

# The UN System at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) 2024 Forum, Cape Town-South Africa



**T**he Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum 2024 offers a critical platform for the UN system to unite in our collective effort to end violence against women and girls (VAWG), especially as we prepare for Beijing +30. This forum is a crucial opportunity to reflect on the progress made since the Platform for Action and to address the growing challenges we face, such as technology-facilitated gender-based violence and other emerging threats to women's rights.

The UN system's interventions at SVRI will spotlight our commitment to working collaboratively across sectors,

sharing knowledge, and driving evidence-based solutions to these pressing issues. As we look ahead to Beijing +30, it's essential that we leverage this moment to push forward against the global pushback on women's rights.

Workshops and events organized by the UN and its partners at the SVRI Forum will provide invaluable spaces for knowledge exchange, from addressing the intersection of violence against women and children, to exploring digital solutions, and enhancing research methods. Together, these sessions will underscore the need for bold, collective action to strengthen our policies, practices, and partnerships in the fight to end VAWG globally. Let's use this forum to solidify our shared agenda, recommit to gender equality, and ensure that the voices of women and girls remain at the center of our work.

## Monday 21<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER

Title	Organizers	Description
<p><b>Workshop 1:</b> Practice-Based Knowledge for Women's and Feminist Movements to End Violence against Women and Girls: Co-Creating an Agenda</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 12:00 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.1</p>	<p>UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women, Raising Voices and What Works to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls II</p>	<p>This is a participant-led workshop supported by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women open for all VAW/G practitioners, researchers, policymakers and funders interested in coming together on the topic of practice-based knowledge and learning as a driving force behind women's and feminist movements to end violence against women.</p>
<p><b>Workshop 2:</b> Pathways to Research Impact</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 12:00 <b>Venue:</b> Watsonia</p>	<p>World Bank Group, SVRI</p>	<p>This workshop will help you develop your knowledge and skills to make your research accessible and usable for decision-making in policy and practice. You will learn basic concepts around research for impact in the violence against women field; will hear from world experts on concrete experiences of using research for impact in low- and middle-income countries; and will learn how to develop research for impact plan. This workshop is intended for researchers, policy-makers and funders.</p>
<p><b>Workshop 4:</b> From Data to Action: Addressing Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 12:00 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.2</p>	<p>UNFPA, UN Women, WHO</p>	<p>Technology is becoming increasingly essential to enable access to networks, employment, information and services to achieve women's human rights. With increased access to technologies, however, are emerging opportunities and spaces for the perpetuation of gender-based violence. The main objective of this workshop is to convene a space to share research and data demonstrating the different forms of technology-facilitated GBV, how it manifests across different regions and contexts, the consequences it has for victim-survivors and the community at large, and who is most at risk.</p>
<p><b>Workshop 7:</b> What Interventions can Reduce both VAC and VAW? Reviewing the Evidence and Exploring the Potential of Parenting and Family Support Programmes</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 12:00 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.3</p>	<p>UNICEF, Equipundo: Center for Masculinities, Prevention Collaborative, LSHTM</p>	<p>Violence against children and violence against women are highly interconnected issues, often perpetuated within the same family dynamics. This workshop seeks to address the question: What interventions can effectively reduce both forms of violence? Through a comprehensive review of evidence-based strategies, participants will have the opportunity to learn about emerging evidence about the potential of addressing both types of violence concurrently. This interactive session will also explore in-depth how parenting and family support programmes can be adapted so that they are able to promote gender equality and to address multiple forms of violence in the home.</p>

