



# Intimate partner violence against women: prevalence and wealth inequalities in 46 low- and middle-income countries using national health surveys

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# Rationale

## □ The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda



**Target 5.2** - Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres

- ❖ Intimate partner violence *by type*
- ❖ Disaggregation of data *by relevant equity stratifiers*

# Rationale

- Global levels of IPV (WHO report on violence against women 2013)



56 countries --> 30 LMICs

1 in 3 women



physical or sexual  
IPV



# Aims

- Global panorama of the prevalence of different types of IPV across low and middle-income countries using standardized methods
- Identification of the most vulnerable women by exploring wealth inequalities
  - ❖ The links between poverty and IPV are obvious but how large are the prevalence gaps between richer and poor women in each country?



# Methods

## □ Data

- Reanalysis of Demographic and Health Surveys from **46 LMICs**
  - ❖ Last survey from **2010** onwards
- Recent **physical, sexual** and **psychological** IPV by a current or former partner in the past 12 months
- Disaggregation by :
  - ❖ Household wealth quintiles – Q1 20% poorest and Q5 20% richest
- Wealth inequalities assessed using the Slope Index of Inequality



# Methods

## □ Sample

- Ever-partnered or in union women aged 15-49 years
  - ❖ Exception: South Africa (18-49 years)
- Subsample of one eligible woman per household
- Violence module: safety and ethics guidelines (minimize underreporting)
  - ❖ Questionnaire only administered if privacy was obtained
  - ❖ Special training (how to deal with crisis situations)
  - ❖ Referrals and additional information

# Methods

## □ IPV operational definition

### ***Psychological violence***

- say or do something to humiliate you in front of others
- threaten to hurt or harm you or someone you cared about
- insult you or make to feel bad about herself

### ***Physical violence***

- push you, shake you, or throw something at you slap you
- twist your arm or pull your hair
- punch you with fist or hit with something that could hurt you
- kick you, drag you, or beat you up
- try to choke you or burn you on purpose
- threaten or attack you with a gun, knife or other weapon

### ***Sexual violence***

- physically force you to have sexual intercourse with him when you did not want to
- physically forced you to perform any other sexual act when you did not want
- force you with threats or in any other way to perform sexual acts you did not want to

**At least one act...**

**Often or sometimes in  
the past year**

**and/or**

# IPV levels by country

| Country                          | ISO | Year | Ever-partnered women who reported IPV (%) in the past 12 months |        |               |               | N ever-partnered woman |
|----------------------------------|-----|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|
|                                  |     |      | Physical                                                        | Sexual | Psychological | Sexual and/or |                        |
|                                  |     |      |                                                                 |        |               | physical      |                        |
| <b>West &amp; Central Africa</b> |     |      |                                                                 |        |               |               |                        |
| Burkina Faso                     | BFA | 2010 | 8.9                                                             | 1.1    | 7.2           | 9.1           | 10009                  |
| Cameroon                         | CMR | 2011 | 28.0                                                            | 11.2   | 32.1          | 31.5          | 4006                   |
| Chad                             | TCD | 2014 | 15.5                                                            | 6.8    | 16.3          | 16.7          | 3814                   |
| Congo DR                         | COD | 2013 | 30.3                                                            | 19.8   | 29.4          | 37.2          | 5691                   |
| Cote d'Ivoire                    | CIV | 2011 | 21.3                                                            | 5.7    | 16.1          | 23.1          | 5018                   |
| Gabon                            | GAB | 2012 | 28.3                                                            | 11.8   | 26.6          | 31.0          | 4147                   |
| Gambia                           | GMB | 2013 | 6.9                                                             | 1.1    | 8.5           | 7.9           | 3542                   |
| Mali                             | MLI | 2012 | 20.7                                                            | 12.1   | 26.2          | 27.0          | 3120                   |
| Nigeria                          | NGA | 2013 | 9.3                                                             | 3.7    | 15.3          | 11.0          | 22305                  |
| Senegal                          | SEN | 2017 | 8.9                                                             | 5.9    | 9.4           | 11.5          | 2660                   |
| Sierra Leone                     | SLE | 2013 | 27.2                                                            | 5.1    | 20.8          | 28.8          | 4315                   |
| Togo                             | TGO | 2013 | 10.7                                                            | 4.8    | 24.1          | 13.0          | 5376                   |

