

**Spotlight
Initiative**



Data Collection on Violence against Women Migrant Workers: Decision Tree

- This decision tree helps organizations working on violence against women migrant workers decide when and how to best **collect data on women migrant worker's experiences of violence and their access and use of relevant services**. These organizations include service providers, policymakers, national statistical offices, and development partner agencies.
- This decision tree guides data collectors through the various considerations, viable options, and alternative data sources for obtaining information without jeopardizing participants' safety or the data's integrity.
- The decision tree explores three types of data: **Prevalence data, Administrative data and Qualitative data**.
- This decision tree is developed by the joint ILO-UN Women Safe and Fair Programme, as part of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, in partnership with UNFPA/kNOwVAWdata and is adapted from the [Decision Tree: Data collection on violence against women and COVID-19](#), by UN Women, UNFPA/kNOwVAWdata and WHO.
- This decision tree was adapted by Robin Mauney with contributions from Juncal Plazaola Castano, Melissa Alvarado, Valentina Volpe and Younghwa Choi of UN Women, Deepa Bharathi and Rebecca Napier-Moore of ILO, Dr Henrica A.F.M. (Henriette) Jansen, Jessica Gardner, Annette Sachs Robertson of UNFPA and designed by Younghwa Choi.



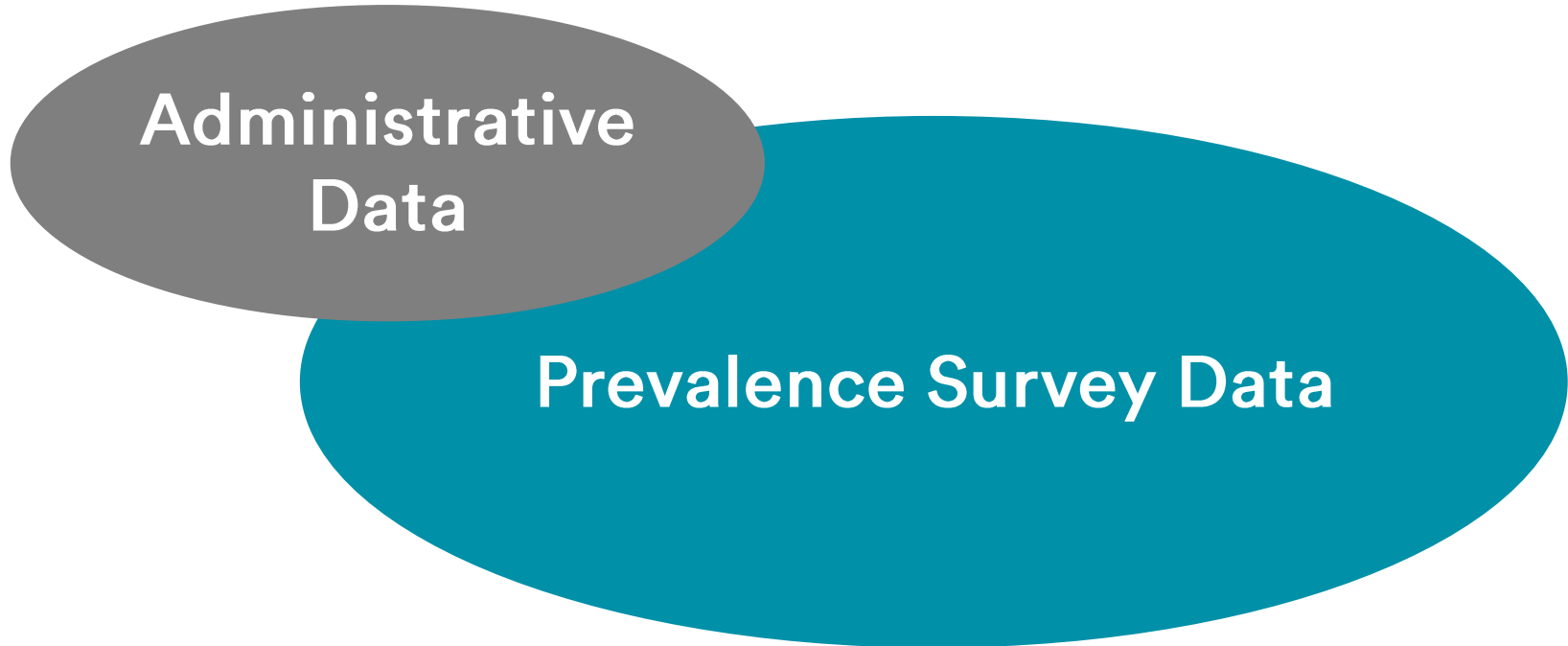
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Administrative data does not capture prevalence.
Administrative data only captures the number of reported cases.
(most incidents of VAWG go unreported and undetected)

Severity



Source: Henrica (Henriette) Jansen. In: kNOwVAWdata: Sources of data

<https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/publications/sources-violence-against-women-data-knowvawdata>



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Prevalence Survey Data

Q: Should a survey be conducted to determine the prevalence of VAW with a representative sample of women migrant workers?

