

A group of approximately 15 people, including men and women of various ages, are standing in a circle on a dirt path. They are holding hands, suggesting a community gathering or a group activity. The background shows a vast, hilly landscape with green vegetation and some scattered trees under a blue sky with light clouds. The overall atmosphere is one of community and support.

tearfund

TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES:

A faith-based approach to GBV prevention

Presented by Prabu Deepan



ABOUT TEARFUND

- Tearfund is a Christian relief and development agency, working in 50+ countries.
- Our SGBV response is currently in 11-countries, mostly in conflict/humanitarian settings.
- Our SGBV focus areas: Faith leaders and communities; Survivors; Gender Justice; FGM/C and Child-marriages.
- Emerging theme: Gender transformative approach to peace-building.

TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES

An evidence-based approach to transforming harmful concepts of gender and masculinities, and to promoting gender equality.



HAND IN HAND: BIBLE STUDIES

Resource provided to faith leaders regarding healthy gender relationships, as a support in delivering sermons, sharing testimonies and counselling couples.



TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES

Training manual used for faith leader workshops and to train Gender Champions.



COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

Guide used by Gender Champions to facilitate the community dialogue group discussions.



FAITH LEADERS

National, provincial and community level faith leaders attend workshops that engage and equip them to provide leadership and support for the Transforming Masculinities process.



GENDER CHAMPIONS

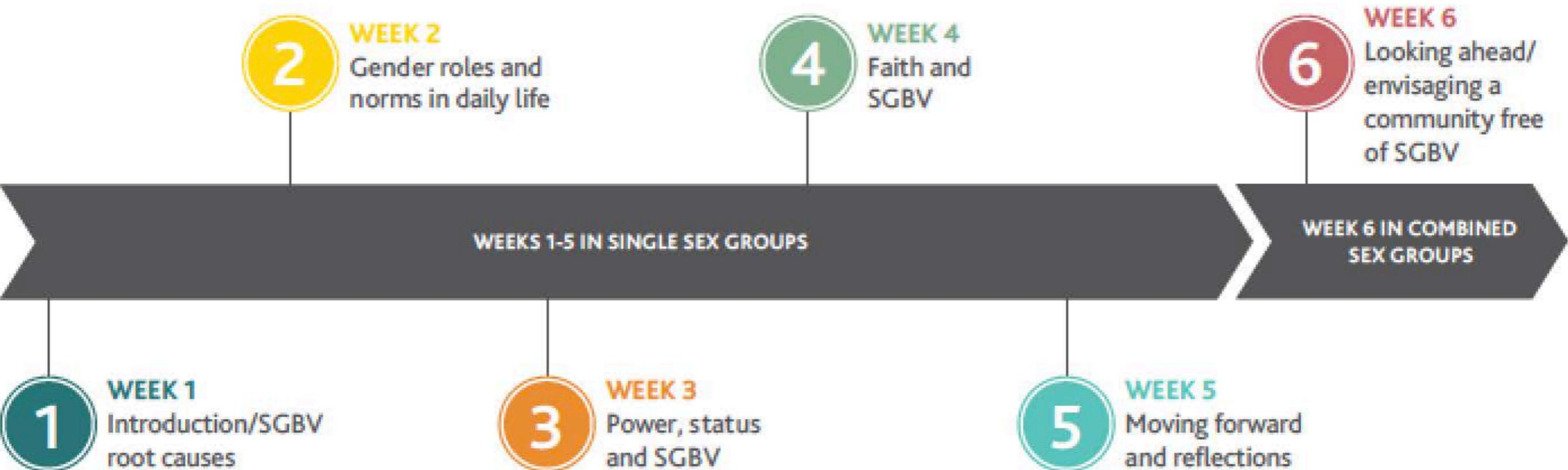
Community faith leaders select key male and female members of the community to be trained as facilitators of small group discussions named 'community dialogues'.



COMMUNITY DIALOGUES

Small groups of men and women meet weekly in their communities for six weeks for discussions led by Gender Champions. Weeks 1-5 are conducted in single sex groups and Week 6 in combined sex groups.

Community dialogues run for six weeks and follow key themes in the order described below.



Male only sessions are led by male Gender Champions and female only sessions by female Gender Champions.



WHY A FAITH-BASED
INTERVENTION?

DOES FAITH MATTER?

