HOW AMERICAN
POLICY & FUNDING
IS ADDRESSING
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE GLOBALLY

FOCUS ON TANZANIA & UGANDA

FUTURES WITHOUT VIOLENCE®

OPEN SQUARE
all sides being equal™

CONTENTS

"This work is not easy. People have gotten used to hearing about 'women's voice' and 'women's rights.' They look at the few women here who can speak for themselves and fight for their rights. They end up thinking everyone else in the country can do the same. But in actual sense, there are many girls and women out there who can't stand up. For me, this work is far from done."

—Catherine Kabanyana Instructor, Soccer Without Borders, Uganda

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by **Futures Without Violence** with generous support from **Open Square**. We are deeply grateful to Esta Soler and Wynnette LaBrosse for their vision, encouragement, and steadfast determination to insist on change that makes a difference.

Esta Soler is President and Founder of Futures Without Violence, a national nonprofit organization leading groundbreaking educational programs, policies, leadership training and campaigns that empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children around the world. Providing leadership from offices in San Francisco, Washington D.C. and Boston, FUTURES was a driving force behind passage of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 – the nation's first comprehensive federal response to the violence that afflicts families and communities. FUTURES spearheads the 200 member coalition of experts that play a critical role in the development and introduction of the International Violence Against Women Act today.

Wynnette LaBrosse is President and Founder of Open Square, a grant-making organization that envisions a world where women play a full and equal role in decision-making processes at every level, where challenges are pro-actively embraced with inclusivity, authenticity and respect, where beauty is defined by the achievement of human potential. Since 2009, Open Square has been dedicated to ending violence against women with a particular focus on eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo where violence against women is epidemic. Open Square has a variety of grantees focused on increasing the status and participation of women in civil society in DRC, providing services to survivors of gender-based violence and advocating for the strengthening of the security sector in DRC. Open Square also provides funds for organizations advocating for U.S. involvement in ending gender-based violence around the world.

INTRODUCTION

The United States has invested in preventing and responding to gender-based violence globally for more than two decades and in the last 10 years has enhanced its investment to empower women and girls and reduce violence. Understanding the impact of U.S.-funded initiatives to end gender-based violence and exploring the lessons learned from such programs is critical to achieving greater success globally.

With the generous support of Open Square and its founder Wynnette LaBrosse, Futures Without Violence set out to understand the impact of U.S. funding and policy on gender-based violence and develop recommendations based on elements of successful programs.

- This report describes how U.S. investments not only are preventing and reducing gender-based violence but how they also are advancing U.S. foreign goals for economic growth, global health, and security. The information is based on investigative travel to Uganda and Tanzania, consultations with local and global leaders, and extensive research based on peer-review and gray literature.

This report describes:

- The strategic impact of ending gender-based violence (GBV)
- Effective interventions in Uganda and Tanzania
- The broader impact that initiatives to end GBV have on American priorities in East Africa–including for development, economic and security goals
- Recommendations to improve future programming

Maimuna, a young Tanzanian woman participant in an American program to end GBV, expressed the importance of engaging local women and cultivating women's leadership in these networks. She explainied that "there is a spill over impact when you see survivors in leadership positions, it gives a lot of energy and power to women and girls who say - then we can also standup, fight for our lives and change our lives."

Preventing violence against women and mitigating its effects is not only a morally sound endeavor, it also is a critical component in advancing critical objectives in American foreign policy. Ending GBV is not a 'soft' foreign policy goal or an inconsequential rhetorical flourish in diplomatic addresses, but instead it is central in efforts to:

- Enhance human rights and democratic principles
- Improve national health outcomes
- Advance global development
- Expand economic opportunity and growth
- Strengthen public and private partnerships
- Reduce instability and the likelihood of violent conflict
- Prevent and counter violent extremism

The wide array of benefits associated with ending GBV is not reflected in the amount of spending by the United States government on these programs. At a time when resources are scarce, it is critical to scrutinize the effectiveness and impact of initiatives designed to reduce violence against women and other forms of gender-based violence.

In recent years, the United States has piloted a number of programs to end GBV in Tanzania and Uganda that demonstrate it is possible to reduce rates of violence and that this outcome also has positive effects on national economies, public health, and national security. Moreover, successful GBV programs in Tanzania and Uganda have contributed to creating a positive climate for the U.S. government to pursue its national security objectives in East Africa, including efforts to support human rights and democracy, foster peace and stability, and counter violent extremism.

WHY INVEST IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTIONS?

There has been progress over the last several years in understanding the scope of violence against women, the costs associated with such violence, the impact of investments to reduce violence, and the types of interventions that are successful. Research has demonstrated that programs addressing gender-based violence are among the most cost-effective and beneficial interventions available.

> A cost-benefit analysis led by Anke Hoeffler at Stanford University and James Fearon at Oxford University found that investments in ending violence against women and girls are among the highest yielding areas of investment—not only were these investments effective in reducing violence in women's lives, they also resulted in positive externalities in the country's education, national security, public health, and economic development.[1]
>
> Preventative programs, which stymie gender-based violence and improve the social norms that perpetuate such violence, have been proven to be significantly cheaper when compared to the costs associated with lost economic revenue, health consequences, and heightened security risks related to pervasive violence against women. For example, "Edutainment" is found to be a highly effective and extremely inexpensive intervention; it costs just under 60 cents a year per girl to fund mass-media campaigns that raise awareness about violence against women and girls and help change damaging gender norms.[2]
>
> Investments in reduction of gender-based violence and promotion of gender equality are among the top "key smart investments" that yield a high return on investment (ROI) for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Global leaders have prioritized investments in violence containment by focusing mainly on curbing the collective violence occurring during large-scale armed conflicts. Yet, data shows that inter-personal violence (IPV) is a larger and more pervasive phenomenon than collective violence; consider, for example, that for each battlefield death in civil war, about nine times as many people are killed in interpersonal disputes, including killings related to intimate partner violence against women, children, and men. [3]

The urgency of collective violence in armed conflict has overshadowed evidence that the costs of interpersonal violence are much higher. Despite the comparatively extraordinarily low cost and high return on investment for proven prevention interventions, spending on prevention of inter-personal violence remains low.

The U.S. government has made smart investments in this area that are yielding important results. A withdrawal of support for programs aimed at stemming GBV, either by a normative retreat or a reduction in financial and technical support by the U.S. government, could have catastrophic consequences for women the world over. Moreover, it would be counterproductive to achieving broader American foreign policy objectives.

WHAT IS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

Violence against women is a pernicious form of gender-based violence that has long-term effects far beyond the initial victim. It is a crosscutting issue with inter-generational characteristics. Beyond the victim and their family, such violence directly impacts a country's prospects for development, economic productivity, democracy and stability.

> Gender-Based Violence looms over nearly every stage and aspect of a woman's life, with implications for her health, education, income, and physical safety from childhood to old age. According to UN Women, more than 1 in 3 women worldwide experience either physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner in their lifetime. A growing body of evidence shows that gender-based violence can be prevented and reduced significantly through cost-efficient programming.

According to Plan International an estimated 246 million children and adolescents experience school violence and bullying every year where boys are more frequently subjected to corporal violence and girls to sexual violence.[5] Research consistently shows that children who experience or are exposed to physical or sexual violence are at a much higher risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator of such violence later in life.[5] The modeling effect is so strong that one study of perpetrators of intimate partner violence—the most prevalent form of GBV—found that "those who had as a child seen a parent use a weapon were more likely to commit an offense involving a weapon as an adult."[4]

Adolescence is a critical period in a girl's life, when significant physical, emotional, and social changes shape her future. In too many parts of the world, adolescence is the most precarious time for girls. A quarter of a billion girls live in poverty. One in three girls in the developing world is married by the time she is eighteen, and one in nine is married by the age of fifteen. Every year, millions of girls undergo female genital mutilation/cutting. Millions more live in conflict settings that increase the risk of gender-based violence. Many girls continue to be infected with HIV/AIDS, and too few girls have the education or skills they need to participate fully in the economies of their countries.

