



# SVRI FORUM

## 2026

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5–9 October 2026

Bangkok, Thailand

*Where the field comes together.*





**SVRI is the largest global network dedicated to advancing research on violence against women, violence against children, and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality.**

## **Vision**

We envision a world where women and children in all their diversity live free from violence.

## **Strategic Pillars**

Our strategic focus is grounded in four key pillars:

1. Building and disseminating evidence for change
2. Supporting and strengthening capacity for innovation
3. Creating collective impact through global exchange and partnerships
4. Influencing change

## **Mission**

Our mission is to catalyse a high-impact, collaborative, and nurturing field to advance research on violence against women and violence against children.

## **Principles**

We are guided by six interconnected principles: collaborative, feminist, equitable, accountable, ethical, and intersectional.

# About the Forum and Why It Matters



Imagine more than **1,500 people from across the world** - researchers, practitioners, survivors, policymakers, funders, and activists - all committed to ending violence against women and children, at a moment when the political, social, and funding conditions for this work are becoming increasingly difficult. **This is the SVRI Forum.**

SVRI Forum 2026 is the 9th Forum and remains the **world's largest abstract-driven convening dedicated to ending violence against women, violence against children, and other forms of violence driven by gender inequality.** It is the place where the field's most important

conversations happen - where evidence is debated, tensions are surfaced, and collective direction is shaped. A hallmark of the Forum is its ability to **weave together science, advocacy, and art** - creating a safe, inclusive space for difficult but essential conversations.

The programme is co-created with the field through thousands of abstract submissions - **2,186 for Forum 2026** - ensuring the agenda reflects what people are actually doing on the ground, the evidence they are building, and the questions that matter most to those most affected by violence.

**"What made this experience special was the chance to connect with others in the room (...) who truly understand the complexity of working in violence prevention. There was a genuine sense of community, with each person bringing their own lived experiences and professional wisdom to the table."**

*- Sultan Mahmud, icddr,b (Forum 2024 delegate)*

In a difficult year for the field, the response has already been extraordinary. Join us in **Bangkok, 5–9 October 2026.**



