

# The Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum

The Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) – a global network of more than 5 000 members – promotes research on sexual and other forms of violence against women and children in low- and middle-income countries to influence policy and practice.

It does this by gathering and sharing information, funding research, building capacity through various workshops and events, and holding the SVRI Forum every two years.

The SVRI Forum is a vibrant, informative and safe space for researchers,

civil society, policy-makers, donors and others to share and learn about research, developments and innovations in the field of gender-based violence. It is the largest conference dedicated to research on prevention of and responses to violence against women and children.

## THE SVRI FORUM IS:



**Dynamic and interactive.** It provides a mix of oral presentations, roundtable discussions, science pitches, films, exhibitions and social activities to maximise engagement.



**Innovative.** New, innovative research and interventions in the field and creative ways to communicate and distribute research are shared.



**Focused on building capacity.** The Forum builds expertise in research methods and practice through pre-conference workshops and other events. Researchers learn how to use evidence to influence policies and programmes.



**Multi-generational.** The Forum promotes participation from young to senior researchers. The SVRI considers speaker experience when developing conference sessions, ensuring a mix of emerging researchers and global experts.



**Equitable.** It promotes meaningful south-north and south-south partnerships, as well as researcher-activist and researcher-policy-maker partnerships. Lead researchers are encouraged to involve local partners in their Forum presentation and jointly present findings.



**Inter-disciplinary.** The SVRI encourages the participation of multiple sectors and networks at the Forum to ensure robust debate.



**Focused on low- and middle-income countries.** It prioritises research from these countries.

*“By far the best part of the SVRI Forum is connecting with colleagues, researchers and practitioners around the world. This is the only forum in the world for doing so.”*

– SVRI Forum participant

## SVRI FORUMS IN NUMBERS

	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017 (est)
Number of participants	194	200	180	398	500
Number of presentations	62	93	105	129	340
Number of partners	4	7	7	18	17
Pre-conference workshops	5	7	8	9	10
Side events	2	2	4	10	14
Posters	38	51	49	59	70+
Abstract reviewers	34	62	66	87	112
Location	Johannesburg, South Africa	Cape Town, South Africa	Bangkok, Thailand	Stellenbosch, South Africa	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The SVRI Forum is the "go-to event" in the field.

*"The SVRI Forum is an extremely important event. I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be exposed to so many experts in the field of sexual violence research!"*

– SVRI Forum participant

### BURSARIES AND MENTORING



Several bursaries are available specifically for researchers based in low- and middle-income countries. This increases the diversity of participants and ensures more people are able to attend the Forum. The Forum also has a mentoring programme that offers emerging researchers from low- and middle-income countries guidance on developing their presentations for the conference and, where possible, supports their attendance at the event.

### SVRI HALL OF FAME



To further encourage and support quality research from new and emerging researchers, the SVRI gives out awards in various categories, including best research presentation, best young researcher presentation and best poster presentation.

Join us: <http://www.svri.org/svri-forums-explained>

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