

# Gender-based Violence: A global challenge

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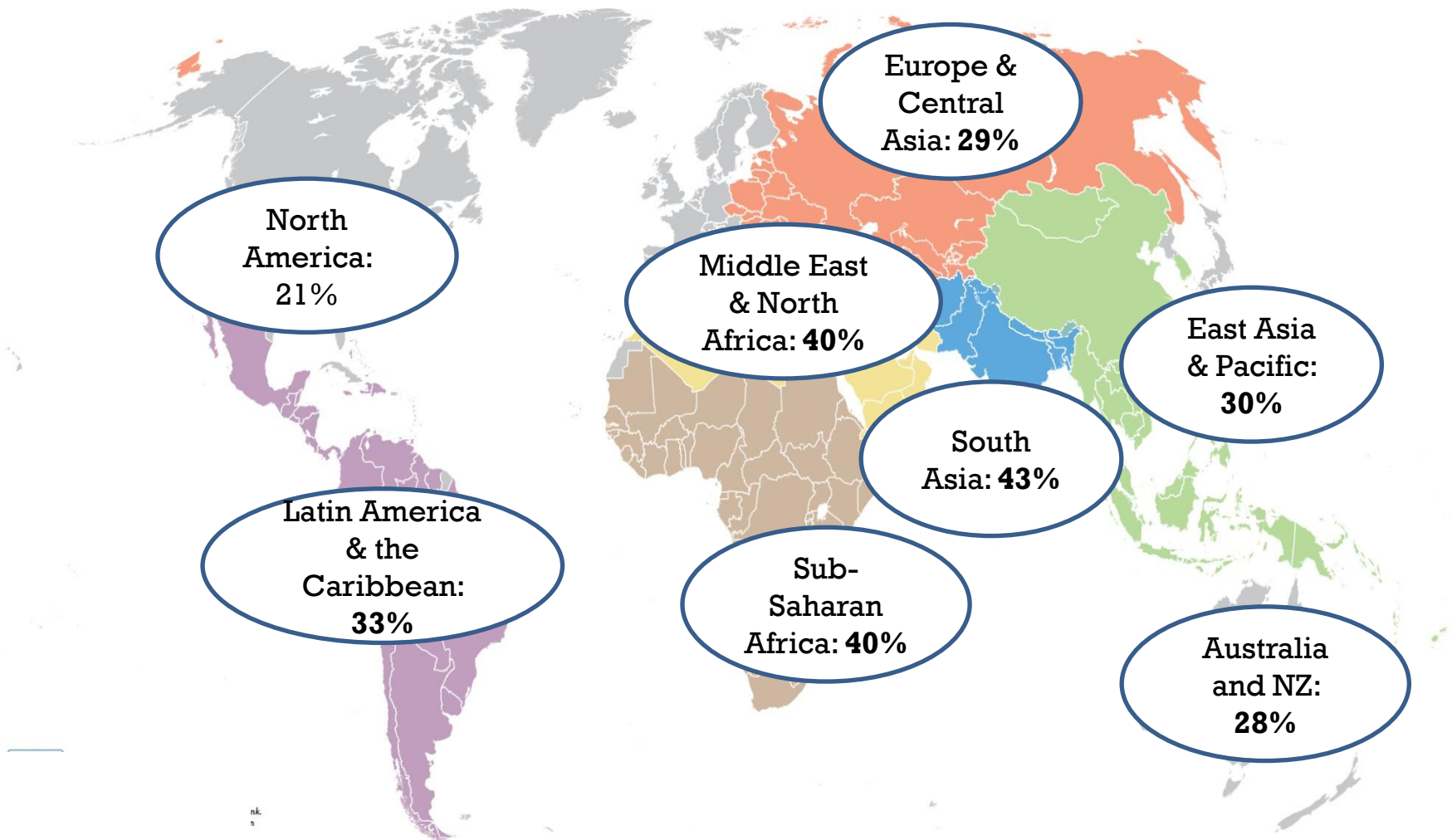
The Equal Futures Partnership