# IPV levels by country

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|---------------------------------------|-----|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                                       |     |      | Physical                                                        | Sexual | Psychological | Sexual and/or physical |                        |
| <b>Easten &amp; Southern Africa</b>   |     |      |                                                                 |        |               |                        |                        |
| Angola                                | AGO | 2015 | 24.2                                                            | 6.7    | 24.0          | 26.3                   | 7669                   |
| Burundi                               | BDI | 2016 | 17.9                                                            | 18.4   | 16.5          | 28.7                   | 7366                   |
| Comoros                               | COM | 2012 | 4.2                                                             | 1.3    | 6.2           | 4.9                    | 2529                   |
| Ethiopia                              | ETH | 2016 | 16.9                                                            | 8.3    | 20.2          | 19.8                   | 4720                   |
| Kenya                                 | KEN | 2014 | 22.6                                                            | 9.8    | 23.8          | 25.5                   | 4519                   |
| Malawi                                | MWI | 2015 | 16.2                                                            | 15.4   | 23.0          | 24.4                   | 5406                   |
| Mozambique                            | MOZ | 2011 | 25.9                                                            | 6.9    | 29.6          | 27.8                   | 5824                   |
| Namibia                               | NAM | 2013 | 18.7                                                            | 6.6    | 21.0          | 21.5                   | 1449                   |
| Rwanda                                | RWA | 2014 | 17.6                                                            | 8.3    | 18.5          | 21.1                   | 1908                   |
| South Africa                          | ZAF | 2016 | 8.7                                                             | 3.5    | 10.9          | 10.4                   | 2354                   |
| Tanzania                              | TZA | 2015 | 27.0                                                            | 10.4   | 28.1          | 29.8                   | 7597                   |
| Uganda                                | UGA | 2016 | 22.3                                                            | 16.4   | 29.3          | 29.7                   | 7536                   |
| Zambia                                | ZMB | 2013 | 21.3                                                            | 13.0   | 17.8          | 27.2                   | 9416                   |
| Zimbabwe                              | ZWE | 2015 | 15.2                                                            | 9.3    | 23.5          | 20.4                   | 5800                   |
| <b>Middle East &amp; North Africa</b> |     |      |                                                                 |        |               |                        |                        |
| Egypt                                 | EGY | 2014 | 13.5                                                            | 2.7    | 13.1          | 13.9                   | 6693                   |
| Jordan                                | JOR | 2017 | 12.7                                                            | 3.3    | 16.1          | 13.8                   | 6852                   |

