Inter-American Alliance for the Prevention of Gender-based Violence

Workshop on Preventing Violence against Women and Children
January 27, 2011
Background

- 2003 meeting convened by PATH aimed at identifying gaps and challenges and facilitating collaboration and institutional coordination in addressing VAW in LAC
- LAC leading the way with innovative policies and programs but need for greater regional technical collaboration, capacity building and critical analysis of approaches
- Goal: Strengthen the capacities of the health sector (public and private) for responding to GBV:
  - Documentation/ dissemination of promising approaches & practices
  - Development of regional approaches for dissemination
  - Promotion of research & evaluation to strengthen evidence-based advocacy
Who we are

- Steering Committee: Instituto Promundo, Puntos de Encuentro, Ipas, Armonie. Technical Secretariat is coordinated by PATH.

- Strategic allies: CLADEM; LACWHN; PAHO/WHO; UNIFEM; Ministries of Health and other institutions linked to the issue

- Direct contact with over 150 institutions in LAC

- Particular focus on Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala
How we work ...

❖ Promoting and nurturing open exchanges, shared learning, partnerships and collaboration
❖ Identifying and disseminating regional best practices and lessons learned (website primary mechanism)
❖ Fostering open participation and working groups that facilitate attention to specific interests & experiences
❖ National and regional level work with networks, activist movements, international and national entities
❖ Collaboration with networks such as GBV Prevention Network, MenEngage, P for P and others
Promoting research and evidence based action

- Based on research experience around the world and the WHO multi-country study
- Strengthening understanding of femicide (WHO/PATH 2009) and promoting evidence based plans of action (COMMCA/InterCambios 2010)
- Manual on researching femicide (under development)
Training in research on violence against women

“It is important to be able to collect information and make it talk, so that it really has an impact.” Course participant Nicaragua 2008
Evidence-based advocacy

- Advice on the violence module of the demographic and health surveys of Guatemala and Nicaragua (guaranteeing ethical aspects)

- “Femicide: A shared responsibility” – preventative and risk-identification approach

- Movement against sexual abuse in Nicaragua – process with female trial lawyers
Strengthening capacities to respond to violence against women

What works? How can we replicate successful interventions? How can we integrate GBV into the health sector processes with a risk perspective?”

✓ Processes with Ministries of Health in Honduras and Nicaragua
✓ Response to sexual violence in IPPF clinics in Central America
Strengthening capacities to respond to violence against women

**Toolbox for training on GBV**

- *Improving the health sector response to gender-based violence (IPPF-WHR)*
- *Fact sheet on training on GBV in the health sector – lessons learned*
- *In her shoes*
- *María Luisa booklet*
- *Matrix of GBV-related training materials for health professionals available online*
In her shoes… A methodology to promote support networks for women among people who provide services

- 1,225 sets in over 80 organizations and institutions
- 114 multiplication and training workshops
- Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, USA, El Salvador, Panama, Dominican Republic, Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Spain, Colombia, Uganda and South Africa
- 1,461 people trained
Communication for social change

How can we change community norms on GBV?

How can we measure those changes?
Promoting dialogue among groups of women and men against violence

ENGAGING MEN & BOYS IN ACHIEVING GENDEREquality
Inter-regional collaboration

• GBV Prevention Network for the Horn, East and Southern Africa – Raising Voices (Uganda) technical secretariat
  – Adaptation of In Her Shoes for the African context
  – Communication materials

• Over 350 Activists and practitioners committed to preventing GBV in 18 countries
  – Fostering quality activism (16 days)
  – Discourse on rights based approach to prevention (“Get Moving”)
  – Highlighting local innovations
  – Sharing tools and resources

• Partners for Prevention and Promundo on engaging men
Promoting access to information and resources:
www.alianzaintercambios.org

- Over 160,000 visits in the last three years, an average of 1,500 per month
- Bulletins distributed to over 1,400 contacts in the region
Challenges

• Regional work is slower than national work – participation of ground level organizations may be difficult – persistence!
• Changes in organizational staff – breaks in continuity
• Coordination between civil society networks and government entities – fostering collaboration and common ground
• Shifting priorities and changing contexts
• Maintaining regional momentum, connection and dynamism of collaboration is sometimes challenging
• Finding a “niche” for a regional network that speaks to the needs and experiences of its broad membership (Policy? Activism? Sharing tools? Networking? Research?)
• Diverse members/ experiences/ capacities and needs
Lessons

• Greater participation and response when organizations have a specific, identified interest and way to engage
• Identification of partners and allies at all levels is vital
• Need to be flexible – strive to understand changing contexts and meet members’ needs - think about new approaches and strategies based on emerging evidence
• Ongoing capacity building processes are critical
• Strengthening capacities in analysis (and M&E) of root cases and methodologies of GBV should be taken into consideration as a niche for regional work in order to have long term impact on quality of GBV prevention
Gracias