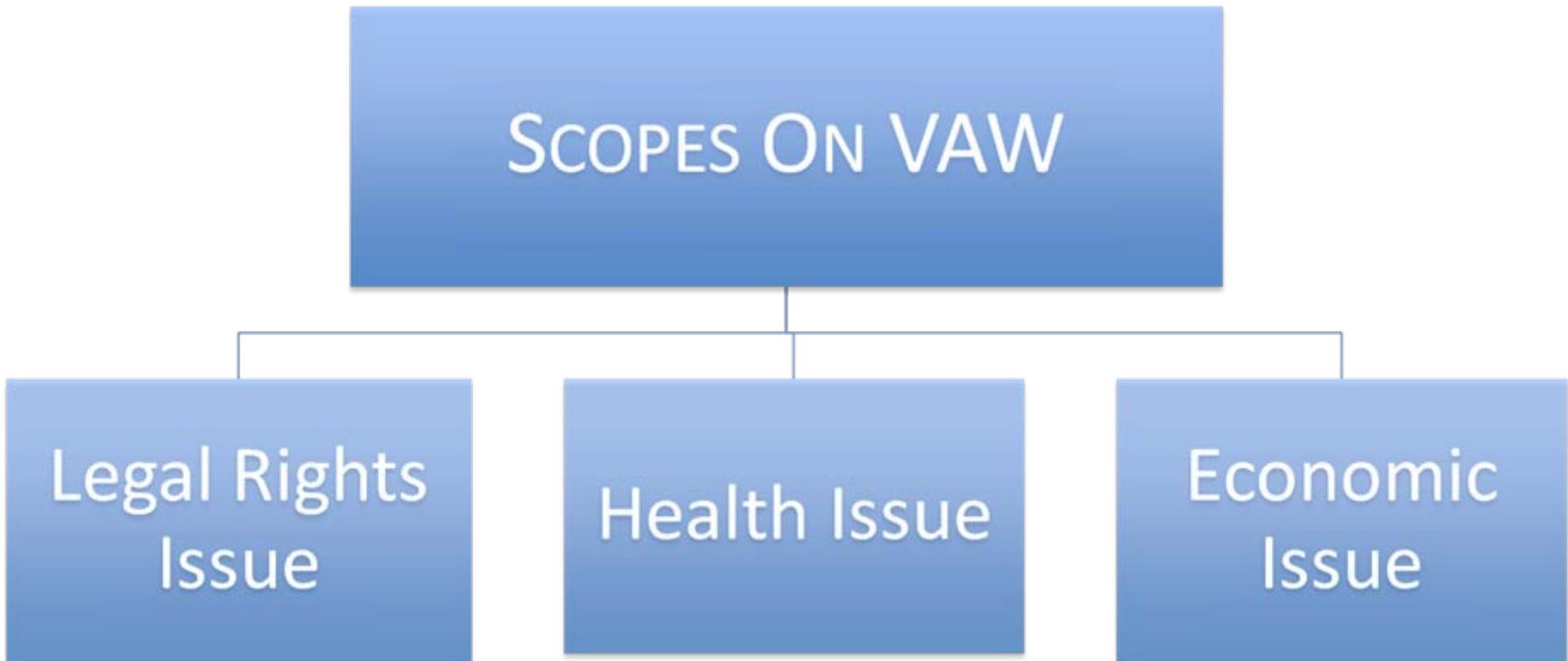




Costing of Violence Against Women *Or* Costing of Laws on Violence Against Women

Regional Seminar for Asian Parliamentarians
UN Women

Framework to understand VAW



Why measure economic cost of VAW? What's the relevance for Parliamentarians?

- Measuring the costs of violence against women...
 - ▣ demonstrates how violence **drains resources** from many sectors including private businesses and agencies, the government, community groups and individuals.
 - ▣ gives the human story an easily **understandable magnitude**.
 - ▣ reduces its **social acceptability** creating an awareness that its effects are widespread throughout all society.
 - ▣ proves with accountability that preventing violence against women is not only the **right thing to do** but is also the **financially prudent thing to do**.
 - ▣ allows policy makers to **measure the effectiveness of programs** aimed at reducing violence and its devastating consequences. Much modern policy making is evidence-based, and studies on the costs of violence provide such evidence.

