COVID19 rapid assessment – strengthening public health responses to violence against women and children

Questionnaire for Healthy City network and other WHO member state partners

To allow time to complete the analysis, we would be grateful if you could fill the questionnaire and send it back by 27th July 2020

If you need any information or if we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Please e-mail your completed questionnaire to **isabelle.pearson@lshtm.ac.uk**

YOUR AREA/ORGANISATION

1. **Which country are you from? (e.g. Switzerland)**

2. **Which city/local area do you represent? (e.g. Geneva)**

3. **Which organization type do you represent?**
   - ☐ Local/regional government
   - ☐ National government
   - ☐ Child protection
   - ☐ Academia/research
   - ☐ Health
   - ☐ Criminal justice
   - ☐ Non-government organization
   - ☐ Other, please detail …………………………………………..

4. **What is your role in the healthy cities network?**
   - ☐ WHO technical focal point for your city ('Healthy city coordinator')
   - ☐ WHO political focal point for your city ('Healthy city politician')
   - ☐ Other, please detail…………………………………………………………………………

COVID-19 IMPACT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN

5. **Is your city/local authority or are local NGOs/others in your city collecting data on violence against women and children during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Violence against women	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Don't know
Violence against children	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ Don't know

   If yes, please provide details, and copies of or links to relevant documents / resources / key contacts

If available, please provide details of the reported levels of violence amongst women and/or children during the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. increased percentage of calls to helplines or police/health data), ideally with comparisons to before the pandemic if available (e.g. for the same month in 2019). Please provide the data source, time period, violence type, population group and any other relevant details
Please see appendix for violence definitions

Violence against women Including domestic or family violence, intimate partner violence, femicide, non-partner sexual violence, stalking, sexual harassment, cyber violence, trafficking	
Violence against children including physical, emotional or sexual maltreatment, neglect, infanticide, exploitation, trafficking, child marriage, bullying, cyber violence or youth violence	

6. **Based on the information provided above, to what extent has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted on levels of violence against women and children in your city/local authority? If no data is available, please complete to the best of your knowledge.**
Please see appendix for violence definitions

Violence against women	Increased	Stayed the same	Decreased	Don't know
Overall	☐	☐	☐	☐
Domestic/family violence, including intimate partner violence	☐	☐	☐	☐
Non-partner sexual violence, e.g. rape	☐	☐	☐	☐
Femicide	☐	☐	☐	☐
Trafficking	☐	☐	☐	☐
Stalking	☐	☐	☐	☐
Sexual harassment	☐	☐	☐	☐
Cyber violence	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify) …………………………… …………………………………………	☐	☐	☐	☐

Violence against children	Increased	Stayed the same	Decreased	Don't know
Overall	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child maltreatment – physical	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child maltreatment – emotional	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child maltreatment – sexual abuse	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child maltreatment – neglect	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child maltreatment – exploitation	☐	☐	☐	☐
Infanticide	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child trafficking	☐	☐	☐	☐
Child marriage	☐	☐	☐	☐

Youth violence (aged 10-24 years) violence (e.g. fighting, bullying, threats with weapons, gang-related violence).	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (please specify) ……………………………… ………………………………………..	☐	☐	☐	☐

7. **Has your city/local authority has collected data or is there anecdotal evidence specific to violence against women and children in any of the following populations during COVID19? If yes, please provide details, and copies and/or links to relevant documents / resources / key contacts**

	Yes	No	Don't Know	Please give as much detail as possible, including links to relevant resources and please list key contacts such as NGOs who may be able to provide further insight
Migrant women and children	☐	☐	☐	
Refugee women and children	☐	☐	☐	
Trafficked women	☐	☐	☐	
Homeless women and children	☐	☐	☐	
Disabled women and children	☐	☐	☐	
LGBTI	☐	☐	☐	
Women with caring responsibilities	☐	☐	☐	
Ethnic Minorities	☐	☐	☐	
Adolescents	☐	☐	☐	
Younger women	☐	☐	☐	
Older women	☐	☐	☐	
Children in social care	☐	☐	☐	
Women in social care	☐	☐	☐	

Women and children living in poverty	☐	☐	☐
Religious minorities	☐	☐	☐
Others vulnerable populations, please specify…………………. ……………………………..	☐	☐	☐

PREVENTION AND RESPONSE STRATEGIES

8. **We would like to know if and how service provision may have changed in your city/local authority for women and children affected by violence. Please consider the prevention and response approaches below, and indicate: if the strategy was provided prior to, and during the COVID-19 pandemic, and any changes to service provision (e.g. service availability, budget changes) or uptake as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are keen to hear details of any changes that were made, any lessons learnt and any reasons why the services were or were not provided during the pandemic.**

Prevention and response strategy	Provided prior to pandemic	Provided during pandemic	During the pandemic, was this service used more, same or less often	Details and reasons of any changes to provision or other important issues to consider
Health care services providing care for women/children experiencing violence	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know	
Social welfare services	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know	
Social protection for the most vulnerable children and households (e.g. food vouchers for poor families, school meals)	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know	
Identification (and referral) by health	☐	☐	☐ more	

services of risk for child maltreatment and intimate partner and sexual violence			☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Shelter services and emergency accommodation	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Home visiting programmes (e.g. family nurse partnership)	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Parenting education	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Medico-legal services for victims of rape and sexual assault	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Psychosocial support for victims of violence	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Emergency alternative care arrangements for children	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Child protection case management	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Care and protection for children in institutions	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know

