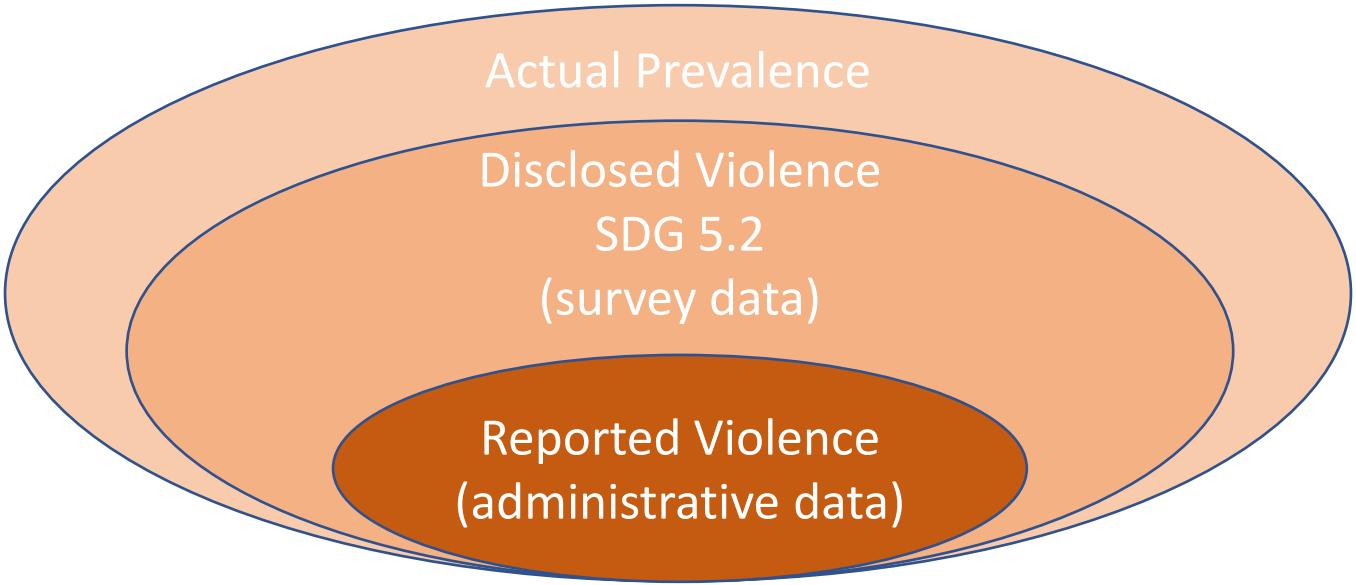
Use of Surveys to Collect Data on Gender-Based Violence

Information Collected, Methodological Choices, Relevant Guidelines

The need for reliable data on VAW



Source: Adapted from EIGE, Gender Equality Index 2015. Measuring gender equality in the European Union 2005–2012. Report, European Institute for Gender Equality

Dedicated surveys vs. modules within larger surveys

	Dedicated surveys	Modules
Budget	More expensive (stand-alone survey)	Costs are considerably reduced
Questionnaire	Broad and flexible	Must be adjusted to fit within the host survey
Sample design	Tailored to the survey objectives	Depend on the host survey
Interviewers	All female and selected according to specific criteria	Requirements of host survey + specific criteria for conducting VAW

Source: Adapted from UNSD (2014). Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against women-Statistical Surveys

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Types of violence to be covered in a survey

Physical violence	Sexual violence	Psychological violence	Economic violence
• Slapping • Throwing objects • Pushing or pulling hair • Hitting with something/fist • Kicking, biting, dragging, beating	• Rape • Attempted rape • Other sexual acts (Intimate touching without consent, sexual acts other than intercourse forced by money, physical violence, etc.)	• Emotional abuse - Insulting - Belittling - Scaring - Threatening • Controlling - Isolating - Monitoring - Ignoring - Etc.	• Denying access to financial resources • Denying access to property and goods • Deliberately not complying economic responsibilities • Denying access to labor market & education

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Core indicators identified by the FOC of UNSC

- Total and age-specific rate of women subjected to physical violence in the past 12 months (also during their lifetime) by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence in the past 12 months (also during their lifetime) by severity of violence, relationship to the perpetrator and frequency
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner in the past 12 months (also during their lifetime) by frequency
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by an intimate partner
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by an intimate partner
- Total and age-specific rate of women subjected to female genital mutilation

Source: UNSD (2014). Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against women-Statistical Surveys

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Face to Face vs. Telephone

	Face to Face interviewing	Telephone
Budget	Higher	Lower
Technology	CASI+CAPI, Paper	CATI
Sample	May be limited due to budget	More flexible but can be biased from incomplete telephone coverage
Field work	Interviews tend to be longer Participation rates are higher	Refusal rates are higher

Source: Adapted from UNSD (2014). Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against women-Statistical Surveys

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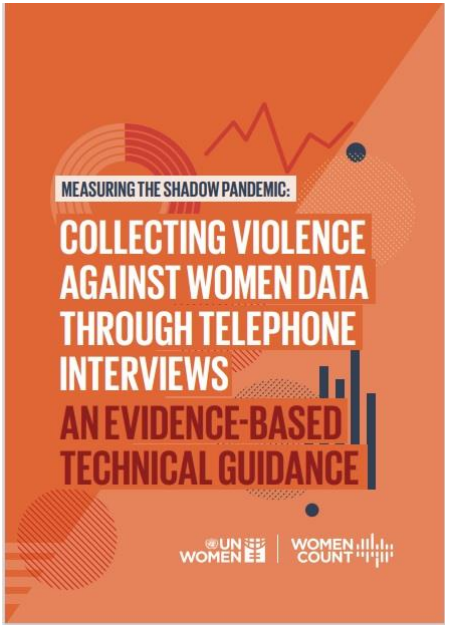
Innovations on remote data collection for VAW

