



Annotated Agenda

Meeting on Strengthening the Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women in the Arab Region 15-17 October 2019, Cairo, Egypt

In the past two decades there have been calls for the enhancement of the collection and use of data on violence against women (VAW). As a result, measurement of VAW is high on the international, regional and national agendas. The inclusion of a specific target to *Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in private and public spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation* under Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG5) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (target 5.2), and the related monitoring efforts will require reliable and comparable prevalence data collected in line with globally agreed standards. Furthermore, it is well recognized that in order to develop effective VAW legislation, policies and programmes to prevent and respond to VAW, it is important to establish an understanding of the extent, nature, causes and consequences of the problem in a particular setting. However, there is still an urgent need to strengthen the knowledge-base on all forms of VAW as many countries lack quality reliable or up-to-date data. Comparability of data across countries has improved as national VAW data collection efforts are increasingly using similar definitions and approaches. Yet, cross-country comparability still remains a challenge, especially to produce regional and global estimates/aggregated data. According to the World Health Organization, 37 percent of women in the Eastern Mediterranean region have ever experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a partner or sexual violence by a non-partner in their lifetime. However, there still remains a lack of data on the prevalence of VAW in many countries in the Arab region. There has been an increasing interest from the region in conducting specialized VAW prevalence surveys as part of broader efforts to engender their national statistical systems and frameworks and to have a comprehensive approach to the elimination of VAW.

With a shared common goal, UN Women, WHO, and UN ESCWA are jointly planning a meeting to bring together relevant partners in the Arab region to discuss a way forward in advancing methods and strategies to measure VAW in line with globally agreed methodological and ethical standards, building on the outcomes of the 2018 meeting in Tangier, Morocco. The meeting also aims to discuss the potential of developing a strategy for capacity building that moves from the current over-reliance on external international expertise and support towards nationally owned sustainable capacities through the engagement and leadership of institutions in the region.

Objectives

- To deepen knowledge and understanding of National Statistical Offices, women machineries and relevant stakeholders in the Arab region on violence against women (VAW) measurement in line with globally agreed methodological and ethical standards;
- To strengthen linkages between global, regional, and national efforts on enhancing VAW data to inform programmes and policies;
- To identify challenges and opportunities in measuring VAW in the Arab region; and
- To exchange and share good practices and lessons learned on VAW surveys among participants.

Day 1: 15 October 2019		
Time	Session	Moderator
09:00-09:45	Welcome and opening Egypt's Government Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neda Jafar, Head of Statistical Policies and Coordination Unit, UN ESCWA - Ms. Naglaa Eladly, National Council for Women - Mr. Abd El- Hameed Sharaf, CAPMAS - Ms. Yilka Gerdovci, Regional Programme Specialist on Women's Economic Empowerment on behalf of Ms. Janneke van der Graaff-Kukler, Deputy Regional Director, UN Women Arab States Regional Office - Claudia Garcia Moreno Esteva, Medical Officer, Team Lead Violence against Women, WHO 	ESCWA
09:45-10:00	Overview of workshop objectives and agenda	ESCWA
10:00-10:30	Introduction of participants	ESCWA
10:30-13:00	Session 1.1: Violence against women – An introduction <i>Understand what violence against women means, and why VAW prevalence surveys are needed</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline international and regional commitments on ending VAW (SDGs 5, 11 and 16, CEDAW, others) - Understand globally agreed indicators on VAW (9 indicators + GSind+SDG5.2) - Update on the UN -interagency group work and global joint programme 	UN Women WHO
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-15:00	Session 1.2: Different sources of data and VAW prevalence surveys methodologies <i>Clarify different sources of VAW data and information they do and do not provide (administrative data, prevalence data, costing data), and different methodologies for prevalence surveys (focus of the meeting) such as DHS, WHO, others</i>	WHO
15:00-17:00	Session 1.3: Regional overview of existing prevalence data, new surveys and future plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional overview of collections tools and data - Newly implemented household surveys, presentations by statisticians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Palestine VAW 2019- Mr. Ashraf Hamdan, PCBS o Morocco VAW 2018 - Ms. Laila Kehel, HCP o Iraq I Wish 2011- Ms. Zainb Alamaey, COSIT o Libya Family Health Survey 2014 - Ali Grera, BSC 	ESCWA

**Coffee/tea breaks will be provided for at 11:00 a.m. in the morning and 3:30 p.m. for a duration of 30m. Time for morning and afternoon breaks may be adjusted based on session schedules each day.*

Day 2: 16 October 2019		
Time	Session	Moderator
09:00-10:00	Recap Day 1 (country to be decided)	
10:00-11:30	Session 2.1: The UN ESCWA VAW prevalence surveys toolkit <i>Introduce the VAW data toolkit developed by ESCWA to guide countries in the region in the planning and implementation of national VAW prevalence surveys</i>	ESCWA
11:30-13:00	Session 2.2: Availability of and challenges with prevalence data on VAW in the region <i>Present overview of data available in inter-agency database and challenges with existing data- introduce the estimates process and country consultations</i>	WHO
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-15:00	Session 2.3: Ethical and safety considerations around VAW surveys and country practices <i>Understand ethics and safety considerations in VAW prevalence surveys, based on a survivor-centered approach</i> Country experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Morocco, VAW 2018, Ms. Layla Kehel, HCP ○ Palestine, VAW 2019, Mr. Ashraf Hamdan, PCBS ○ Tunis, VAW 2010, Ms. Arabia Ferchichi, NOS - Implementing VAW prevalence surveys and broader VAW data collection in humanitarian contexts	WHO/ESCWA WHO/UNFPA
15:00-17:00	Session 2.4: VAW prevalence surveys – Planning, questionnaire design and sampling design <i>Understand steps in planning a VAW prevalence survey based on internationally agreed standards, including questionnaire design and adaptation (UNSD guidelines)</i> - Sampling recommendations for VAW prevalence surveys, country experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Egypt, Sampling expert (confirmed) ○ Morocco, Ms. Layla Kehelm HCP ○ Palestine, Mr. Ashraf Hamdan, PCBS 	ESCWA

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Day 3: 17 October 2019		
Time	Session	Moderator
09:00-09:30	Recap Day 2 (country to be decided)	
09:30-11:30	<p>Session 3.1: VAW prevalence surveys – Data collection and use (training, analysis, dissemination) <i>Understand technical and operational requirements and challenges for data collection, and strategies to address them; in addition to optimizing data use to inform policy and programme formulation, and communicate data for social change</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentations by statisticians: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Egypt, Ms. Wafaa Maged, CAPMAS on training, dissemination and impact on law and policy 	ESCWA
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 3.2: Partnerships and coordination on VAW prevalence surveys <i>Strategize partnerships and coordination with key actors to define focus survey and broaden impact and use of VAW data</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation on role of policy makers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Palestine, Dr. Hanna Nakhleh o Sudan, Ms. Fatima Salim o Morocco, Mr. Ali Errahaoui 	UN Women
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
14:00-15:00	<p>Session 3.3: Identification of technical assistance and capacity strengthening needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify technical support needed for VAW prevalence surveys, and plan next steps - Discuss plans for regional institution for capacity strengthening 	UN Women/ ESCWA/ WHO
15:00-16:00	<p>Workshop conclusion, evaluation and closing ESCWA, Dfid, WHO & UN Women</p>	

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