e-update on Global Campaign for Violence Prevention – January 2014

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Recent events

6th Milestones in the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention and satellite meetings

From 11-15 November 2013, the Mexican Ministry of Health and Ministry of Foreign Affairs convened a week of meetings in Mexico City on a public health approach to violence prevention. The centrepiece of the week was the 6th Meeting on Milestones in the Global Campaign for Violence Prevention, held on 13-14 November and hosted by the Mexican Government on behalf of WHO. The meeting was attended by over 300 international and Mexican participants and opened by the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr J. Meade Kuribreña; the Mexican Minister of Health, Dr M. Juan López; WHO Representative for Mexico, Dr Maureen Birmingham; and the Director of WHO's Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability, Dr Etienne Krug. Keynote addresses were given by Dr Etienne Krug, who provided an overview of violence prevention progress globally and by Prof Lawrence Sherman of Cambridge University in the United Kingdom, who underlined the need for greater investment in outcome evaluation studies to establish what works to prevent violence. Technical sessions on day one covered child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder maltreatment. Highlights on day two included state-of-the-science reviews of the evidence for preventing violence and a high-level panel discussion during which ministers and senior representatives from 12 governments described how they are addressing problems such as firearm-related homicide, child maltreatment, intimate partner and sexual violence, and elder abuse. A key next step identified during the closing session was the establishment of a technical working group to inform the measurement of violence-related goals in the post-2015 Development Agenda.

As part of the meeting series the following satellite meetings were held: on 11-12 November, a meeting to review best practices in violence prevention for Mexican delegates; on 12 November, a workshop on integrating child maltreatment prevention and early child development programming; and on 15 November, the annual meeting of the WHO-led Violence Prevention Alliance – see below for more on the last two of these meetings.

More information about the meeting, including PowerPoint presentations, is available here: [http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/6th_milestones_meeting/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/6th_milestones_meeting/en/index.html). For further information, contact Dr Alex Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Workshop on integrating violence prevention into early child development

On 12 November, the day before the 6th Milestones Meeting opened, the UBS Optimus Foundation and WHO convened a one-day workshop in Mexico City on integrating child maltreatment prevention and early child development (ECD) programming. Some 30 experts in the fields of ECD and violence prevention attended the meeting, which aimed to increase ECD experts’ knowledge and awareness of the field of child violence prevention, and vice-versa, to increase communication between the two fields, and to identify common challenges and opportunities. For further information, contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int).
Violence Prevention Alliance (VPA) Meeting

Almost 40 VPA participants and observers participated in this half-day meeting, held in Mexico City on 15 November. Five VPA project groups provided updates on their activities; WHO gave a progress report on the Global status report on violence prevention; and implications of the outcomes of the 6th Milestones Meeting for the VPA were discussed. The main decisions taken during the meeting were to establish a network of universities working on violence prevention in Central America; to create an informal network – or “think tank” – of academic and research institutions interested in violence prevention; to explore the creation of a project group aiming to compile narratives about violence and its prevention for advocacy purposes; to create a translation project group that focuses on getting key WHO and VPA participants’ documents translated into Spanish and other languages; and to further develop the VPA Assets Database. For further information, contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int).

Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2013 held on the theme 'From Evidence to Action'

WHO co-sponsored the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2013 on the theme of “From Evidence to Action” which took place in Bangkok, Thailand from 14-17 October. Some 200 researchers, programmers, and policy-makers from over 50 countries gathered to discuss the latest research on the Forum’s main themes: sexual and intimate partner violence in low-income and middle-income countries; child abuse and neglect; HIV and sexual violence; trafficking for sexual exploitation; and sexual and other forms of gender-based violence in conflict and crisis. Several side-events were held, including on the intersections between violence against women and violence against children, ethical guidelines for undertaking interventions research, and a handbook for conducting interventions research on violence against women. For further information, contact Ms Alessandra Guedes (guedesa@who.int) or Dr Claudia Garcia-Moreno (garciamorenoc@who.int).

Update on progress in development of the Global status report on violence prevention (GSRVP)

The GSRVP, to be published in 2014, will for the first time evaluate the extent to which countries have been implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health, as called for in World Health Assembly Resolution 56.24, “Implementing the recommendations of the World report on violence and health”. Data for the GSRVP are being compiled by National Data Coordinators in each country using a questionnaire which asks about the existence of national action plans and coordination mechanisms for violence prevention; data on the magnitude of violence; primary prevention responses such as policies, programmes, and laws; and the existence of services for victims of violence. Some 90 countries have already completed data collection and are finalizing their responses, and it is anticipated that a further 20-30 countries will have completed the exercise by April 2014. The GSRVP will be launched towards the end of 2014. For further information, contact Dr Alexander Butchart (butcharta@who.int).

Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH): first face-to-face meeting of core team

Core partners working on the development of PLH met for the first time in person at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom on 27-29 November, after over a year of remote WebEx meetings. PLH is developing and testing a suite of affordable and evidence-based parenting programmes to prevent violence for low-resource settings. This is a collaboration between WHO’s Department of Violence and Injury Prevention and Disability, Stellenbosch University in South Africa, the University of Cape Town in South Africa, Bangor University in Wales, and the Universities of Oxford and Reading in England. PLH is made up three programmes, each for a specific age group: PLH for Babies and Toddlers for children aged 0-23 months; PLH for Young Children for children aged 2-9 years old; and PLH for Adolescents for children aged 10-17 years old. The three programmes are currently being developed and evaluated in South Africa and will then be implemented and tested in three to five other countries. For more information, contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int) or see: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/child/plh/en/index.html
Conference on “Eliminating violence against women in Europe: intersectoral approaches and actions” held in Vienna, Austria
From 25-26 November, 200 people convened for this conference organized by WHO EURO, the European Institute of Gender Equality, and the City of Vienna. Participants included officials from ministries of health, social affairs, and justice; NGOs; academia; and representatives of the Council of Europe, the European Union, the European Council, the European Parliament, UN Women, UNFPA, UNESCO, ILO and IOM. WHO made presentations on the burden of violence against women globally and in Europe; ways to use the European Health 2020 policy framework to address violence against women; ideas for adapting WHO clinical and policy guidelines to European contexts; and the intersections of preventing violence against women with preventing child maltreatment. For further information, contact Dr Dinesh Sethi (Din@euro.who.int) or Ms Isabel Yordi at (iyo@euro.who.int).

Breaking the Cycle 2: Health sector responses to violence against women and girls
On 26 November to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) joined efforts with the US Department of Health and Human Services, the US Agency for International Development, PEPFAR, the Gender-Based Violence Task Force of the Interagency Gender Working Group, and George Washington University’s Global Women’s Institute to highlight the important role of the health sector in responding to survivors of violence against women and girls. The event was attended by about 80 participants. PAHO’s Assistant Director, Dr Francisco Becerra, closed the event by highlighting the steps that PAHO is taking to strengthen the health sector’s response to survivors, including the development of an online training curriculum aimed at health care providers. For further information, contact Ms Alessandra Guedes (guedesal@paho.org).

Member States chart ways to make progress on violence and injury prevention in the Western Pacific
A “Technical consultation on prevention, control and response to injuries and violence in the Western Pacific region” was held in Manila, Philippines and Nadi, Fiji on 29-31 October and 20-22 November respectively. As the first meetings of national focal persons for violence and injury prevention in the Western Pacific Region since 2007, participants included national counterparts from health, police, transport and social welfare from 17 countries. Participants reviewed the burden of injuries and violence in the region, examined the evidence base for scaling up effective prevention, and identified key priority areas for engagement between WHO and Member States as part of the development of a Regional Action Plan. For further information, contact Mr Jonathon Passmore (passmorej@wpro.who.int).

Violence and Injury Prevention Course offered in Minsk, Belarus
A one-and-a-half day course using TEACH-VIP was organized in Minsk, Belarus on 29-30 October. Hosted by WHO EURO in collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Belarus, the course was attended by 16 people primarily from the health sector, including lecturers and traumatologists from all regions of the country. This was followed by a policy dialogue on child injury prevention during which participants agreed that child injury prevention would be a priority area for collaborative work in the next biennium. For further information, contact Dr Dinesh Sethi (din@euro.who.int) or Mr Francesco Mitis (mit@euro.who.int).

Upcoming events
World Health Organization Executive Board, 134th Session, 20-25 January 2014, in Geneva, Switzerland: the Board will discuss a draft resolution entitled “The role of the health system in addressing violence, in particular against women and girls.” For more information, see EB134/21 here: http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb134.html
Society for Prevention Research 22nd Annual Meeting: Comprehensive and Coordinated Prevention Systems: Building Partnerships and Transcending Boundaries from 27-30 May 2014 in Washington, DC, USA. For more information, see: http://www.preventionresearch.org/

7th International Conference on Evidence-Based Policing on the theme of “Police-led experiments” from 7-9 July 2014 at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Cambridge, UK. For more information, see: http://www.crim.cam.ac.uk/events/conferences/ebp/2014/

XXth ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect from 14-17 September 2014 in Nagoya, Japan. For more information, see: http://www.ispcan.org/events/event_details.asp?id=315532


Publications

Violence prevention: the evidence – now available in Spanish and French
This publication reviews the evidence for interventions to prevent interpersonal and self-directed violence. By spotlighting evidence for the effectiveness of interventions, Violence prevention: the evidence provides clear directions for how violence prevention funders, policy makers, and programme implementers can boost the impact of their violence prevention efforts. For the Spanish, French and English versions see: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/4th_milestones_meeting/publications/en/index.html

New WHO report: International perspectives on spinal cord injury
This publication’s main messages are that spinal cord injury is preventable, survivable, and need not preclude good health and social inclusion. Violence is among the leading causes of spinal cord injuries. As many as 500 000 people suffer a spinal cord injury each year. People with spinal cord injuries are two to five times more likely to die prematurely, with worse survival rates in low-income and middle-income countries. The new report summarizes the best available evidence on the causes, prevention, care and lived experience of people with spinal cord injury. Download the report and other materials at http://www.who.int/disabilities/policies/spinal_cord_injury/en/

16 ideas for addressing violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic
To mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, WHO and UNAIDS launched “16 ideas for addressing violence against women in the context of the HIV epidemic”. This publication provides evidence-based summaries for programming to transform gender norms; address the intersections of HIV, alcohol and violence; integrate violence against women and HIV services; and promote laws and policies on violence against women, gender equality and HIV. Download the publication, at: www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/vaw_hiv_epidemic/en/index.html

Reminders
For a wealth of information on violence prevention, visit the WHO Prevention of Violence web site: http://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: http://www.preventviolence.info/