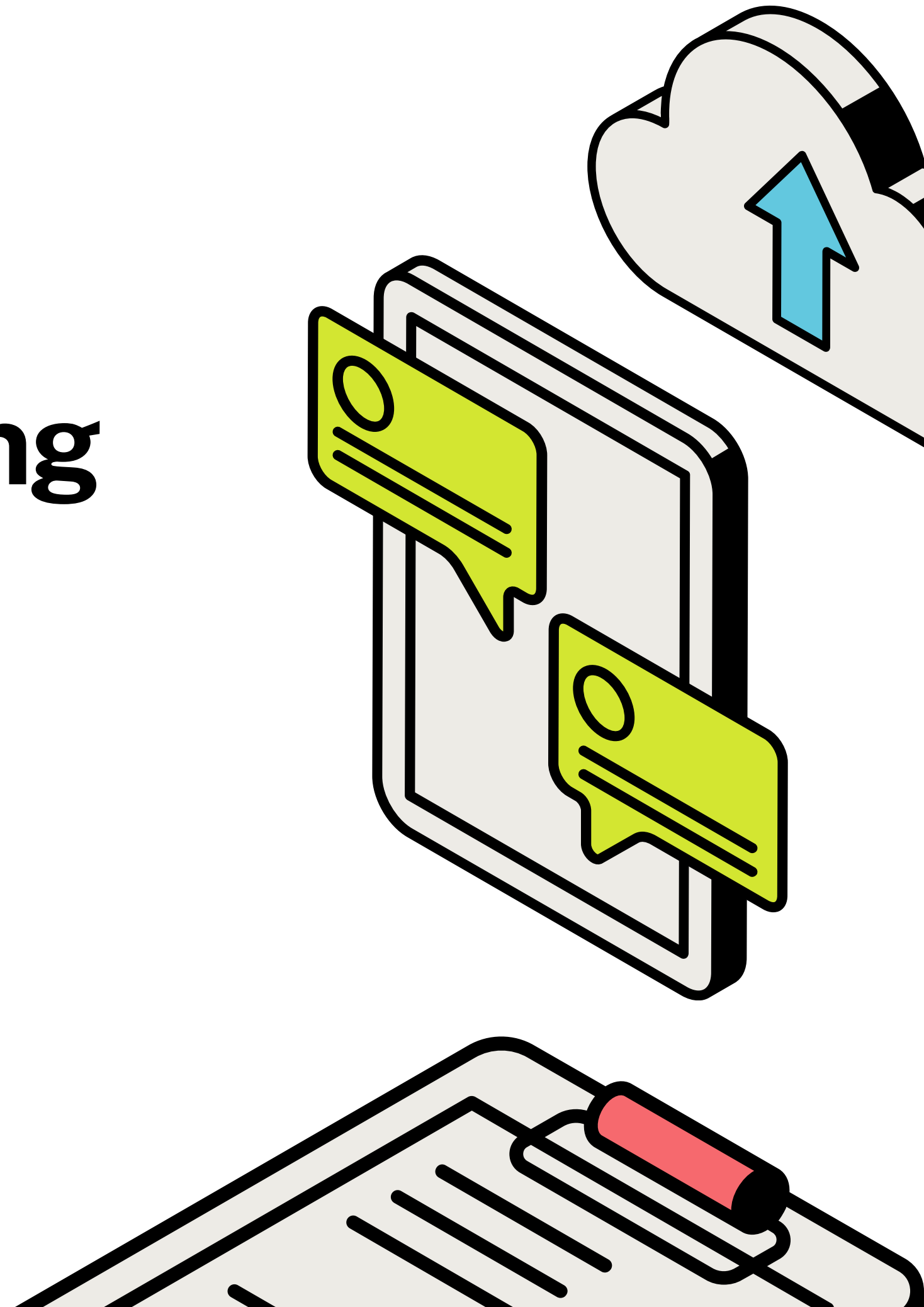


Parliamentarians' Contributions to Addressing Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV).

