

TOOLKIT FOR REPLICATING THE UN MULTI-COUNTRY STUDY ON MEN AND VIOLENCE

INTRODUCTORY BOOKLET

UNDERSTANDING WHY
SOME MEN USE VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN AND HOW
WE CAN PREVENT IT



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



This booklet provides a brief introduction to the *Toolkit for Replicating the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence: Understanding Why Some Men Use Violence against Women and How We Can Prevent It*. The booklet is designed to give a quick glance at what is included within the toolkit. For the full toolkit, visit www.partnersforprevention.org.

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS RESEARCH FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION?

Violence against women is prevalent in every corner of the globe. Research has shown that it is a phenomenon rooted in unequal power relations between women and men and experienced across cultures, across socio-economic status, ethnicities and other demographic diversities. Violence against women reinforces gender hierarchies and power imbalances between women and men within families and communities. Prevention of violence against women refers to all efforts to reduce the number of new instances of violence by identifying and addressing underlying causes and associated factors.

Efforts to prevent violence require understanding the epidemic of violence against women: What types of violence occur? What factors are associated with the different types of violence? What are the differences across settings or countries?

RESEARCH FOR PREVENTION AIMS TO ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS, INTERVIEWING WOMEN AND MEN ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES AND PERPETRATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

Their responses lead to a picture of violence against women in a certain context, enabling us to better pinpoint the ways in which to prevent violence. Research for the prevention of violence against women can be directly applied into evidence-based prevention programming and policy-making.

Many decades of work by activists and scholars have shown that gender inequality, patriarchy and men's power over women create an environment in which violence against women is widespread and accepted. These are the underlying causes of violence against women. Within this context of inequality, other factors interact at different levels of society to make men more or less likely to use violence. There are many unique factors that influence the prevalence and nature of violence in different settings, making context-specific research a crucial element of prevention work.

Although data on the scope and scale of violence against women is context specific, we do know that men are the primary perpetrators. To prevent violence, it is vital to understand men's perpetration—the proportion of men who use violence against women, what types of violence they use, what factors are associated with their use of violence against women and why some men use such violence while others do not. The UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence methodology can help you to gather this information in your setting.

WHAT IS THE UN MULTI-COUNTRY STUDY ON MEN AND VIOLENCE?

In 2008, four United Nations agencies—the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Entity on Gender and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Volunteers (UNV)—came together through the joint programme Partners for Prevention (P4P) to launch the UN Multi-country

Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific. The study aimed to generate knowledge on how masculinities — ways of living for men — relate to men’s perceptions and perpetration of violence against women, to better inform prevention programmes and policies across the Asia–Pacific region.

The UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific was conducted between 2010–2013. More than 10,000 men and 3,000 women were interviewed across Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea (Bougainville), Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. The study was a collaborative effort involving partners from academia, research institutes, civil society, the United Nations family and governments around the globe. The study examined not only how men contribute to inequalities and oppression but also how they can become partners in efforts to change oppressive gender norms and promote gender justice.

The UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific was conducted for the purpose of:

- better understanding men’s use of different forms of violence against women (specifically, intimate partner violence and non-partner rape) in the Asia–Pacific region;
- assessing men’s own experience of violence as well as their perpetration of violence against other men and how it relates to the perpetration of violence against women;

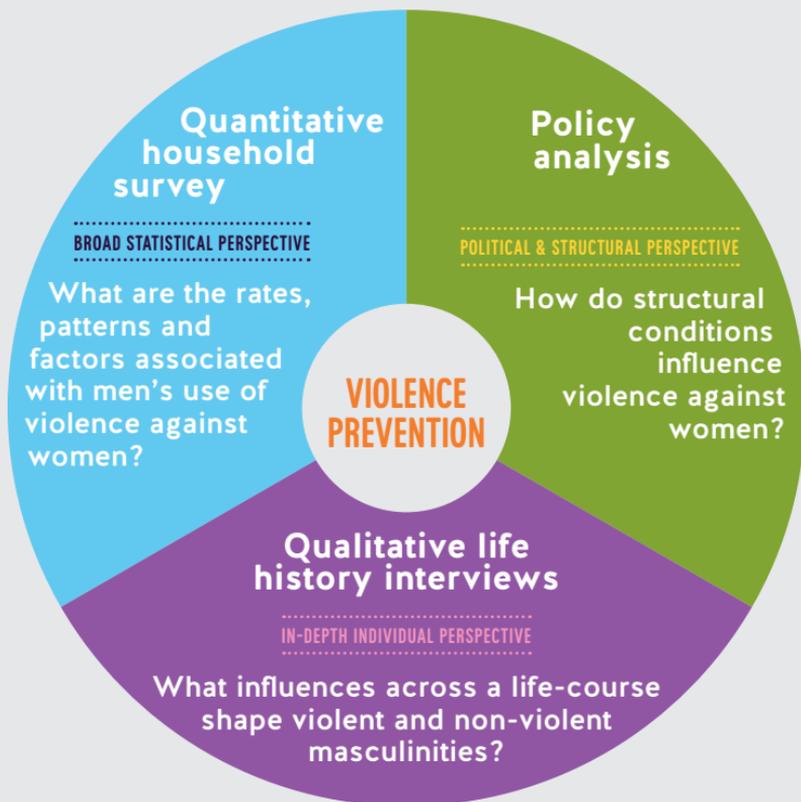
- identifying the factors associated with men's perpetration of different forms of violence against women;
- producing knowledge to inform evidence-based policies and programmes to prevent violence against women;
- strengthening local research capacity;
- developing research tools for future use in the investigation of violence against women and masculinity.

