

## Mothers' Union work Overseas

Tackling Gender Based Violence is a key priority for Mothers' Union members around the world and is a focus for targeted action to lead to:

- MU and the church consistently challenging abuse and supporting survivors of GBV.
- Improved advocacy to encourage more people to speak out against violence towards women and girls without fear.
- The creation of safe spaces where people feel comfortable to discuss violence against women and to agree the steps needed to prevent this violence
- Increased gender equality and a shift away from rigid gender stereotypes to improve opportunities for women to lead in local church and community led activities.

In South Africa, Uganda, Kenya and South Sudan, MU is working towards a vision of women and girls being able to thrive in every setting and live a life free of violence. MU is doing this by using our strength in the grassroots to share the views of people within the communities and to share learning on GBV, as many have different understandings of what GBV and abuse is. MU is proactively supporting survivors to access the services and help they need. This includes helping survivors to report abuse and enabling them to rebuild their lives and move beyond stigma and shame.

In South Sudan, DRC, Rwanda, Burundi and Ethiopia, MU is building opportunities for women through savings & credit and literacy groups. These groups are building important life skills that help women take greater control of their lives, increase their independence, and start businesses and new activities that can contribute to a reduction in GBV. These groups are vital in tackling GBV as they are also creating spaces where women can safely open up and share their stories.

Read an external longitudinal study report demonstrating the impact of the past 20 years of the Mothers' Union Burundi Literacy & Financial Education Programme (2001-2022) and how it helped tackle GBV - [Read Here](#)