Trajectory

- Since the late 1980s studies on the economic cost of domestic VAW have been done in many countries all over the world.
- There have been several attempts to cost domestic violence in Australia, Canada, Chile, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Spain, Switzerland, the US and the UK.
- These studies have applied different methodologies using different approaches and focusing on different costs.

Summary of Economic Costs of VAW Studies

Country	Cost Estimate	Types of violence	Types of costs
Australia, 1992	40 million USD	Physical and psychological abuse, rape, sexual assault of women	Personal (accommodation, legal, courts, lost income, lost work time, emergency services, police, health, counseling, referral, vehicle and personal effects).
New Zealand, 1993-94	625 million to 2,5 billion USD	Family violence including threats of violence	Personal (medical care, drugs, refuge, relocation, legal costs, dental care, lost earnings, deaths), Government (justice, social welfare, shelters and crisis agencies, income support, police, courts).
Canada, 1993 (Published in 1995)	2,75 billion USD	Physical and sexual abuse of women, rape, incest, child sexual abuse	Personal (lost earnings and unpaid work, accommodation, relocation, self-defense), Deaths, Government (lost tax revenues, courts, incarceration, police, legal aid, victim compensation, medical shelters, counseling, public awareness research, volunteer hours).

Country	Cost Estimate	Types of violence	Types of costs
British Columbia, Canada 1994-95	6,5 million USD	Physical, sexual and psychological	Policing, corrections, compensation, social programs for victims and perpetrators, mental health, alcohol and drug treatment, shelters, loss of paid and unpaid worktime.
USA 1990 (Published in 1996)	105 billion USD in tangibles; 450 billion USD including intangibles	All crime, not limited to violence or women victims	Property damage and loss, medical care for injuries, insurance, victim services, lost earnings and housework Pain and suffering, and death.
Netherlands 1997	80 million USD	Physical and sexual domestic VAW	Police and justice, medical and psychological care, labor and social security.
Finland, 1998 (Published in 2001)	Direct costs: 50 mn Euros; Indirect costs: 56 mn Euros	VAW	Health, legal and employment expenses. Direct: Health including physician visits, hospital care and medication. Shelters, crisis services, social work, therapy. Police, trial, prison. Other Indirect:

Three Phases

Ist Phase:

- There were **no national surveys** of violence, and researchers based their findings on small sample surveys or case studies of victims.
- **Prevalence rates of violence** were based on proxy measures, measures that could stand in for the actual prevalence rate but that were known to have problems.
- The key problems of this approach included (i) small size and possible **unrepresentative nature of the samples**; and (ii) difficulties in extrapolating to the population at large.

Good indicators of magnitude of the costs but lacked rigour

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IIInd Phase:

- In this phase researchers were able to **access representative national survey data** on prevalence rates of violence to begin a rough mapping out of national costs.
- A number of papers were also written that made use of high quality, small data sets to measure specific costs.

IIIrd Phase:

- In the most recent phase, studies have been able to make use of significant data sets to produce sophisticated and comprehensive studies at national levels.

What are the economic costs?

CATEGORIES OF ECONOMIC COSTS ATTRIBUTED TO VAW

JUSTICE/
ADMINISTRATIVE

HEALTH

SOCIAL SERVICES

EDUCATION

BUSINESS COSTS,
ECONOMIC OUTPUT

PERSONAL /
HOUSEHOLD COSTS

INTANGIBLES
(HUMAN AND
EMOTIONAL COST)

Example: DV in Australia, Estimated Annual Costs by category without appropriate action (2021~22, \$M)

Cost bearer	Cost	% of the total cost
Pain, suffering and premature mortality	7,530	48
Health	863	5
Production-related	1,181	8
Consumption-related	3,542	23
Administration and order	1,077	7
Second Generation	280	2
Transfer costs	1,104	7
Total	15,577	100 %

What are the types of costs?

