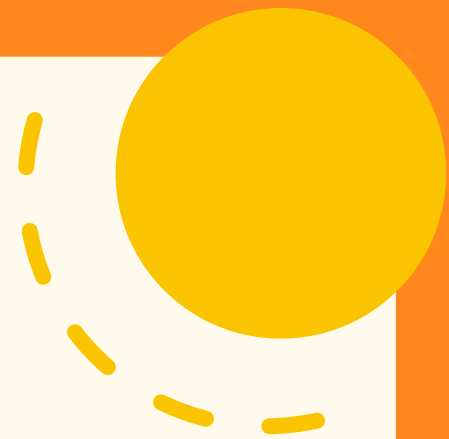


Learning lessons from **t∞se**: A global webinar on the SAFE Programme's IPV model



Netty Musanhu

Team Leader, SAFE Programme

Hind M'hamdi

Evaluation Lead, SAFE Evaluation and Learning Unit

Hosted by **SAFE**



Answering
tomorrow's
challenges
today



Stopping Abuse and Female Exploitation (SAFE) Programme approach

- **4-year GBV prevention programme**, focusing on (IPV) and child marriage.
- **Funded by UK International Development** in partnership with Ecorys, Social Development Direct and Tetra Tech.
- Implemented through **local partners**.
- Works at **individual, relationship and community level**.
- Framed as a **family wellbeing** programme.
- Branded Toose (Together)

SAFE Programme approach (continued)



- Integration of **economic empowerment and gender transformative activities** benefitting **couples**.
- New income stream creates an impetus for families to engage in **joint visioning and planning**.
- Recognises economic and social empowerment have potential to create **demand for GBV services**.
- **Community diffusion** approach that seeks to promote key Toose messages
- Underpinned by an **innovative disability inclusion** approach

Toose Intervention

Toose targets couples and consists of the following components:

Economic empowerment

- **Urban:** cash-based transfers + internal savings and lending (ISALs) + income generating activities (IGAs) + seed funding
- **Rural:** internal savings and lendings + income generating projects + seed funding
- Supported by Toose ISAL (TISAL) and Selection, Planning and Management (SPM) Manuals

Social empowerment

- 9 session curriculum consisting of a series of activities designed to address social norms that drive IPV at household level and supported by Toose Manual

GBV Response

- strengthening community level response support through locally based cadres and providing specialised services e.g., mobile one stop centres, shelters