There are demonstrable physiological, psychological, and norm effects that contribute to create a heightened risk of perpetuating violence. Countering the inter-generational nature of such violence means investing in preventative measures that engage not only women, but also men and youth. As discussed in later sections, the increased risk of perpetuating violence has direct consequences for future stability and security.

Violence against women is most prevalent "where social norms support gender inequality, where communities fail to punish men who use physical or sexual violence against women, and where violence against women is considered normal or justified."[5] Research and evaluations now show that it is possible to achieve normative and behavioral change, improve cultural norms and gender norms, and reduce gender-based violence. Such change is best achieved through long-term engagement with local activists.

COLLECTIVE VIOLENCE AND INTER-PERSONAL VIOLENCE

World leaders have almost exclusively approached violence containment through the lens of curbing collective violence occurring mainly during civil war and large-scale armed conflict. And yet, the largest number of casualties from violence is not from collective violence occurring during armed conflicts, but the result of interpersonal violence. For each battlefield death in civil war, about nine times as many people are killed in interpersonal disputes – this is the case in conflict and non-conflict settings– including killings related to intimate partner violence against women, children, and men.

Researchers Anke Hoeffler and James Fearon[6] are leading most of this comparative analysis and have found that:

- About 43 percent of all female homicide victims were killed by a current or former intimate partner.
- In 2013, the global cost of welfare-related expenses resulting from interpersonal violence was more than six times (2 percent) greater than that of civil war violence (0.33 percent).
- The cost of homicides and assault are almost four times higher than the costs accrued due to civil war and violence.
- The costs associated with non-fatal violence against children and women are much higher than the costs of homicides and of injuries in civil war.

There is a growing body of evidence demonstrating that where there is a prevalence of inter-personal violence, such violence influences local norms and increases the risk of societal insecurity and collective violence. Physical violence in societies is a much larger and more pervasive phenomenon than collective violence in civil war, which is concentrated in fewer regions. Although evidence reveals the severe impact of inter-personal violence occurring within societies, such violence receives relatively little attention and governments and international development agencies have yet to champion investments designed to prevent and reduce inter-personal violence and improve societal norms that perpetuate such violence. While spending on violence containment is high, spending on prevention remains extremely low.

SHORTCOMINGS WITH DATA

An important hurdle to understanding the full scope of violence that women face is the "gender data gap." This term reflects that data often is collected in a manner that does not allow disaggregation by sex or fails to account for issues related to women or girls entirely. Moreover, programs that do not explicitly target women and adolescent girls often do not collect data on how these programs affect women or girls specifically or do not disaggregate the data by sex. The data that is collected is often quantitative in nature, and does not capture topics like "social mores, social pressure, customs and traditions, implementation and enforcement of the law[s regarding women's rights]." Initiatives like Data2X and The WomanStats Project have developed out of the recognition that without gender-specific data women are rendered "invisible" and programs are unaccountable.[7]

An additional hurdle is the cultural context for addressing gender-based violence and applying methodologically and ethically sound approaches to data collection. The wide-reaching and serious effects of gender-based violence are often difficult to address because of the stigma and silence that frequently surround abuse. Available data suggests that fewer than 4 in 10 women who experience violence "seek help of any sort;" those that do very rarely turn to "formal institutions and mechanisms, such as police and health services." Globally, the rate of women seeking help in the aftermath of abuse has remained largely stagnant since 2000.[8]

Taking into account both the shortcomings in data collection that contribute to the gender data gap and impediments to reporting due to the stigma surrounding GBV, there is incomplete information on the prevalence of violence against women globally, its myriad effects, and the actions that can effectively reduce and prevent such violence. Without more accurate and consistent methods for gathering specific, sex-disaggregated data, policymakers are hindered in their ability to assess ongoing efforts and to identify where interventions are critical.

Despite these challenges, research organizations are working to measure and evaluate the impact of existing programs and investments for reducing gender-based violence. The emerging data can help policymakers evaluate the benefits of these investments.

The Global Women's Institute at The George Washington University is one of several respected entities providing guidance for ethical and methodologically sound data collection in a variety of challenging settings.

https://globalwomensinstitute.gwu.edu

Data2X is a collaborative technical and advocacy platform dedicated to improving the quality, availability, and use of gender data in order to make a practical difference in the lives of women and girls worldwide. Data2X works with UN agencies, governments, civil society,academics, and the private sector to close gender data gaps, promote expanded and unbiased gender data collection, and use gender data to improve policies, strategies, and decision-making. We are also a gender data lead within the new Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data.

www.data2x.org

The WomanStats Project is constructing what is already the most comprehensive database on the status of women cross-nationally. Containing over 170,000 data points and growing every day, it covers over 350 variables for 175 nations with populations greater than 200,000 persons.

www.womanstats.org

TANZANIA & UGANDA

When you help communities with problems that contribute to poverty, that translates into goodwill towards the United States.[17]

—Rachel Vogelstein

Council on Foreign Relations; Interviewed by Journalist Aryn Baker, Africa Correspondent for *Time*

Over the last decade, the United States and other donor countries have invested more intentionally into programs to end gender-based violence. Understanding the impact of U.S.-funded initiatives—on gender-based violence and on other priority foreign policy goals—is critical to achieving greater success globally.

Two of the countries where the United States has worked the longest to address GBV are Tanzania and Uganda. The initiatives in Tanzania and Uganda are producing evidence about how improving women's lives relates to strengthening American economic, security, and political partnerships and also to achieving local development, governance, and security goals.

We now know that collaboration between the United States and these East African countries has succeeded in reducing the rates of gender-based violence and the prevalence of degrading attitudes towards women that enable such behavior.

- Between 2006 and 2011, Uganda marked a decline in the incidence of physical violence against women aged 15-49 from 34% to 27%.[9]
- Similarly, Tanzania has seen steady improvement in the metrics surrounding women's participation in decision-making related to their own health care, major household purchases, and visits to their family or friends.[10]

U.S. government assistance has helped establish and institutionalize services, laws, and programming that have reduced rates of gender-based violence and improved responses to such violence. For example, the establishment of 'one stop clinics' for women's health and the adoption of laws that criminalize child marriage, domestic violence, and/or sexual violence have contributed to the process of ending gender-based violence. Through U.S. assistance programs, economic cooperation, and regional security efforts, Tanzania and Uganda have emerged as reliable partners for the United States.

There is a growing body of evidence showing a direct connection between women's empowerment and a reduction in insecurity and violent extremism. There is sufficient data available not only to show the direct link, but also to flag regions where the poor or deteriorating conditions for women should set off alarms as early indicators of growing insecurity.[11] Within East Africa, the presence of violent extremist groups that are increasingly focused on attracting female recruits is occurring within a climate where women and girls have very limited access to opportunities for education and employment, for example. The poor conditions for women are providing an opportunity for violent extremist groups to exploit and is one example of the urgency of initiatives to improve conditions for women in this region.

Tanzania and Uganda play important roles in the Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism (PREACT), a multi-year program led by the U.S. Department of State Bureau on Counterterrorism and Countering Violent Extremism. This partnership is designed to "build the capacity and cooperation of military, law enforcement, and civilian actors across East Africa to counter terrorism in a comprehensive fashion." The PREACT reportedly "uses law enforcement, military, and development resources to achieve its strategic objectives, including reducing the operational capacity of terrorist networks, expanding border security, enhancing and institutionalizing cooperation among the region's security organizations, improving democratic governance, and discrediting terrorist ideology." Success in achieving the core American foreign policy objectives in these partnerships will be enhanced when there also are long-term commitments to ending violence against women within the nations' borders.