DIRECT COSTS

Result directly from
the violent act

Tangible

Intangible

INDIRECT COSTS

Result indirectly from
the violence inflicted

Tangible

Intangible

Understanding the economic costs of violence: Typologies

1. Direct tangible costs— actual expenses are paid; money is spent. Eg- taxi fare to the hospital, salaries of staff in shelter.

How to Calculate— measure goods and services consumed and multiply that with unit costs.

2. Indirect Tangible Costs— have a monetary value but are measured as a loss of potential. (Eg. Lower earnings and profits).

How to calculate—estimate opportunity cost (loss of income can be measured by loss of work hours multiplied by appr. Wage rate)

3. Direct Intangible Costs— results directly from violence but no monetary value. Eg. Pain and suffering

How to calculate— These costs can be approximated by quality or value of life measures— but is it appropriate?

4. Indirect Intangible— results indirectly from violence and have no monetary value. Eg. Negative psychological effect on children.

Very few studies have tried to measure this.

How to do Costing?

1. Accounting Model

$$TCV = \sum_{i=1}^I (p^v_i - p^{NV}_i) V_i C_i$$

where TCV is the total costs of VAW; I categories of costs; p^v_i is the percent of violence victims using service i, p^{NV}_i is the percent of the population not affected by violence who use service i, V_i is the total number of violence victims eligible to use service i, and C_i is the per person cost of service i.

2. Willingness to Pay Approach

It estimates the value of life in terms of the amounts that individuals are prepared to pay to reduce risks to their lives.

3. Human Capital Model

Here income or earnings is used as the proxy for human value. The present value of the future earnings of the victim is estimated, based on age, education and socio-economic variables that affect wage rates.

Who bears VAW's costs?

Victim

Perpetrator

Children

Employers

Family and
Friends

State / Territory
government

Community

Example: DV in Australia, Estimated Annual Costs by Affected Group without appropriate action (2021-22, \$M)

Cost bearer	Cost	% of the total cost
Victim/Survivor	8,217	52
Federal, state and territory governments	2,945	19
Community	1,908	12
Children	1,274	8
Perpetrator	855	6
Employers	456	3
Friends and family	12	0.1
Total	15,577	100 %

