

Swaziland



SWAGAA

- SWAGAA is a non-governmental organisation
- 25 years working to eradicate Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Swaziland.
- Provides a broad range of services focused on addressing GBV through:
 - Prevention, Care and Support and Access to Justice.
- Aim to empower women, men, and children to identify the many forms of gender based violence in Swaziland and to know where to report, should they witness or experience any violence



Background & rationale

SWAGAA works with a Network of Organizations that work on Gender based violence, gender equality and protection of women and children

Thematic Areas

- GBV

- Health, SRH,HIV

- Family and socialization

- Coverage; National Partners:

- NGO's, Development Agencies, Government department (PSHACC, Uniformed Forces), FBO's, Corporate (SWABCHA)

Service Delivery

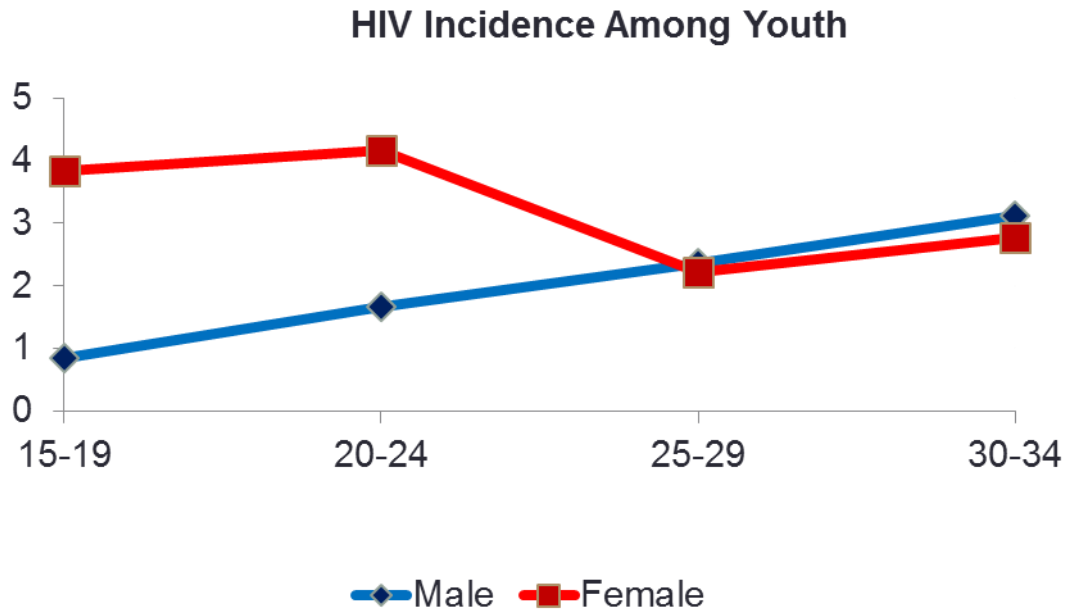
- Counseling and Psychosocial Support – Men, Women and Children
- Promotion of restorative justice initiatives at community level and diversion.
- Case management and Referrals
- Offender rehabilitation programmes
- Legal assistance
- Curative

What Works

- Increased recognition among national stakeholders as a Lead organisation in the GBV response.
- A platform for fighting GBV and protecting the nation, especially women and children.
- National strategies, e.g The NSF, GBV strategy

HIV/ASRH

- HIV incidence accelerates rapidly in the youth population, with a much higher incidence among 15-24 year old women than men.



- ART coverage for young people is not as high as it could be,
- High rates of HIV, especially among young women, are alarming.
- There are high levels of gender based violence in Swaziland

Scale of the problem

- **Violence** – persistent challenge in Swaziland
- **Affecting everyone** - children, women & men
- **Disproportionately** - affecting **women** and **children**
- Hence – we hear more **gender-based violence (GBV)** and **violence against children (VAC)**

Domestic violence*...

1 in 5 women aged 15-49 are **beaten by their husbands** or partners.



(*Source: Multi Indicator Cluster Survey – MICS 2010)

Domestic violence...

1 in 200 men aged 15-49 are **beaten by their wives or partners**.

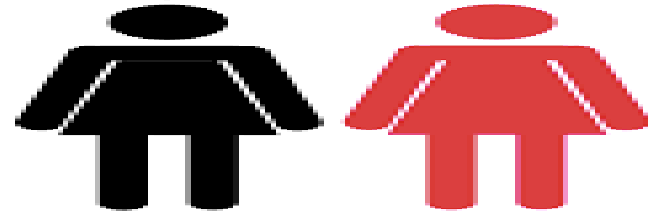


Sexual Violence*...

1 in 3 (33.3%) women by the time they are 18 years old.



