

Intersections between Violence Against Children & Violence Against Women: Global research priorities

13 March 2024



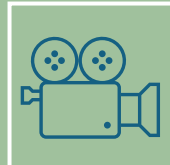
World Health
Organization



Webinar etiquette



Webinar length:
1 hour



Recording:
This meeting will be recorded and made available online



Introduce yourself:
Use the chat box to introduce yourself by name, country and organisation



Q&A:
Please enter your questions to our speakers in the Q&A box

Meeting Agenda

- Opening and welcome
- Introduction to research priority setting
- Global research priorities: Intersections between violence against children (VAC) and violence against women (VAW)
 - Our approach
 - What we found
- Panel discussion
- Closing remarks



Meet the speakers



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**Rationale and purpose for establishing
global research priorities for the
intersections between violence against
children and violence against women**



Research priorities guide efforts to:

- build knowledge in a more systematic way
- monitor progress over time
- inform the implementation of the multiagency RESPECT Women and INSPIRE frameworks
- support UNICEF's commitment to respond to the gender dimensions of violence
- guide provision of grants within the SVRI
- inform HRP's and WHO's research in this field
- promote the achievement of the 2030 SDGs





Our Approach to Priority Setting



Child Health and Nutrition Research Initiative (CHNRI) method

“
For too long research agendas have been set by too few, often the loudest, most senior in the room.

- Considers the views of multiple stakeholders, not just technical experts
- Treats judgements and views from different members of priority setting groups equally
- Draws from the wisdom of the crowd through ‘crowd sourcing’
- Cancels out or dilutes personal biases

Advisory Structures

Coordinating
Group

WHO
UNICEF Innocenti
SVRI
Stellenbosch
University

Advisory Group

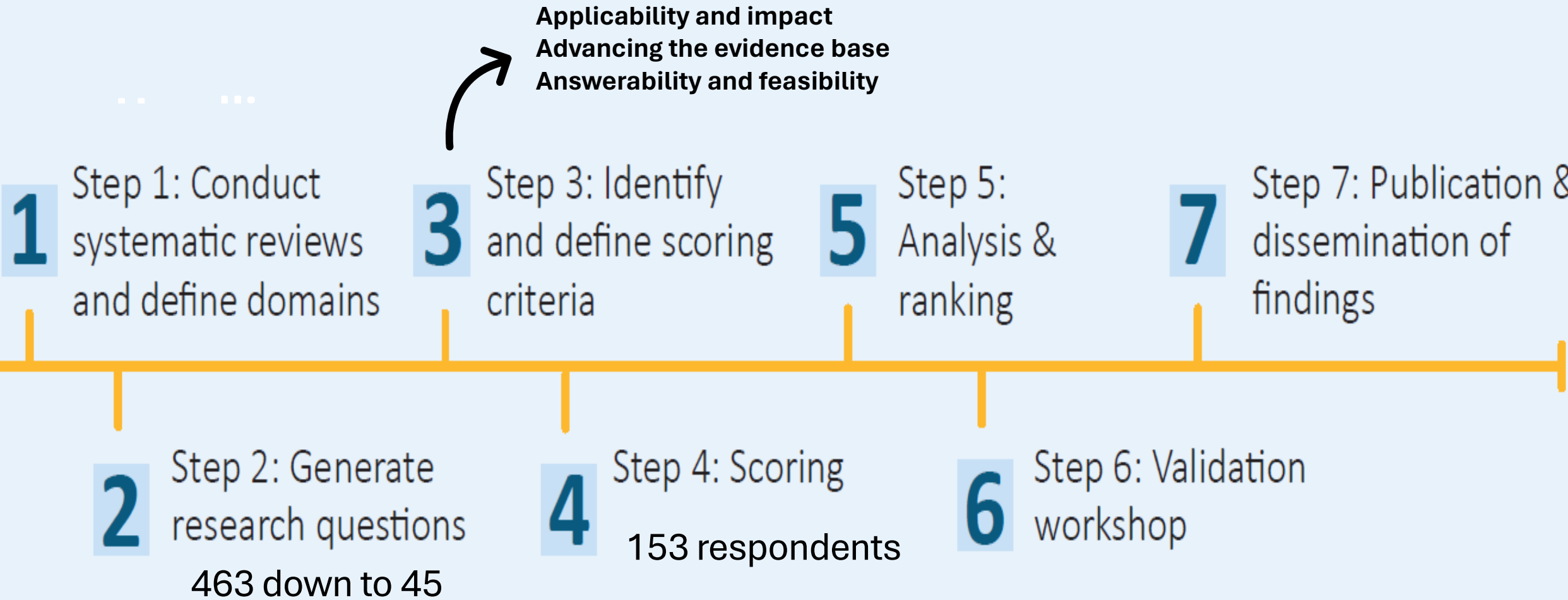
12 global experts
Practitioners and
researchers

