

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

## JOINT PROGRAMME ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DATA





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## Acronyms and abbreviations

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality
ESCSA	(United Nations) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
GBVIMS	Gender-Based Violence Information Management System
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
IAWG	Inter-Agency Working Group on Violence against Women Data and Estimates
ICCS	International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
JP	Joint Programme
LSHTM	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
MESECVI	Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention
MRC	Medical research Council
NPSV	Non-Partner Sexual Violence
NSO	National Statistical Office
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PAHO	Pan American Health Organization
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organization
SC	Steering Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
VAW	Violence Against Women
WHO	World Health Organization

## Executive summary

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have come together to implement the 5-year Global Joint Programme on *Strengthening Methodologies and Measurement and Building National Capacities for Violence against Women Data* (the Joint Programme), to ensure the availability of quality and comparable data on different forms of violence against women (VAW), to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under international frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action.

In 2019, the second year of the implementation, the Joint Programme is **advancing the field of VAW research and data** through spearheading the updating of VAW research instruments and standards to improve the measurement of different forms of VAW; updating the database and estimates on the prevalence of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence; and addressing data-related policy and programmatic gaps, particularly in the area of VAW administrative data. On the VAW data capacity development front, the Joint Programme has been **strategizing to institutionalize national capacities** in implementing VAW prevalence surveys. This year primarily focused on gathering and mobilizing interest, engagement, and leadership from institutions in the Arab States region and the East and Southern Africa region to envision a capacity development process for the regions. The Joint Programme succeeded in bringing two critical groups of national partners – national statistical offices and national women’s machineries – to jointly identify existing capacities and gaps on VAW measurement, to inform the design and planning of the regional capacity development initiative to be launched in 2020. This helps ensuring ownership and commitment from national institutions. Regarding **translating data into action**, the Joint Programme capitalized on strategic global, regional and national fora to advocate for the production and use of data on VAW in alignment with globally agreed methodological and ethical standards. The Joint Programme has also provided technical support and quality assurance to different phases of data collection efforts in Albania, Grenada, Guyana, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Suriname.

Partnerships and coordination in the area of VAW data have been strengthened through this Joint Programme. The Joint Programme **provides a critical platform for coordination and standardization of inter-agency work** on VAW research and data. Also, it contributes to strengthening VAW measurement through **providing and convening a unique space for leading experts to articulate thinking and work together to advance the field of VAW data and research**. The Joint Programme brought agencies and partners together around SDGs reporting, the estimation methods, methodological work, administrative data, and capacity building on measuring VAW prevalence. The Joint Programme has been contributing to global, regional, and national efforts to enhance data collection on VAW prevalence to inform policies and programming. The delivery of the Joint Programme has strengthened coordination and collaboration between sister UN agencies and external partners to enhance the availability of quality and comparable data on VAW as part and parcel of eliminating VAWG. Particularly, UN Women, WHO and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) have increasingly been able to have common approaches to VAW prevalence work. Furthermore, the Joint Programme has **enhanced synergies with other data-related programmes and initiatives** particularly UN Women’s Women Count Programme and the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative. **Partnerships have been more grounded** with the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), the Gender-based Violence Management Information System (GBVIMS), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI), the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) Programme, academicians and other experts through their engagement in various activities of the Joint Programme. These partnerships serve to strengthen the Joint Programme and enhance its sphere of influence.

Achievements and lessons learned in 2019 have cemented a stronger foundation for accelerating and advancing the implementation and progress of the Joint Programme in 2020.

<b>Programme Title</b>	Strengthening Methodologies and Measurement and Building National Capacities for Violence Against Women Data	
<b>Participating Organizations</b>	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) & World Health Organization (WHO)	
<b>Programme Cost (US\$)</b>	Total approved budget as per project document: <sup>1</sup>	UN Women: USD \$2,599,436 WHO: USD \$2,889,000 Total: USD \$ 5,488,436
<b>Priority Areas Strategic Results</b>	<p><i>Priority Areas</i> Global Arab States and North Africa Sub-Saharan Africa</p> <p><i>Strategic results</i> Quality, comparable data on different forms of violence against women are available and collected over time to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under the SDGs, CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action</p>	
<b>Implementing Partners</b>	National and regional counterparts and other International Organizations	
<b>Programme Duration</b>	Overall Duration	54 months
	Start Date <sup>2</sup>	22 June 2018
	Original End Date <sup>3</sup>	31 December 2022
<b>Report Submitted By</b>	Participating Organization (Administrative Agent): UN Women Name: Juncal Plazaola Castaño Title: Policy Specialist, Violence against Women Data Email address: <a href="mailto:j.plazaolacastano@unwomen.org">j.plazaolacastano@unwomen.org</a>	

<sup>1</sup> This refers to DFID budget as per the signed contribution arrangement; based on the budget presented and approved during the first steering committee meeting (June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018); based on currency exchange rate on the date the first tranche was deposited.

<sup>2</sup> The expected start date of the programme was January 2018, as reflected in the programme document and contribution arrangement. However, the effective start date reflected here is the date of the first transfer of the funds from the Administrative Agent to the Participating Organizations.

<sup>3</sup> As per approval of the original project document by the relevant decision-making body/Steering Committee.

## I. Results

This section describes the progress and results of the Joint Programme in 2019.

### Moving the needle on violence against women research methodologies

The Joint Programme is advancing the field of violence against women (VAW) data and research through spearheading the updating of VAW research instruments and standards to improve the measurement of different forms of VAW; updating the estimates on the prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) and non-partner sexual violence (NPSV); and addressing policy and programmatic gaps, such as in the area of administrative VAW data.

**Outcome 1: Measurement and methodologies for VAW data collection and use are strengthened and disseminated, including for national, regional and global monitoring and reporting requirements for SDG target 5.2 indicators**

**Output 1: Selected methods and standards for data collection and analysis are reviewed or developed, including for measurement of psychological violence, violence against older women, violence and disability status, and disseminated to ensure improved coherence and harmonization to produce prevalence data on VAW, including for the SDGs global monitoring indicators**

#### 1. Redefining the measurement of psychological/emotional intimate partner violence

Acknowledging the need for building consensus and consistency in defining, measuring and analyzing psychological IPV, the Joint Programme responded to this critical need by steering the revision of research methodologies on this form of violence, including through extensive consultations with experts. Items in the World Health Organization (WHO) Multi-Country Study instrument were re-worded and similar revisions were suggested to the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) module on domestic violence, including through the DHS Questionnaire Review Consultation. Critical recommendations included focusing on women's experiences rather than perpetrator intent, and standardizing abuse frequency measures, timeframes and item stems for all psychological IPV items. Highlighted actions in 2019 were:

- The WHO in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) submitted revisions relating to item and question wording of psychological/emotional IPV measure through the DHS-8 Questionnaire Consultation process conducted in March 2019, reiterating the suggestions made to the DHS in 2018 through a formal process.
- The WHO continued with data extraction on the question wordings, items, measurement of severity thresholds (where reported) to facilitate a mapping and descriptive analysis of instruments currently used to measure psychological/emotional IPV.
- An analysis of the psychological abuse data from the WHO Multi-Country Study was done to explore possible ways in which to analyze and report psychological IPV. The analysis was published on ScienceDirect, and can be downloaded [here](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352827318302490).<sup>4</sup> It will feed into ongoing analyses and discussions.