There is much work to be done. According to data available from the most recent Demographic and Health Surveys for Tanzania and Uganda, the reduction in violence against women is uneven and varies widely by region, marital status, and socio-economic class. Further, a survey of Tanzanian women found that just 14% were aware of the concept of gender equality.[12]

The following case studies of programs to reduce gender-based violence in Tanzania and Uganda highlight the characteristics of effective interventions. Learning from successful interventions makes future programming more effective in achieving reduction in gender-based violence and contributes toward success in a range of foreign policy goals.

DREAMS

The DREAMS (Determined, Resilient, Empowered, AIDS-free, Mentored, and Safe) global initiative launched in 2014 as a public-private partnership, drawing on the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief (PEPFAR), the Girl Effect, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is the lead program implementer and PEPFAR is the largest source of funding for this $385 million initiative.

DREAMS recognizes gender-based violence as a public health issue and a central reason for the "disproportionate level of new HIV infections among adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa."[13] The DREAMS partnership addresses "social isolation, economic disadvantage, discriminatory cultural norms, orphanhood, gender-based violence, and school drop-out [that] all contribute to girls' vulnerability to HIV."[14] The program also raises awareness about the connections between violence against women and children and the spread of the HIV/AIDS infection and other consequences.

The DREAMS initiative addresses a wide variety of risk factors through various activities and entrance points. For example, girls and young women receive access to violence prevention and post-violence care services, HIV testing and counseling services, and "social asset building" projects that reduce girls' social isolation and improve their status. Young men and boys are offered health services and counseling. Communities are engaged and receive appropriate support, including school initiatives that aim to reduce gender-based violence.

In Uganda, DREAMS intends to reach 335,000 women over the course of two years with a core package of evidence-based interventions. Working in conjunction with local and implementing partners, the program offers gender-based violence prevention and care for survivors to restore safety and foster resilience. The cost of this initiative is estimated at $31 million USD in 2016-2017.[15]

The DREAMS program in Uganda has demonstrated tangible successes – in 2016, the program reached one million girls.[16] By engaging women both as recipients of training and as ambassadors, the DREAMS program in Uganda has initiated conversations which have had wide-reaching positive social benefits and has created networks of women that are more empowered to join the work force and act as a bulwark against gender-based violence and social violence.

Tanzania is also among the first set of countries to receive DREAMS support. Within Tanzania, Bantwana is among the recipients of a 2016 DREAMS Innovation Grant.

GREAT – NORTHERN UGANDA

The Gender Roles Equality and Transformation (GREAT) initiative focuses on northern Uganda. GREAT was launched in 2011 as a five-year, $5.5 million program supported by USAID.[17]

Through 'edutainment' and participatory community engagement, the project aimed to promote gender equality among female and male adolescents ages 10-19 years old and foster a community atmosphere supportive of these norms. The program explicitly focused on "life course transitions," highlighting critical moments like the start of puberty, marriage and having children.

Engaging both men and women, GREAT's programs included: radio dramas; toolkits for school-based clubs and community youth organizations; providing Village Health Team linkages to make health services more accessible; and a Community Action Cycle to help instill gender equitable norms. The program was phased and monitored during each stage. The monitoring process involved community members by having them collect and analyze data to determine which components were successful enough to merit being scaled up.

GREAT's long-time horizon, holistic approach to gender dynamics, and partnerships with local community organizations has yielded positive results. The 'edutainment' radio drama helped spread the program's message to those who could not participate in workshops or other related programs.

- As compared to a control group, participants in GREAT held more gender-equitable beliefs and were less likely to engage in violence against women and girls. Consider that 56% of those not exposed to GREAT believed that boys' education is more important than girls', whereas only 36% of those exposed to the program reported that belief.

- Among participants who were new parents or newly married, only 5% reported that it would be appropriate to react violently towards their spouse, as compared to 21% of newly married or new parents not in the program.[18]

GREAT's success in reducing gender-based violence and changing harmful attitudes has not only yielded lower rates of violence against women, it also has contributed to the process of reconciliation and post-conflict redevelopment in the region.

> "The program has a number of activities so it doesn't get monotonous. Sessions are short enough for people to understand and they are interactive. It's engaging. It's a discussion with the people, not lecturing."
>
> —A Staff Member of the Center for Domestic Violence Prevention who participated in SASA! programs in Uganda

RAISING VOICES: SASA!

Designed as a community-based program to reduce violence against women and the spread of the HIV/AIDS infection, SASA! is an approach developed by Raising Voices in Uganda that focuses explicitly on "the imbalance of power between women and men, girls and boys."[19] The SASA! curriculum engages community members to address power dynamics and promote gender equality. Importantly, SASA!'s programmatic approach emphasizes the long-term resolve needed to produce behavior change. The program is organized around the "Stages of Change Model" and is broken into four phases: Start, Awareness, Support, and Action.[20] Progress at each stage is tracked primarily through rapid assessment surveys, community activity reports, and outcome tracking tools; assessments are both qualitative and quantitative.

SASA! pairs training workshops for activists and grassroots initiatives with media outreach, for example, to encourage coverage of HIV/AIDS as "a popular media topic" and uses 'edutainment' radio programing to discourage violence against women. Communication materials include "posters, comics, and information sheets" to encourage conversation among wide portions of the community about women's rights, HIV/AIDS, and the connections between them. The SASA! communication and media strategy is linked to the program's phases, so that each phase "comes with a Power Poster and pre-written questions on the back of every material to guide the discussion with community members."[21]

A participant in a SASA! program implemented by a faith-based organization in Uganda asserted that she liked the guided materials "because they make it easy to talk about violence against women" and prompt serious thought that enables participants to envision "how the community we live in will [sync] be like if families were living happily."[22] One participant praised the program as being grounded in real experiences, and "not just wolokoso (empty talking)."[23]

SASA!'s long-term engagement, ecological approach, and phasing has shown results. The program engaged in a long-term monitoring and evaluation project of its programming to produce methodologically sound and rigorous analysis of the program's effects. Assessments of the program revealed that rates of "physical partner violence against women was 52% lower in SASA! communities than in control communities." Additionally, women who were the victims of violence in SASA! communities were more likely than those in non-intervention communities to "receive supportive community responses," suggesting that the program helped reduce the stigma women often face when reporting violence.[24] A statistically significant shift was found with regards to attitudes towards violence; "in SASA! communities 76% of women and men believe physical violence against a partner is not acceptable while only 26% of women and men in control communities believe the same."[25]

SASA! was also able to mark statistically significant progress in changing behaviors – not just attitudes. The program was particularly effective in reducing high-risk behavior among men. Consider that men who were exposed to SASA! reported higher levels of HIV testing and condom use. These men also reported participating more in "household tasks," as well as "increased joint decisionmaking" with their female counter-parts."[26]

SASA!'s success illustrates that cultivating behavioral change is possible and suggests a willingness among men and community members to engage in serious critiques of gender norms. The program provides further evidence that "while factors such as alcohol use or poverty contribute to the perpetation of violence, the imbalance of power between women and men is a root cause of violence against women."[27]

Bantwana is a World Education initiative (WEI/Bantwana) seeking to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable children and their caregivers and families affected by HIV and AIDS and poverty. Orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC) do best when they are supported and cared for in their own communities, among extended families, friends, and neighbors. Resources frequently are not getting to these communities. WEI/Bantwana uses evidence-based models of comprehensive care to ensure that children and their caregivers have access to the support they need to improve their overall wellbeing.

SAFE FROM THE START

Safe from the Start is a program designed to protect women and girls from violence during humanitarian crises and emergencies. This initiative was launched by the U.S. government in September 2013 out of a recognition that programming to prevent and respond to gender-based violence was often delayed, underfunded, an after-thought, or absent in the international response to humanitarian crises.

The Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) worked with USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) to develop a framework to remedy this oversight. The objectives for Safe from the Start are to increase dedicated GBV interventions in humanitarian crises, integrate programs to reduce vulnerability to GBV into humanitarian programs, and to increase accountability for the implementation of these programs during humanitarian crises.[28]

In its first two years, the program operated on a budget of roughly $12 million a year. During its implementation, Safe from the Start helped train staff to apply gender-analysis and gender-sensitivity in humanitarian crises settings and initiated new programs aimed at ending violence against women and girls.

In Uganda, Safe from the Start has been especially effective in supporting women's resilience by leveraging previously underutilized resources in the private sector. For example, by partnering with the producers of briquettes, a coal substitute, and having refugees bring the product to market, the program has succeeded in not only bolstering women's livelihoods, but also moving Ugandans towards cleaner energy.

Safe from the Start has also helped install lights in and around refugee camps, an investment that improves women's mobility and reduces their vulnerability to sexual assault when using the restroom at night or while completing chores.[29] A team from Refugees International assessing Uganda's response to the refugee influx from South Sudan, praised Safe from the Start as a program that improved the overall efficiency of the humanitarian response, contributed to the safety and well-being of refugees, and deserved greater funding to expand the program.[30] Refugees International observed that South Sudanese refugee women were enthusiastically supportive of Safe from the Start when they were asked how the humanitarian response in the camp practicing Safe from the Start compared to their other experiences with humanitarian aid and emergency responses.

> "It was a good decision to make a space for girls-only on Fridays. Girls are not seen as having value. When you are born a boy you know – I am a very important person. When you are born a girl you may know you are a little important – but not as much as boys. So this space is where they can discuss issues, be empowered, and feel better. It where they learn they have equal rights and equal opportunities."
>
> **–David Eliazer,**
> Coach and Instructor, Soccer Without Borders

SOCCER WITHOUT BORDERS

Soccer Without Borders (SWB) is an organization that grew out of the recognition that providing girls with female athlete role models and engaging girls in sports leads to higher confidence, reduces risky behaviors among girls, and improves their self-image. The program has been running in Uganda since 2007, expanding into a co-educational program in 2012.

In Uganda, a budget of less than $40,000 a year enables SWB to engage 375 participants in soccer programs and other skill-building exercises. The Women Win guide, and positive youth development theory influence SWB's approach. The organizers ensure that the girls' teams are led by women and that the organization is a 'safe space' for participants.

Monitoring and evaluation of the program reveal that SWB is a valuable resource, especially among refugee communities. Most participants from the refugee communities speak French or Swahili and report that they are learning English through SWB. Those who have lost people close to them to violence say that SWB "is like a second family." The SWB program also helps develop community by fostering cooperation among refugees and their host communities, using sport as an entry point to discuss sensitive gender and community-related issues.

The program works with local NGOs, including Kampala's Kids League and with international organizations, including international donors like the Finnish Refugee Council and Coaches Across Continents. SWB illustrates best practices with regard to scaling up programs sustainably and effectively. In addition, SWB balances the need for monitoring and evaluation with the need to ensure that participants feel like they are engaged members of the community, rather than test subjects. This approach enables SWB to have a 90% retention rate in their programs.[31]

> "Our goals are intentionally broad. Success will look different for different participants and in different locations, and we purposefully leave space for that. Rather than fixate on the ends, we focus on the means, from the training of our coaches, to the accessibility of our activities, to quality of our sessions, to the consistency of our implementation, and the safety of our interpersonal environment."
>
> **—Mary McVeigh,**
> Executive Director and Co-Founder of Soccer Without Borders

TOGETHER FOR THE GIRLS

Together for Girls (TfG) addresses GBV as a public health issue, a child protection issue, and a women's rights/human rights issue. Launched in 2009, the program demonstrates America's commitment to evidence-driven, cost-effective GBV programming. TfG collects country-level data to identify the most pressing manifestations of GBV in each country, and then works through national level public-private partnerships to develop contextually effective and relevant programming.

Tanzania was one of the first countries to collaborate with TfG in conducting a national survey and acting on the results. In Tanzania, the program is a partnership that engages more than eight Tanzanian government bodies, several non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the country level, and multilateral organizations like UNICEF, USAID, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The survey results were eye-opening for government officials, according to Anna Maembe, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of Tanzania's Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children. Tanzania's government officials at first resisted the survey results, which revealed that "the very areas where one would expect children to be protected are the same areas where the children are affected" and that more than 1 in 4 Tanzanian girls' first sexual experience was unwanted. However, Maembe noted that the data "gave us legitimacy" to dedicate resources to developing and implementing a plan.[32]

In Tanzania, Amani Girls aims to create a community in which children experience healthy, productive, happy lives. The organization works to ensure children living in HIV/AIDS affected or impoverished households are able to go to school, be safe, and live in a supportive community. Programs are reducing violence against women and girls by focusing on early childhood development, girls and adolescent girls' empowerment, and women's economic empowerment.

Utilizing data from the TfG survey, Tanzania has developed a National Plan of Action to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children and a National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children in Tanzania.[33] Tangibly, this has meant the dedication of Tanzanian resources and political capital to ending GBV. For example:

- Tanzania's Police Force developed standard operating procedures to prevent and respond to GBV and child abuse and made provisions for the establishment of gender and children's desks in police stations.
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training reviewed and changed its code of conduct and began the process of implementing its new child protection guideline for schools.
- Throughout the country, there now are clubs dedicated to informing children of their rights and teaching them how to advocate for themselves safely.
- "One Stop Centers" are making health services more accessible to women throughout the country.
- The country's Finance Ministry is working with sub-national government bodies to develop a strategy and guidelines to budget for child protection at lower levels of government.

As a result of the successful TfG intervention in pilot countries like Tanzania, the program expanded to 14 more countries globally. This includes Uganda, which began the survey process in 2015. Together for Girls is an innovative data-driven program that not only remedies the gender data gap, but also helps build partner country capacity by facilitating the development and implementation of GBV programming through existing government bureaus. In 2015 Together for Girls led initiatives in 21 countries with a total budget of roughly $14 million spread across 12 donors that included private donors, bilateral funds, and multi-lateral funds.[34]

BROAD IMPACT OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE PROGRAMMING

As a U.S. government investment, ending gender-based violence and **engaging women promotes the stability of American allies and partners.** Such investments also advance U.S. priorities for enhancing democracy, countering violent extremism, and creating new opportunities for American economic investments.

Evidence shows that violence against women and other forms of gender-based violence hinders economic and human development. Countries experiencing high rates of gender-based violence must expend enormous sums to respond to the direct and indirect consequences of such violence. Economic productivity is hampered when women are unable to participate fully in the labor market.

The consequences of gender-based violence extend across generations: children face health consequences, encounter obstacles to education and development, and may model problematic behavior that leads to further violence. Consequences also include a decrease in healthy births, infant vaccination, and children's safe access to education. The effects of this in turn inhibit economic growth, development, peace, and security.

ECONOMIC COSTS

Approaches to contain violence have largely centered on addressing the aftermath of collective violence which is expensive, rather than on preventing violence, which yields better results for the investment. Economists have been examining the cost of violence containment by measuring efficiency, which analyzes funding spent in relation to the best results achieved with the least amount of financial outlay. Violence containment spending generally is considered to be an "economic activity related to the consequences or prevention of violence where the violence is directed against people or property." The global cost of violence containment is estimated at $9.46 trillion.

Governmental funding approaches for addressing violence containment have primarily taken the following forms:

- The largest investment is in containing violence and occurs after large scale collective violence has claimed many casualties. In this instance, government efforts to contain violence focus on stopping and reducing the spread of violent conflict and on providing urgent security interventions. This approach is critically necessary and extremely costly in terms of both human and financial costs.
- To a much lesser extent, governments provide emergency humanitarian assistance to collective populations affected by violent conflict, by delivering urgent foreign aid and development assistance. This intervention is far less costly, and yet, it usually is a lesser priority that is funded inadequately given the size of the collective population affected by violence.
- Even less funding is dedicated for extraordinarily inexpensive initiatives to preempt collective casualties. This approach costs pennies on the dollar and entails delivering programs that can improve collective conditions and can disrupt and prevent violence over the long-term.