**Reported
prevalence
of violence**

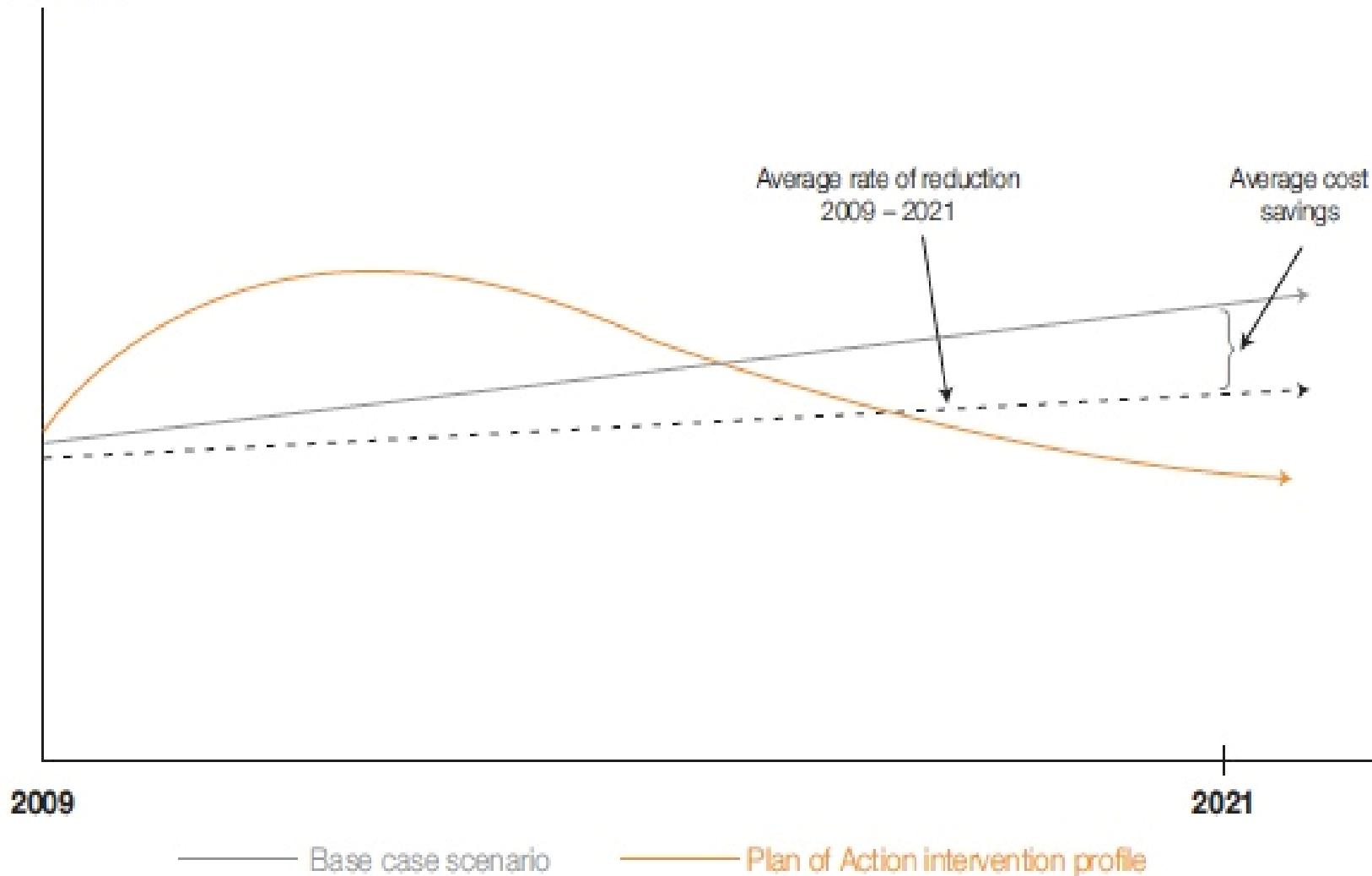


Figure 1: Profile of women experiencing violence (for illustrative purposes only)

Macedonia

- The study succeeded in estimating the approximate costs for the time spent by the public officials in dealing with DVAW cases.
- Detailed step by step breakdown of different functions/activities performed by various public offices such as police, office of the public prosecutor , court system was undertaken.
- However it was not successful in estimating all administrative costs associated with these cases.