Community diffusion

- Diffusion of Toose messages, values through trained Toose facilitators

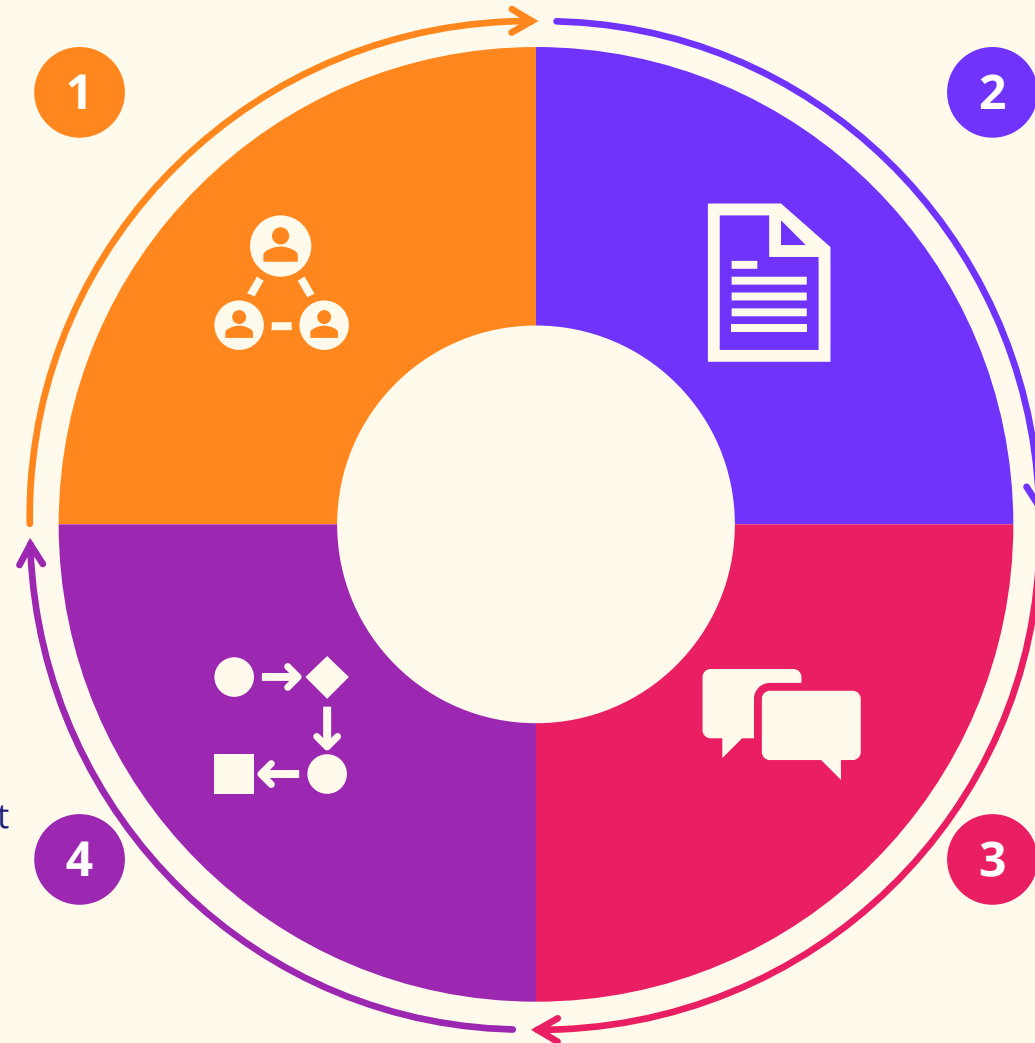
SAFE Learning and Adaptation Approach

DOING

SAFE was implemented in three cohorts over a period of up to eight months each, with space in between cohorts to allow for evidence, reflection and adaptation cycles

ADAPTATION

Adaptations were made to enhance impact and effectiveness in subsequent cohorts. This was accompanied by capacity building of implementing partners to support implementation of adapted approaches.



