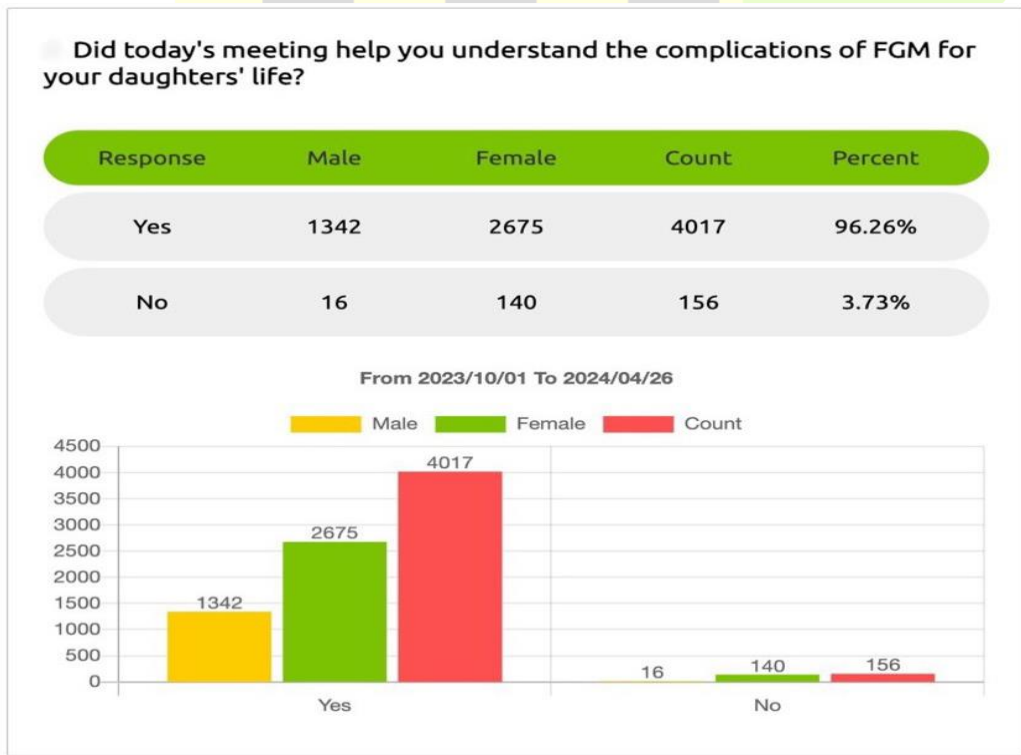
Graph 2: Increase parents' belief that people in their community approve of FGM abandonment, after participating in community sensitization activities



Graph 3: Decrease the number of parents who think others will judge them negatively if they do not cut their daughters after learning about harms of FGM and its illegality



Graph 4: Increase number of parents who do not support the continuation of FGM, after attending community events



3. Has funding changed for this project? For example, have you received unexpected funding from another source?

The funding for this project has not changed and we have not received any unexpected funding from another source. We continue fundraising to sustain and scale the project beyond the life of this grant to other communities and preventing more girls from undergoing FGM and staying in schools.

4. Is your organization or project situation different than presented in the approved proposal? For example, new executive director, significant project staffing changes or NGO affiliation, loss of large funding, or other significant changes?

No, our organization and the project situation are the same as the time of proposal approval. We started the project right as September rolled in to accommodate the school schedule. We learned that schools were going to be closed right after the national exams at the end of October. This meant a very long school closure, end of October till mid-January, which is the time they cut the girls (known as cutting (FGM) season). In order to disrupt this cutting season, we decided to run a series of day camps and bring children out of their homes and into the public eyes. We run a total of 18 day-camps in different schools we work in. On average we brought 130+ girls and boys to each of these 18 daily camps and provided them with FGM education, meals and dignity kits (sanitary pads for girls and briefs for boys) and other personal needs items.



We taught children how to roleplay and stand up for themselves or others that might be at risk of FGM, such as a brother standing up for her sister or a grandmother protecting her granddaughter from FGM.



5. Have the number of beneficiaries changed? To report this please refer to the original numbers in your grant proposal under Number of women and girls Directly Impacted and population Indirectly Impacted.

In our grant proposal, we aim to stop the practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in West Pokot and Migori. Our original numbers were to directly benefit 1,600 girls and we projected that the project would indirectly impact 3,000 women and girls.

