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13-14 November 2013
6th Milestones in a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Meeting
Mexico City DF, Mexico

The theme of the 6th Milestones Meeting is "Towards measurable violence prevention targets". The meeting will focus on consolidating global, regional, and national efforts to strengthen the measurement of interpersonal violence and violence prevention policies, programmes, and laws, with a view to defining measurable violence prevention targets in the years ahead. The meeting will be held in English and Spanish and some 350 participants are expected to attend. Should you want to be placed on the invitation list, please email Claire Scheurer (scheurerc@who.int) providing your name, email address and postal address. For more information, visit: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/6th_milestones_meeting/en/index.html

Recent events

66th World Health Assembly: Member States call for WHO action plan addressing interpersonal violence with a focus on violence against women and girls
During the annual gathering of the world's ministers of health in May, seven governments – Belgium, India, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, United States of America, and Zambia – issued a statement at the end of a panel discussion declaring violence against women and girls "a major global public health, gender equality, and human rights challenge, touching every country and every part of society" and proposing an agenda item on the topic for the 67th World Health Assembly. To see the statement, visit: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/media/news/2013/21_05/en/index.html

Violence addressed in report on the post-2015 development agenda by the high-level panel of eminent persons
The report by Ellen Sirleaf Johnson, David Cameron, and Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono suggests as a goal under the theme of empowering girls and women to "prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against girls and women", and under the theme of ensuring stable and peaceful societies, to "reduce violent deaths per 100,000 by X and eliminate all forms of violence against children". The theme of 'freedom from violence' recurs throughout the document. This report will serve as a background document for discussions on the definition of the post-2015 development goals that will replace the Millennium Development Goals. For press release and full report, visit: http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=45044&Cr=mdg&Cr1
Training sessions for National Data Collectors (NDCs) for the Global status report on violence prevention (GSRVP) winding up and data collection under way
The GSRVP, to be launched in 2014, will assess what countries around the world are doing to address interpersonal violence, including child maltreatment, youth violence, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, and elder maltreatment. It will focus on national plans, data collection capacity, policies, laws, prevention programmes, and victim services. NDCs will collect data in each country using a standardized methodology. The GSRVP will be published by WHO, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Online training sessions for NDCs have now been completed in almost all WHO regions and completed data are now being submitted in the online database. Visit: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/status_report/en/index.html

UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Meeting: “Research on violence against children – building the evidence base for action”
The meeting, which took place on 25-27 June in Bangkok, Thailand, focused on national population-based surveys on violence against children (VAC) in the East Asia and Pacific and African regions by UNICEF and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In East Asia and the Pacific, surveys are planned in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Mongolia, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and Viet Nam. In Africa, surveys have been completed in Kenya, Tanzania, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe and will soon be carried out in Malawi and Zambia. The meeting addressed the planning and conducting of these surveys, advocacy activities based on their findings, and measures taken by governments in response to the surveys. Visit: http://www.unicef.org/eapro/activities_21057.html

First workshop in the series “Good enough? When is evidence-based intervention ready for dissemination?” on “Translation of evidence-based knowledge into real-world settings”
This first workshop in the series was held on 31 May and 1 June in Marbach Castle in Germany, organized by the Jacobs Foundation. It focused on standards of evidence, programme implementation and dissemination, structural systems for roll-out, publication bias, and going from programmes to systems in relation to child and adolescent mental health and violence prevention. The second workshop in the series will be held at the end of August 2013 and will focus on “Methodological dilemmas in developmental intervention research and roll-out”. The workshops will inform the Jacobs Foundation’s funding strategy and result in a special issue of a scientific journal on the topic of when evidence-based intervention is ready for dissemination. For more information, contact Dr Christopher Mikton (miktonc@who.int).

Capacity building workshops on violence and injury prevention in Moldova and Uzbekistan
Two violence and injury prevention courses were delivered by WHO in collaboration with the Ministries of Health of Moldova and Uzbekistan. They were attended by representatives of ministries, NGOs, academics, and health professionals. Topics addressed included injury prevention, injury surveillance, violence prevention, child injury prevention, child maltreatment prevention, and national policy making. Both workshops were rated very highly, and there was a lively debate about the next steps in implementing TEACH-VIP nationally. In Moldova there was a request for translation of TEACH-VIP into Romanian and a discussion on its integration into continuous professional development and higher educational courses. In Uzbekistan, where
TEACH-VIP has been translated into Uzbek, about 5000 medical students and about 6000 postgraduate doctors have so far received training using these materials and all eight medical schools use modules from the curriculum. For more information, contact Dr Dinesh Sethi (din@euro.who.int) or Mr Francesco Mitis (mit@euro.who.int).