Title	Organizers	Description
<p><b>Workshop 12:</b> Measuring Violence against Women: Challenges, Tools and Methods</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 14:00 – 17:00 <b>Venue:</b> Watsonia</p>	<p>UNFPA, University of Melbourne, Nossal Institute for Global Health</p>	<p>This workshop provides best practices for safe and ethical survey research on violence against women. It will cover measurement concepts and data sources, before delving into the good practices that underpin ethical and safe survey research. Guidance on understanding prevalence data and using it effectively will also be provided. This workshop is intended to support VAW researchers and GBV practitioners with best practice guidelines for safe and ethical research. It will benefit both researchers and those who will be funding, monitoring, managing or advocating for VAW research.</p>
<p><b>Workshop 14:</b> Ethics and Virtual Methods / Approaches for Measuring GBV</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 14:00 – 17:00 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.3</p>	<p>WHO, SVRI, Yale University</p>	<p>Remote/virtual methods for researching violence against women has been gaining traction in recent years with the increasing use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The use of these methods received particular attention during COVID-19 and data collection exercises on VAW were conducted, sometimes with limited or no safety protocols in place. While all methods using new technologies can have some advantages, they also warrant important and specific ethical and safety considerations in addition to fundamental ethical and safety principles that apply to in-person data collection on VAW – whether qualitative or quantitative to ensure that they are not putting women at further risk of harm.</p>
<p><b>Workshop (17):</b> Charting New Territories: Feminist Research on Digital Solutions</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 14:00 – 17:00 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.3</p>	<p>UNICEF, Common Fire Consulting and WeCIE, Feminist Internet Research Network (FIRN), Washington University in Saint Louis</p>	<p>Feminist research faces inherent challenges due to the need to navigate various power hierarchies, systemic inequities, and the pervasive influence of patriarchy. Researchers must critically examine who holds power, who is involved in decision-making, and whose perspectives are prioritized. Ensuring that the research agenda reflects the expressed needs of women and girls, building equitable partnerships, involving them in formulating research questions, and selecting methods that best capture their lived experiences are crucial steps. Ethical data collection practices, inclusive data analysis, and effective dissemination are essential to maintaining a feminist approach throughout the research process.</p>

Day Two 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER



Title	Organizers	Description
<p>Unfollowing misogyny: A conversation on digital technology and violence against women and girls.</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	Spotlight Initiative and partners	Spotlight Initiative will be hosting a conversation to discuss innovative approaches to addressing technology-facilitated violence against women and girls and how these interventions can be scaled up. This participant-driven event will bring together influencers on the topic of AI, including CSOs and policy makers working in this space
<p>Ethical and Equitable ways to engage survivors of violence in co-designing VAW research</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	WHO	WHO is inviting you to a dialogue and participatory brainstorm where we seek to identify guiding principles and inform a framework for equitable, safe and meaningful survivor engagement in research in violence against women.
<p>1.4. VAW/VAC: Multi-sectoral Responses</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 11:00 – 12:30 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.2</p>	UNICEF	Presentation: Shifting norms on violence against women: Potential of women's collectives in leading community level response
<p>Together for Prevention' Cross-Regional Learning Exchange on National Action Plans to end Violence against Women and Girls</p> <p><b>Time:</b> Lunch event <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.2</p>	UN Women & Equality Institute	UN Women and the Equality Institute will bring together governments and civil society representatives from the Asia-Pacific and East and Southern Africa regions to showcase evidence-based promising policy practices for designing and implementing National Action Plans (NAPs), including comprehensive approaches for VAWG prevention. The session will highlight the evolution of prevention elements in NAPs, promising practices and will also aim to share guidance from practical policy resources designed to support governments and other stakeholders in the NAP development process.

Title	Organizers	Description
<p>How to Translate Increasing Evidence about Climate Change into Actionable GBV Preparedness and Response</p> <p><b>Time:</b> Lunch event 13:00-14:30</p>	UNFPA	There is a growing body of evidence that climate change and GBV are linked. Climate change can exacerbate existing forms of GBV or create new ones, such as intimate partner violence, sexual assault, early marriage and trafficking. It is often challenging to translate the existing evidence into actionable steps for emergency preparedness and response. The main objective of this side event is to share ideas, experiences and promising practices on how to adapt existing GBViE preparedness and response frameworks to respond to the impacts of climate change.
<p>GBV Responses in Conflict</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 17:00 – 18:30</p>	OCHA	This event brings together experts to discuss innovative approaches in GBV case management and humanitarian response, with a focus on improving outcomes for survivors. Presentations will explore various strategies, including advancing data interpretation to better measure the impact of GBV case management, lessons from leveraging cash assistance for refugees and host communities in Moldova, and the piloting of the Women Lead in Emergencies (WLiE) approach in Ethiopia.
<p>Accelerating Evidence-based Action to End Child Marriage: Taking Stock and Charting the Way Forward to 2030</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 19:00 – 21:00</p>	UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage	UNFPA Girls Not Brides CRANK UNICEF Innocenti WHO - HRP
<p>What works to Prevent VAWG: Learning about ethical scale</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 19:00 – 21:00</p>	UNESCO	A networking event to share the early lessons on the practical processes of taking pilot prevention projects to scale ethically and accountably, and an opportunity to meet the global What Works programme team and grantee partners.
<p>Building a collective vision for globally coordinated EVAWG programming</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 19:00 – 21:00</p>	Spotlight Initiative	This session is open to all delegates. It will look at what constitutes a coordinated, feminist and fully funded global approach to EVAWG. It is hosted by past and present members of civil society reference groups to the Spotlight Initiative who will share learnings from Spotlight and other major programmes.