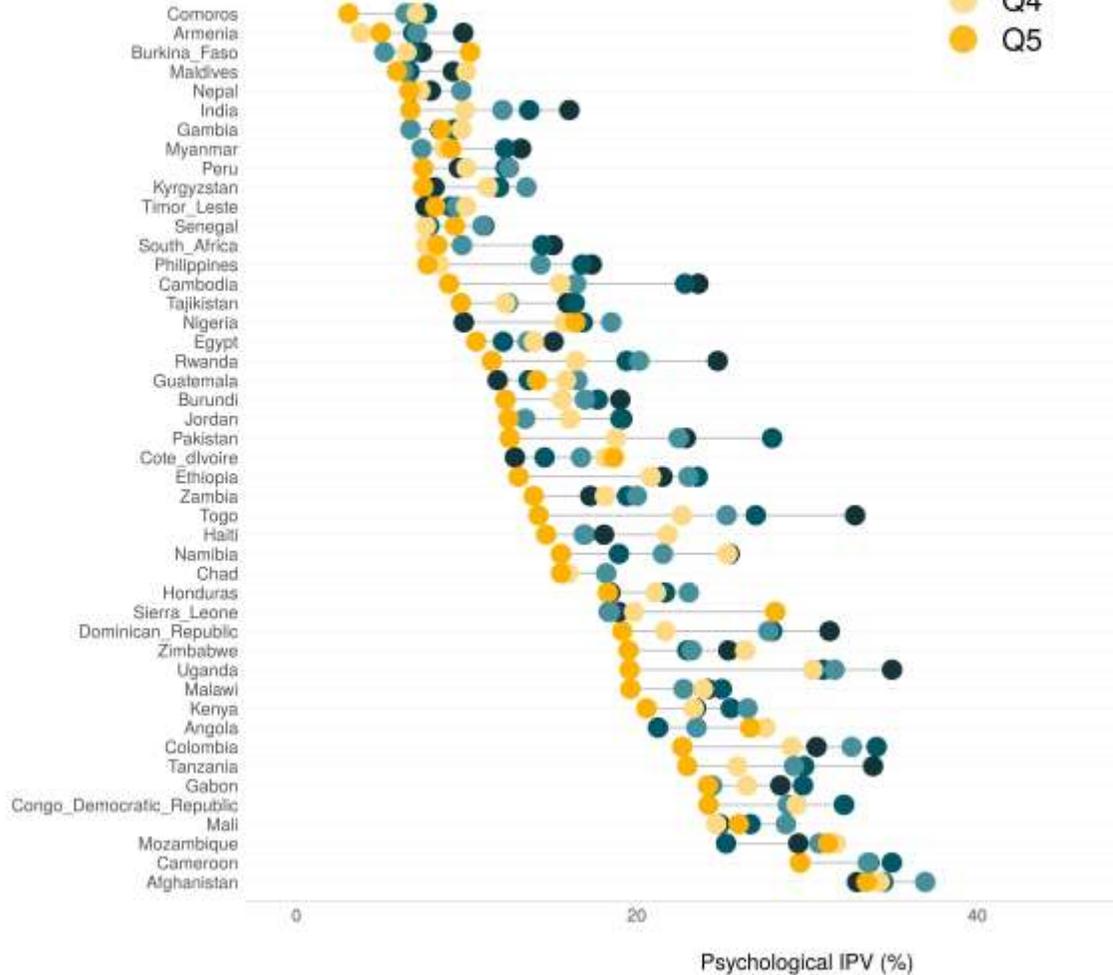
# IPV levels by country

| Country                              | ISO | Year | Ever-partnered women who reported IPV (%) in the past |        |               |                        | N ever-partnered woman |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                                      |     |      | 12 months                                             |        |               | Sexual and/or physical |                        |
|                                      |     |      | Physical                                              | Sexual | Psychological |                        |                        |
| <b>Europe &amp; Central Asia</b>     |     |      |                                                       |        |               |                        |                        |
| Armenia                              | ARM | 2015 | 3.5                                                   | 0.3    | 6.4           | 3.6                    | 3540                   |
| Kyrgyzstan                           | KGZ | 2012 | 16.9                                                  | 2.8    | 10.4          | 17.2                   | 4832                   |
| Tajikistan                           | TJK | 2017 | 18.7                                                  | 1.4    | 13.3          | 18.1                   | 5313                   |
| <b>South Asia</b>                    |     |      |                                                       |        |               |                        |                        |
| Afghanistan                          | AFG | 2015 | 45.8                                                  | 6.1    | 34.4          | 46.2                   | 21324                  |
| India                                | IND | 2015 | 22.5                                                  | 5.2    | 11.4          | 24.1                   | 66013                  |
| Maldives                             | MDV | 2016 | 5.4                                                   | 0.7    | 7.6           | 5.0                    | 3388                   |
| Nepal                                | NPL | 2016 | 10.0                                                  | 4.0    | 7.7           | 11.6                   | 3826                   |
| Pakistan                             | PAK | 2017 | 13.6                                                  | 3.6    | 20.6          | 15.2                   | 3303                   |
| <b>East Asia &amp; Pacific</b>       |     |      |                                                       |        |               |                        |                        |
| Cambodia                             | KHM | 2014 | 9.3                                                   | 3.9    | 17.3          | 11.7                   | 3499                   |
| Myanmar                              | MMR | 2015 | 10.2                                                  | 2.2    | 10.2          | 11.0                   | 3425                   |
| Philippines                          | PHL | 2017 | 4.3                                                   | 2.2    | 12.9          | 5.5                    | 13215                  |
| Timor Leste                          | TLS | 2016 | 33.1                                                  | 4.8    | 8.9           | 35.2                   | 3694                   |
| <b>Latin America &amp; Caribbean</b> |     |      |                                                       |        |               |                        |                        |
| Colombia                             | COL | 2015 | 32.3                                                  | 7.6    | 30.0          | 33.2                   | 24890                  |
| Dominican Republic                   | DOM | 2013 | 14.7                                                  | 4.2    | 25.6          | 15.5                   | 5803                   |
| Guatemala                            | GTM | 2014 | 7.9                                                   | 2.6    | 14.4          | 8.9                    | 6512                   |
| Haiti                                | HTI | 2016 | 10.0                                                  | 7.0    | 17.8          | 13.8                   | 4322                   |
| Honduras                             | HND | 2011 | 10.0                                                  | 3.2    | 20.6          | 11.1                   | 12494                  |
| Peru                                 | PER | 2016 | 10.2                                                  | 2.5    | 10.5          | 10.8                   | 21115                  |

