

Health Sector Response to Gender-based Violence

Papua New Guinea

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SDG 5– Gender Equality

- ▶ Address GBV
- ▶ Catalyst for making progress in reproductive health and women's health

Magnitude of GBV problem in the Pacific and PNG

- ▶ Globally 1 in 3 women
- ▶ Pacific – major problem based on GBV studies:
 - Solomon Is – 65%
 - Kiribati – 60%
 - Vanuatu – 60%
 - Samoa – 30%
 - PNG – 65%

Gender-based Violence – major public health issue

- ▶ Health-care providers are preferred by survivors to seek help
- ▶ Trauma – physical, mental, emotional & psychological
- ▶ Reproductive & sexual health
- ▶ STIs and HIV
- ▶ Psychological consequences

Multi-sectoral approach

- ▶ Political leadership and commitment
- ▶ Laws are in place to address different types of violence
- ▶ National Policies and strategies in place
- ▶ Access to health, police, legal and social services are made available for survivors

Within this multi-sectoral Approach is the
Health sector response

Health sector response – strategic actions



What Can Health Workers Do?

1. **TOGETHER...** Ask the right questions, listen with compassion, and reassure survivors that violence is not their fault.
2. **TOGETHER...** Help survivors stay safe and connect them to other services they may need.
3. **TOGETHER...** Raise awareness of the harmful consequences of gender-based violence and ways to prevent it.
4. **TOGETHER...** Strengthen capabilities to respond to survivor's needs.

Call for multi-sectoral action

**TOGETHER...LET'S STAND AGAINST
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

Thank you

