kNOwVAWdata:

a novel initiative to strengthen measuring Violence against Women across Asia-Pacific to better address VAW

Henrica.A.F.M. (Henriette) Jansen ¹, Sujata Tuladhar ², Ingrid Fitzgerald ³, Helen McDermott ⁴

¹ UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office, Thailand, hjansen@unfpa.org
² UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office, Thailand, stuladhar@unfpa.org
³ UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Regional Office, Thailand, fitzgerald@unfpa.org
⁴ Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia, Helen.McDermott@dfat.gov.au

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kNOwVAWdata

- UNFPA-DFAT partnership on measuring VAW data 2016-2019:
  • Build the capacity to conduct national studies on VAW prevalence
  • Knowledge capture and sharing
SDG Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5.2.
• Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Indicators:
• 5.2.1. (“IPV”) Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the last 12 months, by form of violence and by age group
• 5.2.2. (“SV”) Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner, in the last 12 months, by age group and place of occurrence
Computation of prevalence of violence

Number of ever-partnered/all women subjected to (type of) violence

Total number of (ever-partnered) women

Two time periods:
- Lifetime: did it ever happen?
- Current: did it happen in the last 12 months?
Sources of prevalence data

• Methodologies designed to collect comparable data:
  – Dedicated surveys
    • WHO multi-country study on women’s health and domestic violence
    • Survey conducted by European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
  – “Domestic violence (DV) modules” in other surveys
    • Demographic and Health surveys (DV-module)
    • Reproductive health surveys (DV-module)
    • UNECE module to measure UN VAW indicators

• Administrative records (police, health) NOT suitable to provide information on prevalence of VAW in general population
Visits and Abuse in Women (VAW) surveys in the UNFPA Asia-Pacific region (37 countries) by October 2017

- **30** countries have done a VAW prevalence survey
  - **4** countries did more than one survey with comparable methods

- **26** have national data on intimate partner violence
  - **22** have data for SDG indicator 5.2.1

- **17** have national data on sexual violence by non-partners
  - **8** have data for SDG indicator 5.2.2
Key messages on prevalence

- Overall prevalence rates hide huge variations including between countries, regions, population groups
- The variation shows us that there violence is not inevitable
- Importance of understanding context and the story that the data tells for effective policy, prevention and response

Challenges:

- Countries without any data, most countries only one data point
- Issues with comparability
- Disaggregation, intersections with disability, poverty, etc.
- Limited capacity
- Prevalence data (surveys) will never capture the most severe
kNOwVAWdata: Way forward

- Ongoing **technical support** to countries doing VAW surveys: coming up Mongolia, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Sri Lanka...
- Work on **data literacy**; the stories that the data tell, including promotion of better indicators to measure change
- Engage **partners/stakeholders, participatory process, ownership**, will make data easier to take up and to use
- Documenting and advocacy around **process of data collection**

- Upscale capacity building through **partnership with regional institution**: develop and pilot curriculum (2017-2018) and institutionalize training, communication/advocacy and technical support in the region; including network of researchers
THANK YOU!

hjansen@unfpa.org