WHAT IS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?

Gender-based violence is an act deeply rooted in gender inequality & directed against another person because of their gender.

Serious human rights issue.

Violates human rights law.

Violates principles of gender equality.

It undermines:

- Occurs in all countries & economic & social groups.
- Health.
- Dignity.
- Security.
- Autonomy.
Relationship with COVID-19:

- COVID-19 has disrupted programs to end gender-based violence by reducing prevention & protection efforts.
- Has deepened existing inequalities.
- Has exacerbated key risk factors for gender-based violence.
- Despite strong barriers to reporting due to lockdown, there has been an alarming increase in multiple forms of gender violence, up by 30%.
- It is projected that the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to cause a reduction in progress towards ending gender-based violence by 2030.
- An average 6-month lockdown is likely to result in:
  - 31 million additional gender-based violence cases
  - 13 million more child marriages
  - 2 million additional FGM cases
How can we take action against gender-based violence?

Prevent

- Campaigns for men on co-responsibility & prevention of gender-based violence
- Prioritize gender equality in health systems to ensure continued inclusive & safe access to medical treatment & sexual reproductive health services for all women & girls
- Ensure that social protection mechanisms & economic stimulus packages adequately & effectively respond to the differential needs of women & girls

Collect

- Ensure the systematic collection of sex-disaggregated data to understand the gender-specific HR impact of COVID-19
- Collect data for improvement of services & programs on gender-based violence
**How Can We Take Action Against Gender-Based Violence?**

**Respond**
- Increase the number of centers for counseling and shelters as well as the capacity of women & victims of gender-based violence to access psychological, psychosocial & legal services.
- Guarantee access to justice for women & automatic extension of existing protection measures.
- Promote inclusive COVID-19 national responses that address the specific needs of women & girls, in particular those most left behind.

**Fund**
- Prioritize funding for the prevention & response to gender-based violence in all COVID-19 strategies & recovery plans.
- Make flexible funding available for women's rights organizations working in the intersection of COVID-19 & gender-based violence.