



Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children

A feminist grant supporting research innovation in low-and middle-income countries

With over 8,500 members, the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) is the world's largest network on research on violence against women and violence against children, providing a space where global role players in the field connect with one another, share and promote their research, work to influence policies and improve the lives of those who have experienced gender-based violence. We do this through four pillars, building evidence, strengthening capacity, promoting partnerships, and influencing change.

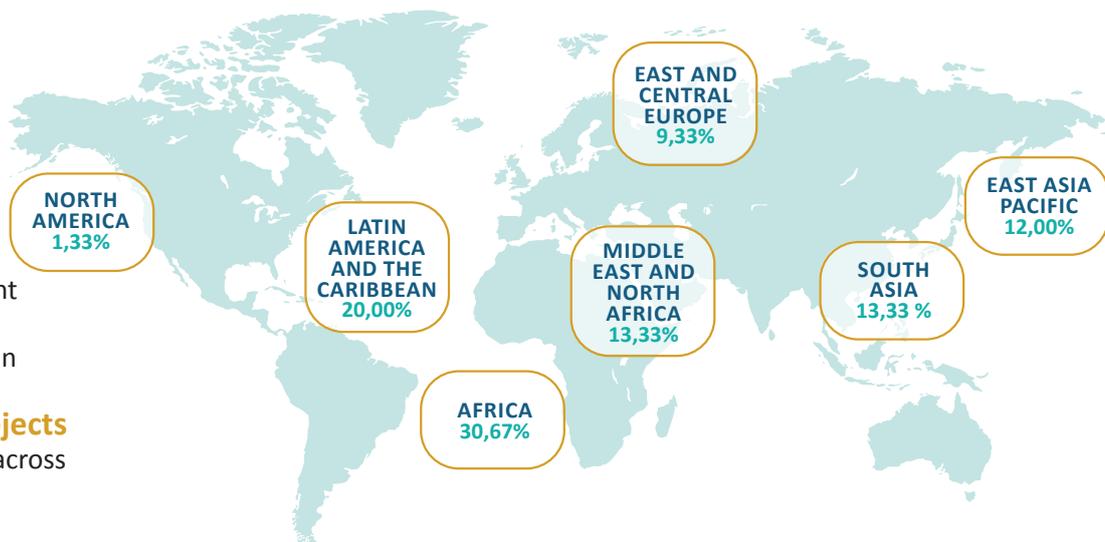
IMPORTANCE OF ADVANCING RESEARCH IN LMICs

Research is essential to ensure that presented solutions are effective in improving services and reducing levels of violence experienced by women and children. Despite the prevalence and magnitude of the problem of violence against women (VAW) and violence against children (VAC), very little funding is dedicated to programming and research, particularly in low-and middle-income countries (LMICs). The limited funding that does exist remains highly concentrated in high income countries and much of the research done in LMICs / the global South is led by researchers from high income countries (HICs / the global North). People must be able to participate in the development of research agendas, programmes, and policies that impact and serve them. Given that the greatest burden of both VAW and VAC are in LMICs, it is imperative that increased resources are allocated to research conducted in LMICs and led by locally based researchers and practitioners. We believe that if research in LMICs is generated by LMIC researchers, and, moreover, is co-created with practitioners (programmers) and policy makers who will be vested in using it, then this research has a much more substantial chance of influencing policies and programs.

THE SVRI GRANT PROGRAMME

To strengthen the evidence - base to address VAW and VAC in low- and middle-income countries, the SVRI established the SVRI Grant in 2014. From 2016 -2020 the SVRI was joined by the World Bank Group as co-hosts of the Grant, renaming it the Development Marketplace for innovation in GBV prevention and response. In 2020, with support from our funding partners the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, a new granting mechanism was launched - **Knowledge for Action to End Violence Against Women and Violence Against Children**. Grants range from \$40,000 to \$200,000 over a maximum of 18-24 months. Research projects are selected through a rigorous peer review process. The research topics include education, parenting interventions, the intersections of VAW and VAC, cash transfers, sexual harassment and public transport, violence and mental health, technology facilitated violence against women and violence against children, violence against migrant women and migrant children, violence against women of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, the impacts of Covid-19 on domestic violence.

