



What Works 2 Programme Newsletter

Issue 09 August 2024



Welcome to the August newsletter from the 'What Works to Prevent Violence' programme which shares our latest research, evidence, policy and news on prevention of violence against women and girls.

What's new this quarter?

- **A new partnership with United States Agency for International Development**
- **Upcoming paper on GBV and climate change**
- **Preparations for the Sexual Violence Research Initiative Conference (SVRI) 2024**
- **Living Our Feminist Principles: Tools to Promote Accountability**
- **60 Second Meet: Emma Fulu, founder of the Equality Institute**
- **New from the Helpdesk: Supporting SEAH prevention in the aid sector**
- **Upcoming Events**
- **Watch this space:** The second grant window is opening soon. We are looking for organisations to develop new and innovative evidence-based approaches to scale-up efforts to prevent VAWG, with a particular focus on climate change, technology-facilitated gender-based violence, and fragile and conflict-affected states. We strongly encourage organisations from the Middle East and North Africa region to apply.

Visit the [What Works website](#) for details on how to apply.

News from What Works 2

A new partnership to prevent gender-based violence

In a significant transatlantic collaboration, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) contributed \$3.3 million to the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) for the What Works 2 programme.

Keep an eye out for our forthcoming paper on the links between GBV and climate change

Our team on the [Ending Violence Against Women and Children Helpdesk](#) are currently working on a ground-breaking new report exploring the links between GBV and climate change. This has been commissioned jointly by the Australian (DFAT) and UK (FCDO) Governments.

USAID's investment will contribute to filling critical gaps in the global evidence base by supporting local women-led and LGBTQI+-led organizations to pilot and evaluate effective approaches to prevent violence, with a focus on LGBTQI+ people. It will also generate new research on the interplay between mental health and GBV.

This report, which includes insights and advice from a range of WROs, explores the bidirectional relationship between GBV and climate change, including the impact that GBV can have on the success of climate change initiatives. The report, to be launched later this year, will support advocacy around GBV prevention and response in climate change efforts.

Sexual Violence Research Initiative Conference (SVRI) 2024

Are you going to the 2024 SVRI Conference? If so, please sign-up below to join us at our workshops where we will be discussing a range of topics relating to GBV. We look forward to seeing you there!

What works to prevent VAWG? Learning about ethical scale 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.

Date: Tues 22nd October at 19.00

Registration: <https://forms.gle/r5Wy74zrX9YeQkhR7>

Practice-based knowledge for women's and feminist movements to end violence against women and girls: Co-creating an agenda 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. At this session, you will have the opportunity to discuss questions and learn about practice-based knowledge and learning, including its importance to the EVAW/G evidence base.

Date: Monday 21st October at 09.00

Registration: [Workshops - SVRI Forum 2024](#)

Implementation Science The Implementation Science Workshop is intended for practitioners and researchers interested in refining their skills and knowledge in implementation science. Attendees can expect a presentation featuring practical insights and real-life examples, with an open, interactive forum where attendees can engage directly with facilitators and one another.

Date: Monday 21st October at 14.00

Registration: [Workshops - SVRI Forum 2024](#)

Addressing Violence Against LGBTQI+ Populations

The global evidence base for how to effectively prevent and respond to violence against LGBTQI+ people is limited. However, some emerging evidence and a wealth of practice-based knowledge exists. This interactive workshop will: 1) Explore the intersections between violence against women and girls and violence against LGBTQI+ people; 2) Discuss recent legislative changes and backlash against LGBTQI+ communities; 3) Discuss how to reduce violence against LGBTQI+ people; 4) Build skills for promoting the security of implementers of LGBTQI+ anti-violence programmes. This workshop is intended for practitioners, civil society organizations, advocates, policymakers, and funders. Small group discussions will build connections among workshop participants with the aim of identifying opportunities for collective action, continued collaboration, and cross-learning between VAWG practitioners and LGBTQI+ anti-violence practitioners.

Date: Monday 21st October at 09.00

Registration: [Workshops - SVRI Forum 2024](#)

Enabling safe school environments: Addressing Violence Against Children and Gender-Based Violence in and through schools

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.

Date: Wed 23rd October at 13.00

Registration: <https://forms.gle/G5mW9NbGXHfsX3JK7>

Living Our Feminist Principles

Creating tools to promote accountability: Accountability is a continuous process that requires intentional listening, reflections and course correction. The WW2 Implementation consortium has set up various tools and mechanisms to share and receive feedback from consortium members and grantee partners. In May 2024 the accountability pillar brought together grantee partners, Learning Partnership Team (LPT) leads, Research Consortium, Safeguarding and Fund Management to co-create the grantee reflection card.

