Lessons Learned:
Building capacity for SIPV primary prevention research & intervention development in Sub-Saharan Africa

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Aims

• Develop and strengthen research skills in the field of SGBV primary prevention by developing a cadre of specialists in the region to take this work forward

• Contribute to the evidence base for primary prevention of SGBV in low and middle income countries
Focus on primary prevention

Levels of prevention (Dahlberg & Krug, 2002)
Teams: Research-Programming Partnerships
South-South Collaboration
Learning through Doing

- **Phase 1: Inception**
  - Understanding of primary prevention & evidence-informed theoretical models
  - Develop a research proposal

- **Phase 2: Formative research**
  - Ethics, participant mobilisation, data collection, data management & analysis, report writing

- **Phase 3: Intervention adaptation**
  - Informed by formative evidence & int’l best practice

- **Phase 4: Pilot intervention evaluation**
  - Phase 2 learnings + facilitator training & intervention implementation logistics + evaluation methodology
  - Dissemination skills
Capacity development and technical support activities

• Workshops and regional meetings – a community of practice and shared learning
• In-country visits
• Wiki
• Courses
• On-going remote support and feedback
Lessons learned: Team feedback

• Capacity & confidence strengthened
  – Primary prevention understanding
  – Research skills
  – Ethics of working on SIPV & children
  – Intervention adaptation

• Demanding & challenging process
  – Underestimating time & resources needed

• Fulfilling – relevant research addressing an immediate need & community involvement in research

• Regional meetings most helpful
Lessons learned: TA Reflections

- Detailed capacity assessment at the start
- Slow, systematic, targeted (sometimes repeated) training
- Translate existing research into practical examples
- Transformation takes time & intensive efforts
- Co-PI model
- Regional & face-to-face meetings & trainings were extremely valuable
- Community of learning
- Templates are useful
Questions

• Lessons Learned Briefing Paper at www.svri.org

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