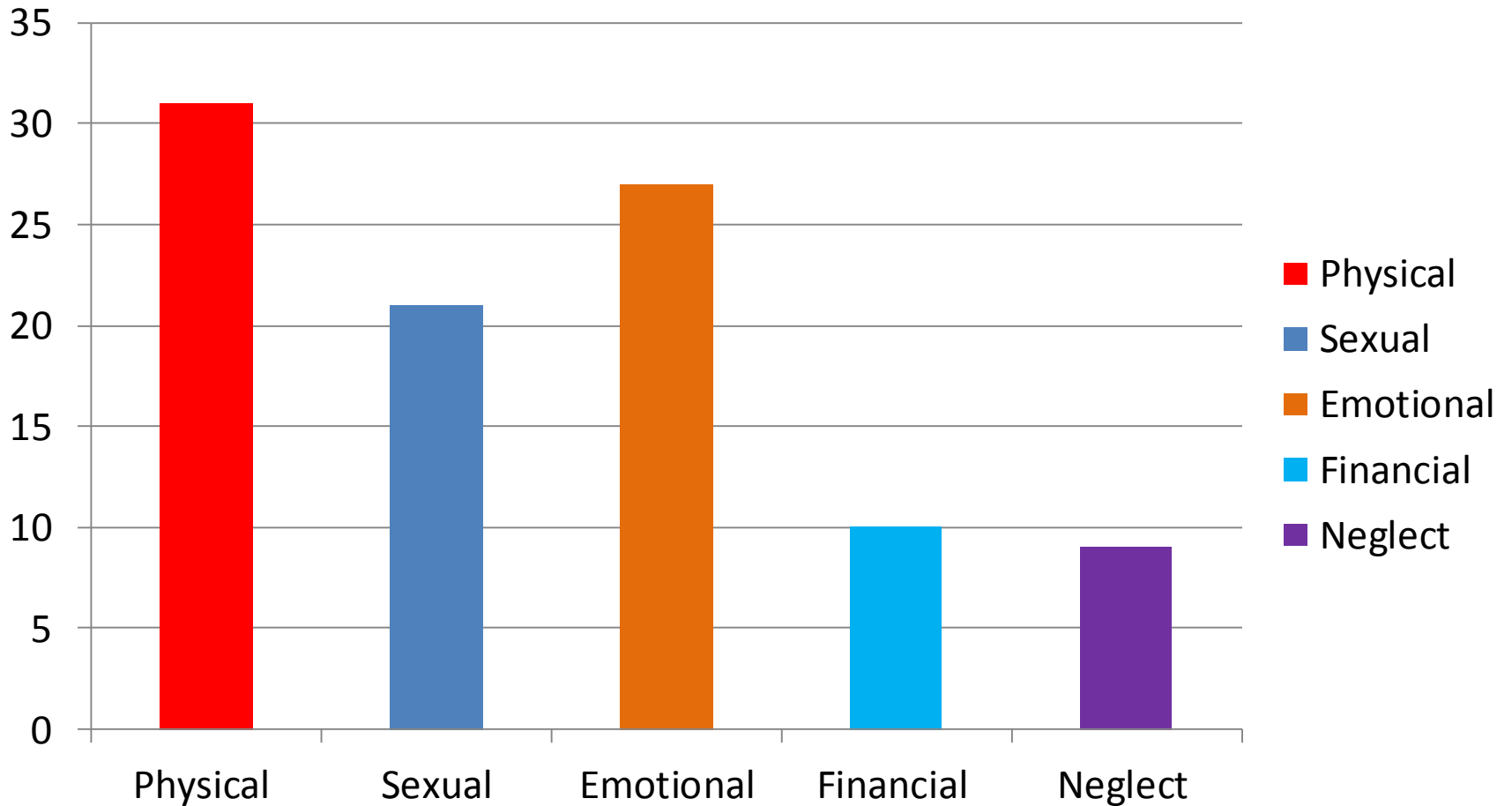
Almost **1 in 2** (48%) some form of sexual violence in their lifetime.



Almost **1 in 5** (18.8%) women have had coerced sex before they were 18.



Reported cases in %





 **EKHAYA**
KUSEKHAYA

Some key national milestones...

- **High Level Inter-Ministerial Advisory Team; Multi-sector Task Team**
- **Study on Drivers of Violence Against Children** (UNICEF - ongoing)
- **Study on Violence Against Children & Young Women** (UNICEF 2007)
- **National Violence Surveillance System**
- **Police Domestic Violence Units**
- **Child Protection & Welfare Act**
- **One Stop Centre** (Hhohho region)
- **Advocacy/ sensitization/ training** on GBV prevention & response (DPM's Office, SWAGAA, NATICC, Save, NATICC, etc.)
- **eNSF** – GBV programme objective (reduction from 33% - 10% in 2018)
- **Health Sector Guidelines** for SGBV Response (under review)
- **MoET- Violence Prevention in Schools** (Inqaba Schools approach)

- Socio cultural study done
- KAP study for adolescents living with HIV validated and finalised ready for print.
- Baseline Assessment for REACH III (PACT) validated, now being implemented.
- Validation of the study on laws and policies ESA (SYP) validated in RSA.
- 100 youth facilitators trained to support popularisation of SYP, adolescent activities during the reed dance.
- 150 youth facilitators trained on SRH & CSE and are now implementing at community level.

