



Sophie Namy ,Lori Michau, Natsnet Ghebrebrhan,
(Raising Voices)
Mercy Lwambi, Sophia Wanjiku (International
Rescue Committee)
Rahma Hassan (Independent Consultant)

SASA! in Humanitarian Context: Promising Adaptation & Guidance for Preventing Violence Against Women



What is SASA!?



- A community mobilization approach to shift social norms that perpetuate VAW.
- Developed by Raising Voices
- Rigorously evaluated through RCT in partnership with CEDOVIP, LSHTM & Makerere University was piloted in Kampala and proven to be effective.
- Currently being used in more than 25 countries by 60 organizations in diverse contexts.

The Study



Despite global uptake;
limited understanding on
how to adapt SASA!
effectively



2016 -2019



UN Trust Fund, Raising
Voices, UCSD, IRC, Beyond
Border and WPC



Multi- country including
Dadaab Refugee camp,
Kenya



Method – Qualitative Research

- 2 waves of qualitative data collection (Mar & Nov 2017)
- 180 people engaged through IDIs & FGDs
- Participants: IRC staff, CAs, community members, community & religious leaders

Iterative Analysis: Excel matrix , in person discussions , calls and webinars , Validation workshop with partners



Method – Humanitarian Convening

- Two days meeting February 2018
- 12 humanitarian programming experts (in person) 2 online
- Experience in Africa, Middle East and Asia
- Unpacked distinct challenges & opportunities
- Building common threads
- Recommending possible solution

