Global Campaign for Violence Prevention
February 2015

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Recent events

WHO, UNDP and UNODC release first Global status report on violence prevention 2014 (GSRVP 2014)
The GSRVP 2014 was released at WHO HQ in Geneva, Switzerland on 11 December by the WHO Director-General and senior representatives of UNDP and UNODC. In her remarks, the WHO Director-General, Dr Margaret Chan, noted “For people touched by violence, the consequences are far-reaching and often life-long. Violence shatters lives.” The launch convened around 100 participants. A personal testimony from Adam Fouracre of Stand Against Violence set the tone for the event. The report was presented by Dr Alex Butchart, NVI Coordinator for Violence Prevention. Ambassadors from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States, Zambia spoke in support of the report, and its utility as a key reference for developing a WHO-wide plan of action to prevent violence which will be initiated in 2015. Panelists from the UBS Optimus Foundation, the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, and the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse also shared remarks. NVI Director, Dr Etienne Krug, who chaired the event, provided the closing statement noting that “Together, we will use this report as a tool to make changes and to continue advocating for increased political will and greater attention and resources to this issue.” The GSRVP 2014 reveals that 475,000 people were murdered in 2012, and homicide is the third leading cause of death globally for males aged 15-44 years. Despite indications that homicide rates decreased by 16% globally between 2000 and 2012, violence remains widespread. Non-fatal acts of violence take a particular toll on women and children. One in four children has been physically abused; one in five girls has been sexually abused; and one in three women has been a victim of physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence at some point in her lifetime. The report - which reviews data on violence prevention programmes, policies and laws, and services for victims from 133 countries representing 88% of the world’s population - indicates that: only one third of the countries surveyed are implementing large-scale initiatives to prevent violence; just over half are fully enforcing a set of 12 laws generally acknowledged to prevent violence, although 80% countries have enacted them; and only half of all countries have services in place to protect and support victims of violence. The GSRVP 2014 calls for a scaling up of violence prevention programmes in all countries; stronger legislation and enforcement of laws; and enhanced services for victims. The report will serve as the basis for policy discussions in a number of countries in 2015. For further information, contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int). For the report, visit: http://tinyurl.com/GSRVP2014. For the infographic: http://bit.ly/1ygmlis.

Members of the 136th WHO Executive Board welcome the WHO/UNDP/UNODC Global status report on violence prevention 2014
On 2 February, members of the 136th WHO Executive Board discussed the recently released WHO/UNDP/UNODC GSRVP 2014 (see above). Eighteen Member States commented during the discussion, including several that spoke on behalf of all countries in their region, such as Lithuania, which spoke for the Baltic and Nordic Member States and the Netherlands; Namibia, which spoke for Member States in the WHO African Region; and the United States, which spoke for Member States in the WHO Region of the Americas. All Member States commended WHO, UNDP and UNODC on having produced the GSRVP 2014. Several Member States noted the relevance of the report as a basis for development of a global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system to address interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children. Throughout 2015, the GSRVP 2014 will be the focus of numerous regional and national policy discussions, and will also be presented to various international fora which address violence. To view the 136th WHO Executive Board session report by the Secretariat on the GSRVP 2014 visit: http://bit.ly/169744t. For further information, contact Dr Alex Butchart (butcharta@who.int).
**Upcoming events**

**AMRO regional consultation on the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system in addressing interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children** from 24-26 February 2015, Washington, DC, United States. For further information, contact Dr Alex Butchart (butcharta@who.int), Dr Marcelo Kore (koremarcel@paho.org) or Ms Alessandra Guedes (guedesa@who.int).


**SEARO-WPRO regional consultation on the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system in addressing interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children** from 23-24 April 2015, Bangkok, Thailand. For further information, contact Jonathon Passmore (passmorej@who.int) or Dr Chamaiparn Santikarn (santikarnc@who.int).

**9th ISPCAN Latin American International Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect** from 26-29 April 2015 in Toluca, Mexico. For more information, see: [www.9conferencia-ispcan.org/en/index#9thConference](http://www.9conferencia-ispcan.org/en/index#9thConference)

**EMRO regional consultation on the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system in addressing interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children** from 27-28 April 2015, Cairo, Egypt. For further information, contact Dr Alex Butchart (butcharta@who.int) or Dr Hala Sakr (sakrha@who.int).