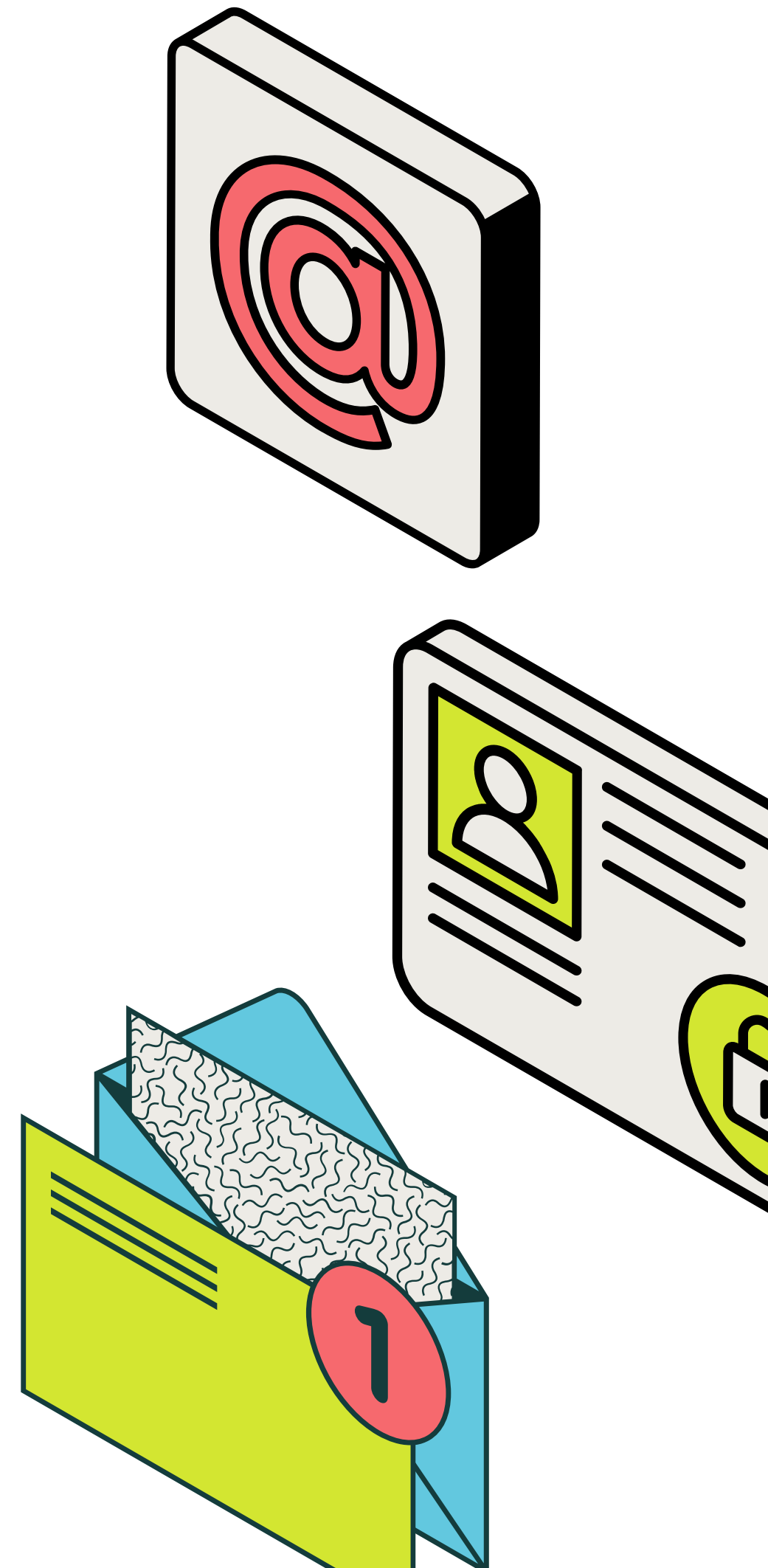
Date: January 21st, 2026

Prepared by: Senator Brittney Galvez (Belize)



Introduction

- 58% of young women and girls globally have experienced online harassment on social media (UNESCO, 2023).
- 62.1% of persons in the Caribbean reported having experienced themselves or knowing someone who has experienced TFGBV (UNESCO, 2025).
- This form of violence is often directed at women who challenge gender norms and patriarchal power structures (UN Women, 2024).
- TFGBV is designed to silence, intimidate, and push women out of leadership.



