Rethinking Relationships
From Violence to Equality

Faith based approach to address harmful social norms: impact and lessons from the DRC
For 79%(f) - 87%(m) men are superior to women

Over 80% say faith groups have role to play in responding to GBV

BASELINE OVERVIEW

38.5% experience IPV
20.8% experience NPSV

17% survivors experienced support from community
**Intervention Overview: Activities**

**ENGAGEMENT**
- 75 Faith Leaders
- 30 Gender Champions
- 15 Community Action Groups (CAGs)

**TRAINING & EQUIPMENT**
- VAWG root causes and theology
- Gender Equality
- Support to Survivors
- Basic Counselling and Mediation

**COMMUNITY-LED ACTIONS**
- Role models
- Information sharing
- Community dialogues
- Survivors’ support

**MONITORING & MENTORING**
- Project staff visits
- Mentoring
- Training refreshers
- Longitudinal study
Intervention Overview: Tearfund Approach

**TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES**
Training manual used for faith leader workshops and to train Gender Champions.

**HAND IN HAND: BIBLE STUDIES**
Resource provided to faith leaders regarding healthy gender relationships, as a support in delivering sermons, sharing testimonies and counselling couples.

**COMMUNITY DIALOGUES**
Guide used by Gender Champions to facilitate the community dialogue group discussions.

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**WEEK 1**
Introduction/SGBV root causes

**WEEK 2**
Gender roles and norms in daily life

**WEEK 3**
Power, status and SGBV

**WEEK 4**
Faith and SGBV

**WEEK 5**
Moving forward and reflections

**WEEK 6**
Looking ahead/envisaging a community free of SGBV

WEEKS 1-5 IN SINGLE SEX GROUPS

WEEK 6 IN COMBINED SEX GROUPS
INTEGRATED RESEARCH COMPONENT

QUALITATIVE FORMATIVE RESEARCH
- 15 target communities
- SGBV survivor mapping

QUANTITATIVE KABP BASELINE SURVEY
- 769 interviewees
  - 48% M - 52% F

QUALITATIVE COHORT STUDY
- 25 Faith Leaders
  - 15 Gender Champions
  - Every six months

Self-discovering & Self-monitoring tools
Feedback from Faith Leaders and Gender Champions

QUANTITATIVE KABP ENDLINE SURVEY
- 1218 interviews
  - 49% M - 51% F
PROJECT OUTCOMES: RESEARCH FINDINGS

From violence to non-violent responses
Significant reduction in IPV and NPSV.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPV</th>
<th>NPVS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>68%</td>
<td>69%</td>
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<td>↓</td>
<td>↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>24%</td>
<td>29%</td>
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From male superiority to gender equality
Men have developed alternative patterns of masculinity.
‘Men are superior to women’
90% → 70%
‘God created men and women equally’
+ 20%
‘Women’s primary role is family care and cooking’
90% → 70%

From tolerance to resilience
A number of attitudes to IPV reversed.
‘Physical violence is justified’
♂ 71% → 55%
‘Women are not allowed to refuse sex’
♀ 80% → 55%
‘A wife’s disobedience justifies violence’
♀ 53% → 38%

From stigma to support for survivors
Survivors internal stigma reduced, as did external stigmatising attitudes.
On rape myth beliefs:
‘I feel guilty’ 47% → 72%
‘Women are not allowed to refuse sex’
♂ 80% → 55%
IPV survivors seeking assistance from Faith Leaders
♂ 24% → 55%
♀ 53% → 38%

From silent witnesses to vocal champions
Faith Leaders are effective change agents and have become primary group approached by survivors for support.
83% participated in a public talk or discussion on VAWG
64% accessed couple counselling

On rape myth beliefs:
‘I feel guilty’ 47% → 72%
‘Women are not allowed to refuse sex’
♂ 80% → 55%
IPV survivors seeking assistance from Faith Leaders
♂ 2% → 40%
♀ 53% → 38%
What have we learnt?

- ✔ Multi-level diffusion model
- ✔ Safe spaces for critical reflection
- ✔ Rooted within community’s own value systems
- ✔ Sustainability

- ❓ Women’s role as norms holder
- ❓ Behaviours ↔ Attitudes
- ❓ Gaps at institutional and service provision level
RECOMMENDATIONS

ENGAGE
Faith Leaders and groups in social norms approaches.

TARGET
Both men and women, long-term and at earlier stages.

PROMOTE
Normative interventions to address IPV in conflict. Holistic, multi-sectoral interventions.
‘Gender equality sends us straight to the Bible, because God created man and woman in His image and the two of them are therefore the same and are equal. If the husband deems himself higher than the woman, in that case, it is already violence. Because everyone is equal’

Male Gender Champion