In 2020, the WHO is conducting/commissioning analyses of microdata from publicly available datasets (e.g. DHS and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights- FRA), the WHO Multi-Country Study and data from

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2352827318302490>



national VAW surveys provided by National Statistical Offices (NSOs), that will inform discussions to agree on an operational definition and threshold above which an act or series of acts can be considered psychological IPV (compared to emotional abuse or acts that can be considered unkind or insulting), and derive clear recommendations to countries on how to measure and report psychological IPV.

## 2. Amplifying the voice of older women

Many prevalence studies or survey instruments have previously left out women over 50 years old. This results in a big gap of knowledge and understanding on forms, types, perpetrators, frequencies, causes, and consequences of violence against older women. To contribute to filling this knowledge gap, the Joint Programme is being instrumental in revising and suggesting methodologies to capture older women's experience of violence. In 2019, the WHO finalized a quantitative and qualitative systematic review of prevalence studies, measures/survey instruments on IPV over 50. An Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on measurement of violence against older women was held, bringing together prominent experts to identify and propose a core set of questions for women over 50 to be added to existing VAW surveys or modules within surveys. The meeting report is available upon request. Based on the recommendations of this EGM, this proposed minimum set of questions will be reviewed with experts and finalized in 2020.



*(EGM on measurement of violence against older women, 02-03 April 2019, Geneva)*

## 3. Not leaving women with disabilities behind

Women with disabilities can experience a higher risk of violence and intersecting forms of discrimination. Capturing violence against women with disabilities can be challenging on several fronts including methodologically and operationally. Under the principle of leaving no one behind, the Joint Programme is commissioning a review to inform a global dialogue to develop stronger measures to better capture the experiences of violence faced by women with disabilities. In 2019, a protocol paper for a scoping review on violence against women with disability-focused surveys and studies was developed. The scoping review has been initiated by WHO and will then be consulted with experts, academics in research institutions, and non-

governmental organizations in the area of disability. The scoping review will be finalized in 2020 and will inform concrete recommendations for a more rigorous measure to better capture the violence experiences among women with disabilities.

#### 4. Advancing the thinking on VAW administrative data

Improving availability of high-quality administrative data can contribute to greater understanding of the needs of survivors and capacities of service providers and strengthen coordination in comprehensive responses to VAW by providers from different sectors.

In September 2019, UN Women convened an EGM bringing together global, regional, and national experts from relevant sectors to discuss strategic and feasible approaches for administrative data collection and use, and to address policy and programmatic gaps in relation to administrative data. The key output of the meeting was a set of expert recommendations to inform the finalization of a technical background paper. The EGM sought to gather guidance, advice, and expertise to inform the development of global guidance and to address challenging issues in relation to the collection, analysis, and use of VAW administrative data. The meeting objectives were: (i) to gather technical expertise and advice from global, regional, and national experts to guide the development of global guidance; (ii) to draw lessons learned from regional and country experience to inform thinking about the way forward; and (iii) to seek specific recommendations from experts on critical and challenging issues for collection, storage, analysis, sharing and reporting of administrative data on VAW. The EGM was a critical forum convened to build momentum on the work on VAW administrative data and presented a collective learning opportunity to address VAW administrative data gaps under the broader umbrella of efforts to end VAW.

Additionally, UN Women developed and published a [technical background paper](#),<sup>5</sup> drafted to inform the EGM and the development of global guidance. This paper synthesizes evidence, including divergent expert opinions, on the collection and use of VAW administrative data. As there is lack of policy and programmatic guidance in this area, the background paper is helping inform programmatic responses through global inter-agency programmes such as the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, the Women Count Programme, and the Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence.

This initiative on VAW administrative data, under the Joint Programme, has brought VAW administrative data back to global dialogue and attention. The Joint Programme plays a critical role in mobilizing momentum and interest from key stakeholders in collectively advancing the work on VAW administrative data, in an attempt to better understand VAW, the needs of survivors, and VAW service provision; as well as to strengthen different sources of data on VAW to inform policy and programming. The work done in 2019 set a stage for a detailed process for developing the global guidelines in 2020 including sectoral consultations across different regions, and linkages with countries with planned work on VAW administrative data.

#### 5. Enhancing methodological work on femicide measurement

Femicide rates remain consistently high across the globe. It is, however, under-detected and often not appropriately classified as such by authorities. There is no internationally agreed definition of femicide, although all definitions refer to the intentional killing of women because they are women. Global reports tend to focus on the perpetrator-victim relationship and limit the definition and reporting to those killings of women by an intimate partner or other family member. Statistical data on the gender-related killing of women and girls are not just scarcely available, but also not comparable at the international level as countries rely on national legal definitions which differentiate from one another. Furthermore, evidence shows how criminal justice recording

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2020/02/background-paper-synthesis-of-evidence-on-collection-and-use-of-administrative-data-on-vaw>



and investigating practices regarding femicide vary significantly across countries, leading to possible misinterpretations and underestimations of the actual level of crime when only looking at data resulting from specific femicide legislation.

In June 2019, UN Women and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) co-convened the *Inter-Agency Meeting to Discuss Technical Aspects of Statistics on Gender-Related Killings of Women and Girls* in Vienna, Austria. The meeting, attended by WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) besides the co-conveners, aimed at proposing a common UN approach to improving the gathering of data on all typologies of femicide, agreeing on a common definition for statistical purposes, and contributing to ensure comparable data for regional and global aggregates and trend analysis. This can serve as an operational framework for data producers and as measurement criteria independent from legal definitions. Despite the multiplicity of definitions and manifestations, undoubtedly femicide differentiates from other types of killings and is the most extreme expression of VAW and gender inequality. Hence, determining what constitutes the “gender motivation” of the killing is the critical element for a common approach for statistical purposes, and the most challenging aspect of its measurement. An initial approximation to measuring femicide is the measurement of killings by intimate partner/family member, which is already being reported by some countries and produces comparable estimations at the regional and international levels. The comparability of this concept is given by the application of a statistical standard, the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS), approved and largely implemented by Member States as the standard framework for the collection and processing of crime and criminal justice statistics.

