Addressing school-related gender based violence (SRGBV)

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What is SRGBV?

- Is a **violation** of human rights;
  - Infringes on boys and girls‘ rights and denies their right to education
- **Takes on different forms:** Bullying, corporal punishment, sexual/verbal/ psychological harassment, non-consensual touching/rape/, early marriage, homophobia ...

The Violence Continuum

Both violence and the fear of violence pose significant barriers for girls to attend school and complete their education; & disempowers them.
In numbers ... scale

• 246 million girls and boys are estimated to suffer from school-related violence;
  • In some countries, more than 80% of students suffer corporal punishment at school.

• Estimated 150 million girls and 73 million boys have experienced sexual violence.
  • In Mozambique, 70% of girl respondents reported knowing that some teachers used sexual intercourse as a condition for promotion between grades.

• Worldwide, an estimated 60 million girls are child brides, including over 14 million in Sub-Saharan Africa

• Bottom line - under-researched and under-reported;
  • Absence of reliable & harmonized approaches to collecting data;
  • Scale of the problem is still unknown;

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United Nations Girls’ Education Initiative
SRGBV – through the socio-ecological lens

- Societal/Cultural (Social norms/institutions)
- Community (Schools)
- Relationships (interpersonal/family/peer)
- Individual (gender, age, ethnicity,)

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What works?

Prevention

Accountability

Addressing SRGBV (at all levels)

Protection
Alignment with Global Citizenship Education (GCE)

Schools as catalysts for non-violence, tolerance, and gender equality:
• Gendered, inclusive and human-rights based curriculum – engaging with “difference” and “power”;
• Participatory and critical teaching – learning practice to advance human rights, gender equality and non-violence;

Transforming attitudes and behaviors:
• Teachers/peers as critical allies; school-community linkages
• Increased opportunity for and practice of civic engagement among youth;

Girls and boys as empowered agents of change

Gender – a disruptive lens to strengthen GCE
The power of partnerships

• **Global Partners Working group** - co-lead by UNESCO and UNGEI

• **Objectives:**
  • Strengthen the coordination and impact of responses to SRGBV at all levels;
  • Expand networking and collaboration amongst stakeholders in order to galvanize the international community and mobilize resources to increase the scale and quality of responses to SRGBV;
  • Facilitate knowledge sharing platform focused on the generation and exchange of evidence and good practice on effective approaches to SRGBV;
THANK YOU

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