Findings: Adaptation

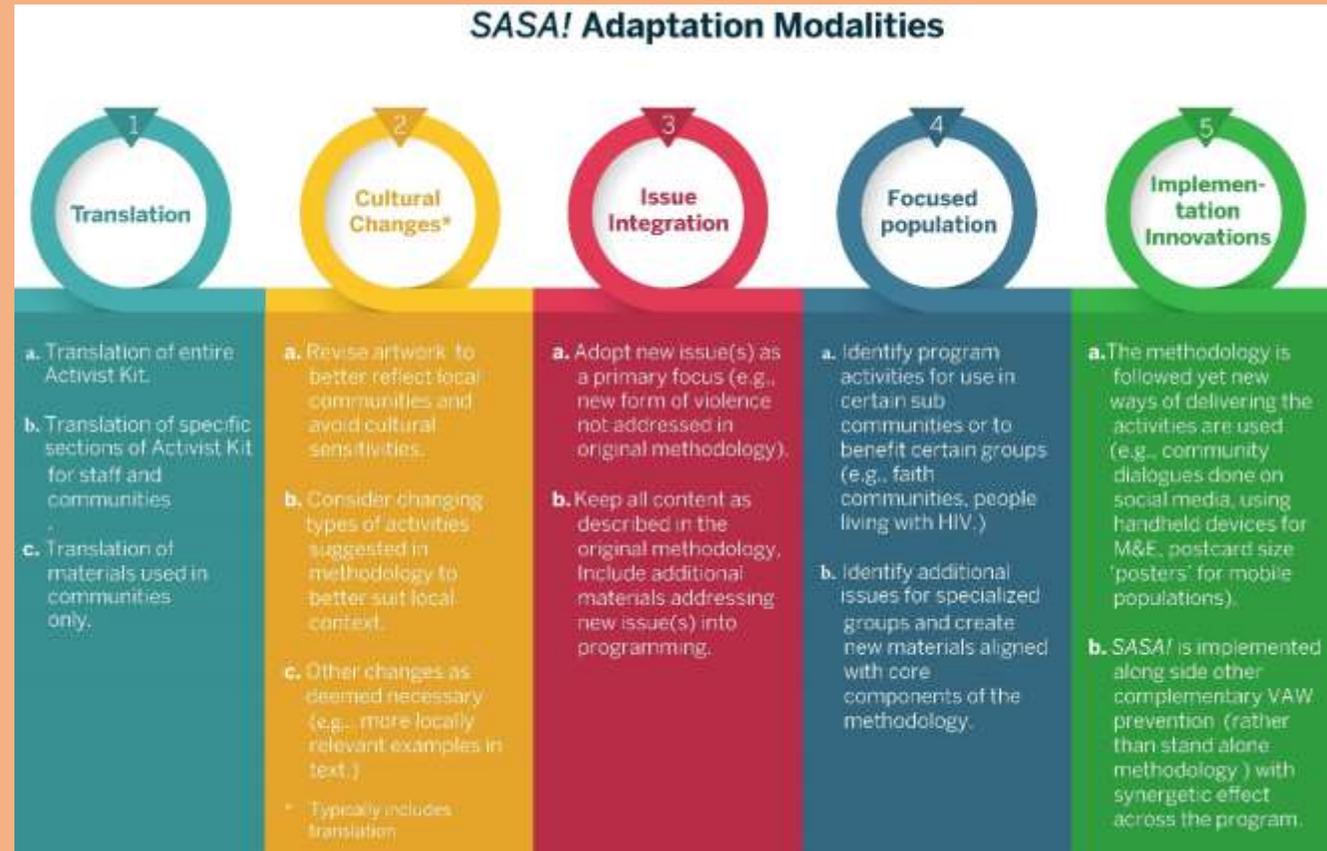


Type of adaptation: Implementation innovation



Limited formal translation & contextualization of artwork initially (at later stage efforts were put in place)

Other changes shaped by challenges of a humanitarian setting (e.g., refugee community workers)



Findings: Implementation

Strengths

- Strong team commitment, detailed workplans and frequent meetings
- Comprehensive mobilization & reach
- Resonance of SASA! ideas
- Systematic phase-specific work

Challenges

- High turnover *
- Significant resistance initially (“foreign program”; “breaking up families”)
- Influx of refugees, persistent insecurity & camp closure disrupts program ‘flow’*

Finding: Shifts in the community

Outcomes ~ promising signs point to:

- ++ less tolerance for VAW
- ++ more support for survivors
- ++ men's increased contributions in the home
- ++ decreased violence
- Some stigma and victim-blaming attitudes remain.

“SASA! gives you the ability to understand your individual power and strength ... it has untapped our greatness!”
(female community leader)

Conclusion and Recommendation

SASA! *IS* adaptable to humanitarian settings, with the potential to provoke personal reflection, shift harmful attitudes, and prevent violence.

Practical considerations:

- Assess the stage of emergency response and decide when to begin SASA! programing;
- Balancing “incentive culture” and promotion of community leadership and sustainability,
- Harmonizing content and language across different program components
- Regular reflection to reducing or doing No Harm
- Adjusting for disrupted pace/stalled momentum?

Implementing *SASA!* in Humanitarian Settings: Tips and Tools

Programming for Prevention Series,

Background

SASA! is a community mobilization approach to prevent violence against women (VAW) and HIV, developed by Raising Voices in Uganda (www.raisingvoices.org). A randomized controlled trial conducted with the Center for Domestic Violence Prevention, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Makerere University, demonstrated *SASA!*'s community-level impacts on preventing intimate partner violence against women and reducing social acceptability of violence.¹

The Resonance of *SASA!* in Humanitarian Settings

SASA!'s focus on power and non-violence can resonate strongly in camp settings, where personal agency is

Mise en œuvre de *SASA!* dans un contexte humanitaire : Conseils et outils

Contexte

SASA! est une approche de mobilisation communautaire développée par Raising Voices en Ouganda pour prévenir la violence contre les femmes et le VIH. Elle a été évaluée dans un essai contrôlé randomisé mené avec le Center for Domestic Violence Prevention, la London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine et l'Université Makerere (Ouganda) à partir d'un questionnaire de l'initiative *SASA!* en milieu humanitaire, pour prévenir la violence contre les femmes, réduire son acceptabilité sociale et réduire l'acceptabilité sociale de cette violence (Koenig, T. et al. 2014).

La résonance de l'initiative *SASA!* dans le contexte humanitaire

L'accent mis par *SASA!* sur le pouvoir et la non-violence

Programmation pour la prévention

Implementando *SASA!* en Contextos Humanitarios

Antecedentes

SASA! es un enfoque de movilización comunitaria para la prevención de la violencia contra la mujer (VCM) y el VIH, desarrollado en Uganda por la organización Raising Voices (www.raisingvoices.org). Un ensayo controlado aleatorizado conducido con el Center for Domestic Violence Prevention, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine y la Universidad Makerere (Uganda) demostró el impacto comunitario de *SASA!* en la prevención de la violencia contra la mujer y en la reducción de la aceptabilidad social de la violencia.

La Resonancia de *SASA!* en Contextos Humanitarios

El enfoque de *SASA!* en el poder y la no-violencia puede resonar fuertemente en entornos de campamentos, donde la agencia personal y la no-violencia

Serie Programación para la Prevención, Oficio No. 8

Comments? Questions?

Thank you!

Special thanks to residents of Dadaab refugee camp

www.raisingvoices.org