This meeting lay a foundation for further work on improving the collection, analysis, and use of data on femicide. The meeting outcome document will inform further consultations with experts and stakeholders from different regions to reach consensus on an operational definition of femicide for statistical purposes. This work is closely linked and coordinated with efforts under the Spotlight Initiative in Latin America, which is engaging and tapping onto the technical leadership of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on this matter in the region.

**Output 2: National, regional and global VAW prevalence data are presented in a consistent way by different agencies and are used for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG target 5.2 indicators**

## 6. Retelling the global story through updated prevalence estimates

The work on measurement of and methodologies to research VAW under the Joint Programme contributes to improving the understanding of the magnitude, nature and extent of violence faced by women and girls. More robust evidence and data can better inform formulation of policies and programmes to address VAW. It also responds to General Recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence, updating General Recommendation No. 19 of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which calls for VAW data collection, analysis, and reporting from all signatory Member States.

As part of the Joint Programme, the WHO is leading the modelling of the national, regional and global prevalence estimates of IPV and NPSV. This builds on the estimates published in 2013 by WHO with the LSHTM and the South Africa Medical Research Council (MRC). Population-based studies on IPV and NPSV were identified based on a rigorous systematic review of databases, exhaustive manual searches, contact with NSOs, the DHS team and user forum, and VAW survey data repositories. Identified studies were independently reviewed by 2 reviewers and relevant data extracted to the database if they met the following inclusion criteria: i) study sample was women aged 15 and above, ii) were nationally or sub-nationally representative, and iii) measured the

prevalence of physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional IPV, NPSV or sexual violence by any perpetrator. All data extracted and entered into the WHO database is double-checked to ensure accuracy. In addition, WHO regularly cross-validates the database with VAW databases held by other organizations and UN agencies to ensure completeness and consistency of data, and enable harmonization and comparability of datasets.

For each eligible study, age-specific prevalence estimates and their denominators, preferably by 5-year age groups, were extracted for the different types of IPV (namely, physical IPV, sexual IPV, psychological IPV, and physical and/or sexual IPV) and sexual violence (namely, sexual violence by any perpetrator other than a partner, and sexual violence by any perpetrator). For each observation, the following characteristics were extracted: country, author of publication/report, publication year, start and end years of data collection, the type of VAW, the surveyed population (all women, currently-partnered, ever partnered women), age-group for the estimate, the recall period for prevalence (lifetime, past year, past two years), and whether the study is nationally representative (if not, whether it was conducted in an urban, rural, or mixed urban/rural region). IPV estimates were further characterized according to whether the perpetrator of IPV included only spouse (versus all types of intimate partners) and whether the experience of violence referred to the current or most recent husband/partner (versus any husband/intimate partner). Information on whether the survey was a specialized VAW survey or a more generic survey with a question set or module on VAW embedded within, and if training of interviewers to administer questions on VAW was reported and if the survey/study measured violence using acts-based measures.

The estimates database now includes data on physical and/or sexual and emotional/psychological intimate partner violence and/or non-partner sexual violence for 154 countries across all geographical regions for surveys conducted between 2000 and 2018. Data on physical, sexual and/or psychological intimate partner violence experienced in the past 12 months are available for 143 countries.

Whilst recognizing the current limitations in the measurement of psychological IPV, the WHO database extracted comparable data on lifetime prevalence of intimate partner psychological/emotional abuse experienced by women for 123 countries and data for emotional abuse experienced within the last 12 months for 104 countries. These will be used to look at the distribution of the data and propose methods to determine what constitutes psychological violence. It should be noted that data on NPSV is more limited. Available data is often non-standardized or insufficiently disaggregated between sexual violence by an intimate partner and sexual violence by a person other than an intimate partner. Data on lifetime experience of NPSV is available for 93 countries.

Updating the database and ensuring quality control of data extraction is a continuous and demanding process and the update has taken longer than planned. The database, however, is the most up-to-date and reliable repository of IPV and NPSV data currently available. More importantly, this database will form the basis for estimating the global, regional, and national prevalence of IPV and NPSV by age cohorts, residence (rural/urban), and the geographical variations and patterns in prevalence and time trends in the future. This will contribute to a more rigorous, comparable and standardized way of the global monitoring of VAW, including reporting for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 5.2 indicators.

## **7. Engaging countries and enhancing national ownership of violence against women data**

In 2019, the draft national, regional, and global prevalence estimates for IPV were finalized, and the country consultation process initiated with the request to countries to nominate focal points to review the estimates. The regional and global estimates for NPSV are currently being finalized, and both IPV and NPSV estimates will be launched by the second half of 2020. The SDG target 5.2 indicators co-custodian agencies recognize the importance of the country consultation process, for VAW is an area for which the calculation and use of estimates is relatively new. The process provides transparency and is a critical opportunity to strengthen capacity

in and ownership of the estimation process. It allows Member States to review information gathered from primary data sources, ensure the inclusion of additional data sources that may have not been previously identified, and review the individual country estimates derived from the statistical model applied to national country data. This work under the Joint Programme mobilizes engagement of the Member States in VAW data production and use.

Key outputs for the country consultation process initiated in 2019 included:

- ‘Methodological and Statistical Summary’ available in the 6 official UN languages. This technical document outlines and explains the methods utilized, covariate adjustments and the Bayesian multilevel modelling approach to derive the estimates.
- 194 country profiles that include the country estimates, data sources and covariate adjustments.
- Summary report of VAW global and regional (presented for different regions - SDGs, WHO and Global Burden of Disease- GBD) estimates for prevalence of IPV.
- List of national focal points for country consultation.

A couple of interactive Webinars with country focal points took place in 2020 as part of the country consultation process. Furthermore, a user-friendly database with country level data, to be made accessible to the public, policy-makers, national governments and international agencies, is currently being developed, to be launched alongside the estimates. The estimates will also be accompanied by an interactive, online data visualization tool and platform. Infographics and information sheets will also accompany the estimates, to highlight the challenges in current measurement and reporting, alongside recommendations for good practice. Reporting templates for IPV and NPSV will also be prepared to facilitate countries reporting on relevant SDG indicators.

## 8. Convening global expertise on violence against women data

The WHO convenes an independent group of experts, namely the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which oversees and guides the methodological work described above, and supports the Inter-Agency Working Group on VAW Data and Estimates (IAWG), which is composed of all the co-custodians for SDG target 5.2 indicators, i.e. WHO, UN Women, UNFPA, UNICEF and UNODC. In 2019, the second meeting of the TAG and IAWG was convened by WHO to discuss results from the estimates modeling exercise, finalize methodological approaches for estimates, strategize the country consultation process on the VAW estimates, discuss proposed changes to SDG Indicator 5.2.2 on NPSV and related methodological issues, and build consensus on a way forward for methodological work on violence against older women.