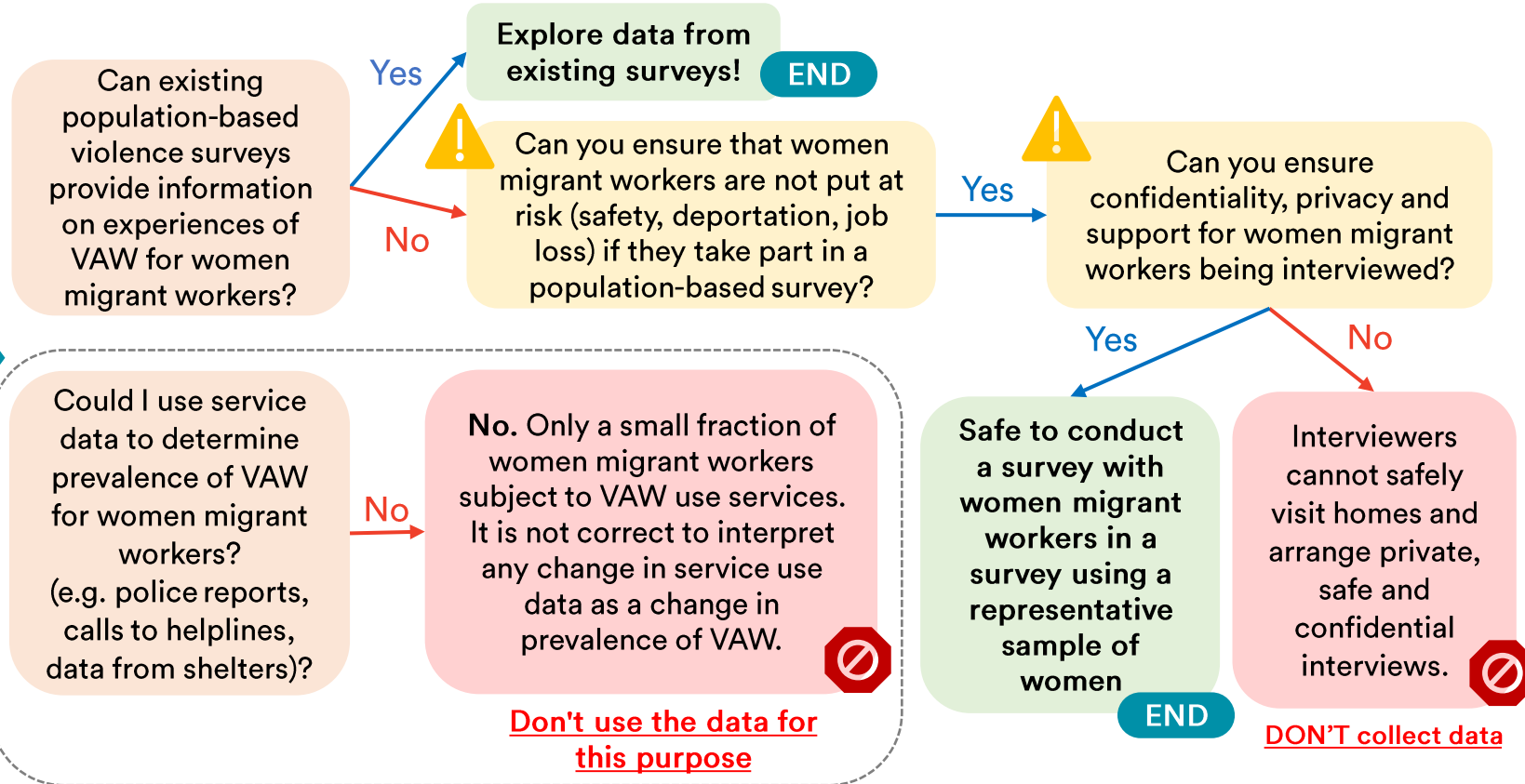
Always prioritize women's safety over data collection!