Faith engagement, gender norms and violence against women and girls in conflict-affected communities

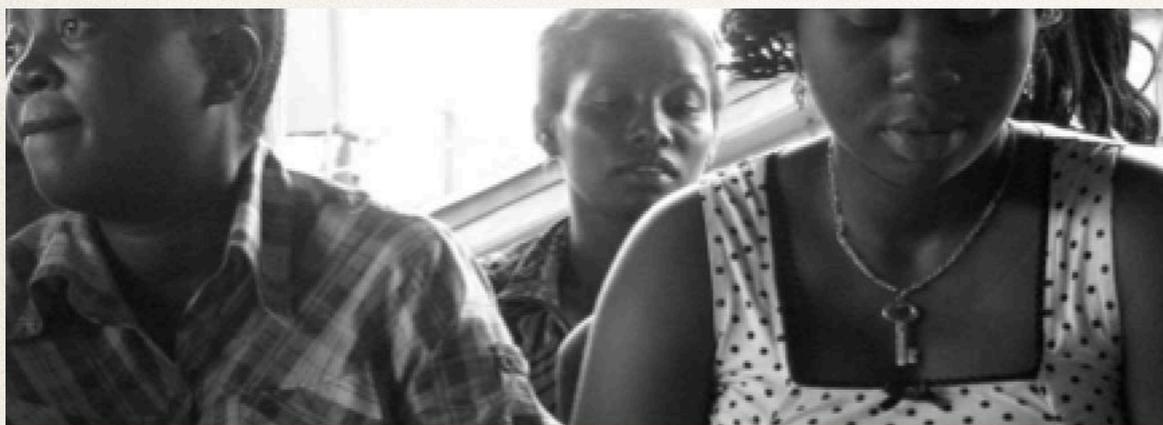
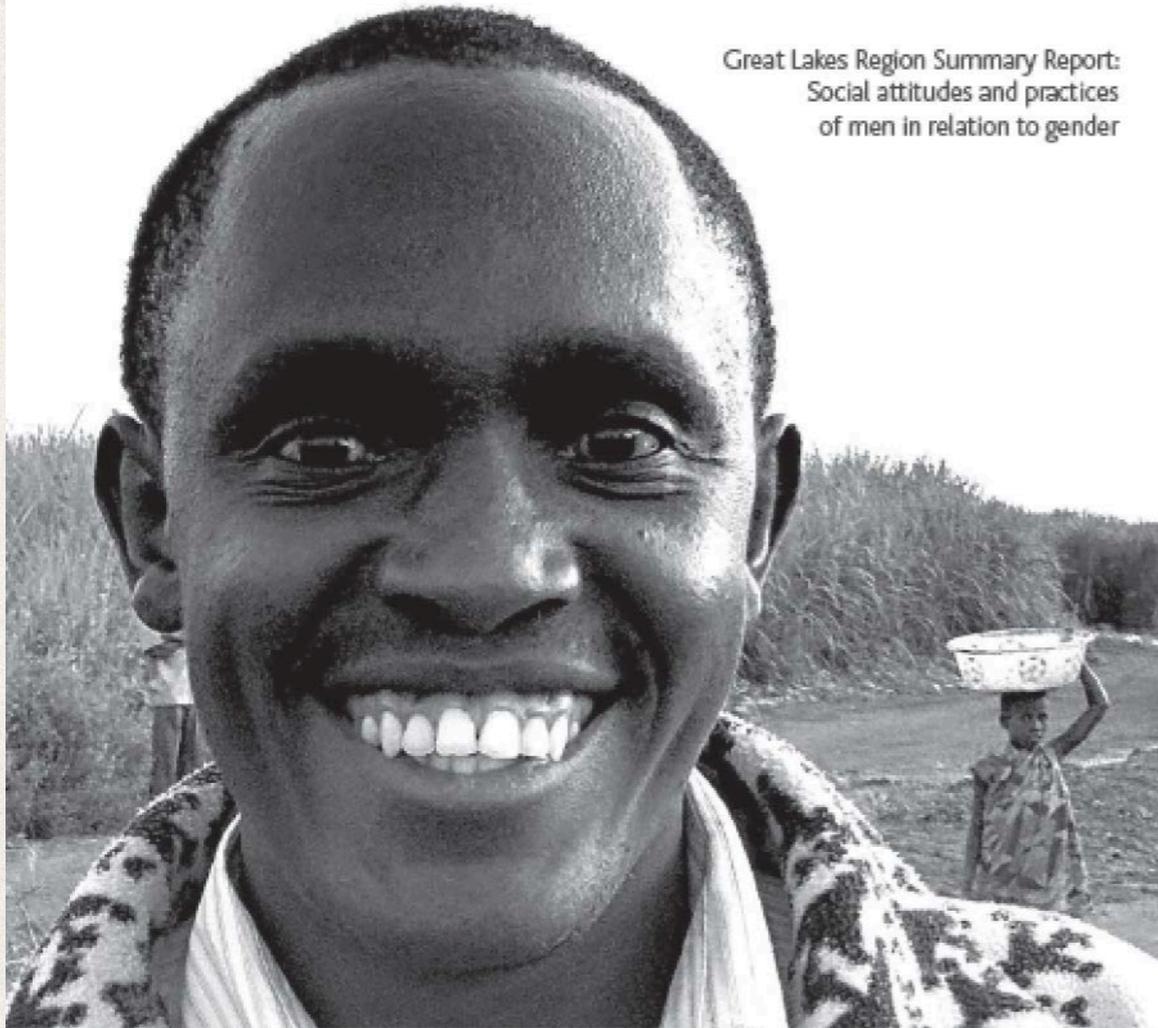
BASELINE RESEARCH IN ITURI PROVINCE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- 95% of respondents affiliated to a faith, and **83.6% of them say it's important/very important** to them.
- **Faith engagement** was highlighted as one of the few variables that remained a significant correlation with reduced experience of physical/sexual IPV for women, even when adjusted for other factors.
- The belief that women can say no to sex with her husband strongly correlated with **reduced experiences of IPV**.
- Female respondents with faith engagement were more likely to **believe IPV is unjustified**; and that a woman can refuse to have sex with her husband; and reported more say in decision-making.
- Men actively involved in their faith were more likely to hold equitable attitudes around gender; and were **less likely (reduced by half)** to have perpetrated IPV in the last 12 months (both Christian and Muslim).