The TAG and IAWG also discussed suggested changes in the DHS Domestic Violence module to be recommended via the DHS 8 Consultation process; methodological work needed for the measurement of violence against adolescent girls as well as for the measurement of sexual harassment. The Joint Programme contributes to strengthening measurement through providing and convening a unique space for leading experts to articulate thinking and work together to advance the field of VAW research.

## 9. Spearheading SDG target 5.2 indicators reporting

For the 2019 UN Secretary General’s report *Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals*,<sup>6</sup> all co-custodian agencies of SDG target 5.2.1 indicator were convened by UN-Women to agree on the database, metadata revisions and storyline for the report. Comparable data from 106 countries on the prevalence of physical and/or sexual IPV against women and girls aged 15-49 in the last 12 months were extracted, and global

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<sup>6</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2019/secretary-general-sdg-report-2019--EN.pdf>

and regional aggregates were also presented. Country survey inclusion criteria were: refer to women and girls aged 15-49; use standard comparable definitions of physical and sexual IPV and be nationally representative. These criteria, which have been considered to ensure comparability and produce regional and global aggregates without any adjustments or use of probabilistic methods, mean that the number of studies included is more limited and not all studies from a country are taken into account. The database maintained by WHO, includes more data points and data from more countries. It is expected that for the next round of reporting, the estimates calculated by WHO will be used to report on 5.2.1 indicator.

The co-custodians of SDG target 5.2 indicators submitted a proposal for a revision of 5.2.2 indicator on NPSV in the 2020 Comprehensive Review of the Global Indicator Framework to monitor progress on the SDGs to the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in early 2020. An alternative indicator was proposed but not accepted by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDGs (IAEG-SDG). Communication received by the co-custodians highlighted a lack of understanding of what was being proposed and a follow-up request has been submitted in 2020. It has become more evident that more work is needed to strengthen the measurement of sexual violence, which is also being spearheaded by the Joint Programme.

## 10. Harmonizing UN agency databases

Across UN agencies, various VAW-related databases and virtual portals are maintained. There has been an increasingly stronger effort to ensure consistency across agencies' databases, particularly UN Women's [Global Database on Violence against Women](https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en)<sup>7</sup> - that compiles measures taken by Member States, WHO's comprehensive database of all population-based studies that has been used for the calculation of estimates, [UNICEF's datasets](https://data.unicef.org/resources/resource-type/datasets/)<sup>8</sup> on female genital mutilation, child marriage and other VAW measures, and [UNFPA's kNOwVAWdata initiative](https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/knownvawdata)<sup>9</sup> database that includes data from Asia Pacific. Participating agencies of the Joint Programme are working closely with other co-custodians under the IAWG to regularly cross-check consistency and quality of data maintained by relevant UN agencies.

In 2019, UN Women compiled data on the indicators below, which were included in the [UN Women Data hub](https://data.unwomen.org/data-portal),<sup>10</sup> launched by the Women Count Programme in September 2019, under its Thematic Area Dashboard on VAW:

- Proportion of women who reported their first sexual experience was forced
- Proportion of women who have ever experienced sexual violence before age 18
- Proportion of persons who justify a husband beating his wife for at least one specific reason, by sex and age
- Percentage of girls aged 0 to 14 years who have undergone female genital mutilation (as reported by their mothers)
- Percentage of population aged 15 to 49 years who have heard about female genital mutilation and think the practice should end, by sex

UNICEF datasets were used as the data sources for the harmful practices indicators, and different national population-based surveys were used as data sources for the other indicators. No global or regional aggregates were calculated, given the lack of comparability across country level data. This dashboard includes also data on VAW-related SDG indicators, i.e. 5.2.1 (IPV), 5.3.1 (child marriage), 5.3.2 (female genital mutilation), 16.2.2 (trafficking) and 16.2.3 (sexual violence in childhood). These data can be very useful in informing advocacy, policy and programming, beyond the impact level SDG indicators.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en>

<sup>8</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/resources/resource-type/datasets/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/knownvawdata>

<sup>10</sup> <https://data.unwomen.org/data-portal>

## Paving path towards sustained national capacity

Strengthening capacities of national institutions for VAW data collection, analysis, dissemination and use in line with globally agreed methodological, ethical and safety standards is a key pillar in addressing VAW data gaps. The Joint Programme has strategized to sustain national capacities in implementing VAW prevalence surveys, and to address the current over-reliance on external expertise. The Joint Programme brings together the distinct and complementary experience and expertise of UN Women and the WHO, both of whom already contribute to the elimination of VAW in general and the increased availability of quality VAW data in particular. The capacity development pillar is implemented in close collaboration and coordination with other key actors particularly UNFPA, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The Joint Programme prioritizes two regions namely the Arab States region and the East and Southern Africa region.

### 11. Strengthening capacity in Arab States

Following the [\*Regional Workshop on Measuring Sustainable Development Goals on Violence against Women and Time Use Statistics Indicators\*](#)<sup>11</sup> in Tangier, Morocco held in 2018, UN Women and WHO sought to seize the momentum to continue regional dialogues and processes to strengthen national statistical systems, and to push forward in advancing VAW measurement based on internationally agreed standards.

With the shared common goal, UN Women, WHO, and UN ESCWA jointly organized a regional workshop to bring together relevant partners in the Arab States region to discuss a way forward in advancing methods and strategies to measure VAW in line with globally agreed methodological and ethical standards, in October in Cairo, Egypt. The workshop aimed at laying a foundation for nationally owned sustainable capacity strengthening process through the engagement and leadership of institutions in the region. The workshop discussions provided critical inputs to the conceptualization and implementation of the regional capacity development component for the region, to be launched in 2020 under the Joint Programme. Additionally, at the workshop, Member States reviewed the regional VAW toolkit in Arabic. This ensured regionalization and enhanced regional ownership of the toolkit.

The Joint Programme welcomed 35 managerial and technical officers from national statistical offices and national women's machineries from 12 countries including Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen.

Over the years, the number of countries implementing VAW prevalence surveys has been increasing in the region. Available data, however, are not comparable at the regional level. Many countries are planning to implement VAW prevalence surveys after the 2020 round of population and housing census. At the regional meeting, several countries were highly encouraged to implement standalone specialized surveys on VAW to establish national baseline data and have a more comprehensive understanding of VAW to inform relevant targeted interventions. Countries were urged to abide by

*"We must know that the production of violence against women data is very important, because I consider it as a lamp illuminating the road supporting us while walking in a dark place. Data is the light that illuminates where we are, so you can complete the journey in ending violence against women." (Ms. Wafaa Maged Ahmed, General Manager of the Department of Gender, Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics [CAPMAS], Egypt)*

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.unescwa.org/events/sustainable-development-goals-violence-against-women>



standard methods including ethical and safety principles and include core questions that have been identified as relevant as part of a regional adaptation of global questionnaires, which are aligned with globally agreed standard questionnaires.