Global
Stakeholder
Group

510 researchers,
practitioners,
funders and policy-
makers



Steps in the research priority setting process



Domains

1:
Understanding
the issue

2:
Response
& prevention
programme

3:
Tools and
methods

4:
Coordination &
collaboration
across sectors

5:
Policy
research



Diversity, equity and inclusion

- Using the advisory structures to reach out to their networks and act as ambassadors for the project.
- Monitoring responses and actively responding to gaps.
- Regular touch points with advisory structures & the field through webinars, use of online platforms and communication efforts.
- Ensuring the survey tools were user friendly.
- Available in multiple languages – Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.





Findings



Key characteristics of respondents (n=153)

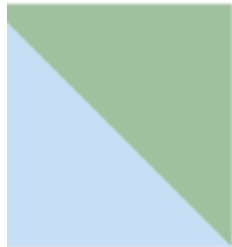
82% female



44% practitioners/ service providers/
programme managers
41% researchers
<2% donors, policy-makers (each)



59% from low- and middle-
income countries



59% primarily work on
both VAC and VAW or
VAC-VAW
intersections

- 9% LGBTQI+
- 14% minoritized racial or ethnic groups
- 10% indigenous people
- 9% people with disability



**self-identified*



Top-ranked questions

RANK	QUESTION	SCORE	DOMAIN
1	What are the essential elements of effective integrated programmes to address violence against women and violence against children?	94,94	2
2	How can effective parenting programs be adapted to effectively prevent multiple forms of VAC and VAW?	91,93	2
3	What are innovative and valid measures for VAW-VAC that have been developed and tested in low resource settings via participatory approaches?	91,79	3
4	How can we use the evidence of the VAC-VAW intersections to develop common language and a shared framework for effective coordination and collaboration?	91,61	4
5	What are the policies which address VAW and VAC together?	91,59	5



Top-ranked questions

RANK	QUESTION	SCORE	DOMAIN
6	At global, regional, national, and local levels, what are the key barriers to effective collaboration across VAC and VAW sectors and what are the main opportunities for driving forward a joint agenda (e.g., investment in positive parenting programmes)?	91,27	4
7	How do effective VAW-VAC prevention interventions achieve change?	91,02	2
8	What forms of VAC and VAW do adolescents experience, including in the digital sphere?	90,55	1
9	How are adolescent girls adequately addressed in policies that address VAC, VAW and their intersections?	89,93	5
10	How do we evaluate primary prevention interventions of VAW and VAC?	89,68	3