Side Event to Commission on the Status of Women 58  
U.S. Mission to the United Nations

March 13, 2014



# Worldwide almost 1/3 of all women who have been in a relationship have experienced partner violence



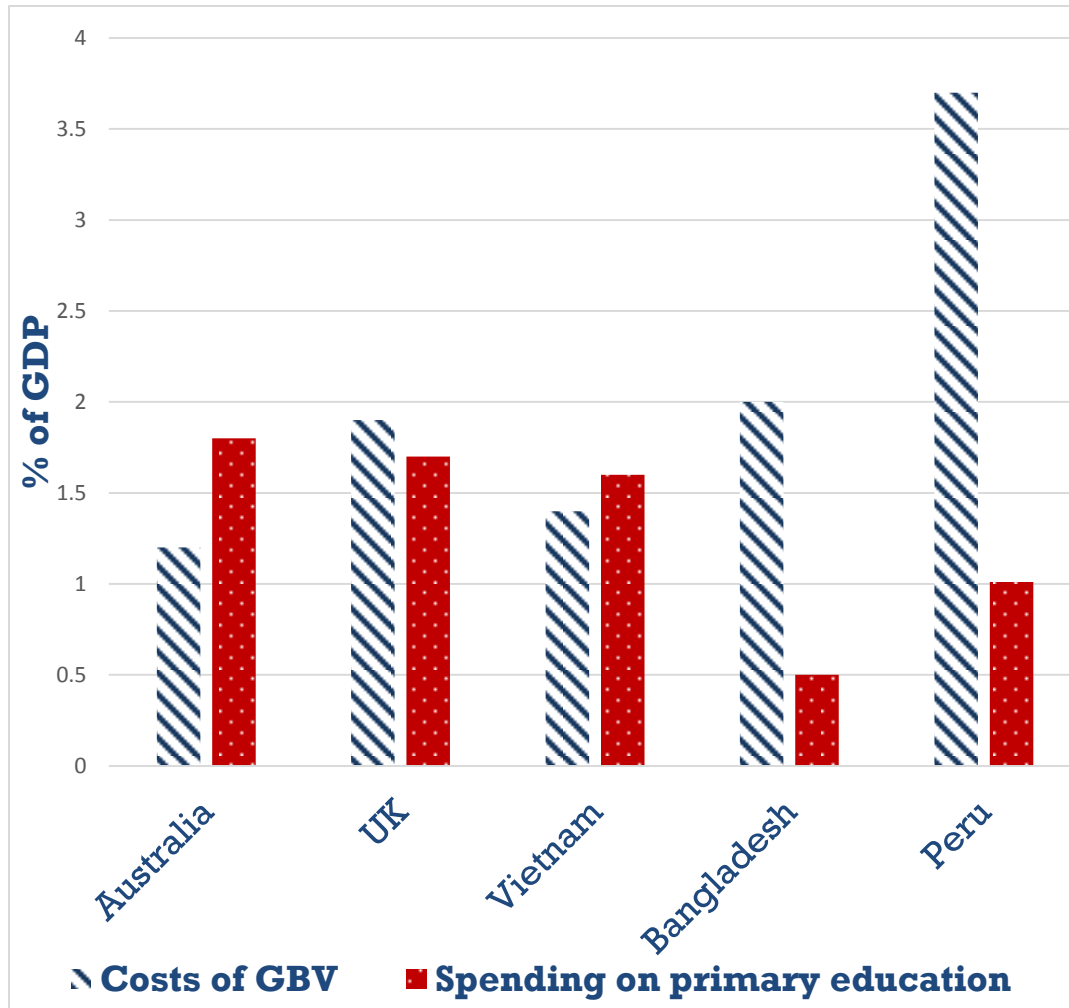
# Development Costs of Violence

## Adverse consequences for women themselves, families and the economy

- Health: increased risk of depression, STI, HIV, unintended pregnancy
- Work: higher absenteeism, lower productivity
- Intergenerational: children exposed have worse health, lower education and professional attainment
  - Much higher risk of being victims of violence or perpetrators

