



Costing the Implementation of Laws and Policies on Violence against Women & Girls

A Knowledge Sharing and Exchange Webinar

Organized by the Ending Violence against Women and Gender-Responsive Budgeting Clusters,
UN Women

Date: 20th October 2011

Time: 8:00 am – 11:00am (EST)

Background

Political will and momentum to address violence against women and girls is at a historic high. Laws and policies on violence against women have advanced considerably in the last 5 years, with 125 countries that have now outlawed domestic violence and more than 70 countries that have developed multisectoral national action plans on at least one form of violence.¹ A major challenge worldwide, however, is implementation of these laws and policies, including lacking or inadequate budget allocations.

Costing the delivery of services and interventions is one critical step towards the allocation of funds to implement laws and plans. Costing helps to²:

- Determine how best to allocate limited resources
- Provide guidance to government staff on what is needed to implement the plans and deliver on commitments
- Identify which services and interventions to prioritize, establish and/or expand
- Delineate roles and responsibilities for the delivery of services and interventions across sectors
- Visibilize resource needs for fundraising purposes
- Track allocations, channeling of funds (e.g. by sector), expenditures, service delivery bottlenecks and outcomes

To date, much of the documented costing work has focused on the socio-economic costs of violence against women, which entails calculating the direct and indirect, tangible and intangible costs of violence to women, their families, the community and society at large. This type of costing is often used for advocacy purposes and to mobilize support for legal and policy change by demonstrating the quantitative losses if action is not taken or by providing a cost-benefit analysis of action v. inaction. Costing exercises of this nature, while important in certain contexts, are not the focus of this webinar (for additional information on socio-economic costs, see the *Annex: Resources*).

The main purpose of this webinar is to bring together experts and practitioners from different countries and contexts to better understand the requirements, methodologies, processes and challenges related to costing for the implementation of laws and policies on violence against women. Given the dearth of documentation on the topic, the webinar will allow participants to share their knowledge and experiences in a semi-structured format (see Guiding Questions Annex) within a small group. The webinar will be recorded and housed on the Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls for future reference.

¹ Sources: [Progress of the World's Women 2011](#); [Secretary-General's Database on Violence against Women](#).

² Adapted from [Seychelles Costing Report](#).

AGENDA

- 8:00 – 8:15am **Welcome & Logistics** - Dina Deligiorgis, UN Women Ending Violence Against Women
- 8:15 – 8:30am **Global Overview on Costing** - Sylvia Walby, Lancaster University
- 8:30 - 8:45am **Seychelles Experience**- Dr. Neddy Matshalaga, Primson Management
- 8:45- 9:00am **Bolivia Experience** - Pia Johanssen, UN Women/GRB Andean Region
- 9:00 – 9:15am **Bosnia and Herzegovina Experience** – Minja Damjanovic, United Women Banja Luka
- 9:15 – 9:30am **Albania** - Rezart Xhelo, Center for Civic and Legal Initiatives
- 9:30 – 10:30am **Open Floor** (Q&A, group discussion)
- 10:30- 10:45am **Wrap Up** - Fatou Lo, UN Women Gender-responsive Budgeting

GUIDING QUESTIONS

Scope

1. What was the exact purpose of the study? What specific questions did it aim to answer?
2. What was the scope and coverage (e.g. national/local; comprehensive/specific services; one form of VAW/various forms; etc.) of the costing study?
3. How were the parameters determined?
4. What was the required time-frame and cost of conducting the study?

Methodology

5. What methodologies/models (e.g. Unit-based Expenditure, Accounting, Costing Analysis, Resource Needs Model) were considered and which was chosen? What factors contributed to this decision (e.g. local context; capacities/available expertise; consideration of the evidence-base; etc.)?
6. If different methodologies were considered, what were the pros and cons of each?
7. What expertise or combination of technical skills were needed?

Data collection

8. What information was needed to conduct the study (e.g. prevalence/incidence data) and how was the information collected?
9. How did you address data gaps and data inadequacy (for instance, data that could not be obtained, or data of poor quality)?
10. How was the data validated?

Data analysis

10. What software (or other tools and methods) did you use to analyze the data?

Data use

11. How was the study received by various stakeholders? Was the study validated?
12. How were the results of the study used to inform government interventions?

Lessons learned and good practices

13. What were some of the practical challenges faced during this process?
14. If you could do it again, what would you do differently?
15. What advice would you give others embarking on or in the process of undertaking a costing study?

RESOURCES

Costing the Implementation of Laws and Policies

- **The Price of Protection: Costing the Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act in South Africa** . Available in [English](#).
- **Resource needs for AIDS in low- and middle-income countries: estimation process and methods**. Available in [English](#).
- **Costed Action Plan for Gender-based Violence for the Republic of the Seychelles 2010-2011**. Available in [English](#).
- **The Cost of Domestic Violence in the UK**. Available in [English](#).

Gender-responsive Budgeting

- **The War at Home - GBV Indicators Project (see Chapter 5)**. Available in [English](#).
- **Violence against Women in Mozambique** . Available in [English](#).
- **Opportunities and Challenges for Introducing Gender Sensitive Budgeting in the Area of Domestic Violence on Local and Entity Level in Bosnia and Herzegovina**. Available in [English](#). See also the [video](#).
- **Gender Responsive Budgeting in Practice: A Training Manual**. Available in [English](#).
- **Guía Metodológica: Planes y Presupuestos Pro-Equidad de Género en Municipios Rurales, Metodología e Instrumentos Técnicos**. Available in [Spanish](#).
- **Making the Act Work: A Research Study into Budget Allocations for the Implementation of the Domestic Violence Act**. Available in English [PDF].

Socio-economic Costs

- **Social and Economic Costs of Violence against Women: the Value of Prevention** (Institute of Medicine, 2011). The workshop [materials](#) and [report](#) are available in English.
- **Intimate Partner Violence—High Costs to Households and Communities** (ICRW and UNFPA, 2009). Available in [English](#).
- **Estimating the Costs and Impacts of Intimate Partner Violence in Developing Countries A Methodological Resource Guide** (ICRW, 2009). Available in [English](#).
- **Costs of Intimate Partner Violence at the Household and Community Levels: An Operational Framework for Developing Countries** (ICRW, 2004). Available in [English](#).
- **The Costs and Impacts of Gender-Based Violence in Developing Countries: Methodological Considerations and New Evidence** (World Bank, 2004). Available in [English](#).
- **The Economic Dimensions of Interpersonal Violence** (WHO, 2004). Available in [English](#).
- **The Cost of Domestic Violence: Toolkit** (Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women, 2008). Available in [English](#).
- **Making the Case for Domestic Violence Prevention Through the Lens of Cost-Benefit** (2008). Available in [English](#).
- **Country costing studies are available in the [Secretary-General's Database](#)**.
- **Additional information on Costing on the Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls**. Available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#).