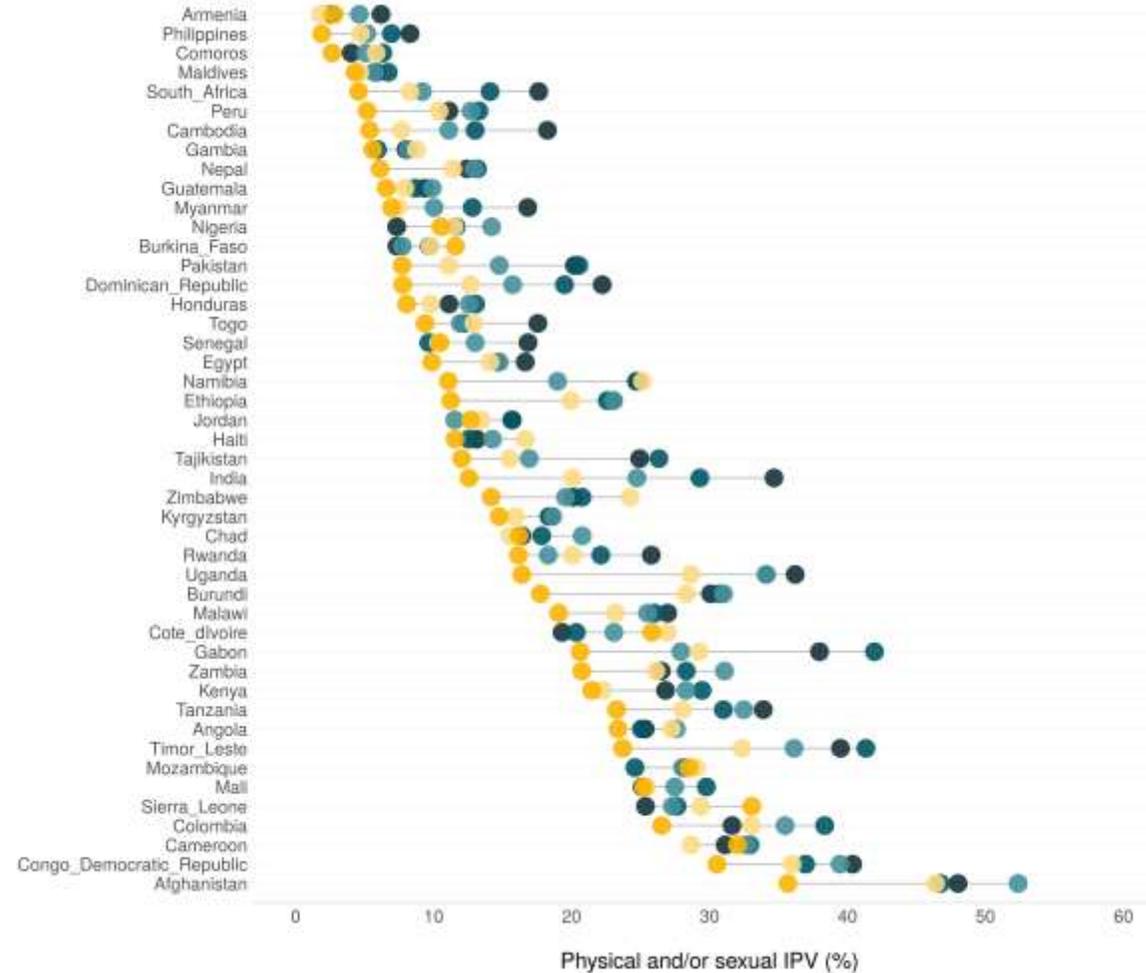
# IPV by wealth quintiles

## Wealth quintiles

- Q1
