Authors
Vandana Sharma, MD, MPH
Jennifer Scott, MD, MPH
Katherine Belen, PhD
Elizabeth Dartnall, MSc
Anik Gevers, PhD

Suggested Citation

Acknowledgements
The authors would like to thank those who gave their time to provide input to this guide. In particular, we give thanks to the members of the advisory board for their valuable input and comments and to individuals and organizations who shared materials and participated in interviews to inform this guide.

Funding
This work was funded by the Sexual Violence Research Initiative.

Requests for further information on this guide:
info@equalityinsightslab.org

The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework is a systematic process for adapting IPV prevention programs to new contexts and/or populations.

What is this guide about?
The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework is designed to support a variety of stakeholders to adapt Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) prevention programs for different populations and contexts. The guidance document includes:

- Background information on IPV program adaptation
- The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework: a step-by-step process for conducting adaptations
- Tools for use during adaptation and additional resources
- Case examples to illustrate learning from previous IPV program adaptations

The guide was informed by a literature review and key informant interviews with input and review from an expert advisory board.

Who is this guide for?
This guidance is for program implementers, researchers, donors and other stakeholders who are planning to adapt an IPV prevention program or are already in the process of adapting an IPV prevention program.

Why do we need guidance on adapting IPV programs?
Over the past decades, a growing number of programs to prevent and reduce IPV have been designed, implemented, and evaluated in many different contexts. As program implementers, researchers, and donors become increasingly interested in adapting these ‘proven and tested’ IPV prevention interventions to new contexts and/or populations, there is a need for guidance and tools to facilitate and strengthen this process. Using this guidance can help prevent inefficient use of resources and adaptations that may not be successful or that could contribute to unintended consequences.

How to use this guide?
This document provides a flexible approach, recognizing that the adaptation process may not be linear and may look very different for different adaptations. We encourage you to use this guide in a way that makes sense for your program.
The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework

This framework outlines a deliberate and planned process to facilitate the modification of the content, delivery or implementation of a program for a different context or population.

The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework is built upon existing theory and practice and includes a combination of steps tailored for IPV prevention programming in diverse contexts across the globe.

The Framework comprises 15 steps across 5 key stages corresponding to the acronym A.D.A.P.T. These include:

- **A** - Assess context and select IPV prevention program
- **D** - Design adaptation approach
- **A** - Adapt IPV program
- **P** - Pilot and refine adapted IPV prevention program
- **T** - Targeted implementation and evaluation of the adapted IPV prevention program

The stages are also organized according to the different phases of a typical program cycle in the context of development or humanitarian programming. For example, assessing the context and selecting the IPV prevention program (Stage A) typically occurs during the program planning and development phase, which may include creation of a project or funding proposal. The D, A and P stages take place during a program’s adaptation and pilot phase and the T stage occurs during the implementation and evaluation phases of a development or humanitarian program. This may have various implications from a practical and/or operational standpoint as different teams or decision makers may be involved in the program development stage than in the adaptation and pilot phase. Limited or no budgetary resources in the program development or proposal stage may make it challenging to bring together the key stakeholders or conduct needs assessments.

The Framework emphasizes an Intentional, Planned and Validated (I.P.V.) process for the systematic adaptation of evidence-based IPV prevention programs that: a) seeks to avoid unintentional deviations and ‘on-the-fly’ adaptations, b) allows a flexible approach, recognizing that the steps do not necessarily follow a linear process and c) deliberately considers the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to develop adaptive capacity. The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework draws on learning from adapted IPV prevention programs that originated in both high-income and low- and middle-income countries, thus, highlighting considerations and approaches relevant to global audiences and contexts.

The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework also highlights the importance of a principled approach. The + (plus) refers to the incorporation of several overarching principles and quality measures throughout the adaptation process. This includes employing a community-based participatory and women-centered approach considering ethical issues throughout the process including addressing safety issues and minimizing potential harms and conducting systematic documentation and learning-oriented monitoring and evaluation.

Figure 1 summarizes the key stages and steps in the IPV-ADAPT+ Framework. Please refer to the full version of the guide for further details on the stages and steps.
Assess context & select IPV prevention program

1. Assess community context & IPV risk factors
2. Select an IPV program to adapt
3. Consult stakeholders & establish partnerships

Design IPV program adaptation approach

4. Review core components of selected IPV program & materials
5. Refine Theory of Change
6. Identify adaptations needed & develop approach

Adapt IPV program

7. Modify selected program components &/or develop new materials while considering fidelity & fit
8. Obtain feedback on adapted materials & approach from stakeholders & communities
9. Document adaptation process & capture learning

Pilot & refine adapted IPV program

10. Design & conduct a pilot test of adapted program among population of interest, including key indicators
11. Analyze pilot results & refine materials & approach accordingly

Targeted implementation & evaluation

12. Develop implementation & evaluation plans
13. Implement adapted program & collect M&E data
14. Analyze data, interpret findings & develop recommendations to inform next steps
15. Disseminate findings & scale effective IPV programs

Figure 1: The IPV-ADAPT+ Framework