Some key challenges...

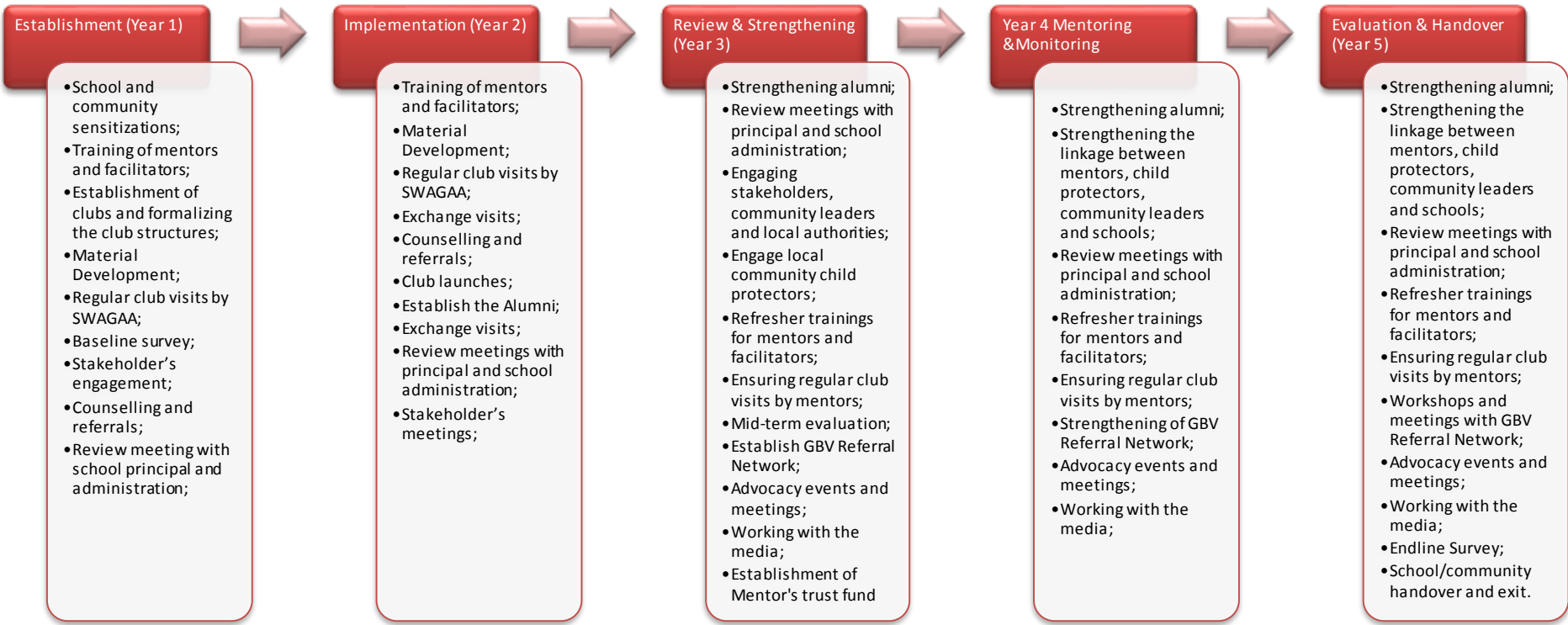
- **Weak coordination** of violence prevention and response efforts – a challenge
- **Largely fragmented** and weak implementation of legislation, policies and programmes across key sectors
- **Key sectors** – law enforcement; judiciary; health; education; NGO; community responses
- Limited **up-to-date data** on drivers of violence - latest national survey 2007.
- **Sustainability of interventions** post donor funding and support
- **Limited innovation** in both approaches for prevention and protection by sectors

INTERVENTIONS: Girls empowerment program

- Through the support of Crossroads International (CI) a Canadian based NGO, the project to equip young girls with appropriate knowledge and information was established.
 - Gender Based Violence
 - HIV and AIDS
- To encourage the adoption of protective measures
- To motivate girls to know who they are and where they are going and have goals in life



GIRLS EMPOWERMENT MODEL



Intervention

The Girls Empowerment Program launched in February 2008

SWAGAA has worked collaboratively with schools to establish **49 clubs** spread out across Swaziland

- 16 Primary Schools, 33 High Schools



“Empowering Girls for Improved Health and Wellbeing in Swaziland”

- Research work: Testing whether exposure to the intervention improves health outcomes for girls with access to Girls’ Empowerment Clubs, and whether these girls are more likely to abstain from sex, practice safer sexual behaviors, know their HIV status, stay in school, and seek services and support in the case of abuse.
- New interventions now reach: (1) 5 groups of out-of-school girls age 14-18, and (2) 10 groups of in-school boys in grade 5.

- The Population Council assisted with resources for the research from Population Council will work with SWAGAA and TfG to finalize selection of schools, lead the girl-centered census activity in schools and with out-of-school girls in 5 communities, and conduct the baseline with all participants.

SIYABONGA

