FEEDBACK ON SURVEY QUESTIONS
1. BACKGROUND

The SVRI Forum is the key global, abstract-driven conference for research and practice on violence against women (VAW), violence against children (VAC), and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality. The conference brings researchers, funders, practitioners, policymakers, activists, and survivors together every two to three years to connect, learn and share. The forum provides an opportunity to learn what is new, discuss what is and what is not working, and to identify priorities for the field moving forward. It provides multiple spaces and opportunities for delegates to strengthen existing partnerships, build new ones and have some fun.

Postponed from 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, our seventh global conference, SVRI Forum 2022 will be held in Mexico, 19 – 23 September 2022. To ensure that the SVRI Forum remains at the forefront of developments in the VAW and VAC field, and that we are aligned with current priorities, we have asked our members and networks to rank key themes identified for Forum 2022.
2. THE PAST INFORMS THE FUTURE

Each forum builds on the collective learnings from previous forum events. These learnings help us to identify the priority themes for the next conference.

SVRI FORUM 2019 KEY MESSAGES:

• We know more about the magnitude of the problem and the risk factors for VAW and VAC than ever before.
• We know that violence is preventable.
• We know that it does not take generations to stop violence. Evidence-based programs implemented within 12-18 months can have significant effects.
• We are deepening our understanding of which components of interventions are effective, and for whom.
• We are learning more about principles of effective scale-up and what it costs.

KEY GAPS IDENTIFIED:

• Availability and access to good measures and tools, especially those adapted, translated, and validated for use in diverse contexts
• Regional research and learning
• Research on costing, adaptation and scaling up
• Research on violence against vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women and children with disabilities, LGBTQI+ populations, indigenous peoples and forms of knowledge, and women and children affected by humanitarian crises and emergencies
• Research on and researchers of effective mental well-being interventions with victims or survivors of gender-based violence
• Longitudinal studies and sustainability of intervention impacts
• The need to address the continued English language and high-income bias in published research
BASED ON SVRI FORUM 2019 LEARNINGS, EIGHT KEY THEMES FOR BROADER CONSULTATION WITH THE FIELD WERE IDENTIFIED:

1. WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN’T?
Examining interventions or aspects of interventions that have been ineffective with specific groups, and why.

2. UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19
Understanding how COVID-19 has impacted VAW and VAC in different settings, and how we have consequently adapted how we work in research and in practice.

3. SCIENCE OF RESEARCH INTO VAW AND VAC
Examining the science of research into VAW and VAC and how it can be strengthened.

4. INTEGRATION AND INTERSECTIONALITY
Exploring innovative approaches to intersectional or integrative research and programming that will address VAW and VAC together, or VAW and/or VAC within other sectoral work.

5. ADAPTATION, SCALING UP AND COSTING – RESEARCH AND PRACTICE
Examining lessons learned from adaptation and scaling of interventions, assessing suitability of interventions for particular groups, analysing costing at scale as well as researching if – and when – scale is appropriate.

6. PROMOTING RESILIENCE AND MENTAL WELL-BEING, SELF/COLLECTIVE CARE AND KINDNESS.
Examining how to place self, institutional and community care and kindness at the centre of VAC and VAW research and interventions, and the related ethical responsibilities when working in this field.

7. HUMANITARIAN CRIPSES, EMERGENCIES AND THE IMPACT OF VAW AND VAC
Highlighting lessons learned, from research and practice, on COVID-19 and other public health emergencies, armed conflict, and natural disasters and climate change.

8. DECOLONISING/DEMOCRATISING RESEARCH
Exploring indigenous knowledge and/or methodologies, practitioner-based learning, and creative entries using visual media, audio, cartoons to complement more academic/scientific enquiry.

Please note, the themes are in abbreviated form, for full themes visit the Forum 2022 themes page here.
3. SURVEY QUESTIONS

Respondents were asked to rank the themes, indicate gaps in the themes and suggest how to ensure that the forum remains a key event on their calendar:

1. Rank the themes from 1 – 8 according to your priorities with 1 being lowest and 8 being highest.
2. What have we missed? Do you have any further ideas and suggestions for different or new forum 2022 themes?
3. How can we ensure that the forum stays a key event on your calendar?

The survey was available in Spanish and English.

4. SURVEY RESPONSE RATE

The survey received 109 responses with a 70 percent completion rate.

5. RANKING

Themes were weighted similarly across all eight priority areas, with the effectiveness of interventions or aspects of interventions being the key priority.