- Q2
- Q3
- Q4
- Q5

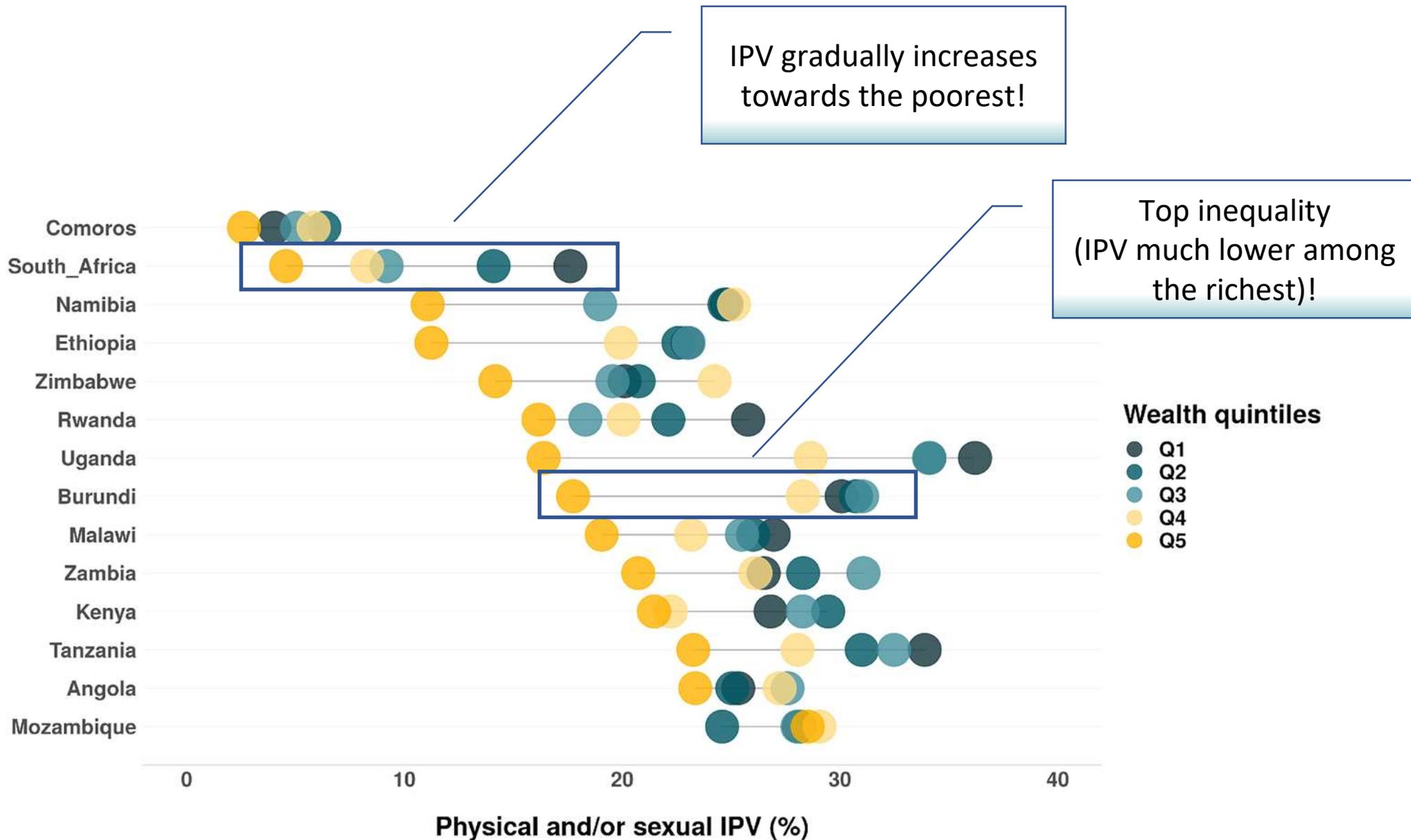


