

# Unpacking violence

A storytelling resource for understanding non-physical forms of abuse  
and the gendered drivers of violence against women

Dr Cuong La, Senior Advisor  
Practice Leadership



**Our  
WATCH**  
End violence against  
Women And Their Children

# Why non-physical abuse?

- Non-physical abuse can be just as serious and harmful as physical or sexual abuse, but is often overlooked or excused.
- Half of Australians find it difficult to recognise non-physical forms of abuse between partners
- Gap in resources for practitioners:
  - Link with the gender drivers
  - Speak to change in structures, norms and practices
  - Use personal stories as a powerful primary prevention tool

# Context

- DSS funded OW to conduct NPV campaign during 2017-19
- Public-facing: *No Excuse for Abuse* campaign to help people recognise the different types of abuse and to understand that they should not be overlooked or excused
- Practice-facing: *Unpacking Violence* resource to support prevention practitioners in their work to increase understanding that all forms of abuse are serious



# What?

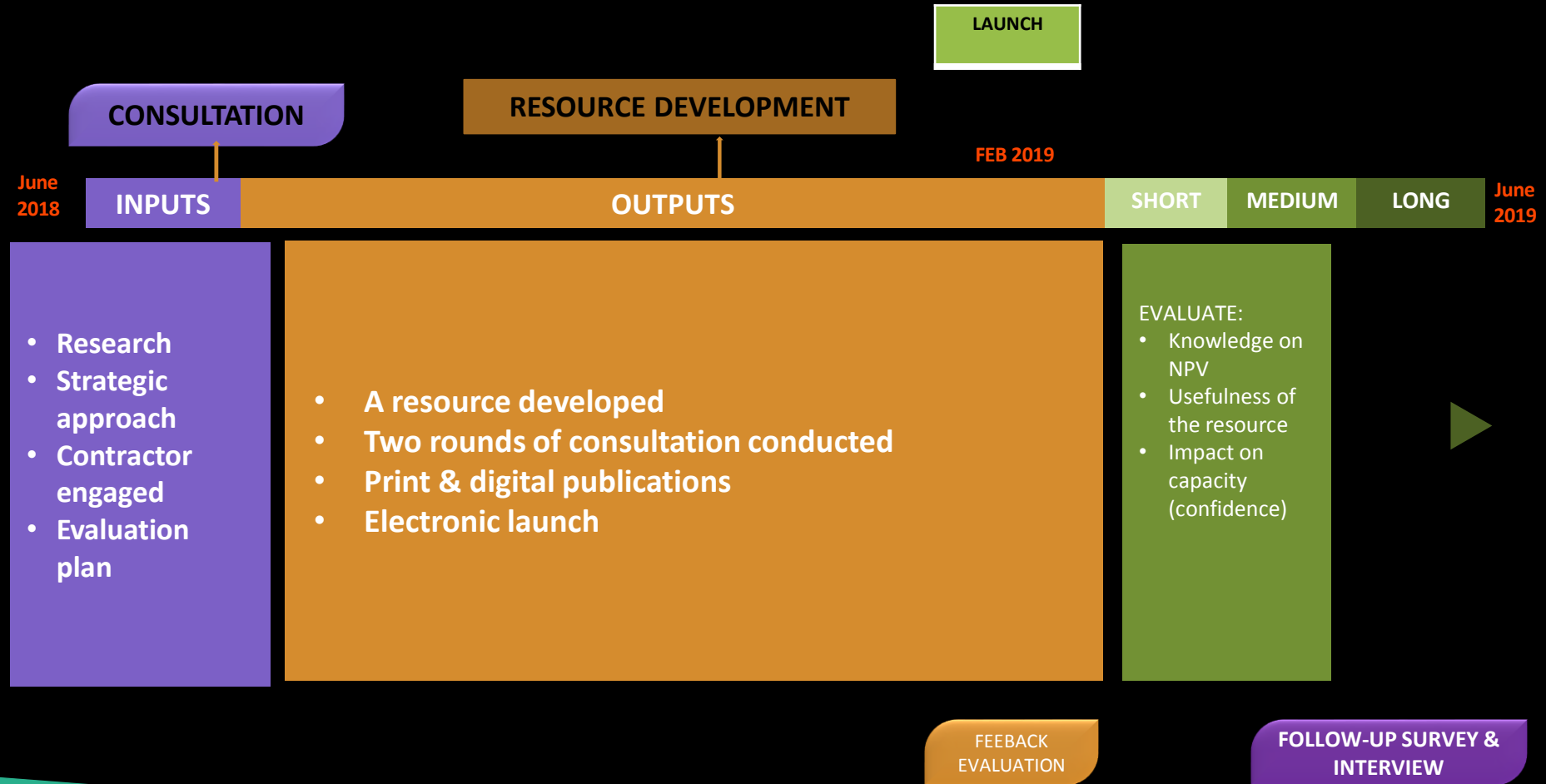
## Objectives:

- Awareness raising on NPV
- Understanding on drivers
- Capacity building in communication on NPV
- Practical resource

## The resource consists of:

- Seven narrative stories that can be used to demonstrate and unpack non-physical forms of abuse and their link to the gendered drivers
- Guidance notes to support practitioners in making use of the stories

# How?



ACTIVITY 1: read the *Safe spaces (5 mins)*

# ACTIVITY 2 (10 mins)

Turn to the person on your left and chat about:

1. What forms of non-physical abuse could be present?
2. What essential actions could address these drivers?
3. What gendered drivers are present and how do they operate across norms, practices and structures to create the conditions in which VAW is more likely to occur?



# ACTIVITY 3 (5 mins): Guidance note

1. Turn to the person on the right & co-read the facilitator guide
2. Identify potential opportunities to use this resource:
  - Who are your potential audiences?
  - What are the platforms?

# Resource & Evaluation invite

- <https://www.ourwatch.org.au/What-We-Do/Unpacking-Violence-A-storytelling-resource-for-pra>
- We would like to hear how you go about with the use of the resource. Please let me know if I can email and invite you to participate in a survey or a follow-up interview.

Contact:

[cuong.la@ourwatch.org.au](mailto:cuong.la@ourwatch.org.au)