## The SVRI Forum Over the Years

7.8x

Growth in attendance

4,805

Delegates

142

Countries

2,017

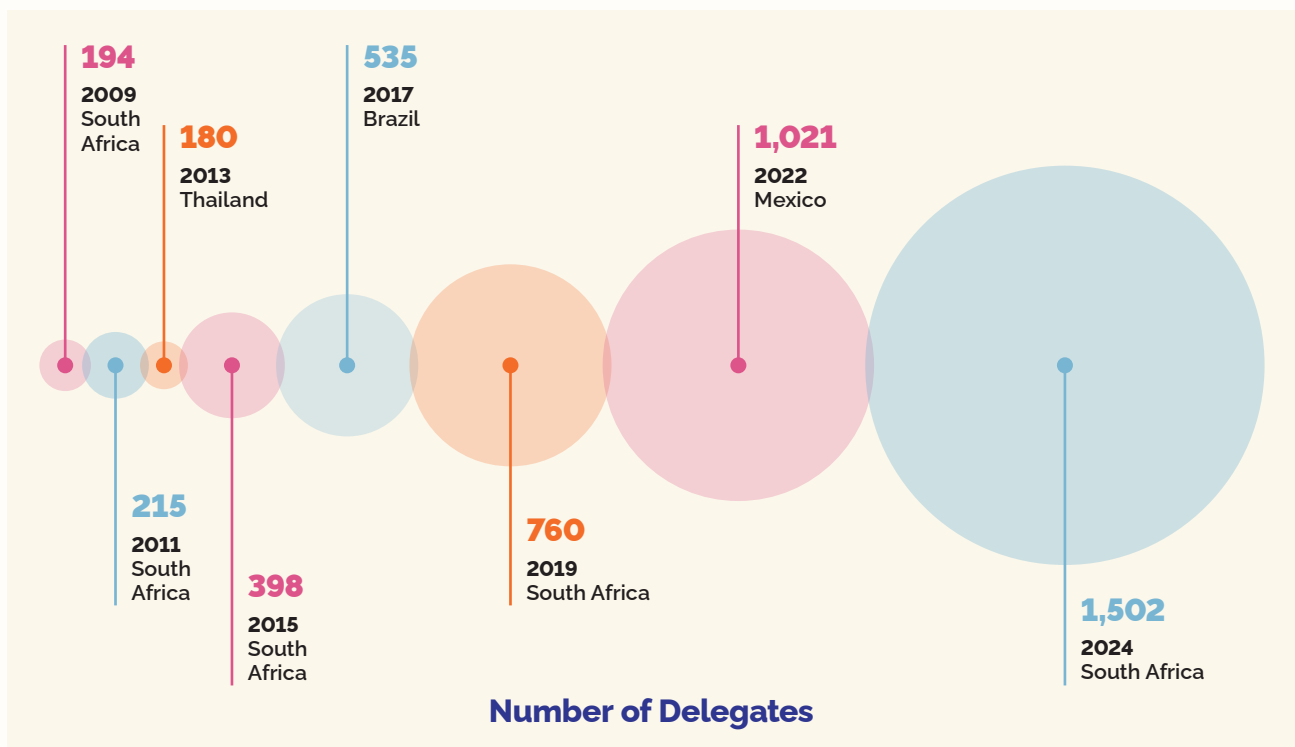
Presentations

218

Bursaries awarded

21

Young Professionals Programme Awardees



## The Field Is Growing - and the Forum Has Grown With It

When the first SVRI Forum was held in 2009, 194 people attended. By 2024, that number had grown to 1,502 - a more than **670% increase**. This is not simply a bigger conference. It reflects a field that is expanding, maturing, and producing more evidence than ever before.

Presentations have grown from 96 in 2009 to 495 in 2024 - a **fivefold increase** that represents not just more voices, but more research being done, more questions being asked, and more answers being generated in service of ending violence.



"Connecting with others in the field makes me remember that what I'm doing is part of something much larger than myself (...) being a part of a movement to create futures where everyone will feel safe from violence."

– Delegate, SVRI Forum 2024



## Truly Global - and Deliberately So

The Forum draws participants from **142 countries**. But reach alone is not what makes it distinctive. What makes the Forum genuinely different is who is in the room.

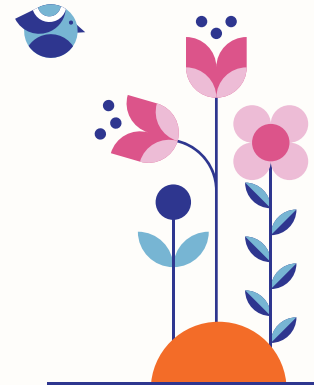
At Forum 2024, 67% of delegates came from low- and middle-income countries, and 79% of the countries represented were LMICs. These are the researchers, practitioners, and advocates who are closest to the work and most affected

by the conditions that enable violence - people who rarely have access to major international conferences, where registration fees, travel costs, and visa barriers routinely exclude those whose voices matter most.

Through bursaries, low registration fees, **equitable language interpretation**, and deliberate programme design, the Forum has made inclusion a structural commitment rather than an aspiration.

"... wellness and the ability to destress and share in a sacred space (...) is absolutely a testament of how much you care about us. There is no price that we could put on that."

– Akosua Dardaine Edwards, NiNa Young Women's Leadership Programme, Forum 2024 delegate



## A Conference That Takes Care Seriously

People who work in the field of violence against women and children carry a significant burden. Researchers, practitioners, and survivors attend the Forum not only to share evidence but to do so from a place of lived experience and personal cost. The Forum takes that seriously.

**Wellness is an integral part of the Forum**, reflecting the SVRI's commitment to creating a supportive, inclusive, and nurturing environment for all participants. Recognising the challenging and emotionally demanding nature of this work, dedicated wellness activities and spaces are woven into the programme - not as incidental additions, but as a signal that this field cannot sustain itself without attending to the people who do the work.

At Forum 2024 in Cape Town, the **Wellbeing & Care Programme** offered trauma-informed yoga, trauma release exercises, breathwork, meditation, guided visualisations, and individual counselling with qualified clinical psychologists. A dedicated Brave Room provided quiet space for reflection and healing. Sacred circle discussions on collective care brought people together around shared questions: what does it mean to look after ourselves and each other in this field?

In 2024, **87% of delegates** who completed the evaluation felt that if they needed support, there were staff available to assist them. The response from participants spoke for itself.

# The Funding Need



Sponsorship engagement helps **safeguard this rare global commons**, enabling the field to think beyond short-term cycles and stay rooted in evidence-driven practice. Specifically, funding supports:

- **Bursaries** for participants from low- and middle-income countries
- **Interpretation** and **accessibility** services
- **Wellbeing** support and survivor-centred programme design
- Keeping **registration fees low** to ensure broad participation



## Join Us in Bangkok

To ensure the Forum remains a **truly global, inclusive space, we count on your support and participation**. We invite you to plan ahead, allocate funding for the Forum, and, where possible, support colleagues and partners to attend.

**By attending and supporting the Forum**, funders are not only witnessing the state of the field; they are actively helping sustain a more equitable, credible, and impactful ecosystem of actors working together towards a world free of violence.

To explore partnership opportunities, please contact us at [forums@svri.org](mailto:forums@svri.org)

