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Technical Consultation on the Development of the ASEAN Guidelines for Collection and Analysis of Data on Violence Against Women

15-16 June 2017
Bangkok, Thailand

Background and Rationale

Violence against women (VAW) is a significant public health concern in Asia and the Pacific, with numerous consequences for the health, social, and economic well-being of women and girls. VAW stops women and girls from fulfilling their true potential, carries high economic costs for societies, and is an impediment to sustainable development. The recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the inclusion of Social Development Goal (SDG) 5, Target 5.2, and other ending violence against women (EVAW) and gender-related SDG targets and indicators, reaffirms this. In fact, many SDG targets specifically recognize women's equality and empowerment as both the objective, and as part of the solution.¹

Evidence on the extent of VAW and its health and social consequences has been increasing, forming a basis for advocacy, policy-making and programmatic interventions. In response, many Member States in the Asia and Pacific Region are taking impressive steps to promote gender equality and address VAW in collaboration with women's organizations, UN agencies and other partners.

Global and Regional Commitments

Global and regional commitment to recognize women's equality and empowerment and to address VAW are defined in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), the 2013 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 57) Agreed Conclusions.

In 2013, ASEAN adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the Elimination of Violence Against Women, affirmed ASEAN Members States (AMS) commitment to take all appropriate measures to prevent and respond to all forms for VAW. The ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (ASEAN RPA on EVAW) demonstrated the AMS's commitment to support the implementation of this Declaration. The ASEAN RPA on EVAW is consistent with the contents of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration (AHRD) and the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the AHRD. It is a joint effort of the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children

¹ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality>



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(ACWC)² and the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)³. In implementing its mandate and function, the ACWC and ACW have undertaken various activities/projects pertaining to the EVAW. ASEAN Member States (AMS) have established the ACWC-ACW Ad-hoc Working Group on the Development of ASEAN Guidelines for Collection and Analysis of Data on Violence against Women. This meeting is organized under the auspices of this Working Group.

Implementing Entity and Key Partners

Grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations (UN), UN Women works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls, the empowerment of women, and the achievement of equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action, and peace and security. Placing women's rights at the centre of all its efforts, UN Women leads and coordinates the efforts of the UN system to ensure that commitments on gender equality and gender mainstreaming translate into action throughout the world. UN Women provides strong and coherent leadership in support of Member States' priorities and efforts, building effective partnerships with civil society and other relevant actors.

In Asia and the Pacific, UN Women has collaborated with ASEAN to develop and launch its RPA on EVAW and has produced evidence on the costs of VAW to national economies, to assist with advocacy for stronger prevention and response. UN Women and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) have a strong, longstanding partnership and are collaborating to produce regional guidelines on data collection on violence against women (VAW), among other areas. UN Women and the ASEAN will develop the guidance jointly.

Strengthening ASEAN Member States' Capacities to Collect and Analyse VAW Data

Efforts to eliminate VAW requires the regular collection of reliable data. VAW data can be used to monitor the impact of prevention and intervention efforts, and to inform advocacy efforts and develop legislation, policies and programmes that aim to eliminate VAW (EVAW).⁴ VAW data can also be used to improve the quality and availability of services, protection, and justice for women who experience violence. To date six AMS have completed VAW prevalence studies⁵. In many countries, however, there is no data collection system in place, and the data that is collected is underdeveloped and underutilized.⁶

² ACWC's function and mandate is to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and children in ASEAN, based principally on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), which all ten AMS have ratified. EVAW and EVAC are among the thematic priority areas in the 2012-2016 ACWC Work Plan.

³ ACW is an ASEAN sectoral body mandated to implement, coordinate and monitor the implementation of ASEAN's key regional priorities and cooperation on women's issues. The 2011-2015 ACW Work Plan prioritizes VAW and sexual minorities as one of the key challenges.

⁴ United Nations Population Fund (2013). The Role of Data in Addressing Violence against Women and Girls.

⁵ ASEAN Member States that have completed VAW prevalence studies include: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.

⁶ European Institute for Gender Equality (2016). Administrative data collection on violence against women: Good practices.



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ASEAN Member States noted in the development of the Regional Plan of Action (RPA) on ERAW that guidance and assistance is needed related to VAW data collection and analysis. This emerged as a common concern during consultations related to SDG indicators.

To support ASEAN Member States, ASEAN and UN Women are partnering, with support from DFAT, to develop guidelines on VAW data collection. The guidance will bring together in one document guidance on three main types of VAW data, including prevalence data, administrative data, and methods of estimating the costs of VAW (i.e., costs of services and action, and costs of inaction, and costs to society). The guidance will address the similarities and differences between these three type of VAW data, and address how each of these types of data complement and interact with each other. Since guidance is available for generating prevalence data and costing data, the type of VAW data that needs further exploration in this meeting is administrative data, as little guidance is available to date on administrative data. The aim is to integrate experiences and practices from ASEAN countries into the VAW data guidance, making it regionally relevant. The guidance will assist ASEAN countries in measuring and reporting on SDG targets and indicators related to VAW and ERAW, including related to the Core indicators for measuring violence against women identified by Friends of the Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission on indicators on VAW (included in the RPA on ERAW).

Objectives

Overall objective: To develop key guidance with ASEAN Member States to strengthen abilities to collect and analyse data on VAW.

Specific objectives:

- To review and share experiences and lessons learned in terms related to the collection of prevalence data, costing data, and administrative data on VAW across ASEAN Member States
- To introduce participating Member States to a survey tool for mapping existing administrative data sources on VAW in ASEAN Member States
- To review principles of data collection and analysis related to VAW
- To review VAW and ERAW-related indicators in the SDGs and types of data to report on indicators
- To identify the next steps for drafting regional guidelines for strengthening ASEAN Members States' abilities to systematically collect and analyse data related to VAW

Title: Technical Consultation on the Development of the ASEAN Guidelines for Collection and Analysis of Data on Violence Against Women

Dates: 15-16 June 2017

Location: Bangkok, Thailand

Organizers: The meetings will be co-organized by UN Women (Asia and the Pacific Regional Office) and ASEAN Secretariat

Participants: Members of the ACW and ACWC groups from each country will be invited, as well as up to two (2) experts or specialists in each country experienced in VAW data collection and use. The meeting includes



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all ASEAN Members States (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Viet Nam).

Contact Persons: Varisa Sinthusake, Varisa.sinthusake@unwomen.org
Miguel Musngi, Miguel.musngi@asean.org
Ajeng Purnama, ajeng.purnama@asean.org