Workshop on the prevention of violence against women, adolescents and children in Antigua, Guatemala
Held in mid-June, this workshop, funded by the Open Society Foundations, brought together some 30 delegates from Ministries of Health, Education, Women's Affairs, and Justice and from civil society from Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Guatemala. It assessed advances in the prevention of violence in these countries and focused on evidence-based prevention strategies and WHO clinical and policy guidelines on violence against women. Outcomes of the workshop included agreements with the Government of Guatemala for a participatory review of its National Plan for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and with the Government of Ecuador to sponsor a replication of the workshop in Quito, Ecuador in late 2013. For further information, contact Ms Alessandra Guedes (guedesa@who.int).

Preparations for WHO’s World suicide report under way
On 4-6 June, WHO convened a planning meeting in Geneva, Switzerland for the first ever World suicide report to be published in late 2014. Participants included some of the world's foremost experts on understanding and preventing suicide. Discussions focused on the proposed structure and content of the report including the epidemiology of suicide, the evidence base for suicide prevention, and the development of national suicide prevention policies and programmes. For more information, contact Dr Alexandra Fleischmann (fleischmann@who.int).

Upcoming events

International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) European Regional Conference
The ISPCAN European Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect will be held in Dublin, Ireland, from 15-18 September. For more information, visit: http://www.ispcan.org/event/Dublin2013

Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum 2013 – Evidence into Action
The SVRI will be holding its third international conference on sexual violence research, the SVRI Forum 2013, from 14-17 October in Bangkok, Thailand. The aim of SVRI Forum 2013 is to promote promising practices for preventing and responding to sexual and intimate partner violence. For more information, contact svri@mrc.ac.za or visit: http://www.svri.org/forum2013/

Publications

WHO launches report on global and regional prevalence estimates for intimate partner violence and sexual violence (IPV-SV) against women
Overall, the report found that 35% of women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence at some point in life. Most of this violence is IPV, which is experienced by almost one third of all women who are or have been in a relationship. Women suffering IPV are
more likely to have a low-birth-weight baby; twice as likely to experience depression; and in some regions, 1.5 times more likely to acquire HIV. The report can be downloaded here:

WHO releases clinical and policy guidelines on medical and mental health services for women who have suffered intimate partner violence and sexual violence
As a complement to the above report, these guidelines provide evidence-based guidance on medical and mental health services for women who have suffered intimate partner violence and sexual violence, and the organization of support services. The guidelines can be downloaded here:

Infographic on violence against women
Launched during the 66th World Health Assembly, this highlights how one in three women aged 15-49 years will experience physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lives, and the severe health and social consequences of such violence. It also outlines what the health sector can do to prevent and respond to violence against women. The infographic is currently available in English and French

Report from a workshop on the international epidemiology of child maltreatment
Funded by UBS Optimus Foundation and organized by the Crimes against Children Research Center and WHO, this workshop convened leading child maltreatment prevention researchers during the September 2012 XIXth ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect in Istanbul, Turkey. The workshop reviewed the current state of international epidemiological research on child maltreatment and discussed methodological problems involved in accurately estimating the prevalence of its different forms. Visit:

New study on interventions to prevent Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV)
This new study published in “PLOS Medicine” by scientists from the University of New South Wales in Australia reviews 40 studies worldwide that assess interventions aimed at preventing CRSV. None showed impact in terms of reduced CRSV incidence, but some showed promise in reducing risk factors for CRSV. Full study at:

WHO Director-General Margaret Chan calls for increased investment in early child development
In a recent “Lancet” editorial, Dr Chan highlighted how unstable caregiving, deprivation of love or nutrition, and stresses associated with neglect and maltreatment greatly increase the likelihood of poor health across the lifespan. She identified three areas as critical foundations for healthy development, and therefore priorities for attention: stable, responsive and nurturing caregiving with opportunities to learn; safe, supportive physical environments, and appropriate nutrition. Read the editorial at http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(13)60944-7/fulltext
Survey of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) among Romanian university students
The study found a high reported prevalence of physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, physical neglect and emotional neglect in this population. ACE were positively associated with engagement in health-risk behaviors in late adolescence and young adulthood. Moreover, the exposure to a higher number of ACE increased the probability of having somatic complaints and mental health problems in adulthood. Visit: http://www.euro.who.int/en/where-we-work/member-states/romania/publications2/survey-of-adverse-childhood-experiences-among-romanian-university-students

Reminders

For a wealth of information on violence prevention, visit the WHO VIP 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/