As an outcome of the regional consultative meeting, participants came to an agreement that an in-depth and specialized training on VAW is needed to produce accurate data and comply with globally agreed ethical and safety standards, to ensure the safety of interviewers and interviewees. The training on concepts, data collection tools, in addition, to field practice, exercises, testing, role-playing were among many of the recommended methods to be employed by the countries when implementing a training over a period of 2-3 weeks. Further details of this meeting, including the recommendations and outcome document, can be found [here](#).<sup>12</sup>

The Joint Programme provided both financial and technical assistance to UN ESCWA to finalize its regional VAW Toolkit, which serves as a regional protocol for VAW prevalence surveys. This regional protocol will support standardization, quality, and comparability of VAW prevalence data for the region. The toolkit in both Arabic and English will be publicly available soon.



*(Meeting on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on VAW in the Arab Region, 15-17 October 2019, Cairo, Egypt)*

## 12. Strengthening capacity in East and Southern Africa

In Eastern and Southern Africa there is available data on the prevalence of VAW mainly from the domestic violence module of the DHS. A number of countries in the region are considering or already planning the implementation of specialized VAW prevalence surveys, which will allow for more in-depth understanding and analysis of VAW in the country (compared with the inclusion of a module in a broader survey); better addressing methodological and ethical and safety issues; and greater visibility and impact of the results in policies and programmes. Some of these countries are planning such surveys as part of broader efforts to engender their national statistical systems and frameworks (i.e. the Women Count Programme), as well as part of other efforts to have a comprehensive approach to the elimination of VAW (i.e. the Spotlight Initiative).

In July 2019, UN Women in partnership with WHO and UNFPA delivered a regional capacity strengthening workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, targeting national actors that are engaged and/or are driving VAW survey processes, specifically NSOs and national women's machineries. National VAW surveys need to be driven by NSOs and national women's machineries, in order to ensure quality and use of VAW data. There were 51

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.unescwa.org/events/meeting-strengthening-implementation-prevalence-surveys-violence-against-women-arab-region>

participants working on statistics and/or VAW from 9 countries in the region including Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. The workshop aimed at guiding decisions on the planning and implementation of VAW surveys based on best practices and lessons learned; strategizing coordination and synergy-building among various institutions in undertaking data collection and analysis; and exploring systematic and sustainable ways of data collection, analysis, and use.

The meeting succeeded in bringing two critical national partners to work together to conceptualize, strategize, and envision VAW measurement in line with existing globally agreed methodological and ethical standards. Secondly, the meeting allowed the Joint Programme to preliminarily assess existing capacities and gaps of national partners on VAW measurement, to inform the design and planning of the regional capacity development component which will be launched in 2020. Lastly, the meeting mobilized and motivated a number of national partners to consider conducting a VAW prevalence survey such as in South Africa.

*“Data on violence against women serves as the voice for the voiceless. Data will generate detailed information that can be used for advocating for law and policy reforms, for services for women and girls who experience violence, and more resources in ending violence against women” (Susan Oregede, Programme Specialist, EVAW, UN Women, Uganda)*

*“Not only providing detailed information about violence against women and girls, data also provide an opportunity for the voices that have not been heard to be heard. This can help bringing healing to some survivors.” (Grace Bulezi Gulere, Gender Statistician, UN Women Uganda)*



*(Workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on VAW in East and Southern Africa Region, 16-19 July 2019, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)*

## Translating data into actions

The Joint Programme participates in strategic global, regional and national fora to advocate for the production and use of data on VAW in alignment with globally agreed methodological and ethical standards, in particular in the focus regions of the programme, i.e. Arab States and East and Southern Africa. In 2019, the Joint Programme has also provided technical support and quality assurance to different phases of data collection efforts in Albania, Grenada, Guyana, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Suriname, to ensure alignment with globally agreed methodological and safety and ethical standards on VAW data collection.

**Outcome 3. National data on violence against women are collected, made accessible and used for advocacy, policy and programming to end violence against women and girls**

**Output 5: Increased advocacy and awareness raising at global, regional and country level among governments, NGOs, including women's organizations, academia, and other relevant stakeholders, of the relevance of violence against women data and the available methods and standards**

### **13. Sharing experiences of data sharing to influence legislation and policies in the South Eastern Europe and Eastern Europe region**

During the [conference \*Commitment – Data – Action\*](https://www.osce.org/secretariat/415763),<sup>13</sup> organized by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna on May 6-7, 2019 UN Women organized a working group session on “Data collection and SMART national action plans on ending violence against women”. The session, which brought together policy makers and practitioners on ending VAW from different countries in the region, discussed the following questions: (1) How can we best use the information from the OSCE survey (as well as international framework and guidelines) to enhance policy and response to VAW?; (2) What steps need to be taken to define and harmonize methods and standards for collection of administrative data from different sectors?; (3) How can we enhance cross-sectoral data sharing systems at the national level to ensure they are women-centered? What are the good practices and lessons learned?; and (4) Which mechanisms can be established to ensure administrative data are used to inform policies and programmes to end VAW?. The broader objectives of this conference were to (1) Discuss with key stakeholders (ministries, national gender equality mechanisms, civil society organizations, international organizations) the results of the [OSCE-led survey on the well-being and safety of women](https://www.osce.org/projects/survey-on-the-well-being-and-safety-of-women);<sup>14</sup> (2) Turn the proposed action points of the OSCE-led survey main results report into concrete recommendations on combating VAW, and (3) Identify and deepen synergies between all stakeholders active in combating VAW, discussing the potential for cross-regional initiatives to improve policies and measures related to the prevention and protection from VAW. The working session organized by UN Women aimed to contribute to the discussion about the relevance of not only survey data, but also administrative data to inform the response to VAW and share experiences on how this is being done across countries in the region.

### **14. Advocating for the use of globally agreed methodological and ethical standards in the implementation of national prevalence surveys on violence against women in Arab States and East and Southern Africa**

The capacity strengthening workshops in Tanzania and in Egypt described above, also served the purpose of advocating for the need for VAW data to inform policies and programmes. Particularly, the meeting discussed and addressed the implications of adhering to methodological and safety standards in the usefulness of data to adequately inform the response and action. The ethical principle “Researchers and donors have an ethical obligation to help ensure that their findings are properly interpreted and used to advance policy and intervention development”, outlined by WHO in the publication [Putting Women First: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence against Women](https://www.who.int/gender/violence/womenfirtseng.pdf)<sup>15</sup> was at the core of both workshops.

