The Power of Data to Action

Country experiences and lessons following more than a decade of Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys

September 20, 2022

Report authors: Kathleen Cravero, Steve Whittaker and Samantha Ski.

Presented by: Begoña Fernandez
Part 1: About the VACS and Data to Action Process
Survey implementation
- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Report writing

D2A workshops that convene stakeholders to review findings and consider options and opportunities to address them using INSPIRE

One or more public launches of VACS results

Development or adaptation of policies and/or plans to address and prevent VAC based on INSPIRE framework

Implementation of actions to address and prevent VAC

Monitoring and evaluation of those actions
Part 2: About the analysis
About the analysis

- The first comprehensive review of post-VACS efforts in VACS countries
- Web-based survey with 177 stakeholders across 15 VACS countries
- 48 key informant IDIs, nine working at global level and 39 working at country level.
- Synthesizes the views of 225 stakeholders across 20 VACS countries
Part 3: Key findings

Cambodia Deputy Prime Minister, H.E. Mrs. Men Sam An, spoke at the launch of Cambodia’s VACS report in 2014. Photo courtesy of Sofia Ollvid, UNICEF Cambodia.
Key Findings: VACS & Data to Action Process

1. VACS demonstrate that preventing and responding to VAC and GBV is a knowable, solvable problem.

2. The INSPIRE Technical Package and Data to Action workshops contribute to fundamental strengthening of violence prevention and response systems.

3. VACS results help drive broad and specific policy change, including those which benefit adolescent girls and young women.
1. Strong multisectoral coordination, led by national governments, is the single most important factor in the success of post-VACS efforts.

2. Strength, skills and commitment of lead Ministry is the most important factor in ensuring the success of multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms (MSCMs).

3. The funding of MSCMs is generally inadequate.

58% of respondents indicate multi-sectoral coordination is ‘difficult’ or ‘very difficult.'
Key findings: National responses to VAC

1. There is a high degree of government ownership – and leadership – in this area.
2. National response can take many forms and should depend on country context and needs (e.g. development of stand-alone plan vs. integration of VAC into broader plans)
3. Effective stand-alone action plans must be multisectoral, build on existing systems and have clear lines of accountability.
4. There are perceived gaps in many existing national responses related primarily to both costing and financing of sectoral interventions and systems-based approaches.
5. Funding of post-VACS efforts is insufficient in both scale and flexibility.
Part 4: Recommendations

Joseph Trikka Beugre (CDC Côte d'Ivoire), Dr. Solange Amethier (PN- OEV), Bibola Ngalamulume (PEPFAR Côte d'Ivoire), and Manuela Balliet (Together for Girls) at the high-level launch of the Côte d'Ivoire VACS report in 2020. Photo courtesy of Manuela Balliet, Together for Girls.
Recommendations

1. Multisectoral coordination mechanisms should have strong government ownership, participation across sectors, adequate funding and authority to hold stakeholders accountable for post-VACS commitments.

2. National responses come in a range of forms, stand-alone plans or improvement of existing plans, policies or programs.

3. Advocacy with both governments and donors should be strengthened to ensure that efforts to end violence against children are prioritized.

4. Civil society, including survivor-led and -centered organizations, should be more consistently and meaningfully engaged.

5. Funding for post-VACS actions should increase in scale, flexibility and duration.

We acknowledge support from USAID’s Health Evaluation and Applied Research Development Project (HEARD) funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under cooperative agreement AID-OAA-A-17-00002.