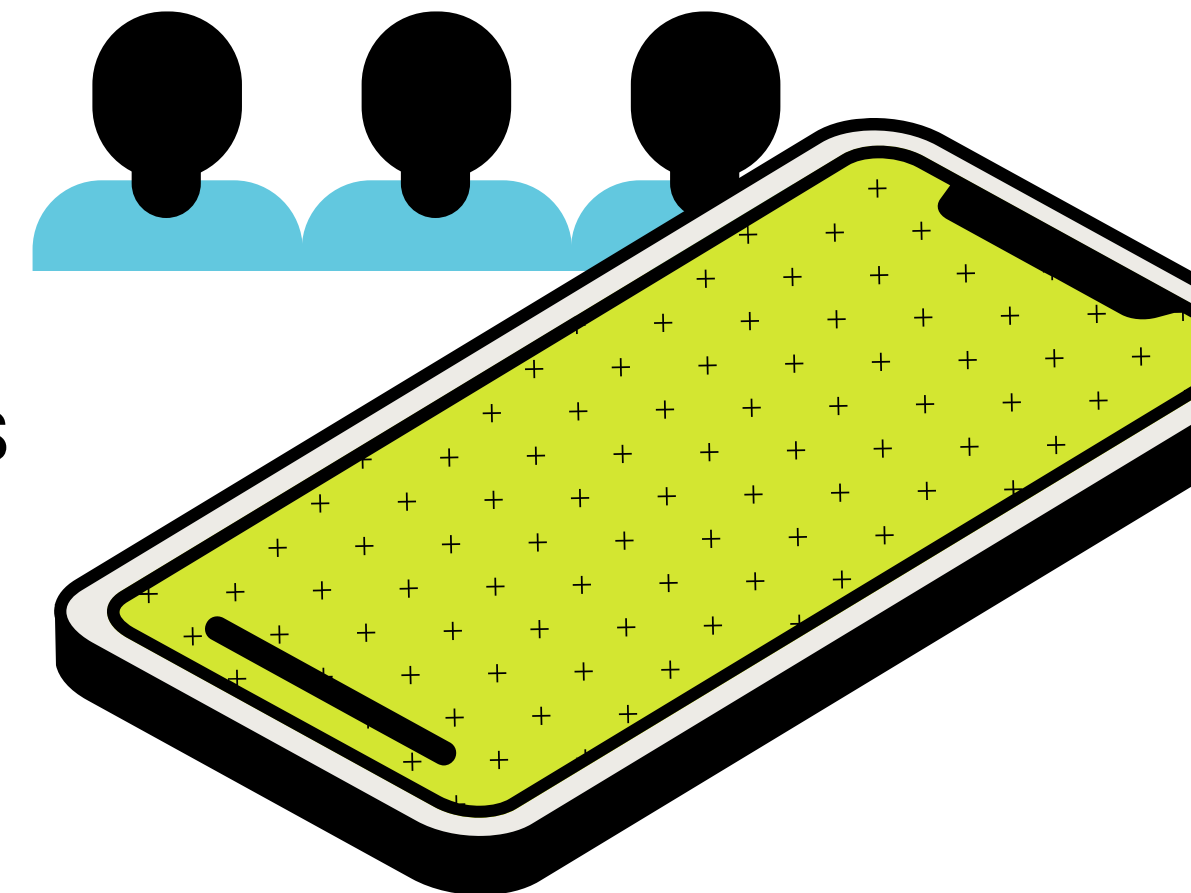
Why Education and Awareness Are Critical:

- TFGBV is often normalised and dismissed as “online noise”.
- Through education and awareness-raising, we can help to:
 - Increase understanding of TFGBV.
 - Empower individuals with skills to critically and safely engage online.
 - Promotes visibility of the issue.
 - Challenges the social norms, culture, and attitudes that allow it to persist.
 - Foster safety and solidarity.