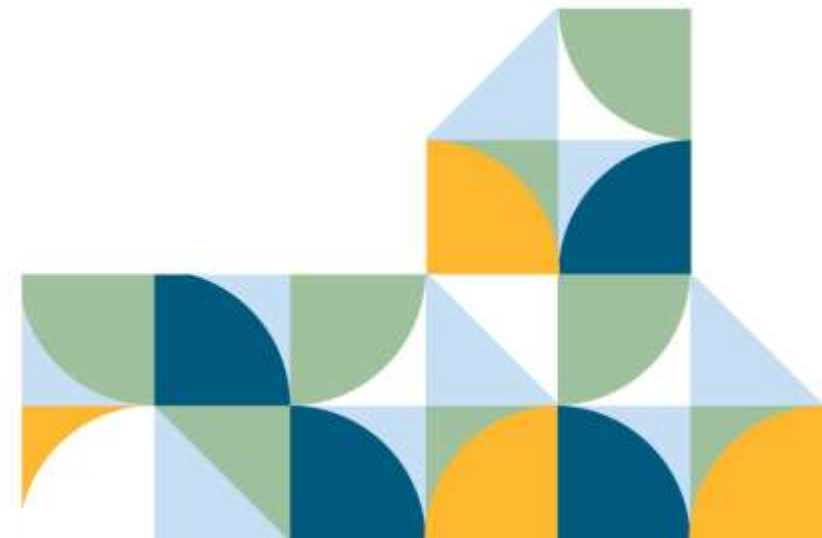


Analyses by participants' characteristics

- **Area of expertise:** VAC, VAW or VAC/VAW intersections
- **Region of work:** high-income countries or low-and middle-income countries
- **Type of work:** researcher/academic, practitioner/service provider/ donor/funder, activist, policy-maker or other
- **Marginalized voices:** LGBTQI+, racial/ethnic minority/ indigenous people or people with disability

Findings:

- Overall agreement across groups, with minor differences
- Those working on VAC ranked parenting their top priority while those working on VAC and VAW ranked it third
- Overall agreement across HICs and LMICs on top priority, but LMICs prioritized intervention research while HICs also included policy
- Variation across various marginalized groups, highlighting need for more nuanced understanding



Lessons and limitations

- High number of respondents (153), but low response rate (31%) given that 500 people had registered: need to streamline process and increase investment in translation
- Good diversity amongst respondents, but some groups did not have adequate representation (e.g. some geographic areas, marginalized groups, donors, policy-makers)
- Majority of respondents (82%) female which reflects composition of the field, but would results have been different with more male and non-binary respondents?
- Results reflect priorities held by participants who chose to take part, but some important research areas were not selected: adverse childhood experiences, school-based prevention, legislation to reduce alcohol use and ban corporal punishment)



Taking action: UNICEF Innocenti

- Research priorities 1, 2, 4 and 9: Evidence briefs on working at the intersections of violence against children and violence against women: rationale, parenting, coordination of services, working with adolescents. *Forthcoming*.
- Research priorities 1 and 2: Evidence briefs on how [parenting programmes](#) can reduce violence against children and women (w/ Prevention Collaborative and Equimundo).
- Research priority 6: A situational analysis of VAC and VAW policies and programmes in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon (w/ UNICEF MENARO and LSHTM). *Forthcoming*
- Research priority 7: Interventions that prevent or respond to intimate partner violence against women and violence against children: a systematic review. The Lancet Public Health (w/ LSHTM). *Forthcoming*.



Taking action: WHO/HRP

Research priorities 1, 4 and 6:

Harmonizing clinical guidelines for VAC and VAW

Research priorities 3 and 8:

Measurement and estimation work on violence against adolescent girls, including in digital spaces:

- What are innovative and valid measures for violence against women - violence against children that have been developed and tested in low resource settings via participatory approaches?
- What forms of violence against children and violence against women do adolescents experience, including in the digital sphere?

Research priority 9:

Work on VAW in health and multisectoral policies: global database and status report:

- How are adolescent girls adequately addressed in policies that address VAC, VAW and their intersections?



Taking action: Sexual Violence Research Initiative

Applying research priorities to guide grant making

Research priorities 1, 2:

- Parenting for respectability study in Uganda
- Development of an early parenting intervention to promote and support effective parenting practices in South Africa
- Impact on men's attitudes / behaviours of a multi-component, gender-informed, father-inclusive intervention for early child development in Vietnam
- Can a co-parenting intervention reduce both IPV & VAC ? Zimbabwe

Research priority 3:

- Combining VAW and VAC: Strengthening understanding and measurement of adolescents' experiences of violence in caregiver and other adult family members, peer, and intimate partner relationships, South Africa

Research priority 7:

- Understanding the connection between intimate partner violence and violence against children in families in Kampala, Uganda to inform primary prevention
- Childhood trajectories of violence and adult intimate partner violence: A gendered, life course approach to violence prevention
- Uncovering adverse childhood experiences and violence against left-behind women: life course pathways and priority setting, China

Integrating research priorities into key themes for SVRI Forum 2024

Using the agenda as a monitoring tool to track research funding



Thank you to everyone who contributed to the creation of these shared research priorities:

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Global stakeholders and participants in the survey and validation workshop:

Over **150** colleagues representing over **50** countries

Additional data analysis:

Julienne Corboz (Spain) and **Amy Powell** (United Kingdom)





How will you take action?

Help us generate knowledge to improve
outcomes for children and women

Reflections and Q&A



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