The overwhelming focus on responding to collective violence in armed conflict has overshadowed evidence showing that the costs incurred by society due to interpersonal violence are much higher and critical to address.

TYPE OF VIOLENCE	COST IN USD, BILLIONS	COST IN % OF WORLD GDP
Collective Violence	167.19	0.19
Interpersonal Violence	1,245.27	1.44
Homicides - Total	700.5	0.82
Men	557.5	0.65
Women	105.3	0.123
Female Homicides by Intimate Partner	40.1	0.047
Children	37.7	0.044
Child Abuse	3.594	4.21
Reported Child Sexual Violence	36.8	0.043
Intimate Partner Violence	4,423	5.18
Reported Sexual Violence against Women	66.7	0.078
Total	9.533	11.16

Note: Collective violence includes deaths from external and internal conflicts and terrorism. Interpersonal violence includes homicides and violent crime (serious physical attacks but excludes sexual assault). We break down homicides by victim (men, women and children) and provide an estimate for women killed by their intimate partner (IP) (Hoeffler and Fearon)

"The world economy needs to grow faster and more sustainably. It needs inclusive growth that promotes opportunity for all, and that requires the full participation men and women."

—Jim Yong Kim
President of The World Bank Group

As stated in the chart above, economic consequences of inter-personal violence are quite large; however, once the costs of social damage and individual suffering are factored in, the price is extraordinary.[35] Even with large-scale costs identified, governments and international development agencies have yet to champion investments designed to prevent and reduce inter-personal violence and improve societal norms that otherwise perpetuate such violence.

Violence against women and other forms of gender-based violence are a massive drain on the global economy. It is estimated that domestic and sexual violence against women each year costs more than 10 percent of global GDP this includes the direct, indirect and opportunity costs relating to such violence. Consider that sexual violence and femicide are estimated to cost more than $107 billion dollars a year. Violence and the threat of recurring violence prevent women from engaging fully in the labor market and global economy; and responding to gender-based violence costs hundreds of billions of dollars per year.[36]

On the other hand, reducing gender-based violence and advancing gender equality so that women can "play an identical role in labor markets" as men could add $28 trillion dollars to the global economy by 2025, according to a review by the McKinsey Global Institute.[37]

Gender-based violence stunts a country's economic prospects by robbing women of the opportunity to participate in the labor market and obstructing the country's human capital. It is estimated that the "elimination of barriers against women working in certain sectors or occupations could increase output–by raising women's participation and labor productivity–by as much as 25 percent in some countries through better allocation of their skills and talent."[38]

Given the estimate that more than 60 percent of the East African Community's (EAC) population is female, reducing the barriers to education and work-force participation that women and girls face due to gender-based violence could catalyze serious regional economic growth.[39] The ramifications extend to unskilled labor sectors. The Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that if women in agriculture had "the same access as men to productive resources such as land and fertilizers, agricultural output in developing countries could increase by as much as 2.5 to 4 percent."[40]

There is a strong desire among some leaders for countries to grow their way to social equality. However, researchers at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London concluded, however, that the causal relationship shows that increasing women's equality leads to greater economic growth, much more so than the hypothesis that increasing economic growth will lead to improvements in women's rights. The study observed "some of the fastest growing developing countries show the least signs of progress on basic gender equality outcomes."[41]

Even with large-scale benefits and costs identified, governments and international development agencies have yet to champion investments designed to prevent and reduce inter-personal violence and improve societal norms for greater gender equality. The best way to reduce future global spending for critically urgent violence containment is to invest robustly in the comparatively inexpensive interventions for violence prevention.

HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

The World Bank has examined the cost of lost productivity due to the negative health impact for women as a result of rape, sexual assault, and domestic violence. According to the World Bank, such violence against women reduces by 5% the healthy years of life for women ages 15 to 44 in developing countries. To put this in context, the aggregate healthy years of women's lives that are lost due to gender-based violence are comparable to the impact of diseases like cancer, HIV, and tuberculosis.[42] According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, "[v]iolence kills and disables as many women between the ages of 15 and 44 as cancer does. And its toll on women's health surpasses that of traffic accidents and malaria combined."[43]

Research shows a close association between intimate partner violence during pregnancy and fetal or infant mortality, developmental abnormalities, low birth weight infants, and maternal mortality."[44] The ramifications for newborns include lower birth rates, higher rates of infant mortality, and even lower rates of vaccination.[45] Gender-based violence detracts from a country's ability to advance goals relating to health.

> [Gender-based violence] is a major cause of disability and death among women worldwide. Gender-based violence has health consequences ranging from physical injury, chronic pain, and anxiety and depression to deadly outcomes such as suicide and homicide. It is a risk factor for many physical, mental, and sexual and reproductive health problems . . . Gender based violence has also been linked to increased risk of gynecological disorders and pregnancy complications, including pelvic inflammatory disease and miscarriage. Violence during pregnancy can cause serious harm to both the mother and fetus.[46]

Health Outcomes of Violence against Women and Girls	
Nonfatal Outcomes	**Fatal Outcomes**

Physical consequences	**Consequences for reproductive health**	- Fatal injuries
- Injuries	- Pelvic inflammatory diseases	- Killing
- Functional impairments	- Sexually transmitted diseases	- Homicide
- Permanent disabilities	- Unwanted pregnancy	- Suicide
Negative health behaviors	- Pregnancy complications	
- Alcohol and drug abuse	- Miscarriage/low birth weight	
- Smoking	**Psychological consequences**	
- Sexual risk-taking	- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	
- Self-injurious behavior	- Depression, Fears, Sleeping disorders	
(Psycho-) somatic consequences	- Eating disorders	
- Chronic pain syndrome	- Low self-esteem	
- Irritable bowel syndrome	- Suicidal tendencies	
- Gastrointesinal disorders		
- Urinary tract infections		
- Respiratory disorders		

Source: Hellbernd et al 2004, CHANGE 1999, all cited in PRO TRAIN 2009

EDUCATION AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

The threat of gender-based violence keeps many girls from attending or feeling safe at schools and contributes to the high rates of out-of-school girls. UN Women found that "girls are at greater risk of sexual violence, harassment and exploitation" while at school than boys, and concluded "school-related gender-based violence is a major obstacle to universal schooling and the right to education for girls."[47] Boys also suffer gender-based violence that impedes their education, most frequently boys face corporal punishment.

Studies have demonstrated "one extra year of schooling beyond the average can increase women's wages by 10 to 20 percent."[48] Thus, robbing girls of an education robs the country as a whole and slows global economic growth.

The World Bank observed that "promoting women's education can be game-changing for Africa, since investing in it significantly improves not only their own life chances but also those of their children."[49] The World Bank estimates that a 1% increase in the "share of women with a secondary education raises a country's annual per-capita income growth by 0.3%."[50]

Visibly engaging and empowering women has inter-generational benefits; just as gender-based violence is often modeled to younger generations, so too can women's empowerment be emulated by youth.

PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT

In recent years, the American private sector has demonstrated increased interest in the East African Community (EAC) and in Tanzania and Uganda in particular. To facilitate economic cooperation, the U.S. government signed a trade and investment framework agreement with the EAC in 2008.

- American foreign direct investment in Tanzania is on the rise. According to the U.S. Department of State, Tanzania's endowments of coal, natural gas, and uranium are areas of investment.[51]
- Uganda has attracted foreign investment in "manufacturing, telecommunications, financial services and real estate, and agriculture, forestry and fish," as well as "power, oil, construction and mining."[52]

While the United States has solid economic ties to both Tanzania and Uganda, additional programming to prevent and respond to gender-based violence and advance gender equality would build additional goodwill and create a more appealing investment climate.

