WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT SCHOOL-RELATED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SRGBV)?

SRGBV is any act or threat of sexual, physical or psychological violence occurring in and around schools, perpetrated as a result of gender norms and stereotypes, and enforced by unequal power dynamics. SRGBV violates children’s fundamental rights, is a form of gender discrimination, and has wide-ranging consequences for children’s physical and emotional well-being, school performance and attendance and likelihood of experiencing or perpetrating future violence.

There are large gaps in research and knowledge about the complexities and nuances of SRGBV as a result of the lack of available data within the education sector. This lack of information impacts the ability of governments and organizations to effectively prevent and address SRGBV.

HOW CAN WE USE EXISTING DATA TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SRGBV?

Through USAID’s Higher Education Support Network (HESN), AidData is conducting a secondary analysis of the Violence Against Children Surveys (VACS) data to identify the prevalence of SRGBV, as well as details on violence perpetration, victimization risk and post-violence behaviors in selected countries.

The secondary analysis research questions include:

- What is the national prevalence of SRGBV?
- Do boys and girls experience similar rates of SRGBV?
- Are boys or girls more likely to experience one form of SRGBV?
- How does SRGBV affect rates of school absenteeism for boys and girls?
- What are patterns for disclosing incidents of SRGBV and seeking and/or receiving services for boys and girls?

WHAT ARE THE VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND YOUTH SURVEYS (VACS)?

Recognizing the lack of data on violence occurring within households, schools, and communities, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the Together for Girls (TfG) partnership, developed the Violence Against Children and Youth Surveys (VACS). These nationally representative household surveys of children and young adults ages 13 to 24 years measure the prevalence and circumstances surrounding emotional, physical, and sexual violence against males and females in childhood, adolescence and young adulthood.
These surveys provide valuable information about where violence occurred, including schools, information about the perpetrators, including teachers and peers, as well as rates of disclosure and services accessed by victims. The secondary analysis will build upon the questions in the VACS that are specific to violence in school settings in order to provide a deeper understanding of SRGBV in specific country contexts and to help inform what further questions we can ask to complement existing data, including details on the location of violence and common perpetrators of violence against children and youth.

The resources produced by AidData and Together for Girls will be used to inform and support policy makers and practitioners. To ensure that the results obtained from the data analysis portion of this work reach the hands of those working to prevent and address SRGBV, Together for Girls will bring together key stakeholders in education and child protection to discuss the findings of the analysis and chart a course forward for how these results may influence future policy and programming decisions. This work will be done in close collaboration with the Global Working Group to End SRGBV: http://www.ungei.org/srgbv/index.html

### HOW CAN DATA EMPOWER ACTION?

The resources produced by AidData and Together for Girls will be used to inform and support policy makers and practitioners. To ensure that the results obtained from the data analysis portion of this work reach the hands of those working to prevent and address SRGBV, Together for Girls will bring together key stakeholders