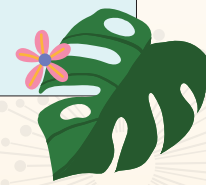
## Day Three 23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER

Title	Organizers	Description
<p>UN Personnel Meet-Up</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:45-9:00 <b>Venue:</b> Southern Sun Cullinan</p>	<p>Interagency EVAWG Focal Points Network (convened by UN Women)</p>	<p>An informal networking and meet and greet session for UN personnel participating at the SVRI Forum.</p>
<p>Enabling Safe School Environments: Addressing VAC and GBV in and through schools</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 13:00 - 14:30</p>	<p>UNESCO</p>	<p>Panel discussion on leveraging education and school-based interventions to prevent and respond to violence against children and gender-based violence in all its forms. It will explore education settings as a platform for scaling effective violence prevention interventions and the multiple positive outcomes of absence of violence on learning.</p>
<p><b>Poster Session II:</b></p> <p><b>Time:</b> 13:00 - 14:00</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidelines for Providing Care and Support to LGBTQI+ Adolescents Who Have Experienced GBV in Mobility Contexts</li> <li>Bringing GBV response to scale in humanitarian crises: The role of the social service workforce</li> </ul>
<p>5.3. Research Priority Setting</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 15:00 – 16:30 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.2</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>	<p>Intersections of violence against children and violence against women: A global research agenda</p>
<p>FMP session 6.6: VAW and VAC prevention and response research and programmes</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 17:00 – 18:30 <b>Venue:</b> Nerina/Protea</p>	<p>UN Women</p>	<p>Learning from Practice: Developing region-wide guidance to ensure coordinated and integrated social work services to prevent and respond to VAW-VAC</p>

## Day Four: 24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Title	Organizers	Description
<p>Ensuring comprehensive and coordinated GBV services in the nexus between protracted humanitarian crisis and development settings: challenges, lessons learnt and promising practices</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	UNFPA	<p>The nexus between protracted humanitarian crises and development settings presents unique challenges for providing GBV response services. The side event aims to 1) Highlight the specific approaches that can be used in humanitarian-development nexus contexts and the respective challenges and opportunities; 2) Foster dialogue among stakeholders to strengthen GBV response services across the nexus, and 3) Showcase promising practices and innovative approaches to GBV response across the nexus.</p>
<p>From Surviving to Thriving: The Crucial Role of Organizational Resilience in Sustaining Movements in the context of Ending VAW</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	<p>The purpose of this side event at SVRI Forum 2024, is to bring to the forum the vital concept of organizational resilience, particularly via CSOs and WROs that are at the forefront of the battle to end violence against women and girls (VAW/G). In an era marked by pandemic challenges and intersecting global crises, this panel aims to reflect back the various dimensions and practical knowledge surrounding the capacity of these organizations to endure and to adapt and thrive.</p>
<p>Side event: Institutionalizing GBV Risk Mitigation Across the Humanitarian Sector</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	UNICEF	<p>With support from the USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, and in partnership with Tsunagu, UNICEF has led a project over the last two years to capture learning on the entry points that have proven most successful in institutionalizing GBV risk mitigation, both within various agencies as well as interagency mechanisms. Emerging from this project are a series of deep dive and thematic case studies as well as a resource package that aims to help practitioners looking to make GBV risk mitigation a more consistent and self-sustaining feature of their organizations', sectors' and/or clusters' work.</p>
<p>Transforming unequal gender norms to prevent violence against women and reach better HIV outcomes for both women and men</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 7:00 – 9:00</p>	UN Women	<p>This participant-driven event will provide an opportunity to showcase a number of interventions implemented by UN Women and its partners to transform unequal gender norms to prevent violence against women and reach better HIV outcomes for both women and men in South Africa, Malawi and Zimbabwe. The event will bring together a multi-sectoral panel comprising of policy-makers, community leaders, young women and programme managers.</p>