SECURITY PRIORITIES

Violence against women has a direct effect on security. Among the most obvious impacts is that gender-based violence and the threat of GBV create profound insecurity for women and that widespread violence against women has an impact on the security climate in communities more broadly.

- Research suggests that the single best predictor of a country's likelihood to go to war is the status of women's security within that country.[53]
- Improvements in women's economic, social, and political rights have been found to correlate to fewer terrorist attacks against Americans.[54]
- A review of more than 180 peace agreements since 1989 observed that when women participate "as witnesses, signatories, mediators, and/or negotiators, the resulting agreement was 35 percent more likely to last at least fifteen years."[55]
- Effective programming to reduce gender-based violence has a positive and measurable impact on national security, regardless of the intervention's entry point such as girls' education, health, women's economic participation, or norm change, for example.

The studies cited above were controlled for income and dominant religious affiliation. The results suggest that nations investing i improving conditions for women and advancing gender equality are more likely to enhance stability and security overall and to reduce the risk of terrorist attacks, especially attacks aimed against Americans.

"The status of the world's women is not simply an issue of morality—it is a matter of national security."

—U.S. Government's Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review
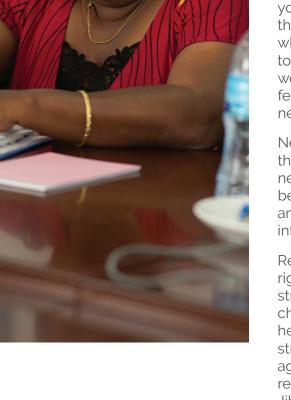
TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Violent extremist groups often use narratives that emphasize the state's illegitimacy and inability to provide for families, while also promising to diminish the burden placed on women. In recent years, terrorist and violent extremist groups have put more effort into recruiting women. According to Jean-Paul Laborde, the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate, "Terrorist groups such as Daesh, Boko Haram and Al Shabaab are becoming increasingly creative in their strategies by also including women, [who] take a more active role in their criminal enterprise."[56]

According to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa, terrorist recruiters target adolescents and young women and "exploit their personal problems and promise them better lives."[57] This trend is particularly evident in East Africa, where "[s]ome of the most determined potential jihadists seeking to join ISIS are young East African women."[58] Once in these groups, women take on a variety of roles, including as recruiters, trainers of female members, wives, fighters, and as "mules" for whatever goods need to be transported.

New research into the social organization of terrorist groups found that "although men dominated numerically… women [have] superior network connectivity at the collective level that is associated with benefits for system robustness and survival."[59] It is clear from research and from jihadists' efforts to recruit young women, that women are integral to the operations of jihadist and insurgent movements.

Reducing the levels of violence women face and increasing their rights and status in society may make jihadists' inhibit recruitment strategies that emphasize the burdens that women face. Similarly, changing gender norms that enable gender-based violence could help alienate jihadist groups whose ideology often prescribes strict limitations on women's behaviors and condone violence against women. Less success in recruiting women may also make recruitment of men and boys more difficult; for example, some Jihadist groups recruit men by promising them a wife.

COUNTER-INSURGENCY

There is emerging evidence that women are among the most effective actors in the fight to prevent and counter violent extremism. Noted counterinsurgency expert David Kilcullen observes that, "coopting neutral or friendly women, through targeted social and economic programmes, builds networks of enlightened self-interest that eventually undermine the insurgents… Win the women, and you own the family unit. Own the family, and you take a big step forward in mobilizing the population" in your favor."[60] Similarly, analysis by the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) concluded that, "women are well-positioned to detect early signs of radicalization because their rights and physical integrity are often the first targets of fundamentalists."[61]

Not only are women effective at detecting violent extremism, they are also well positioned to prevent radicalization and help de-radicalize members of their community. The CFR notes that "[a]lthough traditional efforts by governments and nongovernmental organizations to combat radicalization typically focus on reaching out to political or religious leaders – who are predominantly male – recent research shows that anti-terrorism messages are disseminated quite effectively throughout families and communities by women, who can challenge extremist narratives in homes, schools and social environments, and have particular influence among youth populations."[62]

Initiatives to end gender-based violence and improve gender equality are also opportunities to inoculate countries to the threat from violent extremists, improve local de-radicalization efforts, and engage in positive peace building activities. Engaging women through programs to end gender-based violence—be it through public health interventions, educational interventions, mass media outreach, or other programs—helps develop networks and women's agency, including many who are valuable in countering radicalization.

The intervention programs designed to reduce gender-based violence and support women to live free from violence also involve and engage local leaders. This process creates broader societal awareness about the consequences of gender-based violence and the principles of gender equality, and it also sets a course toward greater democratic practices that enhance national security and stability as a whole.

> One promising initiative is Sisters Against Violent Extremism (SAVE) headquartered at the Women Without Borders offices in Vienna, Austria. SAVE brings together a broad spectrum of women determined to create a united front against violent extremism. SAVE provides women with the tools for critical debate to challenge extremist thinking and to develop alternative strategies for combating the growth of global terrorism. SAVE provides training to "empower mothers with the competence and confidence to safeguard the young from the threat of violent extremism and the lure of radicalization." Evaluation by the International Center for the Study of Radicalization finds that this approach can help cultivate local supporter counter-terrorist programs and activities.[63]

AMERICA'S APPROACH & THE WAY FORWARD

America has long opposed violence against women and been an advocate for the rights of women globally. In less than five years, USAID has supported more than five million survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and has engaged 60,000 female participants in peacebuilding processes.[64] The U.S. government conducted demographic and health surveys across a number of regions. The survey results show declines both in the perpetration of violence against women and in attitudes enabling such violence in a number of countries – progress that would have not been possible without American support.

In recent years, the United States has undertaken efforts to better monitor and institutionalize this commitment across the U.S. government.

- USAID has developed budget classifications for foreign assistance programs to identify those with a gender focus or component. This classification is intended to make it easier to track and evaluate American assistance in this realm. The categories differentiate between projects aimed at promoting gender equality/women's empowerment, ending gender-based violence, and relating to the women, peace, and security agenda.

- The U.S. government developed the "United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence Globally" (U.S. Strategy) through an inter-agency process connecting the National Security Council, Department of State, Department of Defense, and USAID. The U.S. Strategy tackles violence against women from a variety of sectors and coordinates approaches as partnerships across U.S. government agencies, multilateral funding organizations, and local implementation partners. The programs often leverage mass communications, health, education, youth programs, and humanitarian aid as entry points to reduce gender-based violence. Programs for ending gender-based violence and empowering women also enhance U.S. government efforts in the development, economic, and security sectors.

- The U.S. Congress passed the Women Peace and Security Act (2017), instructing the U.S. government to create and implement a U.S. strategy for instructing the U.S. government to create and implement a U.S. strategy for advancing this agenda. This built on the U.S. government's National Action Plan (NAP) on women, peace, and security were created jointly by the National Security Council, Department of State, Department of Defense, and USAID, with consultations from other agencies as needed. This agenda recognizes the importance of including women in all aspects of peace negotiations, peace making, and peace building.

- The U.S. government's U.S. Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls launched in 2016 as a joint initiative between the Department of State, USAID, the U.S. Peace Corp, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. This strategy addresses critical concerns affecting adolescent girls in particular, such as obstacles to staying in school; early and forced child marriage; female genital mutilation; and other forms of violence.

- For fiscal year 2018, the congressional appropriation bills in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate both make available to the U.S. Department of State and USAID $150 million "to fund a multi-year strategy to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in countries where it is common in conflict and non-conflict settings."

Building on and sustaining the progress made is critical to advancing American development, economic, and security objectives abroad and requires continued high levels of diplomatic commitment and funding. Though U.S. funds to prevent gender-based violence represents a very small amount of money relative to other aspects of American foreign policy assistance and operations, these winvestments have an outsized impact and should be safeguarded.

