Violence in the Western Pacific Region

**Youth Violence**

Violence that occurs between people aged 10–29 years, often among unrelated individuals, and generally takes place outside of the home.

- Harmful behaviours that may start early and continue into adulthood
- Assault, leading to serious injury or death
- Bullying, slapping, or hitting

**Key Facts**

| 12,000 people between 10 and 29 years of age were murdered in the Western Pacific Region in 2012. |
| 78% Fatal youth violence in the Western Pacific region occurs mostly among males, who are three times more likely to be murdered than women. |

Perpetrators and victims of youth violence often have a long history of involvement in violence, and many were victims of child maltreatment.

Youth violence can also lead to mental health problems and increased health risk behaviours, such as smoking, alcohol and drug use, and unsafe sex.

**National Response**

Of the 20 regional countries that participated in the survey, ONLY

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<th>National Action Plans</th>
<th>Legislation</th>
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<td>10 countries have a national or subnational action plan for the prevention of youth violence.</td>
<td>16 countries have national or subnational laws prohibiting weapons on school premises.</td>
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**Evidence-based Programmes**

6 countries have social development and life skills training programmes (e.g. anger management, conflict resolution and social skills).

3 countries have preschool enrichment programmes for early introduction to life skills.

4 countries have after school programmes to extend adult supervision.

2 countries have mentoring programmes providing supportive relationships and positive adult role models.

7 countries have programmes to reduce school bullying.

For more details about programmes, refer to the glossary in Violence in the Western Pacific 2014

Source: Violence in the Western Pacific 2014

http://iris.wpro.who.int/handle/10665.1/12400

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