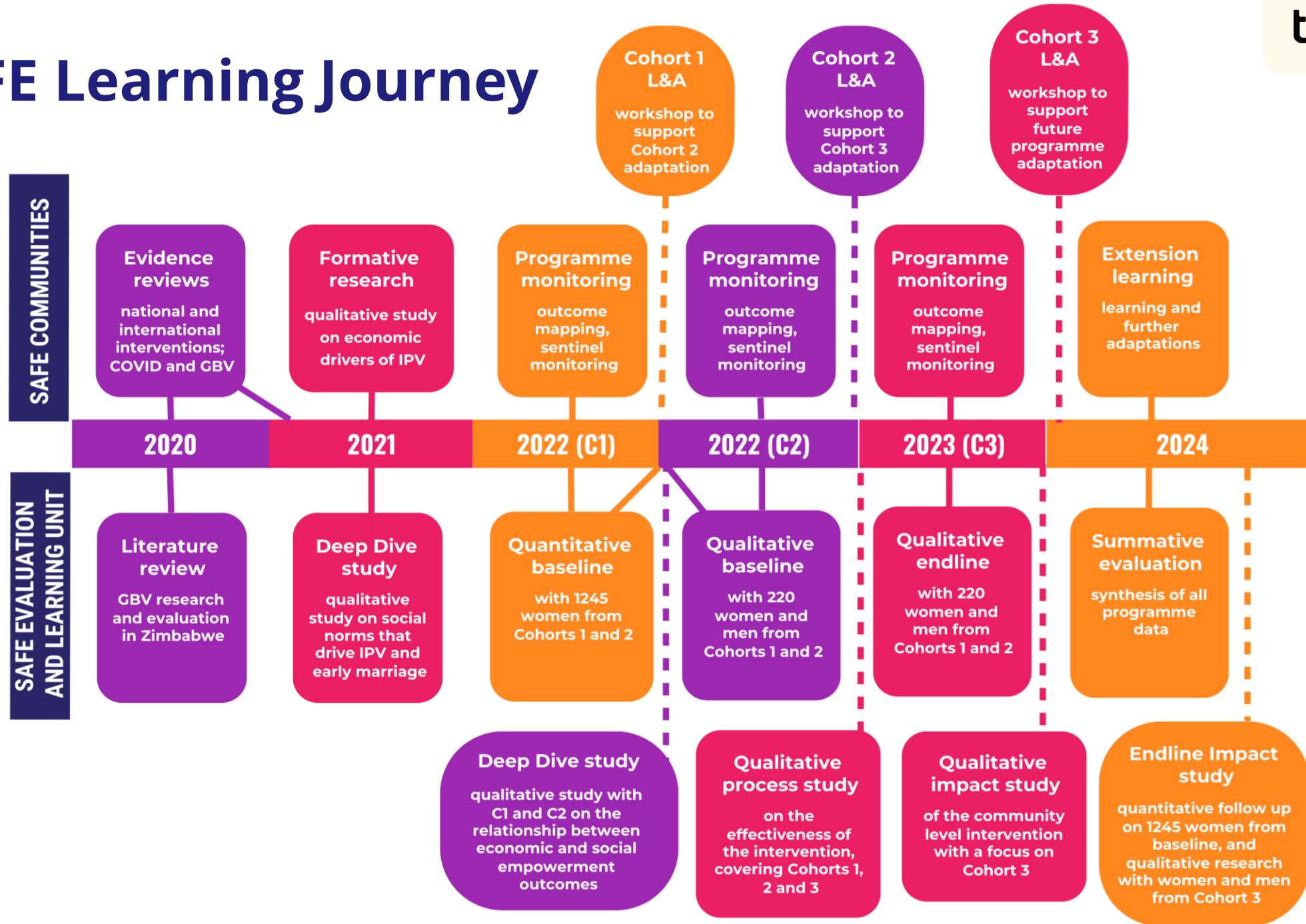
EVIDENCE

Multiple sources of evidence were used to design the intervention and test it over three cohorts, including: global and national evidence reviews, formative research, monitoring, independent evaluative and research studies and implementing partner practice-based knowledge.

REFLECTION

At the end of each cohort, the programme conducted structured learning and adaptation workshops with programme partners to share lessons learnt from evidence, practice, experiences, successes and challenges.

SAFE Learning Journey



What have we learned about impact?

Household economic dynamics

- More stable household income, diversified income generating activities (IGAs), greater food security although persistence of some negative coping strategies
- More modest women's economic empowerment outcomes, although these vary by geographical location

Household social dynamics

- Men more aware of women's work burden and helping more with domestic labour, but not necessarily due to shifts in attitude or norms
- Strong improvement in communication, conflict resolution and quality of relationships – although sometimes due to gendered status quo

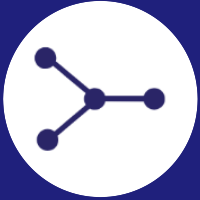
Gender-based violence

- Promising findings in relation to reduction of IPV, including physical, economic and emotional IPV
- Less change visible in relation to sexual IPV (persisting triggers of conflict related to sex and infidelity)
- Reduction in violence against children and strengthened child / parent relationships

Unintended impacts

- Positive: strengthened social cohesion and societal capital
- Negative: Some examples of backlash from men, and attempts to assert control over women
- Negative: Some examples of women avoiding conflict rather than men avoiding perpetrating violence

What have we learned about what works?



Build strong linkages between economic and social empowerment elements:

Mutually reinforcing nature of economic and social empowerment supports achievements of outcomes.



Complement economic programming with appropriate support:

Seed funding and training for savings and loans groups are instrumental in setting them up for success.



Support transformative change through reflections on power:

Understanding the different uses of power was one of the most transformative elements of Toose.



Balance household wellbeing with gender transformation:

A focus on household wellbeing can increase household and community buy in, but make sure to support gender transformative change



Ensure adaptations for alternative households:

Couple-focused interventions may not be wholly appropriate for people in other types of relationships or households, and require adaptation.



Support multi-stakeholder approaches to diffusion:

Different stakeholders sharing messaging in communities can expand reach and impact but ensure messages are coordinated.

What have we learned about what works?



Invest in capacities of implementing partners and facilitators: Facilitating GBV prevention is challenging. Invest in capacities over time and support facilitators through their own journey of change.



Engage community cadres to support impact, reach and sustainability: Prioritise sufficient resources to strengthen capacity and co-develop exit strategies with stakeholders.



Support men to challenge patriarchal norms: Men involved in the programme may struggle to have conversations with other men about gender equality and negative forms of masculinity.



Invest in disability inclusion right from the start: Ensure dedicated resources, targeting and profiling strategies and appropriate adaptations and accommodations.



Ensure adequate GBV response: GBV prevention, particularly at the community level, increases demand for GBV services. Ensure adequate quality and resourcing of GBV response, including mobile services.



Ensure that GBV prevention and response components are aligned: Prevention and response usually serve different objectives but are stronger when closely aligned.

Next steps

- Currently supporting **roll out of Toose with the World Food Programme (WFP)** and also separately through **Musasa** –a Zimbabwean women’s rights organisation
- **Finalising Toose technical package** for WFP and Musasa – as well as for wider dissemination
- **Endline evaluation** by end March 2025
- Seeking opportunities to **scale up Toose** nationally and adapt / test it globally

Contact Us

LinkedIn

 [Social Development Direct](#)

 [Ecorys](#)

 [Tetra Tech](#)

Email

Gemma Ferguson, Technical Director

gemma.ferguson@sddirect.org.uk

Netty Musanhu, Team Lead

Netty.Musanhu@ecorys.com

Hind M'hamdi, Evaluation Lead

hind.mhamdi@tetrattech.com

Julienne Corboz, Evaluation Team Lead

julienne.corboz@tetrattech.com