To date, these grant mechanisms have awarded more than **\$8 million** to **75 research projects** in **42 countries** across the globe.



THE IMPACT OF THE SVRI GRANT

EVIDENCE BUILDING 100%

of surveyed grant winners believed that their project has made or will make a difference to the evidence base of GBV research.

"This unique award has an incredibly important role in cultivating innovation in violence prevention. Please keep offering this mechanism to keep the field moving!" – Grantee

RESEARCH FOR IMPACT 92%

of surveyed grant winners have reported forging relationships with local government agencies, practitioners, universities, and other researchers, an integral step in the dissemination of GBV research.

"The SVRI helped us to [...] incorporate how we will use the lessons learnt from this study and [...] to include our beneficiaries in this aspect, [...] engaging with them post study to make sure the lessons learnt don't go to waste." - Grantee

RESEARCH CAPACITY STRENGTHENED

The SVRI works with grantees to co-create bespoke capacity strengthening events that include key topics such as ethics, methods and tools, feminist research, and data analysis. Where appropriate we support grant partners to revise research proposals and develop tools and methodology and support studies with getting ethics approval. The SVRI also provides technical feedback to grantees on all research products and reports.

"I felt connected with others doing similar work - I love the expectation of rigorous, ethical work." - Grantee

FUNDS LEVERAGED

87% of surveyed grant winners reported they were able to successfully leverage their receipt of an SVRI grant to acquire more funding for the continuance of their research.

APPLYING FOR A SVRI RESEARCH GRANT

Calls for proposals are issued on a yearly basis. To receive updates on the grant making programme, sign up to receive the SVRI Weekly Update.



SCAN ME

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Apply feminist and women-centred research and partnerships
- Be conceptualised within a human rights framework
- Adhere to international safety and ethical guidelines
- Strive for innovation in ideas, new methodologies and partnerships, while building on evidence
- Strive to be collaborative, cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary
- Promote equitable participation and bring to the field diverse voices from low and middle-income countries (researchers, survivors, marginalised groups)
- Where relevant and appropriate, endeavor to engage the community where the research will take place
- Challenge the gender hierarchy that contributes to VAW and VAC to promote gender equality.
- Inform policy, programmes and services and strengthen access to comprehensive care and support for survivors.

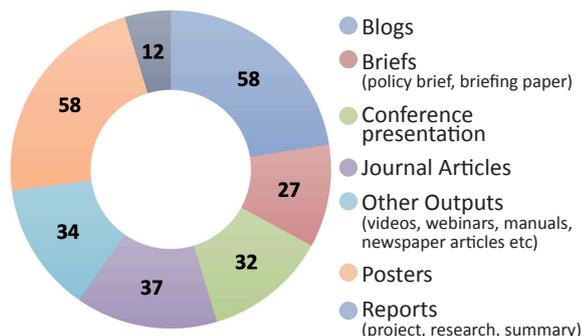
WHAT WE LIKE TO SEE IN PROPOSALS

- Research that will help advance the knowledge on violence against women and violence against children prevention and response in LMICs
- Proposals that are informed by current evidence, a clear research question supported by sound methodology and that have policy potential
- South-south (LMICs) or southern led research partnerships with roles and responsibilities outlined
- Consortium led research that, for example, involves activists, practitioners, and policymakers, researchers
- Consortiums that take note of power inequities in research partnerships
- Research guided by local project advisory boards
- Ethical issues thoughtfully considered and ethical approval has been or is being sought
- Clear research for impact plans with different products for different stakeholders
- Well-written, concise abstract that properly represents the research project
- Logical and clear budget accompanied with a sound budget justification.

SO, WHAT WITH SVRI GRANTEES' RESEARCH?

The SVRI is committed to supporting research that will advance knowledge and has potential to improve policy and practice for better research, better programmes and better policies. In their applications, grantees are asked to show how they are building on existing evidence, and outline their research uptake plans. Past grantees have for example, produced various communication products in addition to using traditional academic channels (research papers and conferences). These include films, blogs, newspaper articles in different languages. Further, we link grantees with programmers, policy makers and a global network to ensure their work is widely disseminated and continues to inform knowledge building, policy making and practice.

SVRI Grantees Outputs



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