9th United Nations Global Forum on Gender Statistics
17th meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics

Moroccan Experience in Collecting Data on Technology-Facilitated Violence Against Women (TF VAW)

Johannesburg, August 28-2023

Sanaa Drissi El Bouzaidi
s.drissielbouzaidi@hcp.ma
HCP- Morocco
Plan:

I. TF VAW data sources in Morocco

II- Collecting TF VAW Data: The 2019 VAW Survey Approach

III- Main TF VAW results

IV- Evaluation of the Moroccan approach

V- Challenges and recommendations
I- TF VAW data sources in Morocco

✓ **The 2019 VAW prevalence survey** conducted by The HCP in partnership with UN Women;

✓ **Administrative records** from departments dealing with women subjected to violence (Tribunals, Health, Youth, and Women's departments, General Directorate of National Security and the High Command of the Royal Gendarmerie, ONG s...);

✓ **Administrative data on online reporting** of violence against women (DGSN Helpline 19, "Koulouna-Maak" Platform, Email address plaintes@pmp.ma ....)
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Objectives of the 2019 VAW survey: Measuring TF VAW is one of the main objectives

✓ Measuring the prevalence of violence against women by context of living and by form of VAW;

✓ Understanding the individual, relational, community and societal factors behind VAW;

✓ Estimating the social cost to victims and their households (effects on physical and mental health, school drop-out or failure, etc.);

✓ Estimating the economic cost to victims, households and society;

✓ Understanding public perceptions regarding social norms and values associated with violent behaviors, regarding the causes of VAW, knowledge and evaluation of laws and measures relating to VAW, etc.);

✓ Measuring TF VAW.
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Questionnaire of the 2019 VAW survey: A dedicated module for TF VAW

➢ **Household questionnaire:** household composition, housing situation, personal characteristics of each member of the household (age, sex, economic activity status, educational attainment and literacy...).

➢ **Individuel questionnaire:** designed for reference women in the household and allows to capture:
  ✓ Personal characteristics of the reference women (childhood background, age at first marriage, substance abuse, disability, experiencing childhood violence in the family of origin ...);
  ✓ Personal characteristics of intimate partner (childhood background, substance abuse, experiencing childhood violence in the family of origin....);
  ✓ 5 modules for experiences of violence perpetrated by the intimate partner or by persons other than intimate partners (a family member, at work, in the place of learning or schooling, in public places);
  ✓ **Electronic violence;**
  ✓ Childhood violence (before the age of 15);
  ✓ Perceptions of violence.
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Concept of TF VAW

✓ Any act of violence that is committed, facilitated or aggravated by the use of ICTs, e.g. like cell phones and smartphones, the Internet, social media platforms or e-mail, text messaging and other related technologies, and which targets a woman because she is a woman or specifically affects women.

✓ Cyber-violence takes many forms, including sexting, happy slapping, flaming, outing, ostracism, denigration and identity theft...
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Target population

✓ Women aged 15 to 74 who used ICTs (Mobile phone, computer, tablet, landline phone)

✓ Women are selected from a total of 12 000 ordinary households at the rate of one woman per household

✓ The sample of 120000 households are representative of all social strata covering all regions of the country and both urban and rural areas
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Time frame

- **Since the age of 15**
  - Lifetime violence

- **The last 12 months**
  - Current violence
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Acts of violence listed in the TF VAW module

Any woman who answers "yes" to at least one of the following acts of violence is considered as a victim of TF VAW:

Since the age of 15 and during the last 12 months

1. Has anyone sent you messages, e-mails, or called you repeatedly to harass you?
2. Has anyone sent you messages or emails or called you repeatedly to make you feel afraid or threatened?
3. Has anyone followed and commented on you inappropriately on social media?
4. Has anyone published or threatened to publish your intimate photos on your phone or on social media?
5. Has anyone sent you any private sexual messages (photos, invitations, comments, etc.)?
6. Has anyone hacked your account / used your name or someone else's (on social media) to obtain personal information or to harm you?
Perpetrators of TF VAW