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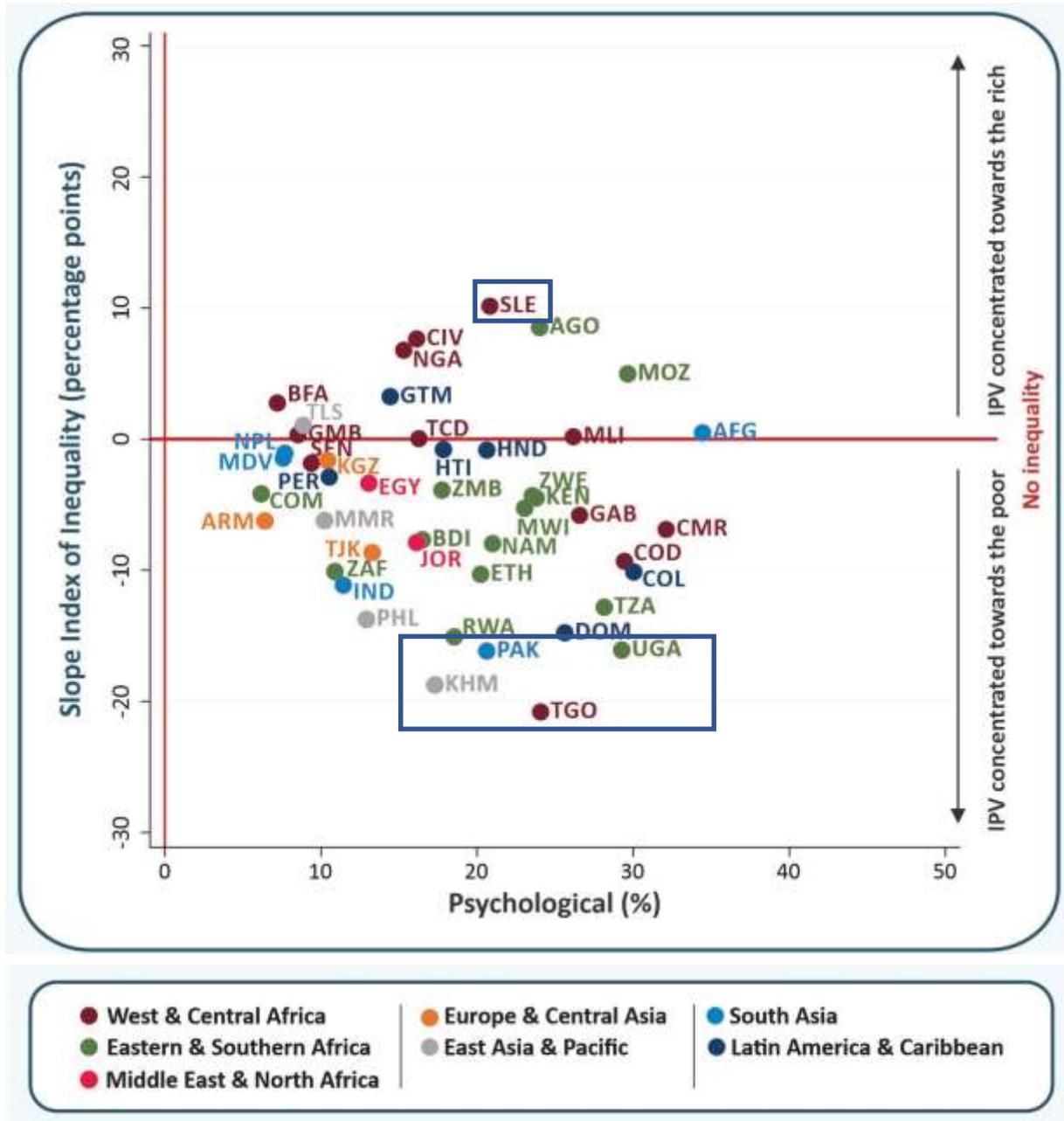