The reflection card offers an opportunity for grantee partners and the wider consortium to reflect on strategic areas for incorporating feminist principles within the programme. As the reflection card will only be rolled out once in their programme cycle, the intention is for grantee partners to input on thematic areas they would want to reflect on when the programme comes to an end. The session with the Grantee Partners set off with the pillar leads giving an overview of the reflection card development process, the role of each pillar and grantees. Grantees then went into breakout rooms to reflect on strategic insights on the programme, the support expected from the WW2 team and feminist principles. Through these discussions, everyone had a moment to think deeply about what success would look like for them and what they wanted to be measured on.

At What Works II we envision accountability as a multi-directional process, that includes honest self-reflection, humility and commitment to listening. Accountability also provides a continuous space to co-create, reflect upon, and strengthen our individual and collective commitment to ending VAWG. It was essential that we co-create the grantee reflection card, to build a sense of ownership. The process also buttresses our beliefs that accountability is not policing, but a continuous process of trust, openness and respect building to allow for feedback sharing.

Some of these processes have generated learning on how to work with an accountability lens in a complex programme such as What Works II and we hope to share these learnings with the larger field working on addressing VAWG.

60 Second Meet

Name: Emma Fulu

Project Role: Founder of the Equality Institute, which is one of the core partners of the Research Consortium. I'm serving as an Evaluation Specialist, and co-Lead for Learning and External Engagement, and also supporting the Accountability Pillar.

Currently living in: Melbourne, Australia

What is your area of expertise? VAWG research, quantitative, qualitative, Participatory Action Research, Feminist Research, Masculinities, Prevention, and intersectionality.

What are your hopes for What Works 2? I hope that WW2 produces ground-breaking evidence on What Works to Prevent VAWG at Scale which ultimately drives better programming, policies and investment in the field. I hope that this results in safer and more equitable families and communities. I also believe that through this work we will demonstrate the power of an explicitly feminist approach and that by coming together we can achieve collective liberation. It is my wish for everyone involved, that we can also have fun while we do this important work, and remain inspired and joyful.



If you didn't have to sleep, what would you do with the extra time? Finishing writing the book I'm working on, spend more time with my children, and go horse riding.

If you could instantly become an expert in something, what would it be? I've always wanted to learn the piano, so I'd become an expert in that.

For what are you most grateful today? Today and everyday, I am grateful for my wonderful family and friends and the amazing life I get to lead. Often I am most grateful for moments of stillness and silence, when I feel a deep sense of peace.

What is your favourite quote? "The moment we choose to love we begin to move against domination, against oppression. The moment we choose to love we begin to move towards freedom, to act in ways that liberate ourselves and others." — bell hooks

Latest Evidence and Practice-Based Lessons

Supporting SEAH prevention in the aid sector Prevention is a key element of protecting individuals from SEAH in the aid sector. To date, however, safeguarding approaches have largely focused on reporting mechanisms and response initiatives, rather than prevention.

A recent evidence review conducted by the Ending VAWC Helpdesk highlights the need for a more robust approach to SEAH prevention, identifying gaps in current practices and the necessary resources, policies, and operational changes required.

Primary prevention, which stops SEAH before it starts, is emphasised as essential. This involves addressing the root causes and risk factors such as power imbalances and harmful gender norms. Secondary prevention aims to mitigate risks where SEAH has occurred, while tertiary prevention focuses on victim support and response.

Effective SEAH prevention requires comprehensive strategies including leadership commitment, organisational culture change, safe recruitment practices, thorough risk management, community outreach, as well as reporting, referral, support, and investigation mechanisms. While the sector has made some progress, significant gaps remain, especially in funding, implementing and monitoring long-term preventive measures. Increased investment and a shift towards holistic, intersectional approaches are essential for meaningful change.

Helpdesk

The Ending Violence Against Women and Children Helpdesk has produced short reports* and expert advice to FCDO on the following topics over the last three months:

[Preventing SEAH in Aid Operations](#)

[Making the Case for the Provision of Reparations to Survivors of SEAH](#)

[GBV in Bolivia](#)

[GBV Prevention and Response in Jordan](#)

*Previous VAWG Helpdesk Reports are available [here](#)

Are you HMG staff and want to know more about how we can help with research and advice?

Please see our [leaflet](#).

Our offer to Country offices is outlined [here](#).

For more information contact

enquiry@VAWCHelpdesk.org.uk

Upcoming Events

Members of the *What Works* Programme will be organising and attending the following events in the coming quarter. Please reach out if you would like to meet the team:

Sexual Violence Research Initiative Conference 2024: Cape Town, South Africa

This year, the What Works II team will be co-hosting three workshops and two side events at the SVRI Conference. Please join us to discuss a host of emerging practice and evidence around preventing violence against women and girls.

If you would like to collaborate at the SVRI Forum or get in touch with any of our team, please contact: naomi.clugston@sddirect.org.uk

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