# Development Costs cont.

Estimated costs are close to average government spending on primary education



## Economic empowerment and exposure to gender-based violence

**In Bangladesh**, working increased women's exposure to IPV:

- BUT only for women who had less education or were married at a young age

**In Ecuador**, cash transfers to mothers decreased psychological partner violence against women

- IF they had above primary education

- BUT increased such violence against women with a primary education or less

# Overlapping Constraints

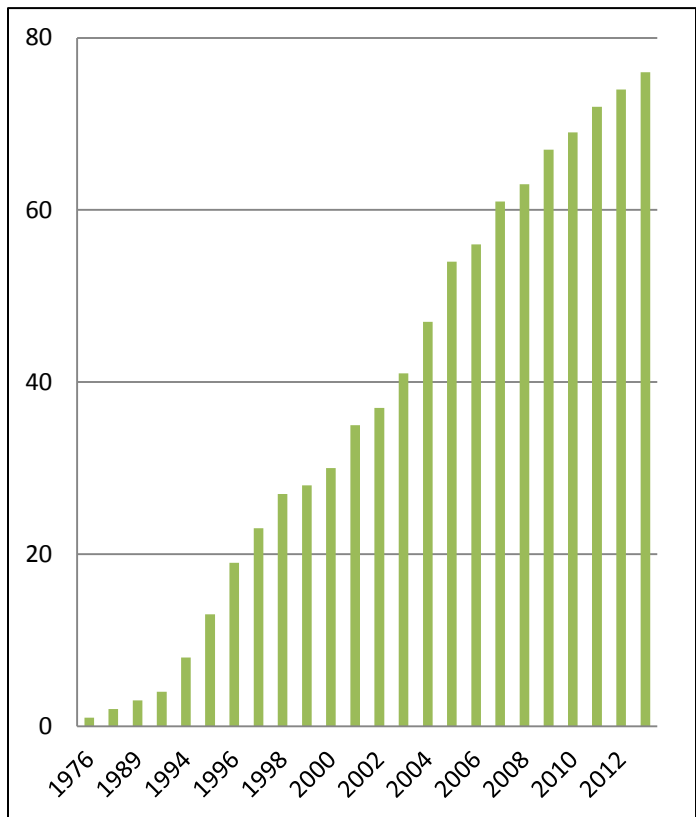
Overlapping deprivations compound development challenges



