Data to Action: A model for ending VAC
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Together for Girls Global Partners
A Unique Public-Private Partnership

Dedicated to ending violence against children, with a focus on sexual violence against girls
pillars of work

NATIONAL SURVEYS & DATA
Conduct national violence against children surveys (VACS)

COUNTRY-LED RESPONSE
Support national government-led multi-sectoral programs and policies

GLOBAL ADVOCACY
Engage in advocacy and public awareness raising at the global level
the model

Government Led

Multi-Sector Task Force

Lead Government Ministry
UNICEF and Other UN Agencies In-Country
U.S Agencies & Canada In-Country
Civil Society & Private Sector
Other Government Ministries
Other Development Partners

VACS breaks the silence
Mobilizes action and policies
Establishes an accountability framework
where we work

Gaps in Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean

Malawi
Haiti
Zimbabwe
Uganda
Nigeria
Côte d'Ivoire
Kenya
Rwanda
Zambia
Zimbabwe
Botswana
Swaziland
Lao PDR
Cambodia
Indonesia

Data collection planned
Data analysis/reports completed or in process
Implementing actions to prevent and respond to violence

Multiple countries in Asia interested, pending funding
What do the surveys say?
1 in 4 girls and 1 in 7 boys experience sexual violence prior to age 18

Percentage of individuals 18-24 years old who experienced sexual violence prior to age 18

*Only girls interviewed in Swaziland
**Updated denominator for Tanzania lifetime prevalence indicators of childhood violence uses 18-24 year olds prior to age 18; lifetime prevalence indicators from 2011 Tanzania VACS report use the denominator of 13-24 year olds prior to age 18.
Over half of all children experience physical violence before age 18

Percentage of individuals aged 18-24 who experienced physical violence prior to age 18

*Updated denominator for Tanzania lifetime prevalence indicators of childhood violence uses 18-24 year olds prior to age 18; lifetime prevalence indicators from 2011 Tanzania VACS report use the denominator of 13-24 year olds prior to age 18.
High unintended pregnancy rates reported as a result of pressured or physically forced sex

Percentage of females 18-24 who reported a pregnancy resulting from physically forced and/or coerced sex during their lifetime

* For Malawi and Tanzania data reflects % of females 18-24 who experienced physically forced and/or pressured sex before 18, who said at least one pregnancy resulted from childhood sexual violence. For Tanzania numbers may differ from the Violence Against Children Final Report, 2009 due to different analytic approaches.
Sexual violence leads to an increase in negative health conditions

Association between childhood sexual violence and selected health conditions, reported by females 13-24 years old in Swaziland

*Adjusted for age, community setting, SES (socioeconomic status), and orphan status

Boys who experience violence in childhood are significantly more likely to grow up to perpetrate intimate partner violence (Malawi).

*Perpetration of violence included punching, kicking, whipping, or beating with an object, choking, smothering, trying to drown, or intentionally burning or scalding, or forcing non-consensual sexual intercourse or other sex acts, against a current or former partner.
What’s wrong with this picture?

Disclosure and service usage by individuals who experienced childhood sexual violence, as reported by 18 to 24 year olds*

* Reported by 13-24 year olds in Tanzania
Country-Led Response
multi-sector interventions

HEALTH
• Child abuse screening
• Access to services, including comprehensive post-rape care

JUSTICE & POLICE
• Child- and women-friendly policies, laws, police stations and courts
• Legal aid

COMMUNITY
• Parenting support
• Awareness raising
• Community advocacy for political support
• Safe spaces
• Programs to engage children (such as: Junior councils and peer to peer interventions)
• Social mobilization

EDUCATION
• New teacher codes of conduct
• Designated teachers for VAC reporting/handling
• School-based clubs
• Early childhood education
• End corporal punishment
• Safe schools initiatives

SOCIAL SERVICES
• Child helplines
• Child protection centers and
• Increased social welfare officers

... interventions across these and other sectors based on national context and needs.
Response Results

National multisectoral action plans developed by Tanzania, Kenya and Zimbabwe; comprehensive multisectoral response underway in every country

Laws passed and enforced in Swaziland; strong legal framework in other countries

Increasing knowledge and capacity-building in-country

Scaling up child protection teams, one stop centers, Gender and Child desks, peer to peer learning, school-based interventions, and other multi-sector interventions
Data to action: Tanzania

The situation:
- 27% of girls and 12% of boys report sexual violence in childhood.
- Only half of girls and a third of boys told anyone about sexual abuse; only half of those sought services, even fewer received them.
- Over half of boys and girls believe that it is acceptable for a husband to beat his wife under certain circumstances.

The response:
- Development of district child protection systems which link to local leadership, civil society.
- Established police gender and children desks (more than 100).
- Faith-based organization have developed materials used by preachers to prevent and respond to VAC.
- Safe spaces for girls who experience violence (Masanga Mara, others).
Data to action: Tanzania

The response:
• Strong civil society engagement: TAMWA, Plan, KIWOHEDE, etc.
• Emerging databases of VAC at district and ward levels
• Use of VACs data for further research: local Mzumbe University working with university in UK on study of drivers of VAC in 4 regions. Preliminary results are very promising.

Together for Girls Partnership:
• Supported positions to coordinate design of national strategies
• UNICEF and other partners provide TA, coordination, funding
• Support by UNICEF and government for research on drivers of violence
• Multiple donors support the work, along with national resources
Global VAC Meeting 2014: “From Research to Action”

Recommendations from the Field:

• Multi-sectoral model strongly endorsed; implement in new settings

• Coordination is critical and requires investment

• Promote integration of VAC into related sectors (GBV, HIV, etc.)

• Government buy in and involvement is critical for sustainability. Prioritize violence at highest levels of government
Recommendations from the field

- Data on boys highlights the need for greater attention; girls’ empowerment also needs greater investment

- Create local-level databases on incidence/prevalence of VAC for advocacy, planning responses and prevention

- Enough evidence about what works to move ahead, but need investments in M&E and TA

- Create and maintain a community of practice, leverage cross-national networks
Thank You

www.togetherforgirls.org
Sources

All data from the Violence Against Children Surveys was obtained under the direction of national governments with technical assistance and support from CDC, UNICEF, PEPFAR and others through the Together for Girls partnership.


UNICEF Swaziland and CDC. Findings from a National Survey on Violence Against Children in Swaziland. CDC, Atlanta. 2007


Definitions

**Sexual Violence:** Includes physically forced sex; coerced sex (threatened, pressured, tricked, etc.); attempted unwanted sex; and unwanted sexual touching.

**Physical assault:** Includes violence from relatives, authority figures, and romantic partners, including: hitting, kicking, whipping, slapping or pushing, and threats with guns, knives and other weapons.