SVRI Forum 2019, our 6th Global Conference on violence against women will be held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), South Africa from 21-25 October 2019.

SVRI Forum is the world’s key research conference on violence against women and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality in low and middle-income countries.

SVRI Forum 2019’s focus is on research working to understand and redress inequity among vulnerable populations to ensure no-one is left behind; research on violence against women and linkages to violence against children, realising the SDGs and research for social change and global movements.

SVRI Forum is where researchers, policy-makers, funders and practitioners come together to design solutions for ending violence against women and girls. By participating in SVRI Forum you will build your knowledge, create collaborations, expand your network, and disseminate knowledge to key decision-makers in the field of violence against women. Submit an abstract now!

**WHY PARTICIPATE**

**NETWORK:** Connect with world experts, researchers, funders, programmers, journalists, activists and policy-makers. Build new and strengthen existing partnerships with colleagues all working to build evidence to inform the develop goals and end violence against women and children.

**BUILD KNOWLEDGE:** Participate in learning events and skills building workshops, attend presentations to hear about new approaches being used to create a world where women and children live free from violence. Find out about the latest research and what is working and not working in GBV prevention and response-particularly in low and middle-income countries.

**SHARE:** Showcase your innovative, ground breaking work through conference presentations, exhibition stands, participating in interactive panel sessions on programmes and research, workshops and satellite events.
#MeToo #TimesUp #cuéntalo #niunamás and other global movements have opened the door for millions of women to share their stories of sexual abuse, harassment and rape, as well as every day sexism. The increased awareness of the insidiousness and pervasiveness of violence against women and girls has sparked widespread outrage and created a window of opportunity to advance its prevention. SVRI Forum 2019 calls for abstract on how research can be used to advance these social movements and how researchers can work alongside activists to develop relevant research to inform, strengthen and expand activism around violence against women.

A laudable goal of the SDG 2030 agenda, is to leave no-one behind. In a research context this means: gathering data on gendered violence among disadvantaged groups; doing research that supports and informs good policy making to address inequality; and, providing tools and methods to understand and track progress to achieving equality. SVRI Forum 2019 would like to showcase diverse voices and research and programmes working to address violence against women across populations in situations of vulnerability, including persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, older persons, indigenous peoples, LGBTQI, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants.

For the first time global development goals include the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls and of harmful practices as central to the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls (SDG5). There is also increasing recognition that many of the other SDGs cannot be achieved without addressing violence against women. Violence against women costs countries billions and keeps women and children in poverty (SDG1). It causes death, disability and affects the health and well-being of women and children (SDG3). Violence can limit girls' access to education (SDG4), and women and girls in many settings risk being raped and sexually assaulted when trying to access clean water and sanitation (SDG6). Violence limits women's ability to actively participate in public life and spaces (SDG11) and continues to be perpetrated with impunity in almost all countries (SDG16). SVRI Forum 2019 will provide space to share feminist research methods, analysis and approaches for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The shared risk factors, intergenerational effects, common consequences and levels of co-occurrence between violence against children and violence against women has led to calls for closer collaboration between these two fields. SVRI Forum 2019 invites abstracts that address evidence of these intersections and strategies/frameworks for strengthening collaboration and programming.

Strengthening the field through discussing, debating and sharing research tools, methods and measures is a core agenda of the SVRI Forum. SVRI Forum 2019 will provide an opportunity to discuss and debate new and innovative ways to measure VAW, hierarchies of knowledge, practice-based learning, sticky ethical issues, and monitoring and evaluation of interventions.
With the rush to implement evidence-based solutions, there is a risk of privileging the few interventions that have been evaluated in spite of our limited knowledge about what makes an intervention effective and whether their effectiveness can be maintained in different settings or at a different scale. SVRI Forum 2019 will facilitate discussions and calls for abstracts / panels that take a deeper dive into mechanisms of change, platforms for scale-up, practice based learning and strategies for integrating prevention and response interventions within existing services and programmes implemented by multiple sectors.

Strong feminist voices at SVRI Forum 2017 reaffirmed that this work is political, that women’s and girl’s voices must be central in our research and programmatic endeavours. Research and programmes must continue to focus on addressing the root causes of violence against women, which stem from gender inequality and other forms of oppression and marginalisation. We invite abstracts from practitioners, activists and researchers on the challenges of applying feminist theory to practice and how to engage men and boys within a feminist framework.

Interventions that are cost-effective are key to achieving equity and ensuring no-one is left behind. That is, interventions that are of sufficient quality to be impactful, can be sustained at scale and at the same time, protect people from financial hardship or risk. SVRI Forum 2019 invites abstracts on costing and cost effectiveness studies, including discussions on methods, as well as responses from policy-makers on what research can help inform policy decisions.

Mobile phones and apps have swiftly become an integral part of our daily life. These and many other technologies are increasingly being considered as the new mechanism for delivering GBV interventions to both general and at-risk populations. SVRI Forum 2019 will create opportunities to discuss and debate new technologies, their ethical dimensions, and share stories of success and failure in this new frontier. We would also be interested in providing space during the Forum to feature some of the apps currently being developed or tested. Please let us know if you would like to share your app at the Forum.

**WHAT WE EXPECT**

- 600+ participants
- Over 120 countries
- Over 280 presentations
- Multiple networking & side events,
- UN agencies & government representatives
- Journalists, donors and private sector agencies
1. Become a Sponsor
Sponsorship is essential to the success of SVRI Forum. By supporting SVRI Forum you will build your knowledge, create collaborations, expand your network, create collaborations and disseminate knowledge to key decision-makers in the field of violence against women. SVRI is committed to ensuring your sponsorship is used to achieve our mutual goals and creating a world where women and girls live free from violence. To sponsor SVRI Forum please contact Elizabeth.Dartnall@mrc.ac.za

2. Exhibit
This event is one of the most important biannual events for researchers, practitioners and others working in the field of sexual and intimate partner violence internationally. As an exhibitor, SVRI Forum provides an opportunity for you to build brand awareness for your organisations’ products and services among an audience of delegates that include global experts in the fields of sexual and intimate partner violence and child abuse and neglect. Email Mandy.Salomo@mrc.ac.za to book your space in SVRIs Exhibition Hall.

3. Side Event
The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to showcase your work and host side events as part of the programme on the 25th October 2019. If you are interested in holding a side event at SVRI Forum please contact Mandy Salomo at mandy.salomo@mrc.ac.za

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**NOTABLE DATES**

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<tr>
<th>Abstract review:</th>
<th>11 February 2019 - 15 July 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations submission:</td>
<td>30 August 2019 - 23 September 2019</td>
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<td>Registration:</td>
<td>2 December 2018 - 30 September 2019</td>
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**REGISTRATION FEES**

- Early registration (HIC till 30 May 2019) - R8 000
- Early registration (LMIC till 30 May 2019) - R6 000
- Sponsorship registration - R14 000
  (Register for yourself and sponsor a registration of one person coming from LMIC)
- Workshop Registration - R600

**Group Discount**
A 10% discount will be given to a registration of 10 or more delegates from the same organisation

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**Contact Information**

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Medical Research Council  
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#SVRIForum2019  
#TimeIsNow  
#SVRIForum  
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