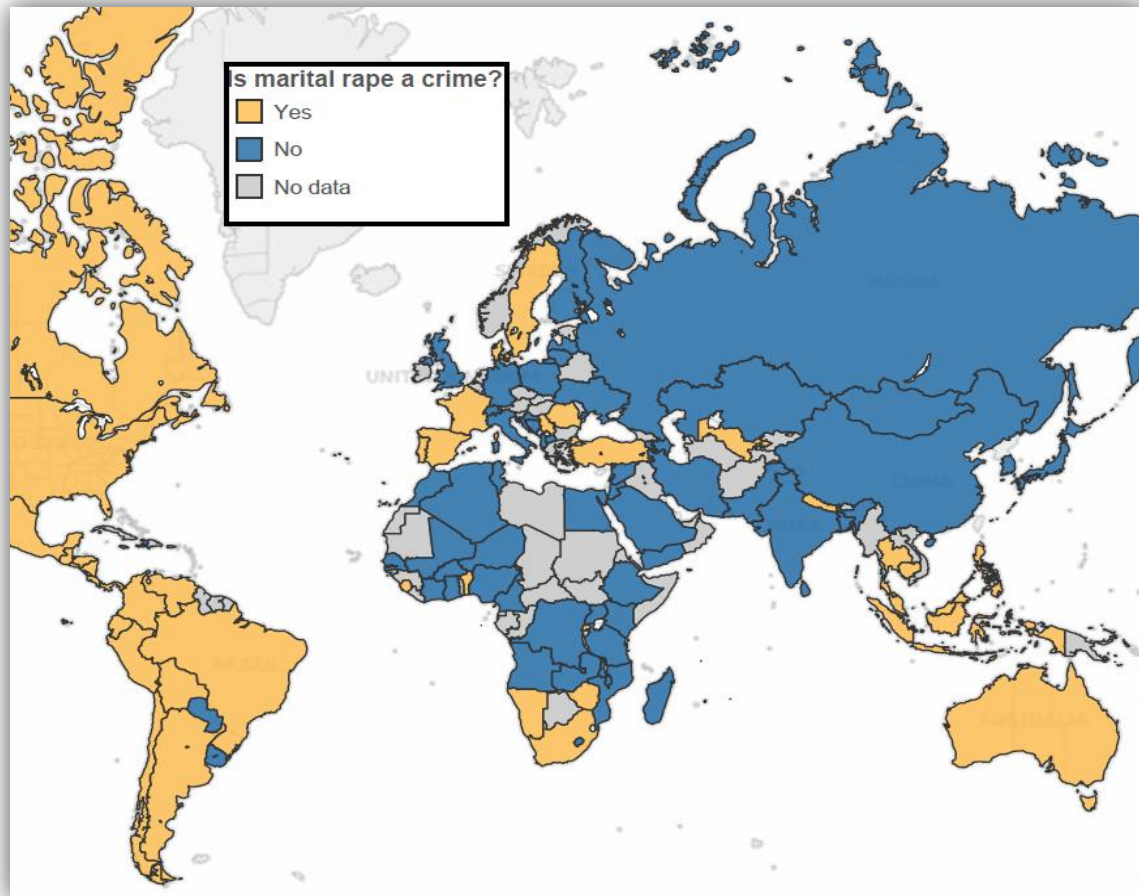
45 % of women experience two constraints or more, 13% experience all three

# The Pace and Need for Legal Reform

Cumulative number of countries with legislative against domestic violence, 1976-2013



But 61/100 countries do not have laws criminalizing marital rape



Source: Women, Business and the Law 2013

# Investing in evidence and data

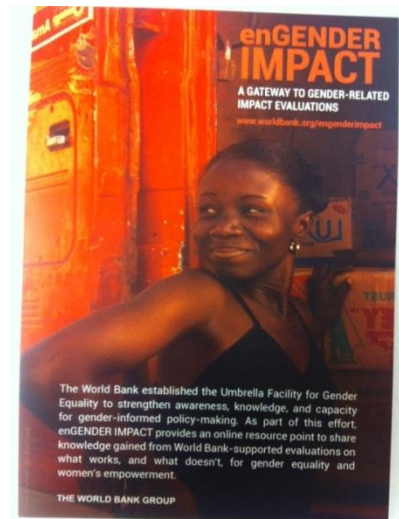
## New results of the first ever global systematic review of reviews of what works to prevent violence

- Evidence from 186 impact evaluations in 25 countries
- 80 percent from the Global North

## enGENDER IMPACT

- Building understanding about what works, and doesn't work, to expand economic opportunities
- Some with violence outcomes – key findings
  - Target norms and attitudes
  - Facilitate social interactions and create safe spaces
  - Engage men and boys
  - Longer interventions are more effective

[www.worldbank.org/engenderimpact](http://www.worldbank.org/engenderimpact)



# Some Promising Directions

- Invest in multisectoral response
- Promote effective application of laws
- Invest in primary prevention
- Eliminate barriers to women seeking services
- Improve quality and availability of services for survivors





FIND OUT MORE AT:  
[www.worldbank.org/gender](http://www.worldbank.org/gender)