

Partnerships for Prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls in Southern Africa

Research Uptake and Regional Learning

Confronting the Challenge

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a form of discrimination which impairs the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Its health, social and economic impacts extend to children, communities and society as whole. It is also an obstacle to national development and poverty reduction goals.

In international comparison, the prevalence of VAWG in Southern Africa is high. Between half and two thirds of all women in countries within the region confirm ever having experienced violence (physical and/or emotional), with domestic violence against a partner being the most commonly cited form of violence.

Regional strategy

Partnerships for Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls in Southern Africa (PfP) implements a mix of innovative flagship projects on the primary prevention of VAWG in selected partner countries (Output B) that will also help to strengthen the capacities of and cooperation among stakeholders involved in prevention activities (Output A).

At regional level, the programme will generate a research agenda around the topics of the flagships (Output C) and will promote research uptake through regional learning about the experiences generated by the flagships as well as the research findings (Output D). The ultimate common goal of both Outputs is to promote evidence-based programming and policy design on the

prevention of VAWG in the Southern Africa region. To this effect, PfP will work closely with the SADC Gender Unit and regional and international partners active in the VAWG prevention arena.

Comissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	South Africa, Zambia, Lesotho
Key stakeholders	SADC Gender Unit, regional and international organisations
Duration	12/2017 – 11/2020

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



The PfP **research programme** consists of different forms of evaluations as well as lessons learned-studies that document processes and results of the flagship projects themselves or on topics that the flagship projects address.

The flagship projects and accompanying research activities are used as inputs to regional exchange formats (e.g. study visits, conferences, community of practice) in order to promote **learning among stakeholders in the region**.

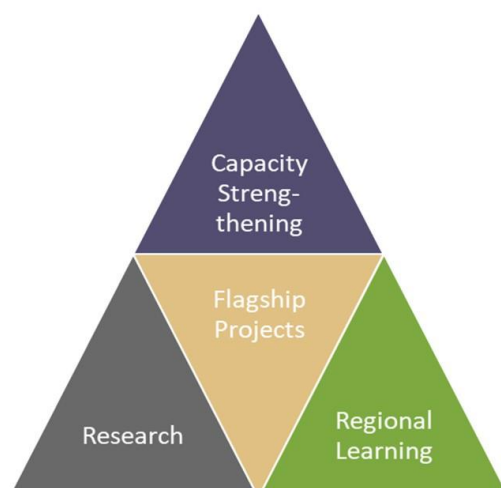
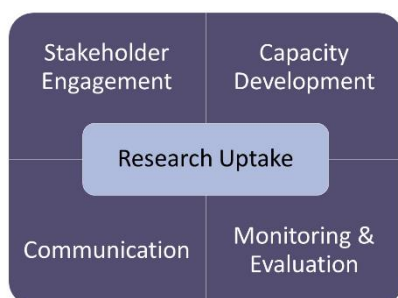


Figure: Visualization of PfP Outputs

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Research Uptake

Research uptake includes all activities that facilitate and contribute to the use of research evidence by policymakers, practitioners or development partners (DFID, 2016).



The figure represents the four pillars of PfP's approach to Research Uptake. Stakeholder mappings will be conducted for each flagship project to identify actors that might have an interest in

research findings. Stakeholders include policy-makers, civil society organisations, development partners, the private sector and research institutions. PfP will then design the type of on-going **stakeholder engagement** that is required to support uptake. The program will also provide regional platforms to promote evidence-based discussions once the research findings are available. Furthermore, regional learning formats, such as conferences, study tours and a community of practice will be organized to foster **capacity development** at regional level.

Research findings will be **communicated** to the public and linked to already existing evidence in a particular field of GBV prevention. Publications will be open access and will be presented in a format that responds to the need of different stakeholders.

Outcomes of the research uptake strategy will be **monitored** quantitatively (number of regional exchange formats and number of publications), as well as qualitatively, in terms of measuring stakeholders' self-perception on the conceptual understanding of prevention strategies.

Research findings and lessons learned also inform programmatic and management decisions at different levels of the **PfP cooperation system**:

1. Flagship level:

Stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of the flagship projects.

2. PfP level (cross-country, cross-flagship):

Stakeholders involved in other flagship projects in one of the three PfP countries. This can lead to **horizontal scaling-up** of what works in the prevention of VAWG.

3. National, regional and international level beyond PfP:

Policymakers, practitioners and development partners beyond the direct cooperation system of PfP. This can foster **horizontal and vertical scaling-up**.

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