Map 1

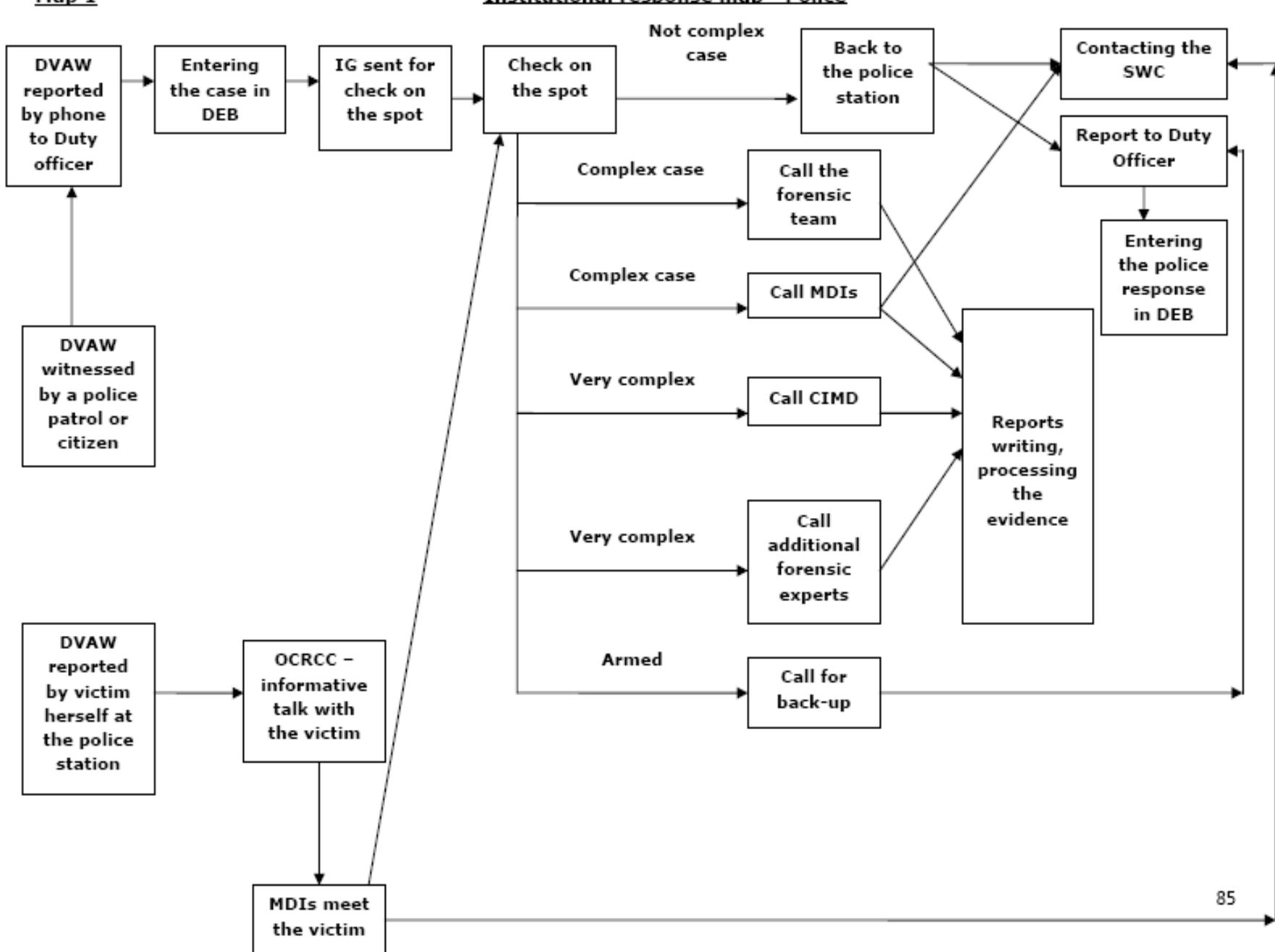


Table 2 - Police procedure in case of DVAW – major steps, time and other resources spent

	Step description (a)	No of officers involved (b)	Type of officers involved (c)	Time to get to the scene and back (min) (d)	Time spent on the scene or at the police station (min) (e)	Time spent on evidences proceeding and paper work (f)	Total time spent by all police officers (min) ((b X (d+e))+f) (g)
1.	Receiving a phone call reporting DVAW	1	Duty officer			5-10	5-10
2.	A check on the spot - not complex case - calm perpetrator, talk with him on the spot	2	IG officer IG officer	30-60 30-60	15-30 15-30	20	110-200
3.	A check on the spot - not complex case - aggressive perpetrator, taking him to the police station	2	IG officer IG officer	30-60 30-60	30-60 30-60	20	140-260

Contd.

	Case description (a)	No. of police officers involved (b)	Time spent by all police officers (min) (c)	Labour costs (c) X average salary per hour in MKD (d)	Other resources MKD (e)	Total costs in MKD (d + e) (f)
1	DVAW without grave bodily injuries – reported by phone – laying a complaint and no further charges – not complex case	3	120-220	360-660	700	1.060-1.360
2	DVAW without grave bodily injuries – reported by victim herself at the police station - laying a complaint and no further charges - not complex case	2	45-75	135-225	200	335-425
3	DVAW without grave bodily injuries – reported by phone – further charges - not complex case	4	300 -580	900-1.740	971	1.871-2.711
4	DVAW without grave bodily injuries – reported by victim herself at the police station - further charges – not complex case	3	225-435	675-1.305	371	1.046-1.676