Our current numbers of direct and indirect beneficiaries have changed upwardly as we were asked by the communities and teachers to enroll more girls in our program. We aimed to register and enroll 2,000 girls to be the direct beneficiaries, but ended up interviewing 2070 girls across 21 schools, because at the first interview we learned that 75 from the 2070 girls have already undergone FGM. Furthermore, as a result of our increased outreach efforts, the number of women and girls directly served by the project increased to 1,995, while the indirect beneficiaries increased to 3,200.

6. What challenges are you facing as you move forward with this project? How are you approaching these challenges?

1- The poor infrastructure remains a challenge. Although our work's initial approach was not focused on resilience and environment, nonetheless we are challenged by the effects of climate change. Drought in some areas and massive flooding in other regions has hampered the life and livelihood of the communities we serve. We had to allocate funds to house the team members that were stuck in the regions to stay back and keep safe. We also have introduced an alternative rite of passage by planting trees in honor of the girls that graduated from our program unharmed. The planting of trees not only celebrates the girls' safety, but also helps the soil from erosion in the flood ravaged areas.



The local government has been very receptive and supportive of our actions and has provided some seedlings. We continue to monitor and mitigate the challenges as they arise.

2- Community Resistance to culture change. We have had the support of many stakeholders including the authorities in our work and have been able to mitigate the community resistance through constant dialogues.



Clear Parklea- Chief officer West pokot

7. Have you revised your original objectives since the project began? If so, why? What are your new objectives? No, there has been no change to the original objectives. We devised our plans and objectives based on the communities’ needs and guidance and thus far we have had no reason to adjust any of our original objectives.

8. What progress have you made toward achieving your objectives? Please address each stated objective.

Achieving our objectives has been guided by evidence-based, proven solutions that significantly enhance women's livelihoods, economic security, and resilience. By addressing the root causes of gender inequality and economic disparity, we foster gender equality and empower women economically within the unique context of our communities.

A key aspect of our approach is the inclusion of men and boys in our sensitization gatherings.

Recognizing their pivotal role as keepers of tradition, we have engaged them in dialogue and education to challenge harmful norms and promote gender equality. This inclusive approach ensures that our interventions are culturally sensitive and sustainable, leading to lasting change within the community.

Please see our progress toward achieving our objectives:

Table III: Objectives and indicators

Indicators	Goal	Actual by April 30, 2024
# of Girls at-risk of FGM	1600	1995
# of Boys ages 9-14 attending	400	400
# of Women (parents/community members, stakeholders) attending	3000	2763
# of Men (parents/community members, stakeholders)	0	1343
# of parents/community meetings	40	33

Graph 5:

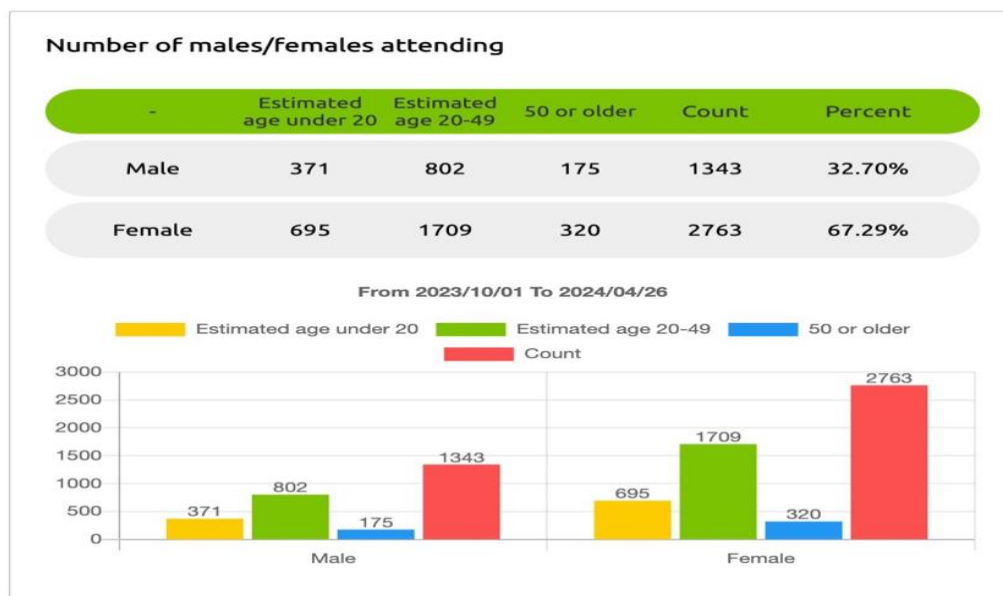


Table IV: Progress on key activities that leads to goals being accomplished by April 30