Sandilands M, Jewkes R, Baghuma Lele U and Scott N (2017) Does faith matter? Faith engagement, gender norms and violence against women and girls in conflict-affected communities: baseline research in Ituri Province, Democratic Republic of Congo. Tearfund, UK.

TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES

Great Lakes Region Summary Report:
Social attitudes and practices
of men in relation to gender



PASSAGES PROJECT
TRANSFORMING SOCIAL NORMS FOR
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Tearfund's own formative research findings from Rwanda, Burundi, CAR, Liberia and DRC:

- ◎ **Faith leaders and communities** play a significant role in influencing gender norms.
- ◎ Faith/peoples understanding of scriptures **influences** and shape people's behaviors and beliefs on gender, gender norms and SGBV.
- ◎ Especially the use of **scriptures to justify** male-dominance and controlling behaviors, male superiority/women as inferior to men and the justification of violence.

Passages Project (Kinshasa, DRC): Cohort survey (baseline) and social norms exploration study findings show that faith leaders and communities as significant influence on IPV and use of FP for both men and women.



- **Scripture-based reflections** on key scriptures that influence gender norms.
- Brings the discussions on gender equality within **people's understanding of faith**.
- Group learning and a **safe space** for dialogues.
- Promotes **accountable practices** at all levels.
- Refresher training, **continuous coaching** and workshops for gender champions and faith leaders.
- Designed to complement existing faith structures for easy **integration and adaptation**.



WHERE IS THIS BEING ROLLED OUT?

Country	Intervention phase	Intervention model
Nigeria	Pilot	Integrated (FP+GBV)
Myanmar	Pilot	Standard
Burundi	Pilot	Standard
Brazil	Pilot	Standard
Rwanda	Pilot	Standard
Iraq (Kurdish Region)	Pilot - adaptation	Integrated (GBV+PB)
Central African Republic	Pilot/pre-scale up	Standard
DR Congo	Scale-up	Standard and integrated

WHAT CHANGES ARE HAPPENING?

"Things changed in my home and in the Church as Church members testify. I have trained two teams already and one more is about to finish the course. In my community a woman was beaten and mistreated because she was giving birth to only girls, but now things changed because of the training they got and the sharing of the teachings with her husband."

*Ps. Musonera Alex
Ntaho Parish*



“Today, I am on a journey to take action. I have resolved to be a gender champion in my home. As a husband and father of three daughters I understand the responsibility I have to be a positive role model to my daughters by the way I treat their mother.”

Ben Chikan, Nigeria

Intervention Stats:

- Over 400 Faith Leaders (Christian, Islamic and Yezidi leaders) trained.
- 200+ Gender Champions have been trained, and are actively involved in facilitating community dialogues.
- More than 3000 people have completed community dialogues.

How's impact being measured?

