

Standing Together Against Violence (STAV) Program

Solomon Islands

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CONTEXT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS

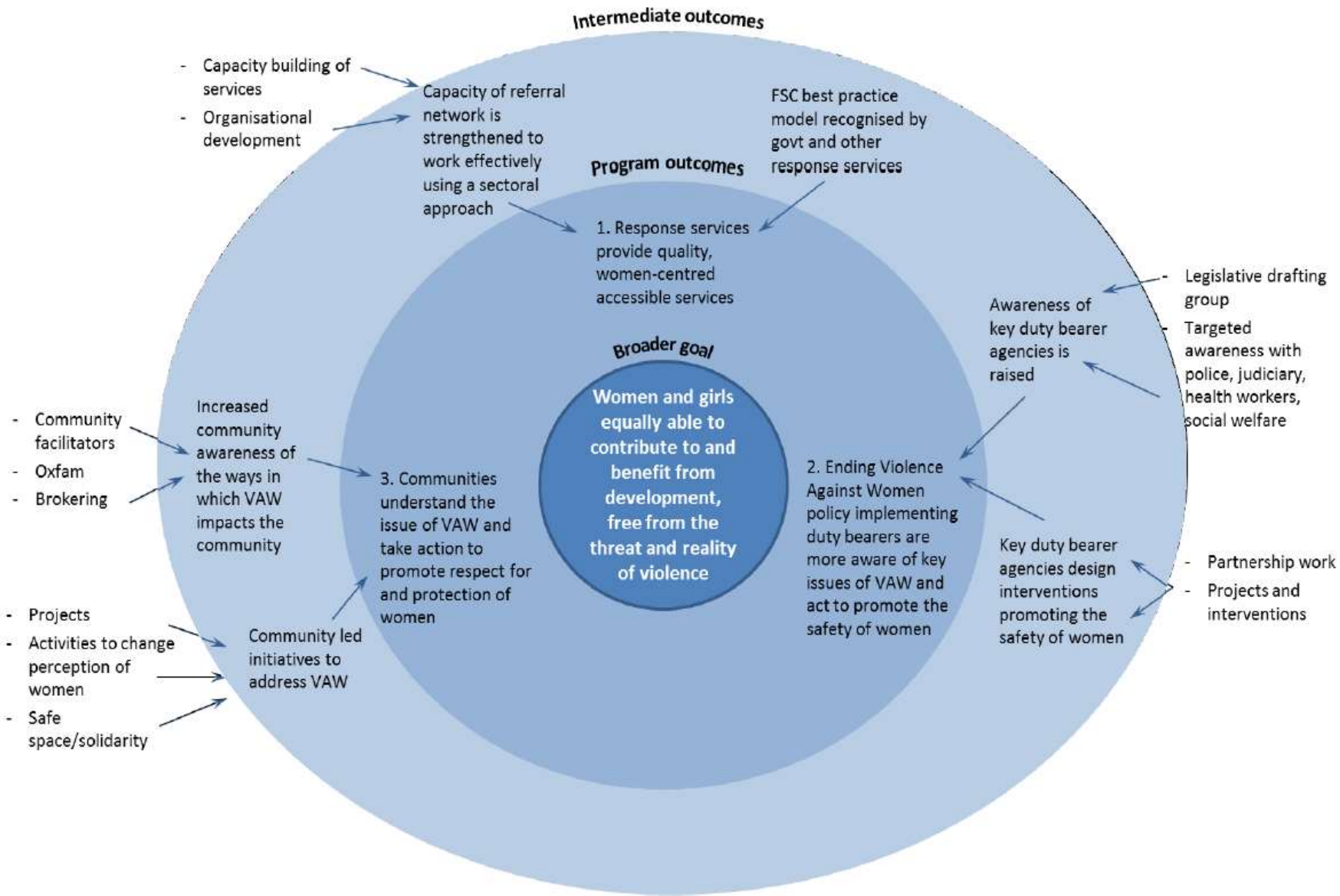
1. VAWG in the Solomon islands: pervasive, severe, accepted
2. 2009 Solomon Islands Family Health and Safety Study: **64%** aged 15-49, have experienced physical or sexual violence (or both) by an intimate partner
3. 73% of women in Solomon Islands believe that a man is justified in beating his wife under some circumstances.
4. Baseline survey showed In the project locations, close to Honiara -only one in five males and fewer females think there are no circumstances under which it is acceptable for a husband to hit his wife.
5. The custom of bride price makes many women feel unable to leave abusive relationships