**EURO regional consultation on the global plan of action to strengthen the role of the health system in addressing interpersonal violence, in particular against women and girls, and against children** from 11-12 May 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark. For further information, contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int) or Dr Dinesh Sethi (sethid@who.int).

**Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2015 Innovation and Intersections** from 14-17 September 2015 in Cape Town, South Africa. For more information, see: [http://www.svri.org/forum2015/](http://www.svri.org/forum2015/)

**7th Milestone of the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Meeting, WHO-HQ, Geneva, Switzerland,** 22-23 September 2015

For further information, see: [http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/7th_milestones_meeting/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/7th_milestones_meeting/en/)

To request an invitation, register here: [http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/7th_milestones_meeting/contact/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/7th_milestones_meeting/contact/en/)

**Publications**

**New version of Injuries and violence: the facts 2014 released**

A new document by WHO highlights that more than 5 million people die each year as a result of injuries, resulting from acts of violence against oneself or others, road traffic crashes, burns, drowning, falls, and poisonings, among other causes. Injuries account for 9% of the world’s deaths, nearly 1.7 times the number of fatalities that result from HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria combined. In addition tens of millions of people suffer non-fatal injuries which require treatment. There is a broad range of strategies based on sound scientific evidence that have been shown to be effective and cost-effective at reducing injuries. **Injuries and violence: the facts 2014** provides the latest facts about injuries and violence, who is at most at risk, the consequences and costs, and specific prevention measures. WHO regional and country offices are invited to disseminate this new document widely. The document will be available also in French and Spanish in the coming months. [http://bit.ly/16za9Lx](http://bit.ly/16za9Lx).

**University of New Hampshire and WHO release new document to improve efforts to prevent children’s exposure to violence**

A new publication entitled **Improving efforts to prevent children's exposure to violence: a handbook for defining programme theory and planning for evaluation in the new evidence-based culture** was published by the Crimes against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire in the United States and WHO. The handbook aims to help programme developers and implementers from nongovernmental organizations and other development agencies make better use of existing research and plan for evaluation when designing and implementing programmes to prevent violence against children. In recent years, funders of programme work in child maltreatment prevention have come to recognize the importance of identifying and building on proven solutions. They are increasingly asking applicants to explain
how their proposed programmes are informed by current research and to outline their plans to evaluate their effectiveness. As such this handbook can serve as a resource for such groups to improve their ability to meet the current expectations of funders. To access the document, visit: http://tinyurl.com/qypnt3r or contact Dr Chris Mikton (miktonc@who.int).

New study on the distribution of published violence prevention outcome evaluation studies
A new study describes the distribution of published violence prevention outcome evaluation studies by location and type of violence, for the years 2007–2013. It finds that while the number of studies increased from year to year, only one in 10 were from low- and middle-income countries, and that half focused on youth violence, but only one on elder abuse. The authors conclude that the results should inform future research strategies and provide a baseline for measuring progress in developing the violence prevention evidence-base, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Access the study at: www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359178914001025

Video on development of affordable parenting programmes to prevent child maltreatment
A new three-minute video describes work under way to develop and evaluate a suite of affordable parenting programmes to prevent child maltreatment and other forms of violence in low-resource settings. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g553h4KGKR8. This suite of programmes is called Parenting for Lifelong Health and is aimed at parents of children aged 0 to 17 years. It is being developed through a collaboration between WHO, UNICEF and the following universities: Bangor (United Kingdom), Cape Town (South Africa), Oxford (United Kingdom), Reading (United Kingdom), and Stellenbosch (South Africa). For more information on Parenting for Lifelong Health, see: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/child/plh/en/

Editorial reflects upon dramatic declines in violence against and among children in the USA
Are the kids in the United States all right? A recent editorial by David Finkelhor in the Washington Post reflects upon dramatic declines in violence against and among children in the United States, and concludes that the past decades have brought significant declines in violence, delinquency and other problem behaviours, in part due to expanded and more effective prevention programmes: http://wapo.st/1A03wsh

Reminders:
For a wealth of information on violence prevention, visit the WHO Prevention of Violence website:
www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/en/

For publications and posters, visit:

To download WHO Short Courses on Violence and Injury Prevention, visit:

To access Violence Prevention: Evidence Base and Resources, visit:
www.preventviolence.info/