



United Arab Emirates

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS المركز الوطني للإحصاء

# National and Regional Consultations on Measuring Violence Against Women

**April 2013**



United Arab Emirates

## Content

Back Ground

Consultation Activities

NBS Proposal

- ✓ The definition
- ✓ Classification
- ✓ The questionnaire



United Arab Emirates

## Back Ground

- It has been recognized that the content, scope and profile of social statistics vary from country to country due to economic circumstances, cultural and traditional differences and different policy objectives
- Making the harmonization of those statistics is a challenge
- It has been recognized the substantial cultural differences on the issue of violence against women which creates difficulties to come up with one definition that is suitable for every culture.



United Arab Emirates

SO....

It is so important to ensure that different perspectives and sensitivities are taken into consideration in future work of Gender Statistics at the international level;



United Arab Emirates

## Consultation Activities

NBS of UAE has organized two specialized workshops about "Measuring the indicators of violence against women":

- 1) At the national level with the participation of a number of experts representing various authorities related to the subject of family and women at the country level. The workshop established national dialog about the concept of violence against women and its acts at the national circumstances
- 2) The second workshop has been organized by the NBS together with General Secretariat of the GCC. The participants discussed the legislative aspects related to the subject of violence, its meaning, aspects, health and cultural dimensions and the society's view on violence at the regional level.



United Arab Emirates

## Consultation Activities

### Workshops Conclusions:

- The definition of violence against women when it is adopted, should take in consideration the country culture, legislation, religion and tradition aspects. Not all abuses (mistreatment) against women can be considered as violence.
- It is necessarily to formulate a group of specialists (at national and regional level) to adopt suitable definition and tools of measurement of “violence against women” fit to countries similar in culture and considering the above aspects.



United Arab Emirates

# NBS Proposal

## The Concept

A definition of violence against women was first specified and endorsed by the international community in the 1993 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women as:

***“any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”***



United Arab Emirates

# The Concept

## Mistreatment of women:

It can be defined as

***"any act of gender-based abuse (mistreatment) of women which causes suffering in public or in the private".***

The definition includes negative and wrong practices against women which indicates that this act is not so dangerous and severe.





United Arab Emirates

# The Concept

The aim of distinguishing between these concepts is:

1. to not integrate all wrong practices against women under the word violence,
2. to avoid amplifying (inflating) the phenomenon, which may eventually lead to an error in its diagnosis and treatment.



United Arab Emirates

# Classification

## The international classification:

- **Physical violence**
- **Sexual violence**
- **Psychological (Mental) violence**



United Arab Emirates

# Classification

## The proposed classification:

1. Physical violence against women.
2. Sexual violence against women.
3. Psychological violence and psychological abuse against women.
4. Economical violence and economical abuse against women.
5. Verbal abuse against women.
6. Behavioral abuse against women.
7. Health abuse against women.



United Arab Emirates

# Classification

The following table shows the most prominent cases of abuse and violence against women arranged according to the classification above:

## Table



United Arab Emirates

# Classification

A group of indicators have been formed to measure abuse and violence against women according to the following standards:

1. The suitability of the indicator to the concept and classification of abuse and violence against women suggested above.
2. Relevance to the needs of the people concerned, and the specialists in the field of women, (through what was stated in the papers and the interventions made in the workshops).
3. Clarity and the ability to be measured



United Arab Emirates

## The questionnaire:

- The questionnaire was designed to achieve the following:
- ❖ The ability to measure the proposed indicators of measuring “Abuse and Violence against women”.
  - ❖ Logical sequence in the transition between the questions.
  - ❖ Ease of design.
  - ❖ Omitting unnecessary and embarrassing questions.
  - ❖ Do not include questions and terms that do not comply with the customs, traditions and conditions of the Country (such as circumcision).
  - ❖ Reduce the burden and the length of the questionnaire as much as possible.



United Arab Emirates

## The questionnaire:

The proposed questionnaire contains the following sections:

- General introductory questions (spatial data).
- Introductory questions about the family.
- Basic questions about females in the family.
- Detailed questions about the women that have been chosen randomly.
- Questions about the practices of violence and bad practices against women.
- General wrap-up questions.
- (See [Annex](#))



United Arab Emirates

## Conclusion:

- It is important to recognize the different concepts of violence from community to another, from culture to culture, from generation to generation. Every culture has its own definition, which defines and values the concept of violence and its level. Consequently, laws and sanctions have been put to fit that definition.
- There is a lack of a national or unified definition for Violence against Women, which urge the concerned authorities to develop a clear definition that suites the values and religion of the society.





United Arab Emirates

## Conclusion:

- The development of international standards related to social issues for countries does not reflect in many cases, the laws, regulations, legislation and cultures of different cultures, therefore, the development of international standards for measuring Violence Against Women, and to identify acceptable behavior and unacceptable practices in the relationship of men and women, may create a confusion with conflict with the values, legislation and culture.
- From the methodology and measurement prospective, there is a need to revise the international questionnaire, to consider the local communities, which should take into account the legislative, legal, social, health and cultural dimensions.

**THANK YOU**