SVRI Forum 2009

Sexual violence is a global issue that requires coordinated evidence-based responses

6-9 JULY 09
MISTY HILLS
JOHANNESBURG
SOUTH AFRICA
SVRI – an overview

• Initiative of the Global Forum for Health Research
• Launched in 2003 to create a network of committed researchers, policy makers, donors and activists
• Initially hosted by WHO before moving to the Gender and Health Research Unit, Medical Research Council, South Africa (2006)
• Funders: World Bank/GFHR, Ford Foundation, CDC/PEPFAR, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, UNFPA, Oxfam Novib
• Secretariat: Secretary, Programme Officer, Snr Trainer, Researcher, Administrator
• Coordinating Group: 10 experts from around the world. Selection based on technical expertise, nomination from networks, geographical representation
• Rules and regulations
• Monitoring and evaluation: Monthly meetings & reports; Quarterly meetings exec; Annual meeting & report; SVRI eSurvey
The SVRI aims to promote research on sexual violence and generate empirical data to ensure sexual violence is recognised as a priority public health problem.

- Increase awareness of sexual violence as a priority public health problem through evidence based communication and information.
- Strengthen the support and funding base for research on sexual violence.
- Build capacity in sexual violence research.
- Improve knowledge of sexual violence internationally to influence policy and service delivery.
“So far it has exceeded my expectations and should continue on in the same trend”

Central resource for SVRI members / website visitors:
- Activities, Issues, funding links, events, tools, and more….
- Country Pages: 171 country pages - resources, publications, links, news articles
- Top pages visited May 09: funding, forums, calendar, tools (scales), about
- Evaluation of website: visit on a weekly basis; very satisfied
- Health on the Net accreditation
- Ave hits/mth: 8100; Ave. no pages: 30149
SVRI Listserv:
“So far it has exceeded my expectations and should continue on in the same trend”

“The updates are so informative. Many I also archive and save for future reference. It is the most useful and well constructed list I have ever belonged to.”

- 1764 members from 80 different countries (70% LMIC)
- Two updates circulated weekly: SVRI Update and SV in the News (Networking, sharing resources; funding info; assist with proposal development; ref academic reports; vacancies)
- Long serving loyal membership (6mth+)
- Forward updates 1-5 people

Discussion Forum
- Platform for online discussions
- Currently 13 discussions
- Not moderated

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>East/central Europe</td>
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<td>Middle east/N. Africa</td>
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<td>North America</td>
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<td>South Asia</td>
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<td>West Europe</td>
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Evidence Based Communication

- **Sexual Violence Research Agenda**

- **Desk Reviews**

- **Briefing notes and fact sheets**
  - Research summaries of desk reviews
  - Fact sheet on sexual violence and HIV
Research Support:


- Background Paper on Ethics and research on perpetration of sexual violence: Existing guidelines/papers focus on doing research with survivors with little work in the area of ethics of research on perpetration.
Building Capacity

- SVRI Help Desk (svri@mrc.ac.za)
- Facilitate access to tools / information via website
- Multi-country study proposal development project: 2 concept papers selected:
  - multi-country study in Kenya, South Africa, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe => proposal fully funded for research on strengthening the health sector response to sexual violence in East and Southern Africa
  - a study between partners based in India and Pakistan
- Regional workshops: India 2007; Kenya 2008
- Ethics Workshop
- Global Forum for Health Research Annual Meeting
  - Forum 10 Cairo – roundtable on sexual violence in Arabic nations
  - Forum 11 Beijing – roundtable on sexual violence in China
  - Forum Havana Cuba – roundtable on sexual violence in LAC
Policy & Service Delivery

• **Strengthening Responses to Rape - Africa region:**
  - Need for a reorientation of health care for SV survivors towards meeting their psychological, social and physical health needs in services staffed by appropriately trained providers.
  - Aim is to shift the orientation and perceptions of the role of post rape care from a predominant focus on the collection of medico-legal evidence to the provision of holistic care to meet the short, medium and long term mental and physical health needs of survivors.

• **Project Framework: partnership, policy, research and training:**
  - promote the development of working multi-disc partnerships.
  - promote the development of appropriate national policy.
  - promote the conduct and use of research.
  - promote the development of new models of training.

• **Key Activities**
  - Meeting in Kenya – Country plans
  - Regional training of multi-disc teams on best practice for caring for survivors of sexual assault - Malawi, Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Rwanda; Uganda
  - Technical support adaptation of curriculum, policy development and research at country level
Members of the SVRI Coordinating Group represent the SVRI internationally and advocates for more research and funding in the area of sexual violence in the many meetings they are invited to attend.

Other partnerships

SVRI Forum 2009

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Institution Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prof Jill Astbury</td>
<td>School of Psychology, Victoria University</td>
<td>Oceania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sylvie Olifson-Houriet</td>
<td>Global Forum for Health Research</td>
<td>Funder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno</td>
<td>WHO Department of Gender, Women and Health</td>
<td>Global</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alessandra Guedes</td>
<td>Consultant</td>
<td>LAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr M.E. Khan</td>
<td>FRONTIERS Programme, for the Population Council</td>
<td>Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Nduku Kilonzo</td>
<td>Liverpool VCT, Care &amp; Treatment (LVCT) Kenya</td>
<td>East and Southern Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor Mary Koss</td>
<td>Restore Programme, University of Arizona</td>
<td>North America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Tandiar Samir</td>
<td>Centre for Development Services, Near East Foundation, Egypt</td>
<td>North Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Ia Verulashvili</td>
<td>Women's Center, Georgia</td>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
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<td>Dr Gary Barker</td>
<td>ICRW</td>
<td>LAC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof Rachel Jewkes</td>
<td>Medical Research Council</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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