Major Component	How The Component Will Help Accomplish the Goals
Training on how to use V4D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted two sets of training for our 11 field officers and supervisors on the use of V4D, one before the start of the project in September and the second training in January to review Rights Based Modules before the second round of girls' interviews.
Conduct three interviews with the girls to determine their baseline, midline and endline knowledge and related actions about FGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted two rounds of interviews with the girls to assess their baseline and midline knowledge, as well as related actions regarding FGM. The first round of interviews took place in September and the first week of October 2023, while the second round happened in February 2024. The third round is toward the conclusion of our program and will be conducted in June and will be stated in our final report.
Implementing and disseminating educational modules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented 6 out of the 9 educational modules in schools. The remaining three modules are on schedule to be disseminated before we conclude the module training in the next two months.
Use education module for the community and all stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted 33 community meetings reaching total of 4106 community members (parents/community stakeholders) thus far Surveyed the parents/community stakeholders/1343 men and 2763 women before the start of each of the 33 community sessions and after its completion about their knowledge of FGM and its harmful effects. Collected data (by field officers) to measure the impact of the educational modules on parents' knowledge and decision-making regarding FGM. Resulted in 983 signed declarations that demonstrates parents expanded knowledge base and commitment on not cutting their girls.
Engaging authorities and all stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established ongoing vital partnerships to enforce the law, a pivotal step in our achievements Forced Child Welfare Services professionals to demand consent from

	<p>parents not to cut their daughters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminated knowledge to parents during the community meetings about fines and penalties of FGM that informed parents and served as a deterrent Made a difference in the way the crime is perceived or acted upon
Actionable real time data (Key to our success)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generated and disseminated data to stakeholders meant they must act upon and avert the FGM risk for the girls identified being at-risk and held authorities accountable. Identified the girls' being at-risk or already cut to the stakeholders. This was very powerful in Kuria during our pilot phase made a 100% turn around forcing them to take action. We are observing the same supportive attitude from the authorities and other stakeholders.

9. Do you anticipate any difficulties in completing your project in the timeframe outlined in your proposal? No, short of any unforeseen natural disasters (more flood), we are on target in our workplan and do not foresee any difficulties in reaching and completing our project in the timeframe we outlined in our workplan in the proposal.

□ Any message you would like us to convey to our membership and donors about the impact our grant is having on those being served and/or your organization and its mission.

We are most grateful for this grant as it has given us visibility and courage to continue the fight. This grant has saved 1995 from undergoing FGM and has impacted their communities (over 3,000 members) towards declining the harmful cultural practice of FGM and consequently early/forced marriage. We are also grateful to the prompt support we have received from the Together Women Rise professional leadership in numerous occasions as we asked for letters of support to apply for other grants with other organizations.



Detailed list of all expenses incurred during the reporting period which have been paid for with the Together Women Rise grant

	Together Women Rise	Actual by April 30th 2024
Revenue		
Individuals	0.0	
Businesses/Corps	0.0	
Together Women Rise	48,000.0	48,000.0
Global Giving	0.0	
In-Kind labor Contribution	0.0	
Federal Grants	0.0	
Total Revenue	48,000.0	48,000.0
Gross Profit	48,000.0	48,000.0
Expenditures		
<i>in-country expenses - Kenya</i>		
Equipment	3,250.0	1,572.0
Postage, Mailing Service	0.0	0.0
Printing and Copying	1,011.0	334.0
Travel & Meeting Expenses	6,400.0	4,306.0
Bank and Finance Charges	0.0	0.0
Four (4) Field Officer (FO)	9,600.0	6,992.0
A Field Supervisors	4,200.0	3,222.0
A Field Manager	3,000.0	2,000.0
Field monitor	1,500.0	0.0
Evaluation consultant	2,520.0	0.0
Safe houses for girls	13,700.0	8,328.0
Local Communication	2,280.0	0.0
Local Team transportation	540.0	565.0
Total in-country expenses	48,001.0	27,319.0
<u>US expenses</u>		
Facilities and Equipment	0.0	
Insurance - Liability, D and	0.0	
Accounting Software	0.0	
IT/Web Support	0.0	
Financial Manager	0.0	
Project director	0.0	
Lead project manager	0.0	
Database Developers	0.0	
Update and Maintenance	0.0	
Total US expenses	0.0	
Total Expenditures	48,001.0	27,319.0