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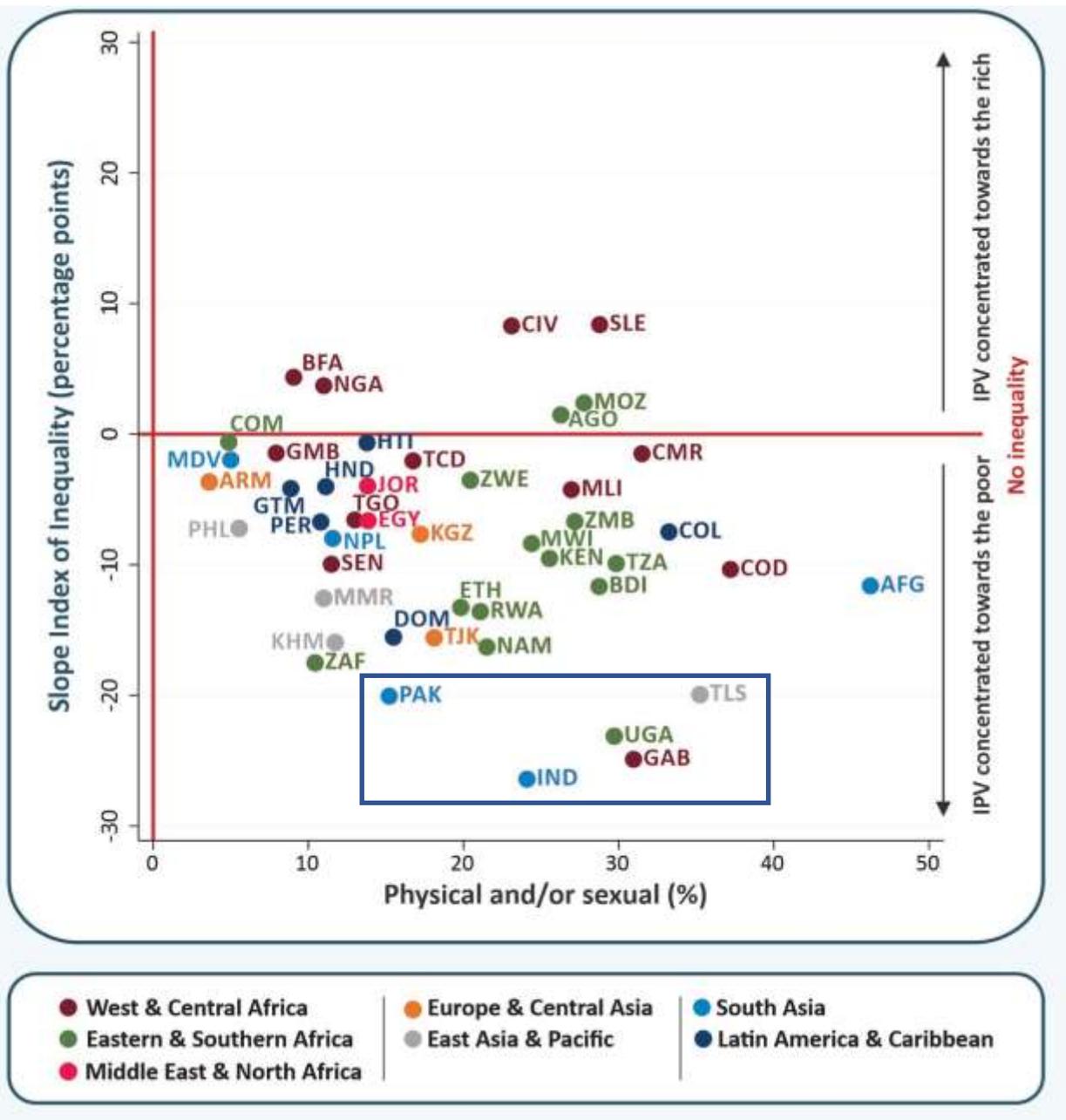
Eastern & Southern Africa



Which countries show the greatest wealth inequalities for psychological IPV?



Which countries show the greatest wealth inequalities for physical and/or sexual IPV?





# Summary and main messages

- **Levels of reported IPV vary widely across countries** – from < 10% in Armenia and Comoros to 40%+ in Afghanistan
- **Higher levels of both IPV indicators** – Cameroon and Congo DR (W & C Africa); Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda (E & S Africa); Afghanistan (South Asia) and Colombia (Latin America & Caribbean)



# Summary and main messages

- **Large inequalities observed within countries.** Poorer women are particularly vulnerable in most countries
  - Greatest wealth inequalities
    - ❖ Psychological IPV – Togo
    - ❖ Physical and/or sexual IPV – India
- **Greater inequalities observed for physical and/or sexual IPV**
- **Particularities of each country** need to be considered for policy programming (e.g. countries with no wealth inequalities but high prevalence)



# Summary and main messages

- **Way forward to eliminate violence against women.** Special attention to countries where IPV levels still high and marked wealth inequality exist
- Monitoring of progress will require efforts for systematic data collection
  - ❖ Standardized and accurate methodologies
- **The SDG5 on gender equality includes the elimination of IPV as a target, but it is likely that to tackle IPV we need to empower women first so that they feel like they are entitled to a life free of violence**



## Limitations

- ❖ Willingness to disclose IPV may vary according to respondent's characteristics as well as cultural and social norms that underlie the acceptance of violence in each setting
- ❖ Prevalence should be considered low end estimates



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