Prevalence of violence against women in Asia and the Pacific Region

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kNOwVAWdata

Training Course on Victimization Surveys for the Asia-Pacific Region
29 May – 2 June 2017, Pattaya, Thailand
Overview

• SDGs and how we measure VAW prevalence

• VAW surveys conducted and key findings for VAW in the Asia Pacific region

• kNOwVAWdata
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
For the UNFPA APRO region (37 countries):

- **28** countries have done a VAW prevalence survey
  - **6** countries did more than one survey

- **24** have national data on intimate partner violence
  - **20** have data for SDG indicator 5.2.1

- **17 (+ 4*)** have national data on sexual violence by non-partners
  - **8** have data for SDG indicator 5.2.2

* Available from DHS, however not published in the national reports
WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE, 2016

UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Region

Legend:
- Percentage of women who reported experience of physical or sexual violence, or both, by an intimate partner in their lifetime.
- Percentage of women who reported experience of physical or sexual violence, or both, by an intimate partner in the last 12 months.

Country: Singapore, Australia, New Zealand

Singapore:
- 1 woman reported experiencing intimate partner violence in the last 12 months.

Australia:
- 68 women reported experiencing intimate partner violence in the last 12 months.

New Zealand:
- 38 women reported experiencing intimate partner violence in the last 12 months.

Other countries:
Do women around the Pacific have similar experiences of violence?

Prevalence of lifetime physical or sexual violence against women by anyone, since age 15, among all women 15-49*/64** years old

* Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
** Cook Islands, FSM, Palau, RMI
Patterns of violence against women in Pacific Island countries

- Lifetime physical or sexual violence IPV
- Non-partner physical violence > 15 years
- Non-partner sexual violence > 15 years
- Childhood sexual abuse < 15
Key messages from regional snapshot

• Violence is common everywhere – though levels and patterns vary
• 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
• Not business as usual: Limited national and regional capacities for data collection, interpretation and use
• Prevalence data from surveys will never capture the most severe
**kNOwVAWdata**

UNFPA-DFAT partnership on measuring VAW data 2016-2019:

- Build the capacity to conduct national studies on VAW prevalence
- Knowledge capture and sharing
THANK YOU!

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