Welcome!

- As feminists, we see power everywhere, including in the research process
- This guidance aspires to build feminist-informed research partnerships on VAWG:
  - Uphold the agency of activists and researchers
  - Value all knowledge & skills
  - Promote empathy & respect
Housekeeping

- Interact! Use the chat feature for questions & comments
- Continue connecting on Padlet
- Will respond to unanswered questions after the recording
- Yes- We are recording 😊
Panelists

Janet Nakuti
Raising Voices

Wangechi Wachira
CREAW

Dinnah Nabwire
AWDF

Leah Goldmann
Raising Voices
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The “Who, what, & why” of activist-researcher partnerships

Janet Nakuti, Raising Voices
Why pursue an activist-researcher collaboration?

Activist-research partnerships help to:

- Generate learning
- Build credibility
- Prompt action
- Maximize impact of programs and policies
When to pursue an activist-researcher collaboration?

- The learning goals can be better achieved through partnership
- There is a shared learning agenda
- A collaboration can expose different stakeholders to key ideas
- Leverage the strengths of both groups

***Ensure staff is available to manage the partnership***
Who makes a good partner?

- Technical Experience
- Values Alignment
- Reputation
- Access to Funding
Getting Practical

• Develop a formal agreement, include, for example,
  • Governance
  • Roles and responsibilities of each partner
  • Communication mechanisms and how conflict will be resolved
  • Authorship, intellectual property and data ownership
  • Resources and finance

• Develop a clear plan

• Enjoy the process together!
Activity Break!

https://www.menti.com/jxb9fj3cbj
Working with researchers: Challenges & Benefits

Wangechi Wachira, CREA W
Working with researchers

- Increased demand for evidence.
- CREAW’s diversity of partners and experience.
- Hierarchies of power persist between Global North and Global South.
- Opportunities to change.
Benefits

- Improves learning and practice in VAWG programming, leading to innovation and deepened understandings.
- Enables partners to challenge and subvert traditional knowledge hierarchies
- Creates a culture of critical reflection and learning within and beyond the partnership
- Enhances collaborative processes where knowledge is co-created and co-owned rather than extractive or exploitative process.
Challenges

- Frequently characterized by power dynamics.
- Overstepping the role of researchers
- A one-size fits all solutions
- “Data mining” process
- Bias in giving credit and visibility
Call to Action

- There needs to be a **shift in the traditional way of designing and implementation of research** to make it more collaborative.

- Attention needs to be given to **contexts, power relations and the different interests** involved in order to successfully deliver truly collaborative knowledge generation that serves everyone’s interests.
‘Nothing about me without me
How we develop principles of partnering

Dinnah Nabwire, AWDF
Some notes to keep…

- Core strategy (Process vs outcome)
- Clarify value-addition
- Define approaches and methodology
- Continually review and reflect
- Materials, products and use
- The currency for partnerships is trust

...self-care
Mentimeter word cloud link

https://www.mentimeter.com/s/f2cc573a7c4a6dfb8dcb6c6aecbb888a
Moving Forward and Q&A
Thank you!