- **Use of vignette**

[WOMAN NAME] and [MAN NAME] are a couple. They have been married for several years and have two children. [MAN NAME] works in a repair shop, but lately the business has been bad, and they are worried about money. Sometimes when [MAN NAME] gets stressed, he takes out his anger by yelling at [WOMAN NAME], and sometimes he hits her. [WOMAN NAME] feels hurt and wants him to stop but does not know what to do



Source: UN Women (2022). Collecting violence against women data through telephone interviews

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Innovations on remote data collection for VAW

- **List randomization**

Group One	Group Two
Question 1	
• I prefer *[LOCAL FOOD ONE]* to *[LOCAL FOOD TWO]* • I like *[NAME OF WELL-KNOWN LOCAL MUSICIAN, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES]* • I have been slapped or hit by my husband or partner BEFORE THE ONSET OF COVID-19 • Women in my family enjoy watching *[POPULAR LOCAL SPORT].*	• I prefer *[LOCAL FOOD ONE]* to *[LOCAL FOOD TWO]* • I like *[NAME OF WELL-KNOWN LOCAL MUSICIAN, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES]* • Women in my family enjoy watching *[POPULAR LOCAL SPORT].*
Question 2	
• People in my family have played *[POPULAR LOCAL SPORT]* • I have been slapped or hit by my husband or partner AFTER THE ONSET OF COVID-19 • I like *[NAME OF WELL-KNOWN TV SHOW, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES]* • I prefer *[LOCAL FOOD THREE]* to *[LOCAL FOOD FOUR]"*	• People in my family have played *[POPULAR LOCAL SPORT].* • I like *[NAME OF WELL-KNOWN TV SHOW, BUT NOT ONE EVERYONE LIKES]* • I prefer *[LOCAL FOOD THREE]* to *[LOCAL FOOD FOUR]"*

Source: UN Women (2022). Collecting violence against women data through telephone interviews

Ethical and safety considerations

- Safety of respondents and interviewers (private setting, only one women/household, safety measures)
- Methodological soundness (minimize underreporting)
- Protecting confidentiality (women's safety)
- Provide specialized training and ongoing support to staff
- Minimize any distress caused to participants by the survey
- Fieldworkers should be trained to refer women requesting assistance to available local services
- Findings are properly interpreted to advance policy development
- Avoid integrating violence questions into surveys designed for other purposes when ethical and methodological requirements cannot be met

Source: WHO (2001). Putting Women First: Ethical and Safety Recommendations for Research on Domestic Violence Against Women

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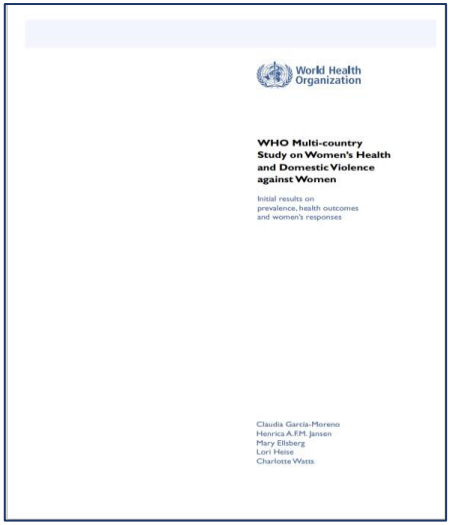
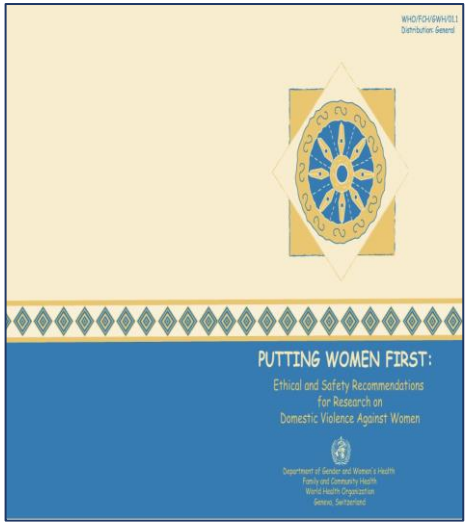
Relevant guidelines



WHO (2005). Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women



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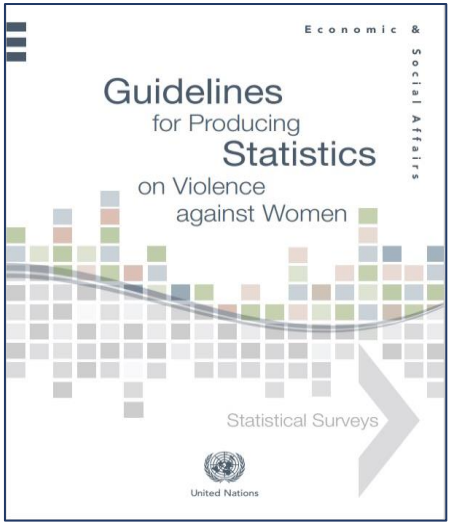

UNSD (2014). Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women

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CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR GENDER EQUALITY
SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

MAKE GENDER EQUALITY A LIVED REALITY.

Thank you
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