United Nations

Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women

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4th Global Forum on Gender Statistics
Dead Sea, Jordan
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Outline

- Why new Guidelines
- Content of the Guidelines
- UNSD activities to strengthen capacity in measuring VAW

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Measuring Violence Against Women (VAW)

- VAW
  - Obstacle to achieving objectives of equality, development and peace
  - Violation of Human Rights
  - Affecting all societies, regardless of income, class and culture

- Statistics on various forms of violence are needed to inform/monitor policy development and to eradicate VAW

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Map 1: Countries which have conducted a survey on Violence Against Women since 2000 (in red)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main characteristics</th>
<th># of surveys</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tot # surveys=87 (in 76 countries)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>National Coverage</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include intimate partner violence</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include non-partner violence</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>72%</td>
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Need for international Guidelines

- Several initiatives aiming at standardizing VAW measures and methods across countries
  - UN Statistical Commission – FOC Group in 2008
    - Core set of indicators (requested in 2006 GA res.)
  - UN Development Account project – UN regional commissions
    - Survey module (model questionnaire) + related material
    - E-learning course
    - Training of trainers workshops
  - International surveys
    - WHO-Multi country study
    - International VAW Surveys
    - DHS and MICS module

- Guidelines as a tool for NSSs to produce statistics on VAW from statistical surveys, incorporating/referencing to previous/current initiatives in a single methodological resource
Overview of Guidelines

- Provide detailed methodological advice on:
  - What to measure
    - core and additional topics, (prevalence, severity, impact of VAW)
  - How to measure
    - population-based surveys, steps required to plan/organize and execute, recommended tabulations, data analysis and dissemination of results
  - Special features of surveys on VAW
  - All other relevant issues for NSOs to conduct statistical surveys on VAW

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Overview of Guidelines

What to measure
Physical violence

I. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency

II. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency
III. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency

IV. Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence during lifetime by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency
Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission FOC

Intimate partner violence – sexual/physical

V. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner in the last 12 months by frequency

VI. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner during lifetime by frequency
Core indicators - UN Statistical Commission FOC

Intimate partner violence – psychological/economic

vii. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner

viii. Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner
Core indicators - Summary

- Selected forms of violence (that can be measured through household sample surveys) - Any act of:
  - Physical
  - Sexual
  - Psychological*
  - Economic*

  violence perpetrated on women by intimate partners and other perpetrators (*=only intimate partners)

- Prevalence
  - Percentage of women aged 15 and older

- Reference time
  - Last 12 months
  - Lifetime experience
Topics/variables required to compute inds.

- Core
  - Type of violence
  - Severity of violence
  - Frequency
  - Relationship to perpetrator
  - Age
  - Marital/relationship status
Additional topics

- For respondents
  - Ethnicity
  - Economic activity status
  - Religion
  - Language
  - Educational attainment and Literacy
  - Age at first marriage or co-habitation
  - Place of residence (U/R)
Additional topics

- For violence
  - Female Genital Mutilation
  - Experience of violence in childhood
  - Attitude towards violence against women
  - Reporting to authorities/seeking help

- For perpetrator
  - Age
  - Substance abuse
  - Economic activity status
  - Educational attainment
  - Witnessing violence in childhood

- For perpetrator (non-partner)
  - Sex
  - Location of the violence

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How to measure
How to measure 1.

- Dedicated Surveys (preferred approach)
  1. To measure phenomena in all its complexity through a detailed range of questions
  2. To facilitate disclosure of sensitive topic through properly designed questionnaire
    - Introductory questions to prompt respondents to think of violence
    - Wording and Sequence of questions
How to measure 2.

3. To ensure the essential features of Surveys on VAW are considered

- Importance of appropriate sampling design (not to systematically exclude important population sub-groups)
- Special training of interviewers
- Ethical considerations
  - Confidentiality
  - Safety of respondents and interviewers
  - Support to victims
How to measure 3.

- Alternatively,
  - Use a Module in women’s health type of surveys
    - When dedicated survey is not feasible
    - Only as long as previous principles are followed
Annexes – Additional resources

- Proposed tabulations for core indicators
- Model questionnaire (DA inter-regional project)
- International instruments and conventions on VAW
- Countries that undertook VAW surveys
- Examples of questions for additional topics

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UNSD Capacity Building activities on VAW

- Guidelines
  - Finalized in 2012
  - Submitted to 44\textsuperscript{th} Statistical Commission session for endorsement

- Training workshops to improve countries’ capacity in collecting/analysing/disseminating and using statistics on VAW
Conclusion on Guidelines

- Focusing on measuring FOC indicators on VAW through a population-based survey
- Highlighting special features of VAW surveys
- Underlying the need to strengthen administrative records (health, justice..) to gather information on other forms of violence
- Stressing the importance of involving national mechanisms for the advancement of women, relevant ministries, other stakeholders to:
  - Ensure consistency of concepts
  - Relevance of statistics for policies and programme development
  - Use of information produced