These events - as well as the participation of UN Women and WHO in sessions and panels in the Women Deliver Conference and the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum in 2019- not only contributed to advocacy

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<sup>13</sup> <https://www.osce.org/secretariat/415763>

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.osce.org/projects/survey-on-the-well-being-and-safety-of-women>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.who.int/gender/violence/womenfirtseng.pdf>



efforts for the production of VAW data in alignment with agreed standards, but also to strengthen partnerships and collaboration with key global, regional and national actors working on VAW data.

**Output 6: National violence against women data are collected, disseminated and used for advocacy, policy and programming to end violence against women and girls**

## 15. Contributing to data production on violence against women

The Joint Programme has provided technical support to the advocacy, planning and implementation of a number of VAW prevalence surveys and other VAW data collection exercises, to ensure alignment with methodological and ethical and safety standards. UN Women contributed with technical inputs to the protocol produced by Al Waleed Philanthropies for the study “Saudi Women Participation in Development: A Measurement Study”, in their considerations to collect data on VAW. Following the regional workshop in Tanzania described above, participants from the South Africa delegation sought momentum to advocate for the government’s commitment and investment in a dedicated national prevalence survey on VAW. UN Women supported with technical inputs the development of a paper highlighting the need for such survey, other experiences in the region, technical and financial requirements and other issues. Technical inputs were also provided to the reports of the Women’s Health and Life Experiences national surveys in Grenada, [Guyana](#)<sup>16</sup> and [Suriname](#)<sup>17</sup> and the national survey on VAW in [Albania](#).<sup>18</sup>

There were no specific activities implemented by the Joint Programme in 2019 to support the dissemination and use of data to influence policies and programmes on EVAW.

## II. Partnerships and coordination

The Joint Programme seeks to contribute to global, regional, and national efforts to enhance VAW prevalence data collection, and to inform policies and programming. Therefore, the delivery of the Joint Programme must and is always done in conjunction and collaboration with sister UN agencies and external partners to advance the elimination of VAWG. The Joint Programme has contributed to strengthening UN inter-agency coordination and collaboration. It brought agencies and partners together around SDGs reporting, the estimation methods, methodological work, administrative data, and capacity building on VAW prevalence. Particularly, UNFPA, UN Women, and WHO have been able to increasingly speak as one when it comes to the work on VAW prevalence. Furthermore, the Joint Programme has enhanced synergies with VAW research and data initiatives mainly the UN Women’s Women Count Programme and the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, through knowledge sharing, technical collaboration, joint advocacy and communication, and resource leveraging. The Women Count Programme participated in the Joint Programme SC meeting. This is part and parcel of effort to enhance coordination and cohesion between both programmes. In 2019, partnerships have been more grounded with EIGE, the GBVIMS, ESCWA, ECA, MESECVI, DHS, academicians and other experts through their engagement in various activities of the Joint Programme as described above. The TAG for the estimates work includes representatives from academia, NSOs, policy makers who use data and others, and it also serves to strengthen links across these groups.

The Joint Programme has also been a critical instrument for deepening collaboration and partnership between UN Women and WHO to collectively advance the field of VAW research and data. The Joint Programme brings

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<sup>16</sup> <https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en/countries/americas/guyana/2018/guyana-womens-health-and-life-experiences-survey-2018>

<sup>17</sup> <https://publications.iadb.org/en/national-womens-health-survey-suriname>

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.undp.org/content/dam/albania/NewPublications/Web\\_Raporti\\_eng%20violence.pdf](https://www.undp.org/content/dam/albania/NewPublications/Web_Raporti_eng%20violence.pdf)

together the distinct and complementary experience and expertise of UN Women and the WHO, both of whom already contribute to the elimination of violence against women and girls in general (e.g. in the areas of essential services and prevention), and the increased availability of quality VAW prevalence data. Operationally, UN Women and WHO have been working closely with each other to assure the efficient, effective, and coordinated implementation of the Joint Programme. In 2019, both agencies capitalized on the two regional workshops in Tanzania and Egypt to hold face-to-face meetings to update and discuss technical and operational issues of the Joint Programme, and to propose a way forward. Both agencies have worked to ensure that financial responsibilities and procedures strictly follow UN rules and guidelines. The second Steering Committee (SC) meeting of the Joint Programme was held virtually on 15 March 2019. The SC approved the 2019 annual workplan, annual budget allocations, and the annual narrative report template. The SC also requested the risk register be updated and reported on.

### III. Challenges and lessons learned

The achievements in 2019 were not without challenges. Challenges presented throughout the implementation of the Joint Programme reflect the reality and complexity of VAW data work at all levels from global to national, and from technical to operational. The challenges provide both invaluable lessons learned and opportunities to advance the field of VAW research and data informed by experience, knowledge, and reality of experts and practitioners at the global, regional, and national levels.

#### **Methodological work**

Developing standards and recommendations for data collection, analysis, and reporting requires both technical rigor and political maneuvering. Behind the rigorous technical work lies numerous efforts to build consensus and buy-in from relevant stakeholders. For instance, the country consultation process is an important but onerous requirement to publishing country estimates. Given the tight timeline for publication of the country, regional and global IPV and NPSV estimates, the focus has been not only on the accuracy and rigor of calculations, but also on engaging with Member States to strengthen their understanding and ownership of the country prevalence estimates produced and/or the methodology adopted. On the administrative data front, the multi-sectoral aspect of the work means that more time is needed to feasibly develop a global guidance with thorough consultation with relevant sectors to avoid duplication of existing recommendations and overburden of service providers. Reflective discussions and exchanges at the EGM all pointed to the need for thorough processes for the development of the global guidance, to be firmly informed by the realities and experience of partners in the field.

#### **Capacity development**

UN Women and WHO have sought to enhance strengths and sustainability of institutionalized knowledge and capacity on VAW prevalence surveys within the regions supported by the Joint Programme. National partners' capacity and level of interest in VAW prevalence surveys vary across countries and regions. Identifying suitable and qualified institutions for both regions – Arab States and East and Southern Africa – is not a straightforward task. Approaches taken are multiple including identifying capacity assets and needs, exploring potential partnerships, advocating, mobilizing for interest and commitment, and building ownership. The launch of calls for proposals was delayed as UN Women and WHO took conservative steps to lay out foundational work to ensure better understanding of capacity gaps and engagement with the regions prior to the launch. Additionally, UN Women and WHO sought to cement more concrete collaboration actions with the kNOVAWdata initiative of UNFPA, UN ESCWA, and UN ECA who would be strategic partners for jointly delivering the commitment on regional capacity strengthening.