STAV PROGRAM THOERY OF CHANGE



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Supportive Structures

- Family protection act in 2014, explicitly criminalising domestic violence.
- Royal Solomon Islands Police Force has established Sexual Assault unit and Family Violence unit
- Special unit at public solicitors office to deal family violence issues
- A referral network



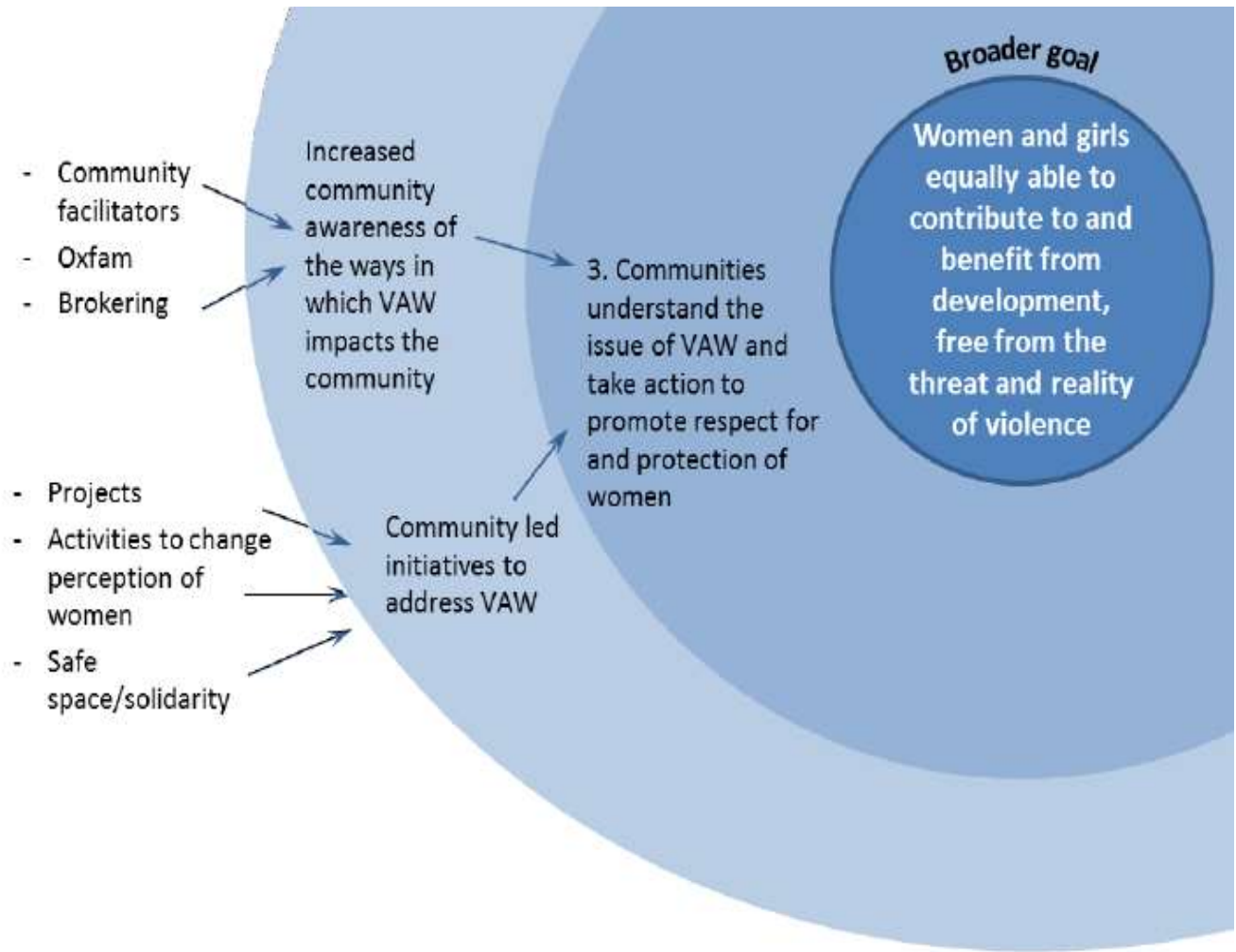
STAV PROGRAM APPROACH TO ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE AT COMMUNITY LEVEL

