

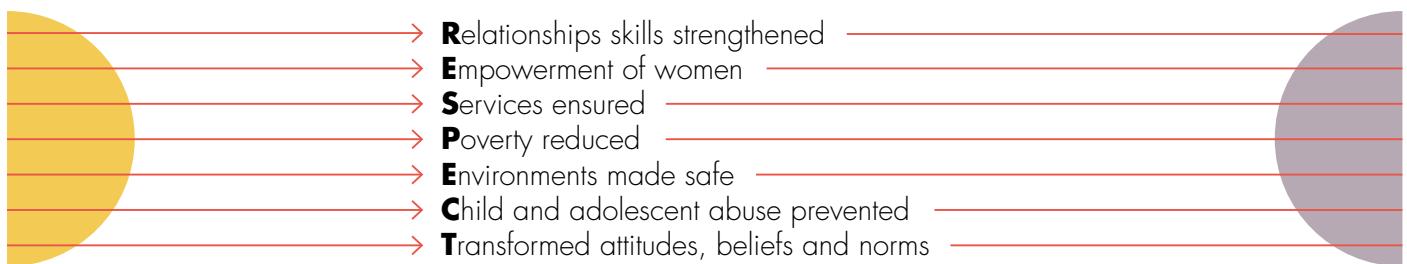
## KEY MESSAGES

# RESPECT – Seven strategies to prevent violence against women

**RESPECT women** outlines steps for a public health and human rights approach to scaling up prevention of violence against women programming. It builds on the evidence compiled in the UN Prevention of Violence Against Women Framework (2015) and in additional systematic reviews.

Globally 1 in 3 women or over 800 million worldwide experience physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner or sexual violence by any perpetrator. Many more also experience psychological abuse. Eleven UN, bilateral and multilateral agencies joined forces to launch **RESPECT**, a framework to facilitate scaling up of evidence-informed strategies to prevent violence against women.

Each letter of **RESPECT** stands for one of the following seven strategies:



- Eliminating violence against women and girls is key to achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, and other SDGs.
- Successful prevention requires political commitment and leadership; implementing laws and policies that promote gender equality; investing in women's organizations; and allocating resources to prevention. It also requires addressing the multiple forms of discrimination faced by women.
- We know more than ever before about what works to prevent violence against women. More research is needed however, to improve our understanding of how different interventions work and for whom, and the synergies between them.
- The seven strategies should not be seen as silos. Successful programmes often have implemented interventions that fall across more than one of the seven strategies.
- Interventions that are selected need to be adapted to context, monitored and evaluated before they are scaled-up.
- Common elements of more promising interventions focus on: women's safety; addressing unequal gender power relations; using participatory approaches that stimulate critical reflection on power and strengthen voice and agency; and also facilitate partnerships across organizations and sectors.
- Ending violence against women begins with **RESPECT** and a collective commitment to act today.

[www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/preventing-vaw-framework-policymakers/en/](http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/preventing-vaw-framework-policymakers/en/)

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