RECOMMENDATIONS

American advocacy and programming to combat gender-based violence is essential – not just for women's welfare, but for American foreign policy priorities. United States' leadership has resulted in tangible improvements in women's lives that have had ripple effects throughout communities, creating more stable, prosperous, and peaceful societies. It is critically important to keep up the commitment and momentum and to invest in proven approaches to end gender-based violence.

1. **Prioritize U.S. funding and support for programs dedicated to ending gender-based violence:**

   a.   Promote high-level diplomatic engagement on issues related to ending GBV and promoting women's rights through existing partnerships, offices, and initiatives, as well as through new engagements.

      i.   The U.S. government should retain and enhance the authority of the Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues to elevate and coordinate initiatives across the U.S. government. Similar positions at the USAID and key government agencies are important to ensure investments and policies consistently integrate gender analysis and GBV prevention.

      ii.   American diplomacy and foreign assistance should support and integrate strategies such as the U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence and the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

iii. American foreign assistance programs should be coordinated and concentrated where possible, so that investments across a variety of sectors (such as education, health, legal reform, security, etc.) integrate social norm change to improve gender equality and reduce gender-based violence. By integrating GBV prevention efforts consistently and by supporting a multi-sectoral approach, U.S. investments will achieve better outcomes.

iv. American support for GBV programs should incentivize partner countries to adjust their legislative and institutional frameworks and direct national resources towards initiatives that enhance gender equality and improve conditions for women.

b. Encourage a grassroots network of women by developing partnerships with women-led and survivor-led community-based and non-governmental organizations.

i. At U.S. missions abroad, ensure that local organizations have access to information about requests for proposals and funding related to GBV programming and to information about international organizations that are funded to implement GBV programs.

ii. Ensure women are consulted and included as key stakeholders in all program design, decisions, and implementation.

iii. Recognize indicators relating to gender-based violence that serve as early warning about the emergence or appeal of radical ideologies in communities.

iv. Provide infrastructure to engage regularly in consultations with local leaders to discuss in real time the existing approaches to violence prevention and offer 'course corrections' or positive feedback.

c. Acknowledge and support women's leadership within GBV programs aimed at working with men and boys. Programming with men and boys to prevent GBV that marginalizes women and girls risks reinforcing the harmful gender norms that perpetuate violence and creates programs and dynamics that are not accountable to women and girls.

2. Improve existing U.S. government efforts to end GBV

Mainstreaming gender analysis throughout American foreign assistance programs and developing new programs specifically aimed at reducing GBV. Across all GBV interventions, the U.S. government should commit to local partnerships and engage in phased projects that address individual demographics community dynamics.

a. Require training on gender-based violence prevention and response for U.S. government staff at both headquarters and mission levels. Training should be a minimum of 12 hours and include components on causes and consequences of GBV, what an effective program can look like, supporting women's leadership, and how GBV impacts other U.S. foreign policy and security goals.

b. Create training modules and tools for use across the U.S. government foreign policy apparatus, including officials working on security, economic development and disaster response.

c. Allocate resources to ensure the global investments and implementation of strategies to prevent and respond to GBV are commensurate with the global scale of the problem. This includes maintaining a specific funding pool for GBV programming within USAID and the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, and increasing the amount the Department of State has previously allocated for GBV.

d. Continue cultivating innovation through U.S. 'challenge funds' that engage local participants and organizations and encourage new ways of approaching prevention of GBV.

3. Fund long-term programs

While a number of variables influence the effectiveness of programs to end GBV, one of the most frequently cited issues with funding is that programs are often operating on timelines that are too short to effect change. Demonstrating sustained, credible political will to end GBV is critical. The U.S. government should:

a. Prioritize phased, long-term engagements with communities over smaller, short-term projects. "One-off" engagements are unlikely to result in behavior change and, thus, will be less likely to break damaging cycles of behavior that impedes progress.

b. Develop GBV initiatives to run for a minimum of six years to enable time for impact. Engage the local community and organizations in the design and implementation of GBV programming.

4. Enhance assessment mechanisms and methodological rigor in evaluation and data collection

The monitoring and evaluation process should collect data that enables assessment of the gendered impact of the intervention. The U.S. government should:

a. Invest in research and data collection that facilitates data disaggregation and analysis by gender and facilitates tracking change in conditions for women and girls, men and boys.

b. Collect qualitative data, as well as quantitative data, about conditions for women and girls, men and boys.

c. Create a system that allows for proper tracking of GBV global funding allocations with clear GBV program parameters.

d. Strengthen partnerships with research institutions and universities to provide robust monitoring and evaluation for GBV projects.

ENDNOTES

1. Hoeffler, Anke and Fearon, James. *Conflict and Violence: Benefits and Costs of the Conflict and Violence Targets for the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. Copenhagen: Copenhagen Consensus Center, 2014. Accessed August 22, 2017. http://www.copenhagenconsensus.com/sites/default/files/conflict_assessment_-_hoeffler_and_fearon_0.pdf.

2. Ebbeler, Jessica. *Financial Requirements for Global Investments in Priority Health Interventions for Adolescent Girls: Estimated Costs of Scaling-Up Priority Interventions for Adolescent Girls' Health and Policy Recommendations for Improved Tracking of Global Health Expenditures on Adolescent Girls*. Washington: Center for Global Development, 2009. Accessed August 22, 2017. https://www.cgdev.org/doc/GHA/Start_with_a_Girl-Annex2.pdf.

3. Hoeffler and Fearon, "*Conflict and Violence.*"

4. Hamby, Sherry; David Finkelhor; Heather Turner; and Richard Ormrod. *Children's Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence: National survey of children's exposure to violence*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice. Juvenile Justice Bulletin (2011).

5. IGWG of USAID. *Addressing Gender-based Violence through USAID's Health Programs: A Guide for Health Sector Program Officers*. Second Edition. Washington: USAID, 2008. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/Pnadh194.pdf

6. Hoeffler and Fearon, "*Conflict and Violence.*"

7. The Gates Foundation, "The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Announces $80 Million Commitment To Close Gender Data Gaps and Accelerate Progress for Women and Girls," press release, May 17, 2016, https://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases/2016/05/Gates-Foundation-Announces-80-Mill-Doll-Comm-Closing-Gender-Data-Gaps-Acc-Progress-for-Women-Girl; see also http://data2x.org/who-we-are

8. Head, Sara K., Sally Zweimueller, Claudia Marchena, and Elliott Hoel. *Women's Lives and Challenges: Equality and Empowerment since 2000*. Rockville: ICF International, 2014. Accessed on August 21, 2017. https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1864/WomensLivesandChallengesEqualityandEmpowerment.pdf.

9. World Health Organization, 2014. *Global Status Report on Violence Prevention 2014* http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/status_report/2014/en/.

10. USAID, 2016. *DHS Survey on Tanzania*. Washington DC: USAID, 2016.

11. Futures Without Violence, "Linking the Security of Women and Security of States," accessed August 21, 2017, https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/linking-the-security-of-women/.

12. Kizito Makoye, "Gender based violence rising in Tanzania," *Reuters*, July 25, 2013, http://news.trust.org//item/20130725231724-ijt3z.

13. DREAMS, "DREAMS is Committed to Reducing HIV Among Adolescent Girls and Young Women," available at http://www.dreamspartnership.org/aboutdreams/#what-we-do.

14. USAID, "DREAMS: Partnership to Reduce HIV/AIDS in Adolescent Girls and Young Women," available at https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/global-health/hiv-and-aids/technical-areas/dreams.

15. PEPFAR "Uganda DREAMS Overview" https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/253961.pdf.

16. PEPFAR, "Fact Sheet: PEPFAR Latest Global Results," last updated 2016, https://www.pepfar.gov/documents/organization/264882.pdf.