- Pre/Post KAP assessments, case studies, KIIs, project monitoring reports.
- Baseline/endline surveys, ethnography studies, ongoing panel visits, referrals (What Works & Passages).

What Impact does this have?

- Faith leaders and communities are supporting survivors of SGBV.
- Faith leaders are preaching sermons to promote gender equality and positive masculinities, and also report change in their own lives.
- Participants of community dialogues and gender champions are reporting changes in their attitudes on gender equality, relationships, more involvement of men in household work and childcare, joint decision-making.
- Faith leaders are accompanying survivors to access legal and healthcare services.



TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES:

A faith-based intervention to reduce intimate partner-violence and increase family planning use among newly married couples and first-time parents.

THE FP ADAPTATION

CONTEXT: PASSAGES PROJECT

- ✓ **USAID-FUNDED**, 2015-2020; DRC, Senegal, Niger, Nepal
- ✓ **CONSORTIUM-LED**: Georgetown University Institute for Reproductive Health, FHI 360, John's Hopkins Global Early Adolescent Study, Population Services International, Save the Children, Tearfund
- ✓ **GOAL**: Improved family planning use and sexual and reproductive health among youth, especially newly married couples, first-time parents, and very young adolescents
- ✓ **STRATEGY**: Through three work streams - research, practice and global leadership:
 - Capitalize on life course transitions
 - Conduct gender-synchronized and multi-level interventions
 - Explain what makes interventions effective in real-world contexts
 - Consider cost, complexity, adaptability
 - Address issues of scale and sustainability

THE ADAPTATION: MASCULINITÉ, FAMILLE, ET FOI

TRANSFORMING MASCULINITIES & PROMOTING FP
THROUGH RELIGIOUS LEADERS/FAITH COMMUNITIES

SNAPSHOT

Partners: Tearfund, PSI, IRH

Scope: 17 Protestant congregations,
Kinshasa

Target: Newly married youth & first time
parents (18-24 yrs)

Intervention: Trained faith/youth leaders
(gender champions) conducting community
dialogues, role model story-sharing,
marriage counseling, sermons. Health talks
and referrals.

Design: Cluster RCT with pre/post design
following women/men (n=900), diffusion
survey (n=1252), in-depth interviews (n=64).

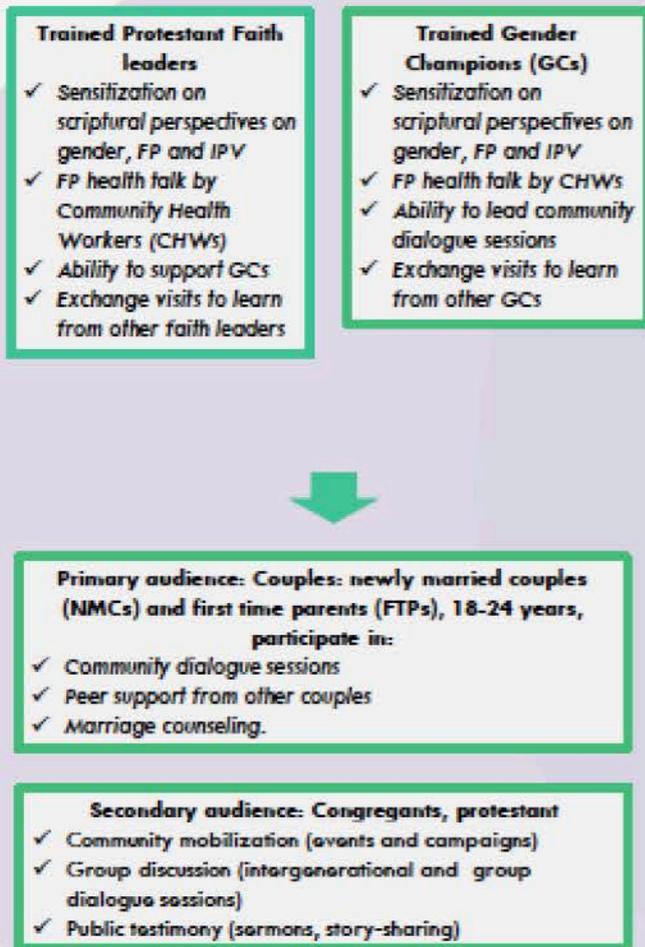


To what extent does a gender norms
intervention with religious leaders
and faith communities increase FP
use among newly married couples
and first time parents in participating
congregations?