Relationship of victim to perpetrator of TF VAW
- Intimate partner (current or previous)
- Employer or supervisor
- Work colleague
- Another person at work (customer, patient, pupil or student)
- Teacher / professor / coach
- A friend from school
- Doctor, nurse, health worker
- Doctor, nurse, health worker
- A friend
- A Family member
- Someone you don't know
- Someone else

Sex of the perpetrator
- Man
- Woman
- Man and Woman
II- Collecting TF VAW data: The 2019 VAW survey approach

Frequency of TF VAW (since the age of 15 and during the last 12 months)

How many times has this happened to you since the age of 15?
0. no
1. only once
2. a few times
3. Several times

How many times has this happened to you in the last 12 months?
1. only once
2. a few times
3. Several times
Almost 14% of women aged 15 to 74 are subject to TF VAW in Morocco representing a total of 1.5 million victims.
III- Main TF VAW results

Prevalence of TF VAW, in the past 12 months, by women's characteristics

✓ Women are more vulnerable to TF VAW than men (14% versus 10%);
✓ TF VAW mostly affects younger women (24%), single women (30%), women with higher educational levels (25%), students (36%).

Source: VAW 2019
III- Main TF VAW results

Prevalence of TF VAW, in the past 12 months, by acts

Among women victims of TF VAW, 87% report being subjected to recurrent disturbing calls.

- Has anyone hacked your account / used your name or someone else's (on social media) to obtain personal information or to harm you? 7
- Has anyone published or threatened to publish your intimate photos on your phone or on social media? 7
- Has anyone followed and commented on you inappropriately on social media? 21
- Has anyone sent you any private sexual messages (photos, invitations, comments, etc.)? 22
- Has anyone sent you messages or emails or called you repeatedly to make you feel afraid or threatened? 22
- Has anyone sent you messages or emails or called you repeatedly to disturb you? 87

Source: VAW 2019
III- Main TF VAW results

- Electronic violence is mainly perpetrated by men (86%), and more particularly by unknown men (73%);
- The perpetrators are also women (8.3%), most of them are unknown (5%).

![Prevalence of TF VAW, in the past 12 months, by perpetrators](image)

Source: VAW 2019
### IV- Evaluation of the Moroccan approach

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Limitations</th>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Dedicated module for TF VAW;</td>
<td>✓ Lack of informations on the consequences and impact of TF VAW on victims;</td>
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<td>✓ Linking TF VAW to other Forms of Violence;</td>
<td>✓ Maximizing data potential: Under-use of collected data (modeling, impact studies, ....).</td>
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<td>✓ Detailed disaggregated data: sex, disability, and other individual and environmental characteristics of women;</td>
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<td>✓ Availability of supporting information on the perpetrators of violence and the incidence of this form of violence;</td>
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<td>✓ The high quality of data dissemination (visualization, computer graphics, etc.).</td>
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V- Challenges and recommendations

Challenges

✓ Underreporting and Stigma
✓ Standardized concept of TF VAW to ensure comparability;
✓ Defining target population: (women using or having used ICTs) for accurate and comparable data;
✓ Is TF VAW a form or context of violence?
✓ Complexity to divide TF VAW into different forms of violence (psychological, sexual...), as in other contexts or into different digital tools;
✓ Balancing detail and survey complexity: Striking a balance between capturing detailed information and avoiding survey complexity;
✓ Ensuring Regularity.

Recommendations

✓ Promote diverse data sources;
✓ Capacity-Building for actors engaged in combating violence against women (NSOs, CSOs, local operators, etc.);
✓ Raising awareness in families and schools about the risks associated with technology-facilitated violence;
✓ Adopting multidisciplinary approach by engaging psychologists, social workers, legal experts, and tech experts for better understanding and handling of digital aspects;
✓ Enhance partnerships to monitor, evaluate this phenomenon.
Thank you for your attention!