Helplines to report violence against children and access support	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Helplines to report violence against women and access support	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Legal counselling services for women who experience violence	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know
Others, please specify………………… ……………………………	☐	☐	☐ more ☐ same ☐ less ☐ don't know

INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES

9. **Has your city or any NGO/service provider in implemented any local/national plans, policies or interventions for preventing and/or responding to violence against women and children as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? We are especially keen to hear about any innovative strategies based on your local situation and needs, even if they were small scale, e.g. using code words in pharmacies or free hotel rooms for abused women and children. Please also consider any programmes targeting the vulnerable populations outlined in question 7.**

Yes - national	Yes - local	No	Don't know
☐	☐	☐	☐

If yes, please provide details, and copies of or links to relevant documents/resources

10. **Considering any innovative strategies listed in above, please state why each strategy was necessary on top of the existing service infrastructure, and how the strategy was funded**

11. **During the COVID 19 epidemic, did your city/local authority earmark additional funding/budget to violence against women and children prevention or response?**

Yes	No	Don't know
☐	☐	☐

If yes, how much and for which programs specifically:

12. **What circumstances made addressing and responding to violence against women and children during the COVID-19 pandemic challenging in your city?** Please provide as much detail as possible

We would like to gather as much detail as possible regarding COVID19's impact on violence against women and children in your local city/authority, please let us know if there are any key contacts, groups or organisations you think we should also speak to regarding this. Please provide their details below:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey

Appendix

Violence definitions:

Domestic violence	All acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence as the victim. This term encompasses both intimate partner violence and intergenerational violence.
Intimate partner violence	Refers to behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours
Femicide	Femicide is generally understood to involve intentional murder of women because they are women, but broader definitions include any killings of women or girls.
Non-partner sexual violence	Any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, or other act directed against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, perpetrated by a non-partner. It includes rape, defined as the physically forced or otherwise coerced penetration of the vulva or anus with a penis, other body part or object
Stalking	Intentional conduct of repeatedly engaging in threatening conduct directed at another person. This can occur with or without contact, online or offline an include threats and harassment.
Sexual harassment	Unwanted verbal or non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature with the purpose or effect of violating dignity of a person
Cyber violence	Cyberviolence is the use of computer systems to cause, facilitate, or threaten violence against individuals that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering and may include the exploitation of the individual's circumstances, characteristics or vulnerabilities.
Trafficking	The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.
Child maltreatment – Physical	Physical maltreatment involves a caregiver inflicting physical harm or engaging in actions that create a high risk of harm.
Child maltreatment – Emotional	Emotional abuse is inflicting emotional harm through the use of words or actions. Specific forms include berating a child by yelling or screaming, spurning by belittling the child's abilities and achievements, intimidating and terrorizing with threats, and exploiting or corrupting by encouraging deviant or criminal behaviour. Emotional abuse can also occur when words or actions are omitted or withheld, in essence becoming emotional neglect (e.g. ignoring or rejecting children or isolating them from interaction with other children or adults).
Child maltreatment – Sexual	Any action with a child that is done for the sexual gratification of an adult or significantly older child constitutes sexual abuse. Forms of sexual abuse include intercourse, which is oral, anal, or vaginal penetration; molestation, which is genital contact without intercourse; and forms that do not involve physical contact by the perpetrator, including exposure of the perpetrator's

	genitals, showing sexually explicit material to a child, and forcing a child to participate in a sex act with another child or to participate in the production of sexual material.
Child maltreatment – Neglect	Neglect is the failure to provide for or meet a child's basic physical, emotional, educational, and medical needs. Neglect differs from abuse in that it usually occurs without intent to harm. Different types of neglect can be defined as • Physical neglect includes failure to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, supervision, and protection from potential harm. • Emotional neglect is failure to provide affection or love or other kinds of emotional support. • Educational neglect is failure to enrol a child in school, ensure attendance at school, or provide home schooling • Medical neglect is failure to ensure that a child receives appropriate care or needed treatment for injuries or physical or mental disorders
Infanticide	The killing of an infant child in their first year of life
Child exploitation	Child exploitation is the act of using a minor child for profit, labour, sexual gratification, or some other personal or financial advantage.
Child trafficking	The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over a child, for the purpose of exploitation.
Child marriage	Child marriage refers to any formal marriage or informal union between a child under the age of 18 and an adult or another child.
Bullying	There is no legal definition of bullying. But it is usually defined as repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically and is often aimed at certain people because of their race, religion, gender or sexual orientation or any other aspect such as appearance or disability.
Youth Violence	Youth Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power to threaten or harm others by young people ages 10-24. It typically involves young people hurting peers who are unrelated to them and who they may or may not know well. Youth violence can include fighting, bullying, threats with weapons, and gang-related violence. A young person can be involved with youth violence as a victim, offender, or witness.