



# Pilot Initiatives on Sexual Harassment on Public Transport: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Pakistan

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average age to  
first experience  
public  
aggression is  
12 years old

ISTANBUL WOMEN AND  
GIRLS ARE HARASSED  
REGULARLY/MONTHLY

*desensitization*

**70-99% of  
women  
experience  
street  
harassment**

Social paralysis

**Croatia 99%  
experienced,  
33% of whom had  
been physically  
attacked**

*76% think  
women  
should  
remain  
silent*

Poland 85%

Resort to private transport

'victim blaming'

## Pakistan/Karachi

*19 year old student:*

*"Traveling in rickshaw is quite expensive for us, but we feel [more secure than on buses] in it" (SRDO)*



*"Karachi is the city of working women where hundreds of thousands of ladies work in offices, schools, hospitals and factories; however, for working women of this city commuting in public transport buses is a nightmare, as they face immense harassment from male commuters travelling in female compartments of crowded minibuses". OnePakistanNews, February 2014*

*"84 percent, showed their willingness to stay at the bus stop for more than 45 minutes, if they have any chance to travel in women-only bus or wagon" (SRDO)*

*"From the conductor and the driver to polished men and male students, all of them try to harass women in one way or another....We are used to this. Sometimes we tolerate silently but, when driven to it, we react with a slap," Shaheen Akhtar, 30-year-old woman (The Express Tribune, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014)*

*"In Karachi a majority women who commute using public transportation ... have experienced different forms of harassment, including verbal, physical and sexual harassment" (SRDO)*

# Azerbaijan/Baku

- 79% of female metro users experience harassment
- Almost all did not react, or only frowned – fear of escalation or violence
- 80% of harassed were 18-30 years old
- 26% experienced help from bystanders – most helpers were older women
- 82% experienced harassment on the train itself
- 35% on the platform
- Not time specific, but more physical types are experienced when the metro is crowded
- Feelings: angry, annoyed, disgusted
- 30% have decreased metro use
- Possible links with metro management?





**that just might be crazy**

**enough to work**