The study used three primary methodologies at the national and regional levels to build a nuanced understanding of violence against women and masculinity across Asia and the Pacific (figure 1):

- quantitative household surveys with more than 10,000 men (and approximately 3,000 women) to understand the scale and scope of violence perpetration and the factors associated with violence;
- qualitative life history interviews with more than 100 men who were known to have used violence and those who did not to explore how influences and experiences across a lifespan shape dominant and alternative masculinities;
- gender politics of policy research that use sociological and ethnographic methodologies to understand how institutional factors and structural conditions enable violence against women.

FIGURE 1**CONDUCTING COMPLEMENTARY TYPES OF RESEARCH**

To better understand the epidemic of violence against women, it is necessary to look at many, interconnected factors across different levels of society—from the individual to the community to the broader social level. The UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence methodology used three complementary research approaches. The quantitative research produced a broad range of statistics particularly related to individual attitudes and behaviours; the qualitative research provided a more in-depth understanding of masculinities and men’s trajectories into certain violent and non-violent practices; and the gender politics of policy analysis produced an understanding of the structural conditions that fuel violence against women and the changes that are needed to make and implement public policy that address those conditions.



The study provided cross-country comparable data on men's perpetration of violence for the first time in the Asia-Pacific region and deepened our understanding of the underlying drivers of violence. The Asia and Pacific quantitative regional findings were launched in September 2013, and this cutting-edge knowledge is shaping the discourse on violence against women globally and informing theory- and evidence-based prevention initiatives around the region. For more information on the findings of the study, visit www.partners4prevention.org.

TOOLKIT FOR REPLICATING THE UN MULTI-COUNTRY STUDY ON MEN AND VIOLENCE: UNDERSTANDING WHY SOME MEN USE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND HOW WE CAN PREVENT IT

Although the regional study was completed by 2013, we believe that the methodology continues to be relevant and important for building the knowledge base on men's perpetration of violence against women across the world, to complement existing and future research with women. The *Toolkit for Replicating the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence: Understanding Why Some Men Use Violence against Women and How We Can Prevent It* provides a comprehensive, step-by-step guide to using the methodology in your own setting. The toolkit covers the three research approaches used in the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific — quantitative household survey, qualitative life history and gender politics of policy — to provide a comprehensive picture of violence against women and masculinities in your setting.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TOOLKIT

The *Toolkit for Replicating the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence: Understanding Why Some Men Use Violence against Women and How We Can Prevent It* was developed with the overall objectives to:

- provide a comprehensive step-by-step guide to conducting research with men on violence against women, replicating the UN Multi-country Study on Men and Violence methodology;
- foster rigorous and ethical research that will expand the evidence on violence against women and help to inform long-term violence prevention efforts;
- consolidate the study's research tools and materials and share them widely.

WHAT IS IN THE TOOLKIT?

The toolkit includes all the tools you need to conduct rigorous and ethical research on violence against women with men to inform prevention. It also includes a step-by-step guide that explains how to replicate the study's methodology in a simple three-phase process, as outlined below. For every step in each phase, we explain the importance of that step and, where relevant, direct you to the related tool.

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**SECTION 1:
PLANNING
RESEARCH**

**SECTION 2:
COLLECTING AND
ANALYSING DATA**

**SECTION 3:
USING THE DATA
FOR CHANGE**

**Pre-fieldwork
planning and
preparations**

Quantitative

Qualitative

**Gender politics
of policy**

**Programming,
communication,
dissemination and
advocacy**

HOW DO YOU ACCESS THE TOOLKIT?

The complete toolkit and all accompanying research tools are available online at www.partnersforprevention.org.



Violence is preventable
UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women & UNV
Asia-Pacific regional joint programme
for gender-based violence prevention