Accuracy of Estimates: Some Challenges

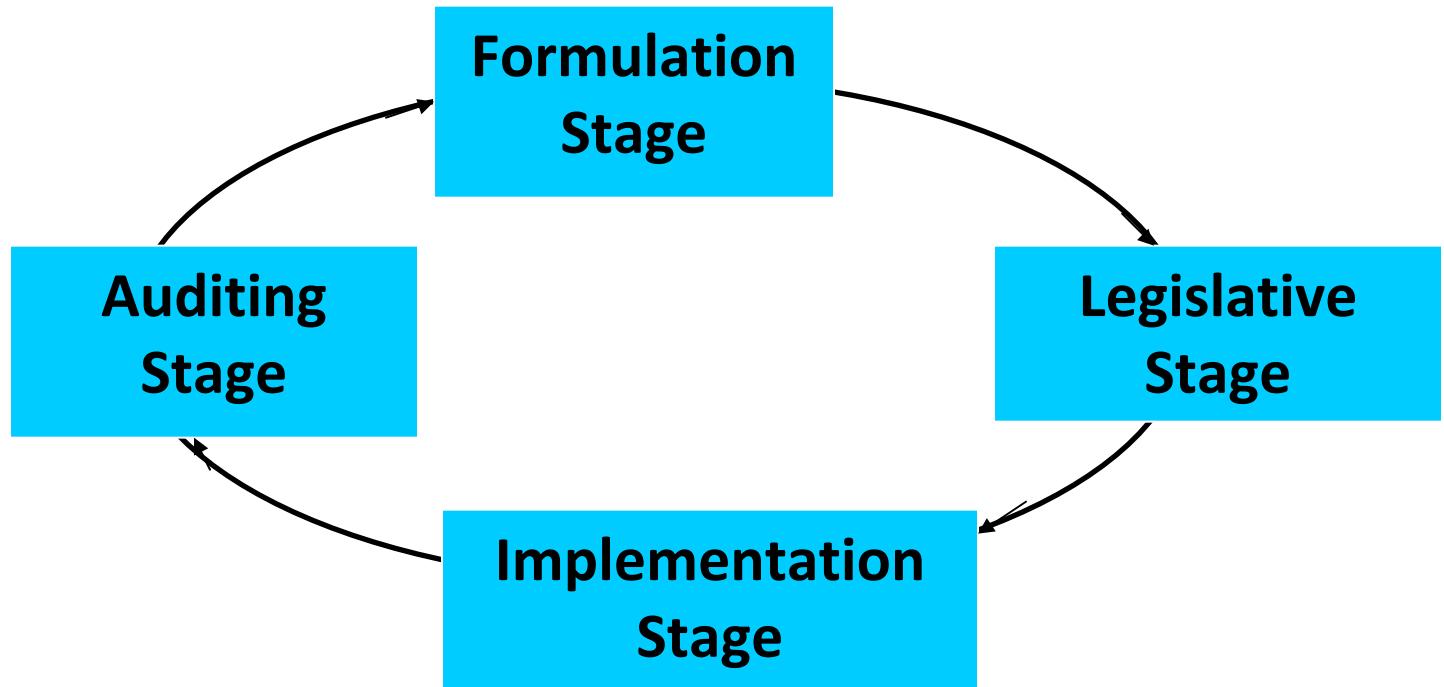
- **How many women are affected?**
 - ▣ Total Burden on the System: Incidence vs. Prevalence
- **How many utilize services? And How Often?**
 - ▣ Use and appropriateness of proxy variables
 - ▣ Differential Analysis
 - ▣ How often?
- **What is the Unit Cost?**
 - ▣ Full Cost, average cost and marginal cost

The need of GRB in better Planning and Implementation of anti~VAW legislation

- A successful public policy on domestic violence requires sufficient budgetary allocations to make the laws effective; it is not enough to simply pass laws without considering the funding they will need.
- Given that governments hold primary responsibility for ensuring that adequate public sector budgets are made available to address VAW, GRB initiatives can be used to implement and monitor action plans.
- Studies of costs of violence indicates that early prevention and intervention costs vastly less than does later-stage crisis care and other societal consequences.
- Evidence-based advocacy to ensure that VAW policies and relevant sector plans are matched with adequate budgets.

What Can Parliamentarians Do?

The Budget Cycle and spaces for intervention





Thank You!