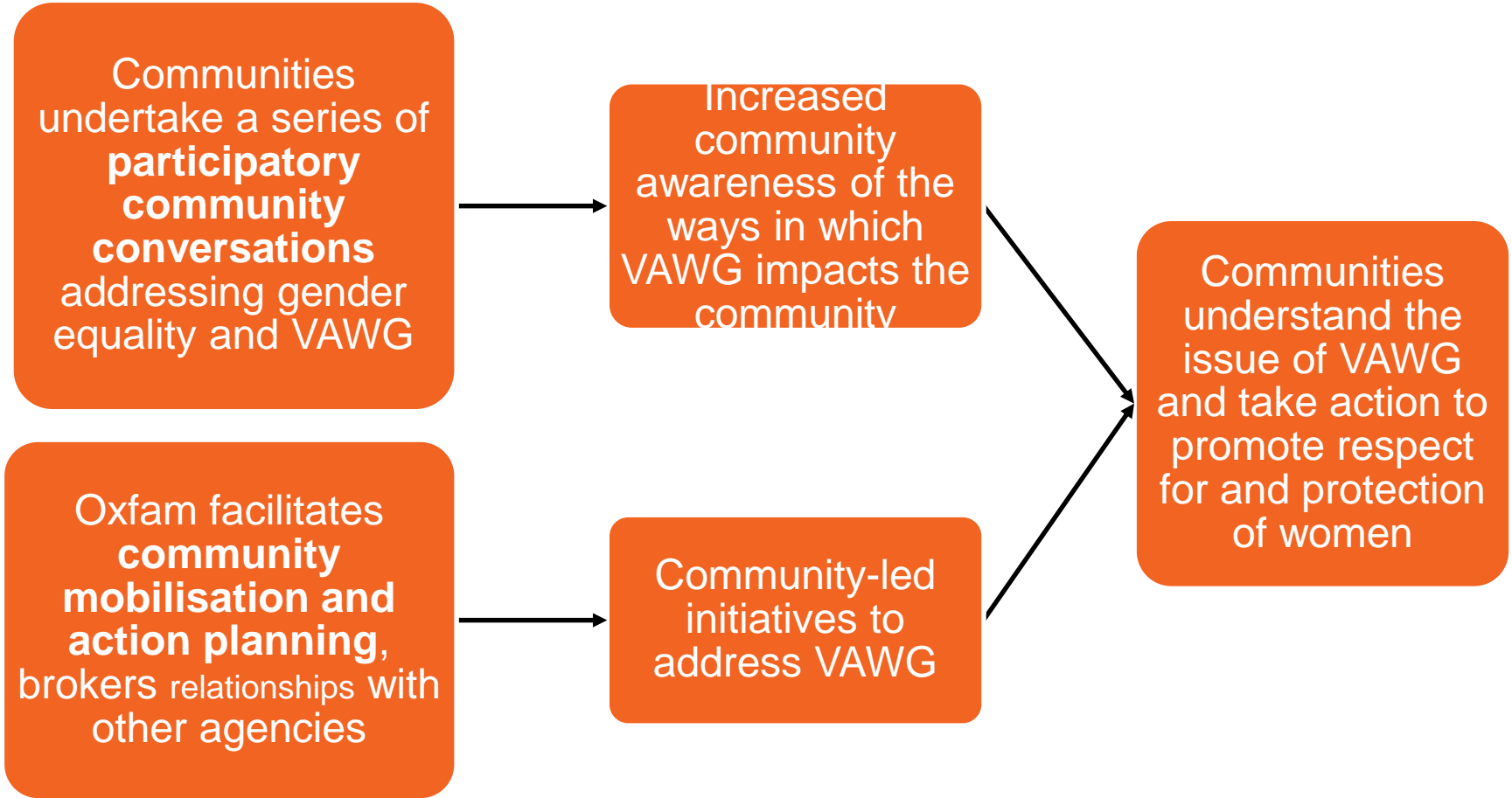


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Communities undertake a series of **participatory community conversations** addressing gender equality and VAWG

Oxfam facilitates **community mobilisation and action planning**, brokers relationships with other agencies





Progress.....

- Increased awareness among men and women
- Community support mechanisms
- Increased engagement with service providers
- Communities are in a process of revising community by-laws
- Community led collective action to prevent GBV



End line survey and final evaluation
in Oct/Nov 2015.....



Acknowledgment

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) – Australia
- STAV Program Team
- Community Engagement Facilitators
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Thank You