Theory of Change: Transforming Masculinities

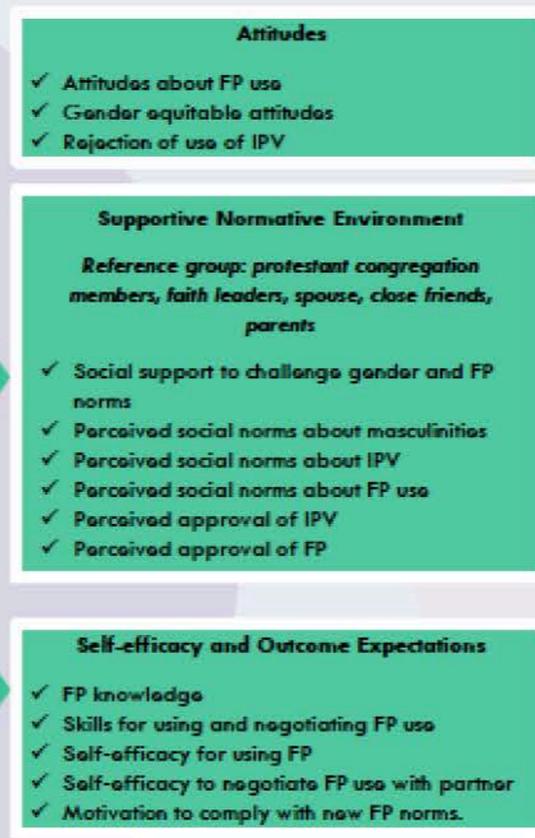
TM/MFF INTERVENTION COMPONENTS



Sphere of Control

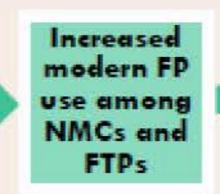
INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

Widespread diffusion among congregation members



Sphere of Influence

BEHAVIOURAL OUTCOMES



Sphere of Interest

- Enabling Service Environment (experimental & control sites)**
- ✓ FP health talk and referral cards to young adult couple groups
 - ✓ Training of CHWs on YFS and IPV referrals/response
 - ✓ Provision of YFS and GBV referrals
 - ✓ Promotion of youth friendly Hotline



FAITH LEADERS (Protestant) at national, provincial, and congregational levels receive training and commit to creating an environment that supports family planning use, and rejects family violence. These influential leaders provide sermons and guidance to congregations to spread positive change, working alongside selected Gender Champions.



GENDER CHAMPIONS are congregation members selected by faith leaders to act as change agents and peer mentors. They facilitate group discussions with young couples called 'community dialogues.'



NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES & FIRST-TIME PARENTS (ages 18-35) participate in community dialogues for eight weeks. The final two sessions on family planning include a family planning health talk. They engage in other congregation-wide activities, and receive support from their peers.



CONGREGATIONS receive sermons and testimonies, and participate in group discussions and mobilizing events. They reflect on gender equity, and the ways in which they interact and make decisions.

AN ENABLING SERVICE ENVIRONMENT strengthens connections to health services. ASF/PSI trains providers in youth-friendly services, leads family planning health talks, offers referrals to family planning and gender-based violence services, and maintains their confidential health hotline.



WEEKS 1-5 IN SINGLE SEX GROUPS OF COUPLE MEMBERS/FIRST TIME PARENTS

WEEKS 6-8 COMBINED SEX GROUPS

WEEK 1

Introduction/
SGBV root causes

WEEK 2

Gender roles and norms in daily life

WEEK 3

Power, status and SGBV

WEEK 4

Faith and SGBV

WEEK 5

Moving forward and reflections

WEEK 6

Looking ahead/
envisaging a community free of SGBV

WEEK 7

FP sessions 1-3

WEEK 8

FP sessions 4-6 & ASF/PSI health talk

WHAT'S EARLY DATA SHOWING?

MONITORING

Young adults from experimental sites access ASF/PSI services:

- 2x more hotline calls in experimental sites compared to control.
- Diffusion events correlated with spike in calls and clinic visits.
- 70% more clinic visits in experimental sites.

Increase in sermons addressing MFF themes (IPV, FP):

- Primary data analysis of ethnography study shows over 80% accept the intervention and increased discussions from the "pulpit" and within the congregations.

Intervention stats to-date:

- 40 Faith Leaders Trained from the 8 congregations, national and regional leadership.
- 38 Gender Champions active.
- 314 young couple members/first-time parents (individuals) have completed the community dialogues.
- Retention rate above 80% (based on figures from 1st cycle).
- 97 sermons, 38 testimonies since February 2017, and 27,000 person contacts in the 8 experimental sites.



For more information, please visit:
www.tearfund.org/sexualviolence