The price women and economies pay – can you ever adequately cost violence against women?

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Violence against women is:

• a fundamental human rights violation

• Driven by gender inequality - in the family, at work and in the community

• Prevalent, severe, preventable and often hidden

• Prevented by increasing Gender Equality
Prevalence of violence against women in Bangladesh, Zambia and Cambodia

**Bangladesh**

65% of women aged 15-49 have ever experienced physical violence during their lifetime. (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2011).

**Zambia**

43% of Zambian women aged 15-49 have ever experienced physical violence since the age of 15. (Central Statistical Office, 2014).

**Cambodia**

21% of women in Cambodia who have ever been in a relationship have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner at least once in their lifetime. (Ministry of Women's Affairs, 2015).

Nearly 1 in 3 female garment factory workers have experienced sexual harassment in the past 12 months. (CARE Cambodia, 2017).

*The data from Cambodia is supplemented with national level data on sexual harassment of female workers in the garment industry. A point to note is that the data on experiences of sexual harassment faced by female garment factory workers is over a period of 12 months, while the data on prevalence of violence against women is in relation to lifetime prevalence.
HOW MUCH DOES VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN COST THE GLOBAL ECONOMY?

This graphic shows the range of estimates on how much Violence Against Women (VAW) costs national economies. We show figures in USD billions from 13 studies ranging from 2009 to 2017, from both the global south and the global north, both in terms of the % of Gross Domestic Product that VAW costs the country, and in terms of the prevalence of violence against women.

*While the studies used in this graphic all deal with the economic cost of violence against women, the focus of each study was not necessarily the same. The range of focus areas included the following: costs of gender-based violence; costs of domestic violence to individuals, non-state actors, and state actors; cost of lost earnings due to partner violence; costs for businesses due to a reduction in labour productivity as a result of violence against women; and costs of intimate partner violence to households and communities.*
What are the direct economic costs

Survivors and their families

- Medical & Health Support
- Legal Advice
- Travel, Board, Lodging
- Relocation, Refuge

The State

- Prevention Services
- Support Services
- Lost productivity

Perpetrators

- Fines
- Legal Fees
Women bear the greatest cost

**BANGLADESH**

**ANNUAL COSTS TO SURVIVOR AND HER FAMILY IN 2010**

- **Medical**
  - US $ 59
- **Food + Transport**
  - US $ 33
- **Relocation**
  - US $ 12
- **Legal**
  - US $ 44

**TOTAL: US $ 227**

2010 Annual Income US $ 1,008*

**ANNUAL NATIONAL COSTS IN 2010**

- **Costs to Survivors**
  - US $ 1.13 Billion
  - = 1.12% of GDP
- **Costs to Non-State Institutions**
  - US $ 22 Million
  - = 0.03% of GDP
- **Costs to State Institutions**
  - US $ 20 Million
  - = 0.02% of GDP

**TOTAL: US $ 2 Billion**

= 2.10% of GDP

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**ZAMBIA**

**ANNUAL COSTS TO SURVIVOR AND HER FAMILY IN 2016**

- **Medical**
  - US $ 20
- **Food + Transport**
  - US $ 57
- **Relocation**
  - US $ 43
- **Legal**
  - US $ 26

**TOTAL: US $ 460**

**ANNUAL NATIONAL COSTS IN 2016**

- **Costs to Survivors**
  - US $ 254 Million
  - = 1.22% of GDP
- **Costs to Non-State Institutions**
  - US $ 213 Million
  - = 1.020% of GDP
- **Costs to State Institutions**
  - US $ 5.5 Million
  - = 0.03% of GDP

**TOTAL: US $ 474 MILLION**

= 2.27% of GDP

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*source: Care International.**Domestic Violence: A Cost to the Nation, CARE Bangladesh, 2011**

**The Cost of Gender-Based Violence in Zambia. CARE Zambia, 2017**
Sexual harassment: Costly to garment industry

Summary of Estimated Costs incurred to Employers in Garment Factories in Cambodia due to sexual harassment in the workplace, in 2017

- **0.52%**
  - % of GDP as of 2017

- **US $ 85 Thousand**
  - Employee Turnover Costs

- **US $ 545 Thousand**
  - Absenteeism Costs

- **US $ 88 Million**
  - Presenteeism Costs

- **US $ 89 Million**
  - Total Financial Costs to Employer

Cost per annum for industry US $:

- Employee Turnover Costs US $ 85,184
- Absenteeism Costs US $ 545,000
- Presenteeism Costs US $ 88,112,511
- Total Financial Costs to Employer US $ 88,742,695

*I know I cannot quit*: The Prevalence and Productivity Cost of Sexual Harassment to the Garment Industry, CARE International, 2017
Evidence to action

Strategic Partnership

Women's rights groups

Industry Bodies

Advocacy for Legal Reform (Bangladesh & Zambia)

CARE projects and global advocacy

Budget Dialogue

Industry dialogue

Community discussions

Outcomes