17. USAID. *Great Project Northern Uganda*. Washington DC: USAID, 2013. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00KH2G.pdf.

18. The Health Compass, *Gender Roles, Equality and Transformation (GREAT) Project* (2016) available at http://www.thehealthcompass.org/sbcc-spotlights/gender-roles-equality-and-transformation-great-project.

19. Raising Voices, "*SASA!* Raising Voices," available at http://raisingvoices.org/sasa/.

20. Carlson, Cady. *SASA! Mobilizing Communities to Inspire Social Change*. Kampala: Raising Voices, 2013. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://raisingvoices.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/downloads/resources/Unpacking_Sasa!.pdf.

21. Carlson (2013).

22. Carlson (2013).

23. Raising Voices, "*SASA!* Raising Voices," available at http://raisingvoices.org/sasa/.

24. Tanya Abramsky, et al. "A Community Mobilisation Intervention to Prevent Violence Against Women and Reduce HIV/AIDS Risk in Kampala, Uganda (the SASA! study): Study protocol for a cluster randomised controlled trial," *BMC Medicine* Volume 12, Issue 2 (2012).

25. Raising Voices SASA! website http://raisingvoices.org/sasa/.

26. Nambusi Kyegombe et al. "The Impact of SASA!, A Community Mobilization Intervention, on Reported HIV-Related Risk Behaviours and Relationship Dynamics in Kampala, Uganda," *Journal of the International AIDS Society* Volume 17 (2014).

27. Carlson (2013).

28. Department of State, "Safe from the Start: Preventing and Responding to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) from the Onset of Emergencies," available at https://www.state.gov/j/prm/policyissues/issues/c62378.htm.

29. Boyce, Michael and Viguad-Walsh Francisca. *Getting It Right: Protection Of South Sudanese Refugees In Uganda*. Washington DC: Refugees International, 2017. Accessed August 23, 2017. https://static1.squarespace.com/static/506c8ea1e4b01d9450dd53f5/t/58c2d9506b8f5b630ca580b9/1489164691850/2017.3.10+Uganda.pdf.

30. Boyce and Viguad-Walsh (2017).

31. Mary McVeigh, "Lessons Learned from Standardized Testing," *Huffington Post*, (October 28, 2016), http://www.huffingtonpost.com/mary-mcveigh/lessons-learned-from-stan_1_b_8403306.html.

32. Together for Girls, interview.

33. Together for Girls, "Multi Sector National Plan of Action to Prevent and Respond to Violence against Children (2013-2016)," April 2013, available at http://www.togetherforgirls.org/wp-content/uploads/Tanzania_FINAL3_year_national_plan.pdf and "National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children in Tanzania (2017/18 – 2021/22)," December 2016, available at http://www.mcdgc.go.tz/data/NPA_VAWC.pdf.

34. Together for Girls, *Breaking the Cycle of Violence, Together for Girls Stakeholder Report 2015-2016*, http://www.togetherforgirls.org/wp-content/uploads/Together-for-Girls-2015-2016-Stakeholder-Report.pdf.

35. Hoeffler and Fearon, "*Conflict and Violence.*"

36. High-Level Task Force, "*Smart Investments.*"

37. McKinsey Global Institute. *How Advancing Women's Equality Can Add $12 Trillion to Global Growth*. Washington DC: McKinsey Global Institute, 2015. Accessed August 23, 201. http://www.mckinsey.com/global-themes/employment-and-growth/how-advancing-womens-equality-can-add-12-trillion-to-global-growth.

38. Ana Revenga and Sudhir Shetty, "Empowering Women Is Smart Economics," *Finance & Development* Vol. 49, No. 1 (2012), available at http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2012/03/revenga.htm.

39. East African Community, "Gender and Women," available at http://www.eac.int/sectors/gender-community-development-and-civil-society/gender-and-women.

40. Revenga, and Shetty (2012).

41. Kabeer, Naila. *Women's Economic Empowerment and Inclusive Growth: Labour Markets and Enterprise Development.* London: Centre for Development Policy & Research, School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London 2012. Accessed on August 22, 2017. https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=http://www.soas.ac.uk/cdpr/publications/papers/file80432.pdf&hl=en_GB .

42. UNFPA and WAVE. *Strengthening Health System Responses to Gender-based Violence in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: A Resource Package*. UNFPA Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, 2014. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://eeca.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/WAVE-UNFPA-Report-EN.pdf.

43. Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. *Unfinished Business – Women and Girls Front and Centre Beyond 2015*. Paris: OECD, 2013. Accessed August 22, 2017. http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/unfinished%20business%202%20pager.pdf.

44. USAID, IGWG and PRB. *The Crucial Role of Health Services in Responding to Gender-Based Violence*. Washington DC: USAID. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://www.prb.org/igwg_media/crucial-role-hlth-srvices.pdf.

45. UNFPA and WAVE (2017).

46. USAID, IGWG and PRB. *The Crucial Role of Health Services in Responding to Gender-Based Violence*. https://www.igwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/crucial-role-hlth-srvices.pdf.

47. Vogelstein (2013).

48. Vogelstein, Rachel. *Ending Child Marriage: How Elevating The Status of Girls Advances US Foreign Policy Objectives*. Washington DC: Council on Foreign Relations, 2013. Access August 21, 2017. https://www.cfr.org/content/publications/.../Ending_Child_Marriage_report.pdf.

49. Beegle, Kathleen G.; Christiaensen, Luc; Dabalen, Andrew L.; Gaddis, Isis. *Poverty in a Rising Africa: overview*. Washington, DC : World Bank Group, 2015. Accessed August 23, 2017. http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/994551467989467774/Poverty-in-a-rising-Africa-overview

50. Vogelstein (2013).

51. *Tanzania*. Washington DC: Department of State, 2016. Accessed August 23, 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/othr/ics/2016/af/254253.htm.

52. Department of State, *2017 Investment Climate Statements: Uganda*. Washington DC: Department of State, 2017. Accessed August 23, 2017. https://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/othr/ics/2017/af/269793.htm.

53. Hudson, Valerie M., et al. *Sex and World Peace*. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2014). Print.

54. Nilay Saiya et al., "Testing the Hillary Doctrine: Women's Rights and Anti-American Terrorism," *Political Research Quarterly* Volume 70, Issue 2 (2017), doi 10.1177/1065912917698046.

55. Bigio, Jamille and Vogelstein, Rachel. *How Women's Participation in Conflict Prevention and Resolution Advances U.S. Interests*. Washington DC: Council on Foreign Relations, 2016. Accessed on August 22, 2017. https://www.cfr.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2016/10/Discussion_Paper_Bigio_Vogelstein_Women%20in%20CPR_OR.pdf.

56. UN News Center, "Women Must Be Empowered to Actively Help Counter Terrorism and Extremism," (September 9, 2015).

57. IGAD. *Al-Shabaab as a Transnational Security Threat*. 2016. Accessed on August 22, 2017. http://www.igadssp.org/index.php/documentation/igad-report-al-shabaab-as-a-transnational-security-threat/download.

58. IGAD. *Al-Shabaab as a Transnational Security Threat*.

59. Pedro Manriue et al., "Women's Connectivity in Extreme Networks," *Science Advances* Vol. 2, no. 6 (2016).

60. Davide Kilcullen, "Twenty-Eight Articles: Fundamentals of Company-level Counterinsurgency," *Military Review* Vol. 83, no. 6 (2006).

61. Bigio and Vogelstein (2016).

62. Bigio and Vogelstein (2016).

63. Women Without Borders website http://www.women-without-borders.org/aboutus/.

64. USAID website https://www.usaid.gov/gbv.

100 Montgomery St., The Presidio
San Francisco, CA 94129
415-678-5500

50 Milk St., 16th Floor
Boston, MA 02109
617-702-2004

1320 19th St. NW, Suite 401
Washington, DC 20036
202-595-7382