![Chart showing ranking of themes]

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In analysing the themes, respondents noted the following important issues:

**WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN’T?**

**PREVENTING VIOLENCE**
- Primary prevention
- Strategies to engage men and boys in prevention
- Changing social norms
- Enablers and accelerators of social change.

**RESPONDING TO VIOLENCE**

**Health sector responses:**
- Obstetric violence (from Spanish questionnaire)
- Intimate partner violence and chronic illness
- Service integration in antenatal settings
- Pregnancy from rape and survivor autonomy in choices around pregnancy.

**Mental health responses:**
- Mental health interventions and understanding the broad scope of mental health outcomes of VAW and VAC
- Secondary Trauma and the VAW researcher
- Looking at family systems and trauma.

**Types of violence - tech facilitated violence**
- Online action and interventions to prevent online violence (covering social behaviour change campaigns, referral mechanisms and actual counselling or social support groups)
- Adolescents and the ‘learning of violence’ online
- Online manifestations of violence against children
- How online VAC may cause offline VAC.

*“Entornos digitales como nuevos escenarios de la violencia sexual, la violencia contra las mujeres y la violencia contra los niños. Implicaciones en la investigación y manejo de casos” – Survey respondent (VAC, VAW and digital environments and investigation of such cases)*

**INTEGRATION AND INTERSECTIONALITY**

Being more explicit around intimate partner violence and violence against:
- LGBTQI, highlighting anti-transgender violence
- People with disabilities
- Drug users.

One respondent also mentioned researching the role of racial and cultural issues in VAW.
Three respondents were unclear about the grouping of integration and intersectionality and would prefer these as separate themes. For integration consider:

- Climate change and its impact on women and violence
- Including the education sector in the research and prevention of VAW and VAC
- Women’s increased participation in peacebuilding, conflict analysis and resolution
- Changing public (and funded/political) perceptions on VAW
- The impact of the erosion of democracy and good governance on VAW and VAC
- Human Rights and political approaches to research and programming.

**SCIENCE OF VAW AND VAC RESEARCH**

**Research methodology**
- Research during COVID-19 – what works and what does not work?
- Research methodologies and the challenges of research into VAW
- Measurement and indicators for prevention and response
- New methods that can be used for research into VAW and VAC, including participatory research in local communities.

**Ethics in research and practice**
- Ethical and practical lessons learned and future direction
- Ethics of anonymity – how do we protect participants?
- Ethics around masculinities and interviewing men
- Ethics of Randomised Control Trials
- Including survivor perspectives (i.e., children) in research.

**Implementation science**
- Implementation science approaches to intimate partner violence
- Policy development and implementation
- Policies and practices in traditional settings.

“What does it take to get VAW and VAC policies meaningfully implemented?”
- Survey respondent

**DECOLONISING KNOWLEDGE**

- How can research and interventions reach out to low-income and poverty ravaged countries?
7. IDEAS FOR PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS FOR FORUM 2022

- Feminist partnerships and data equity
- Research methods and processes (Research 101)
- Language used in the field to describe terms and concepts, recognising the complexity and intersectional nature of certain concepts (e.g. violence against children)
- How can the field drive the donor agenda?
- Building collaborations across geographical area
- Building and strengthening feminist partnerships
- Addressing the politics of working together in the field of VAW and VAC
- Building better partnerships with grassroot organisations.

“Our particular interest is in co-production with people with lived experience, both research and services. Hopefully, that will come under inclusion” – Survey respondent

8. HOW CAN WE KEEP THE FORUM A KEY EVENT ON THE CALENDAR?

Respondents highlighted the need to communicate regularly and to make use of a newsletter for forum-related updates. Issues of registration costs and the possibility of hosting the forum as a virtual event were also raised.

The WordCloud below contains messages from respondents around keeping the forum on their calendars:
9. MOVING FORWARD

Moving forward the SVRI and its partners will address gaps and ideas not captured within the themes to ensure the inclusion of as many voices as possible. The SVRI is grateful for the overwhelming response to the survey.

With the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SVRI, our local co-host Centro Regional de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (CRIM-UNAM), and partners will work towards creating a hybrid-type event and will pivot online should the need arise due to pandemic-related travel restrictions. We will make this decision by end March 2022.

We hope that you have diarised the forum and that we will see you in 2022 in Mexico! For more information, contact us at forums@svri.org.