INTRODUCTION

• MDGs 2015: Reduction of sexual and gender based violence
• Profound and sustained impact on health / well being of survivors
• Long term impact on economy/ progress – ripple effect
• Policy and guidelines critical for national SGBV programmes
• Extent to which countries have policies unknown
AIMS OF STUDY

Identifying and critique of best practice in rape prevention policy internationally
METHODOLOGY

- Systematic multi-method review
- National policies b/w 2000 – 2010
- All 192 United Nations member states
- Multiple data sources
- Search terms were systematically applied
- All languages included – experts used to translate documents
METHODOLOGY

Total Countries Reviewed: 192

Policies Found after Literature Search: 173

Titles scanned against inclusion criteria: 142 from 110 countries

Included Policies: 93 from 80 countries

Sexual Violence: 7; Domestic Violence: 17
GBV: 27; Gender Equality: 42
Policies addressing rape: 32

Excluded for not meeting inclusion criteria: 49

Policies immediately excluded (irrelevant): 31
DATA ANALYSIS

Each policy was analysed using a structured questionnaire (guided by WHO/LSHTM, 2010) :

- Policy Focus
- Sector driving plan
- Level of Prevention (Primary, secondary, tertiary)
- Action Plan
- Identified effective programmes
- Training needs identified
- Monitoring and evaluation plans
# RESULTS

Sectors Driving the Policies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Number of Policies</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Justice sector</td>
<td>3 (9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence specific councils (eg. Dv taskforce)</td>
<td>5 (16%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health sector / Health and social development</td>
<td>2 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social affairs and labour sector</td>
<td>2 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown / Parliament</td>
<td>5 (16%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-sectoral</td>
<td>6 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender and family/Women’s affairs directorates</td>
<td>9 (28%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RESULTS

• Plans of Action:
  – 28 policies had plans of action
  – Ranged from detailed to broad
  – 26 policies included time frames
  – 6 policies had budgets attached

• Programmes informed by evidence:
  – Australia, Ireland and UK
  – Mainly rehabilitation programmes, alcohol interventions and school-based programmes
RESULTS

• Training needs of different sectors:
  – 28 policies highlighted need for training
  – Areas identified: medical, social, justice

• Monitoring and evaluation
  – Findings varied greatly
  – 12 policies had M&E plans with indicators
PREVENTION STRATEGIES

PRIMARY PREVENTION:

• National efforts to reduce poverty and ensure equal access to resources
• Credit and micro-credit programmes for women
• Campaigns & school based programmes
• Publicly disseminate successful convictions of perpetrators of rape as deterrent to potential offenders
• Public campaigns to raise awareness

• Community peer education programmes
• Alcohol harm reduction strategies, such as public awareness campaigns targeted at men and women – linking sexual violence to alcohol abuse
• Assistance programmes for children who have parents using drugs and alcohol
• Guns and gun law
PREVENTION STRATEGIES

SECONDARY PREVENTION
• Holistic management
• Screening
• Training counselors
• Psycho-social support service integration
• Shelters for vulnerable women
• Establishing specialist courts
• Standardised reports/forms for police
• Sensitisation of police and justice employees

TERTIARY PREVENTION
• Not comprehensively addressed
• 13 policies addressed
  perpetrator rehabilitation
• 3 included victim rehabilitation
• Strategies: Australia, Canada, South Africa
PROMISING PRACTICE

6 countries identified as promising practice in policy development:

– Australia
– Belize
– Finland
– United Kingdom
– Ireland
– South Africa
DISCUSSION

• Few policies world-wide address rape prevention
• Only one-third of policies initially identified discussed rape
• These are generally not evidenced based, lack strategies and implementation plans
• More research needed on promising practices
• Primary prevention receives little attention in programmes and policies
• Mainly secondary prevention strategies
• 30% of policies were situated in Women’s Directorates
• Absence of targeted plans of action for CSA
RECOMMENDATIONS

• Global advocacy for the inclusion of rape prevention in national policies is needed
• Develop and disseminate operational definitions for the different types of violence
• Identify, evaluate and build on promising practices
• Policies must include monitoring and evaluation of activities and outcomes – rigorously documented
• Needs of survivors must take priority
• Ensure prevention interventions must be evidence-based and developed multi-sectorally
THANK YOU

All policies included in this review is available online at:

http://www.svri.org/oakpolicies.htm