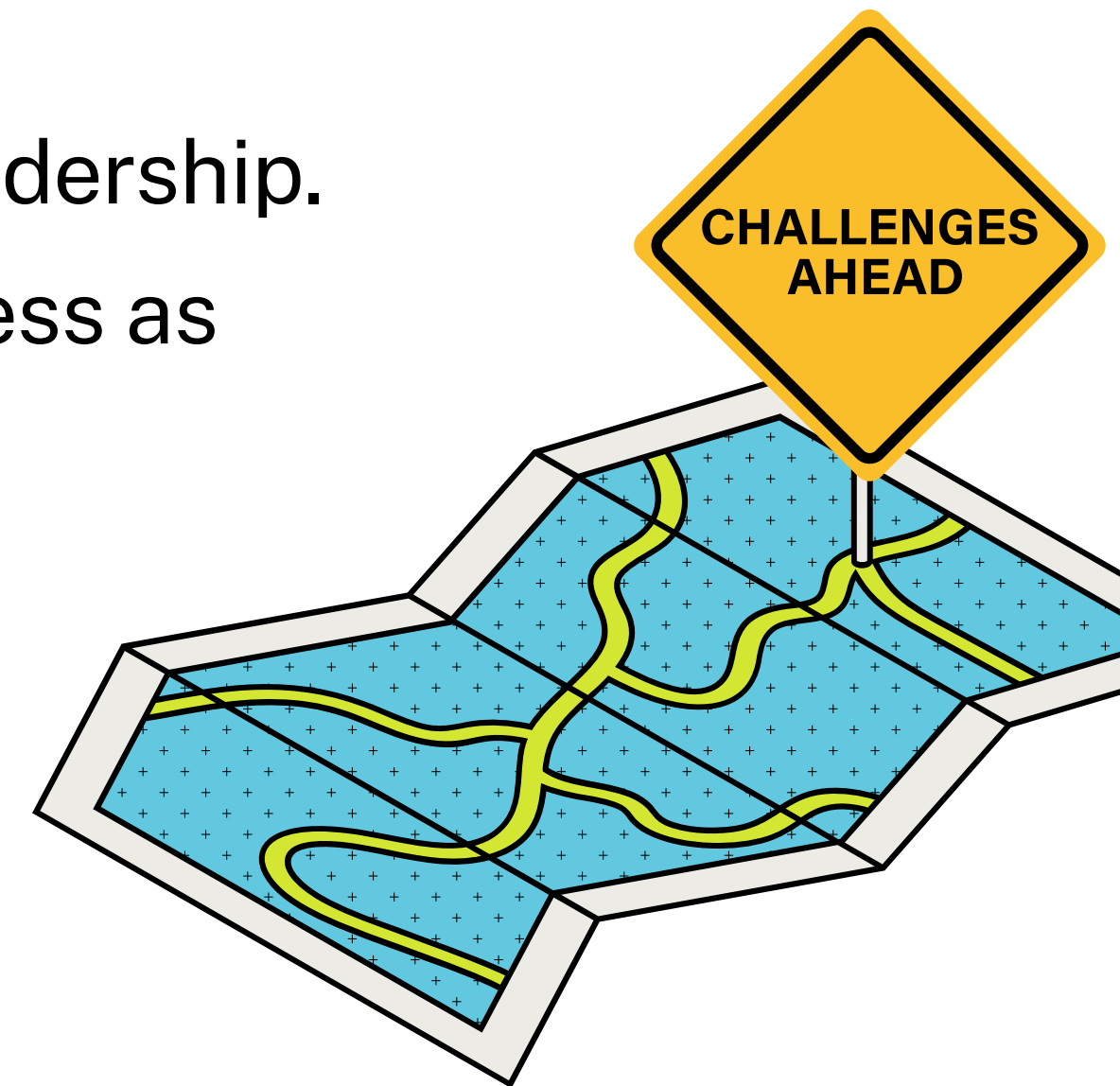
The Role of Parliamentarians in Public Education on TFGBV

- Shift public perception.
- Model respectful digital behaviour.
- Encourage digital safety among supporters and followers online.
- Address TFGBV through Parliamentary means.
- Collaborate with key partners to support continuous public education.
- Use our collective voices to amplify the message.

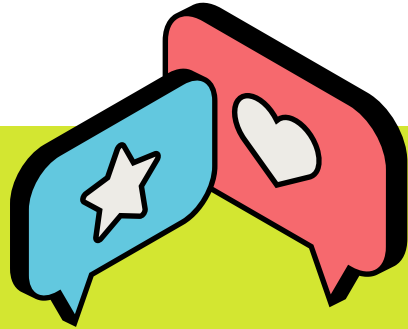


Challenges Faced by Parliamentarians in Addressing TFGBV

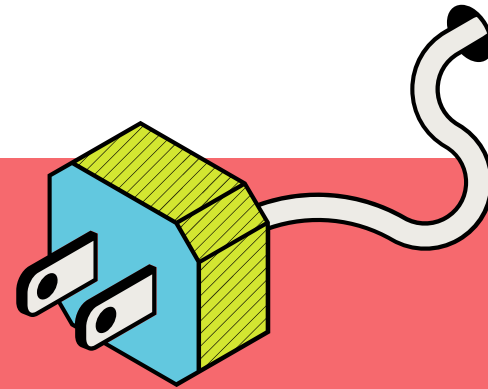
- Women in public life are profoundly targeted by TFGBV.
- Risk of retaliation or escalation of abuse.
- Political backlash or accusations of being unfit for leadership.
- Digital violence is not treated with the same seriousness as other forms of violence.
- Emotional toll, including psychological distress, anxiety, and fear.
- Laws have not caught up to the growing risks.



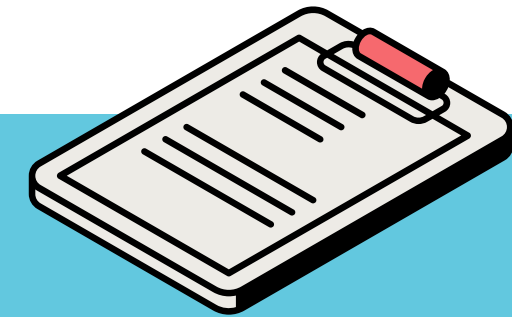
Strategies to Respond to These Challenges



- **Document abusive content**
- **Report harmful behaviour**
- **Strengthen digital safety practices**



- **Enhance cross-party solidarity**
- **Strengthen institutional safeguards**



- **Capacity Building**
- **Strengthening policies and legislation to ensure digital safety**

Thank you.