### **Data for advocacy**

The experience of the Joint Programme has noted that data literacy among policy makers and data users varies. Data literacy is two-fold, one is the ability to understand data and another is to translate data into actions. In 2019, UN Women and WHO had opportunities to assess and have a better understanding of different levels of data literacy of national partners, especially through the two regional workshops with NSOs and national women's machineries. It appears to be a lengthy process to move from data collection based on internationally agreed standards, to data analysis, and data use. The work on the data use pillar is intertwined with the capacity development pillar. They inform each other. Work under this pillar is also closely linked with the capacity (including financial) and political will of countries to implement VAW prevalence surveys. The Joint Programme was engaged and supported discussions around advocacy efforts and planning of surveys in some countries (i.e. Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa), but these surveys have not been implemented yet. The work in 2019 will allow UN Women and WHO to have a targeted approach to support national partners to translate national prevalence survey results into user-friendly accessible information to formulate policies and programmes to end VAW, through enhancing data literacy and conducting data producers-users dialogues. Additionally, the Joint Programme will provide support to countries to report on up-to-date VAW indicators under the international normative frameworks. It is expected that the country consultation process for the validation of the country estimates will also contribute to this.

## **IV. Risks management and value for money**

The Joint Programme SC met on 15 March 2019 and requested that the risk register be developed and kept updated. The register should include contextual, technical and operational risks that can affect the Joint Programme, as well as proposed strategies to mitigate them. Potential risks could be fraud, safeguarding, political/policy changes, and poor coordination/partnerships.

Potential risks include inability to identify highly qualified regional institutions to lead regional capacity development initiative in the two regions covered by the Joint Programme, national stakeholders' lack of funding to carry out VAW prevalence surveys, and over-reliance of the Joint Programme on only one source of funding. To mitigate these risks, UN Women and WHO work closely with respective Regional Offices, UN Regional Commissions, NSOs and other relevant partners to identify and reach out to a wide range of institutions with different focus including sexual and reproductive health, public health, population and development, demography, epidemiology, statistics, and gender equality and women's rights. A number of activities under the Joint Programme are linked to planned or potential prevalence studies in countries. There have been efforts to collaborate closely with the UN Women's Women Count Programme and the Spotlight Initiative to advocate with national partners to commit efforts and resources to VAW prevalence studies and other VAW data work (i.e. strengthening administrative data systems). Lastly, UN Women and WHO continue to search for alternative sources of funding to fill the funding gaps for the Joint Programme.

The budgeting and implementation of the 2019 annual workplan were done under the value for money principle. One key highlight was the partnership with UN ESCWA to finalize the toolkit on VAW prevalence studies in Arabic, and to conduct the regional meeting on the planning VAW prevalence surveys on in the Arab Region in October in Egypt. The Joint Programme provided funding to UN ESCWA to execute these activities in close collaboration with UN Women and WHO. Thanks to its regional expertise and close relationships with national institutions in the Arab States region, UN ESCWA was the most suitable partner to carry out the Joint Programme activities in the region in an efficient and effective manner.

## V. Programmatic revisions

As per the report of activities and results under Outcome 1, UN Women and WHO have worked in 2019 together with UNODC and other partners to advance the field of measurement of gender-related killings of women. This was not initially envisioned under this programme. However, this is a relevant area of work where there is an important gap, which contributes to the strengthening of standards for measurement of all forms of VAW.

The UN Statistical Commission, in 2019, agreed on the importance of developing a statistical framework on gender-sensitive crime statistics, with a focus on the gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide/feminicide), and noted the expression of countries' need to improve evidence on gender-based violence, data on crimes, victims and perpetrators, and to measure and monitor the effectiveness of state responses to this phenomenon. The development of this framework was set to be conducted jointly by UNODC with UN Women and other international partners. Although Latin America has led efforts on this front, there is a clear need to agree on an operational definition for statistical purposes that is feasible to report on, that is relevant globally and that goes beyond the intentional killings of women by their partners or family members.

The resources used in 2019 and envisioned for the coming years are modest, mainly to cover participation in meetings and consultations. Time of staff funded by the programme (both in UN Women and WHO) has also been dedicated to this. It is important to note how this work leverages work of the Spotlight Initiative in the Latin America region and work of the UN Women Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics, supported by the Women Count programme.

## VI. Resources

As per the request of DFID, the two payments scheduled, as per the agreement, for June and November 2019 were finally made as one payment in December 2019. This has not impacted the timely implementation of the programme, as the 2019 workplan was supported by funds disbursed in 2018. The funds received in late 2019 were allocated to UN Women and WHO early in 2020 for the implementation of this year's workplan.

The SC members have agreed to make an agreement amendment to revise the payment schedule of the remainder of the funds. The present agreement stipulates for payments in June and November 2020. The Steering Committee members have agreed for the payments (same amounts, GBP 750,000 each) to be made in November 2020 and November 2021, respectively. This payment schedule is better aligned to the programme 5-year work plan and budget, considering the programme's end date in December 2022.

The Joint Programme SC members have recognized the programmatic risks associated with the over reliance on a single donor and the need to attract more donors to support the successful implementation of the programme. Strategies such as leveraging planned or ongoing surveys at the country level, better linking with the donor community of the Women Count programme and DFID's outreach to other donors, have been discussed as potential approaches to be explored in 2020.

Finally, it should also be highlighted that there has been a delay in the recruitment of a WHO staff to coordinate and manage the PUNO's implementation of this Joint Programme workplan. Although an excellent team of consultants were recruited to support this function in 2019 (and continuing in 2020), this has had some impact on the overall (financial) implementation rate of the programme in 2019.

## VII. Indicator based performance assessment

Progress in 2019 towards the 2022 impact and outcome targets has already been described in the previous narrative sections of the report. Descriptive qualitative information to report progress towards those targets seems more appropriate than quantitative one. Regarding progress on outputs, for some of them not measurable results are expected this year and, like for impact and outcome level indicators, the narrative qualitative information included in the text is more appropriate. Nevertheless, when relevant information is available, for all level indicators, data is provided under the relevant columns in the below table.

UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data								
Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
<b>Programme Goal: Quality, comparable data on different forms of violence against women are available and collected over time to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under the SDGs, CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action.</b>								
1. Number of countries with quality comparable data on intimate partner violence included in the SDGs database for target 5.2.1 indicator	87 (2005-2016)					150	SDG Indicators Global Database <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/databa se/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/databa se/</a>	106 <sup>19</sup> (2005-2017)
2. Number of countries with quality comparable data on non-partner sexual violence included in the SDGs database for target 5.2.2 indicator	0 <sup>20</sup>					65	SDG Indicators Global Database <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/databa se/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/databa se/</a>  WHO database (for the IAEG-VAWS)	Please see footnote 5 below.

<sup>19</sup> This is the number of countries with data that was submitted by SDG indicator 5.2.1 co-custodian agencies to UNSD in early 2019 for the UN Secretary General's report *Progress towards the SDGs*. The WHO Database that is being used for the estimates has data on this indicator for 143 countries, and co-custodians expect to use this data for SDGs reporting, as soon as the estimates and database are launched in 2020.