Title	Organizers	Description
7.2. Online Responses <b>Time:</b> 11:00 – 12:30 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 7	UNICEF	Presentation: A Safer Digital World, One Chat at a Time
7.4. Conflict, Displacement and Humanitarian Settings: Prevention <b>Time:</b> 11:00 – 12:30 <b>Venue:</b> Hall 8.2	UNICEF	Presentation: Measuring the Effectiveness of GBV Risk Mitigation Interventions within Nutrition Programming in South Sudan
<b>Poster Session III:</b> <b>Time:</b> 13:00 – 14:00 <b>Venue:</b> Ground Floor	UN Women, UNFPA and South African Medical Research Council	Learning from practice: Delivering essential services for women and girl survivors of violence in east and southern Africa and Asia
<b>Poster Session III:</b> <b>Time:</b> 13:00 – 14:00 <b>Venue:</b> Ground Floor	UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring Opportunities and Challenges for Collaborative Approaches to Address Violence against Women and Violence against Children in Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon</li> <li>• Linkages between gender norms, gender-based violence and nutrition in South Sudan</li> <li>• Risk factors for violent child discipline in São Tomé and Príncipe</li> <li>• Feminist approach to developing core GBV resources: The example of child marriage in humanitarian settings</li> </ul>
Institutionalizing GBV Risk Mitigation Across the Humanitarian Sector <b>Time:</b> 13:00 – 14:30 <b>Lunchtime Event</b>	UNICEF	With support from the USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, and in partnership with Tsunagu, UNICEF has led a project over the last two years to capture learning on the entry points that have proven most successful in institutionalizing GBV risk mitigation, both within various agencies as well as interagency mechanisms. Emerging from this project are a series of deep dive and thematic case studies as well as a resource package that aims to help practitioners looking to make GBV risk mitigation a more consistent and self-sustaining feature of their organizations', sectors' and/or clusters' work.
Global Boyhood Initiative Series Report Launch <b>Time:</b> 18:30 to 20:00	Equimundo UNFPA	Join us as we launch a series of reports on boys' sexual development in the age of online pornography, SRHR, and backlash against feminism.





## Day Five: 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER



Title	Organizers	Description
<p>Bridging the Gap: Advancing Multi-Sectoral responses to GBV through translating Policies into Effective Practices in South Africa</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 8:30 - 11:00</p>	UNFPA and UN Women South Africa	The purpose of this event is to convene a substantive discussion focusing on innovative ways to bridge the gap between policy and practice in responding to GBV and the specific role of the private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), donors, Academia (Researchers), Government in this multi-sectoral social responsibility.
<p>A Panel on Spotlight Initiative Compendium of Innovative and Good Practices and Lessons Learned: Drawing Lessons for the Broader EAWG Ecosystem</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 12:00 – 14:00</p>	Spotlight initiative	This event will bring to life the Spotlight Initiative Compendium of Innovative and Good Practices and Lessons Learned. Presenting the learning and impact generated by the implementation of Spotlight Initiative, the UN High-Impact Initiative to end violence against women and girls, the Compendium provides policymakers and practitioners with knowledge and evidence on programming to end VAWG that is innovative, high-impact, sustainable and localized. This event will bring together rights holders and stakeholders whose work is highlighted in the Compendium to draw lessons in service of the EAWG ecosystem.
<p>Side event: Exploring the intersections of GBV and Nutrition</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 14:00 – 17:00</p>	The South Sudan Ministry of Health & UNICEF	The event will discuss recent developments – both programmatic and research-focused – around the intersections of gender-based violence and nutrition. It will showcase emerging practices in GBV/ Nutrition programming from multiple humanitarian contexts, share findings from an operational study on GBV and nutrition in South Sudan, preview upcoming multi-country research, and introduce new technical guidance.
<p>AC GBV Strategy and Engagement in Beijing+30</p> <p><b>Time:</b> 14:00 – 17:00</p>	UN Women	AC GBV in-person meeting for the AC GBV leaders and Commitment Makers will focus on the AC GBV Strategy and AC GBV Engagement in Beijing+30

## Outside of SVRI Forum 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Title	Organizers	Description
2024 ACT convening	UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women	UNTF together with UN Women ESARO, WCARO, ACRO & EAWG Section will bring together ACT partners at regional, global level together with other CSOs /grantees in a space to engage, exchange and strategize.