START!

Questions that can be answered if women migrant workers are included in a **Population Based Survey Data**

- What is the prevalence of VAW for women migrant workers?
- What is the nature, forms or frequency and severity of violence?
- Where does violence occur, in which stage of migration?
- Who are the perpetrators?
- What are help-seeking patterns?



COVID 19 or Other Emergencies: It is not recommended to undertake population-based surveys during emergencies or pandemics such as COVID 19; During these times rapid assessments are often conducted through phone/technology and the protection of privacy and confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. For detailed guidance see the Decision Tree on VAW data collection and COVID19. Importantly the question should always be why are we collecting the data, what will it tell us and how can we use it.

Administrative Data

Q: Should I use/collect administrative data on violence against women migrant workers?

Always prioritize women's safety over data collection!



START!

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (Services)

- What is the nature, forms, or severity of *reported* violence against women migrant workers?
- Who accesses services, has access to services increased or decreased over time, how many referrals made?
- What is the outcome of the cases?
- Who are the alleged perpetrators?
- Repeat admin data analysis show changes in access to services over time

! Could I use administrative service data to determine prevalence? (e.g. police reports, calls to helplines, data from shelters)?

⊘ **No.** Only a small fraction of abused women uses services. It is not correct to interpret any change in service use data as a change in prevalence.

Yes → Explore existing service data! **END**

Can existing service data be disaggregated to understand VAWMW?

! Were informed consent procedures used to make women migrant workers aware of any mandatory reporting requirements before they disclosed information?

No ↓ Service provider cannot ensure women migrant workers are safe if they disclose **DON'T collect data** **⊘**

! Can you ensure confidentiality, privacy and support/referrals for women migrant workers disclosing violence either through direct service provision or referrals to specialists?

No ↓ Service provider cannot ensure women migrant workers are safe if they disclose **DON'T collect data** **⊘**

Yes → Safe to collect administrative service data on WMW **END**

! Should a non-VAW specialist service provider collect comprehensive data on women migrant workers subject to violence?

⊘ **No.** Only VAW specialists should collect VAW comprehensive data. Others should collect data based on their role (initial emotional support, service and referral) to document the disclosure and referrals to VAW specialist service providers

! Can we still use administrative service data even if multiple service providers record services provided to the same survivor?

✓ **Yes.** 'Double counting' is not an issue because administrative data can track VAWG survivors who access essential services at different entry points

Qualitative Data

Q: Should I collect qualitative data to better understand violence against women migrant workers?

Always prioritize women's safety over data collection!