<sup>20</sup> A decision was taken by the co-custodian agencies in 2017 not to report on this indicator due to low country coverage, low relevance of the indicator for advocacy and monitoring purposes and further methodological work needed. Co-custodians proposed an alternative SDG indicator on non-partner sexual violence in the 2020 Comprehensive Review of the global indicator framework to monitor progress on the SDGs. This was not accepted but conversations continue with the IAEG-SDGs. The

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
3. Number of countries that have conducted at least two surveys on the prevalence of violence against women	47 (2000-2017)					52 (2000 - 2021)	WHO database (for the IAEG-VAWS)	-
<b>Outcomes 1: Measurement and methodologies for VAW data collection and use are strengthened and disseminated, including for national, regional and global monitoring and reporting requirements for SDG target 5.2 indicators.</b>								
1.1. Number of national VAW prevalence surveys (implemented or planned) that include and report on the standard measure of psychological violence that has been disseminated with the support of this joint programme	0					15	WHO database (for the IAEG-VAWS)	-
1.2. Number of national VAW prevalence surveys (implemented or planned) that include the set of questions on violence against older women that has been developed with the support of this joint programme	0					4		-

WHO Database that is being used for the estimates has data on lifetime NPSV prevalence for 93 countries, and co-custodians expect to use this data for SDGs reporting, as soon as the estimates and database are launched.

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
1.3. A recommendation is made about how to best measure violence against women with disabilities	No					Yes	Desk review and joint programme annual reports	-
1.4. Number of countries where the VAW administrative data global guidelines have been piloted	0					5	Desk review and joint programme annual reports	-
<b>Output 1: Selected methods and standards for data collection and analysis are reviewed or developed, including for measurement of psychological violence, violence against older women, violence and disability status, and disseminated to ensure improved coherence and harmonization to produce prevalence data on VAW, including for the SDGs global monitoring indicators [outcome 1].</b>								
1.1.1. The updated WHO Multi-Country Study questionnaire and implementation tools are publicly available and accessible	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	WHO Website	No (planned for end of 2020)
1.1.2. A standard measure and recommendations for measuring and reporting of psychological violence is developed and disseminated for use in VAW prevalence surveys	No	-	-	Yes	-	-	WHO Website	-
1.1.3. A set of questions on violence against older women is developed and disseminated for use in VAW prevalence surveys	No	-	Yes	-	-	-	WHO Website	No (planned for end of 2020)



**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
1.1.4. Recommendations for the measurement of disability in VAW prevalence surveys are developed and disseminated	No	-	-	Yes	-	-	WHO Website	-
1.1.5. Global guidelines for the collection, storage, analysis and sharing of VAW administrative data are developed and disseminated	No	-	-	-	Yes	-	UN Women Website Joint Programme annual reports	-
<b>Output 2: National, regional and global VAW prevalence data are presented in a consistent way by different agencies and are used for the monitoring and reporting of the SDG target 5.2 indicators [outcome 1].</b>								
1.2.1. Global, regional and country estimates for SDG target 5.2 indicators are produced and disseminated at least twice, as a result of consultation with global experts and country stakeholders	No	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	WHO Website Joint Programme annual reports	No (planned for 2020)
1.2.2. Databases from different agencies present VAW prevalence data in a consistent and harmonized manner, and differences (when existing and justified) are clearly explained	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Web-based data visualization tool launched Desk review Joint programme annual reports	Yes

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
<b>Outcome 2: Capacity of national institutions to collect violence against women data in line with globally agreed standards is increased.</b>								
2.1. Number of data producers and users with strengthened capacity to implement, analyse and use data from VAW prevalence surveys as a result of this joint programme	0					60	Joint programme annual reports	86 <sup>21</sup>
2.2. Number of national VAW prevalence surveys conducted under the technical leadership of professionals trained with the support of this joint programme	0					8	Joint programme annual reports	-
<b>Output 3: A long-term training programme for implementing VAW prevalence surveys in alignment with agreed global standards is developed and implemented initially in at least 1 institution in 3 different regions (total of 3 institutions) [outcome 2].</b>								
2.1.1. Number of regional institutions supported by the joint programme that develop/adapt a training curriculum for implementation of VAW prevalence surveys and implement at least one training	0	-	-	1 (Arab States)	1 (Africa)		Joint programme annual reports	-

<sup>21</sup> 51 from the *Regional Workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women* (Tanzania, July 2019) and 35 from the *Meeting on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women in the Arab Region* (Egypt, October 2019)

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
<b>Output 4: A network of experts from different disciplines and regions is established to support the implementation of VAW prevalence surveys [outcome 2].</b>								
2.2.1. Number of professionals whose capacity and expertise on VAW prevalence surveys implementation has been strengthened as a result of this joint programme, that participate in South-South collaboration	0	-	-	2	2	2	Joint Programme Annual reports	-
<b>Outcome 3: National data on VAW are collected, made accessible and used for advocacy, policy and programming to end violence against women and girls</b>								
3.1. Number of national or sub-national policies or programmes to end violence against women developed/strengthened as a result of VAW national prevalence surveys implemented with the support of this joint programme	0					8	Joint programme annual reports	-
<b>Output 5: Increased advocacy and awareness raising at global, regional and country level among governments, NGOs, including women's organizations, academia and other relevant stakeholders, of the relevance of VAW data and the available methods and standards [outcome 3].</b>								
3.1.1. Number of global, regional and national discussion panels and	0	2	2	2	2	2	Joint Programme annual reports	3 <sup>22</sup>

<sup>22</sup> (1) OSCE Conference "Commitment – Data – Action" (Austria, May 2019); (2) Regional Workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women (Tanzania, July 2019); (3) Meeting on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women in the Arab Region (Egypt, October 2019)

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

Indicators	B (2017)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Means of verification	2019 result
events organized with the support of this joint programme to advocate for the production of national statistics on VAW in alignment with global methodological and ethical standards								
<b>Output 6: National VAW data are collected, disseminated and used for advocacy, policy and programming to end violence against women and girls [outcome 3].</b>								
3.2.1. Number of countries that receive joint technical support/quality assurance by the PUNOs of this joint programme (i.e. UN Women and WHO) for implementing VAW prevalence surveys	0	2	2	2	2	2	Joint Programme documents	6 <sup>23</sup>
3.2.2. Number of countries supported by the joint programme to implement VAW prevalence surveys that organize results dissemination activities that lead to concrete policy and programming action points	0	2	2	2	2	2	Joint Programme documents	0

<sup>23</sup> Albania, Grenada, Guyana, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Suriname.

**UN Women and WHO Joint Programme: Strengthening methodologies and measurement and building national capacities for violence against women data**

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>B (2017)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>2019 result</b>
3.2.3. Lessons learned from the capacity building training implementation and from the implementation of surveys supported by the joint programme are documented and shared	No	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Joint Programme annual reports	-