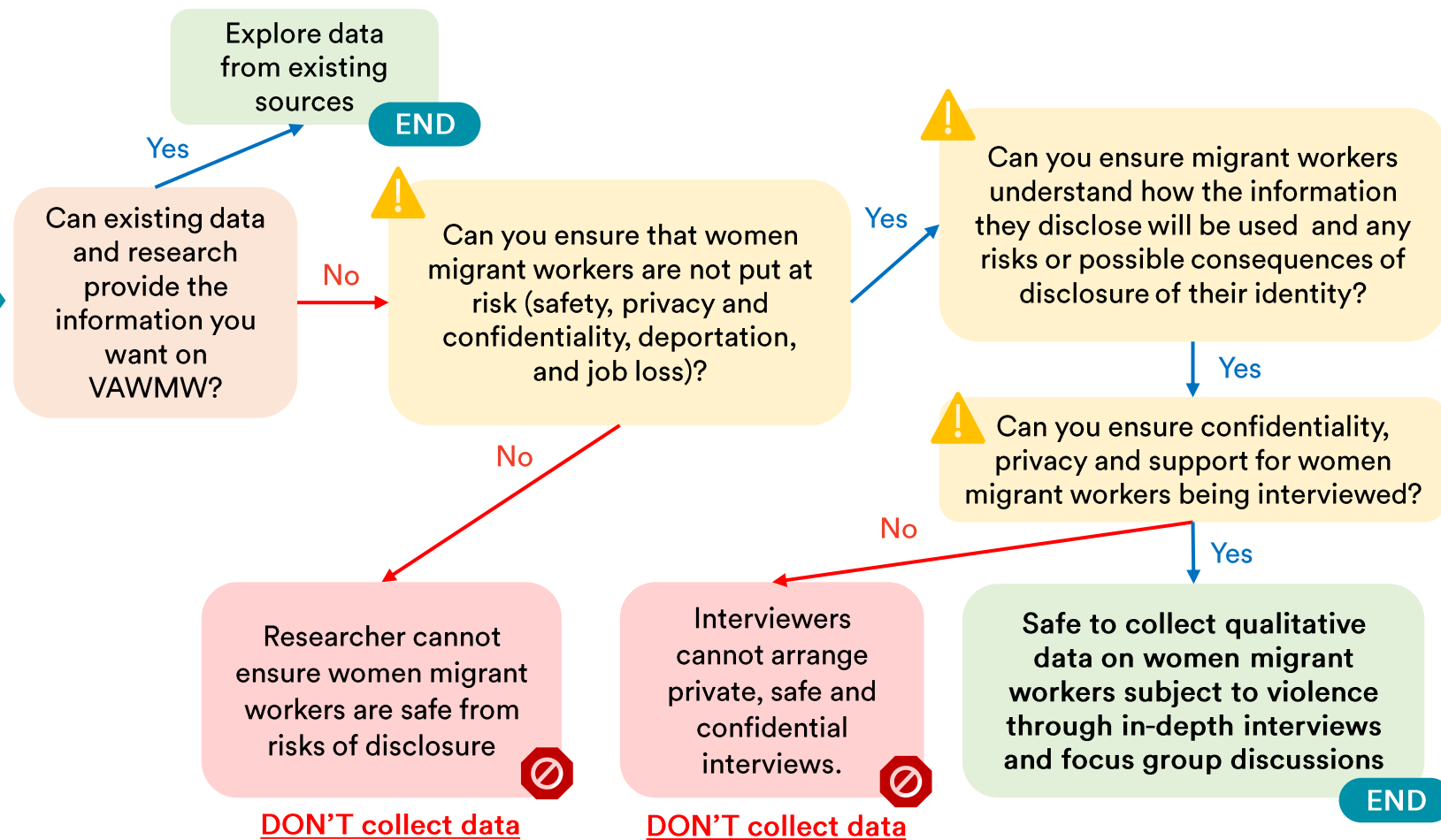


START!

QUALITATIVE DATA

Interviewing women migrant workers to learn about direct experiences of violence

- What are the in-depth experiences of specific or groups of women migrant workers subject to violence?
- What are changes in service accessibility and availability from a survivor- perspective?
- How can I better understand experiences of women migrant workers experiences identified in prevalence data? (often in cooperation with prevalence data)



“Do's and “Don'ts in data collection



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“Do's

- **Always prioritize the safety of women and the research team. Apply the principle of Do No Harm**
- Protect confidentiality and privacy of women migrant workers subject to VAW
- Apply ethical data collection principles that include obtaining informed consent and voluntary participation
- Train researcher team members specifically on ethical practices in VAW data collection including referral of women to available resources
- Interviewee should be able to stop the interview at any time
- Identify and make available referral resources for women that want further support and refer based on their voluntary agreement
- When using existing data sources, review the methodology to ensure informed consent for data use was applied. Only collect data that is actionable AND that you plan to use.
- Ensure the women are the beneficiaries of the research

“Don'ts

- Do not collect data unless it serves a purpose to benefit VAW survivors
- Do not conduct an interview if you cannot ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all women including and especially the women migrant workers subject to VAW
- Do not conduct the interview if there is a risk for safety, deportation, job loss or other negative consequences.
- Do not add VAW questions to a larger survey unless all safety and ethical guidelines can be met

More on: [Ethical and safety recommendations for intervention research on violence against women. Building on lessons from the WHO publication.](#)

Geneva: World Health Organization. February 2016.

The Safe and Fair: Realizing women migrant workers' rights and opportunities in the ASEAN Region Programme, is part of the Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls by 2030, a global, multi-year initiative between the European Union (EU) and United Nations (UN). Safe and Fair focuses on ASEAN countries and is implemented through a partnership between the ILO and UN Women, in collaboration with UNODC, and is delivered at both local and national levels through governments, trade unions, employer organizations, civil society organizations and women's organizations, and at the regional level through ASEAN institutions.

The Spotlight Initiative is the world's largest targeted effort to end all forms of violence against women and girls. Launched with a seed funding commitment of €500 million from the European Union, the Spotlight Initiative represents an unprecedented global effort to invest in gender equality as a precondition and driver for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. As a demonstration fund for action on the Sustainable Development Goals, the Spotlight Initiative is demonstrating that a significant, concerted and comprehensive investment in gender equality and ending violence can make a transformative difference in the lives of women and girls.

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