



## INDICATOR ANALYSIS

### LAWS AND REGULATIONS THAT GUARANTEE FULL AND EQUAL ACCESS TO WOMEN AND MEN AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER TO SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE, INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

ANALYSIS CONDUCTED BY FRANCOIS DAUDELIN & VAL PERCIVAL  
FOR THE LANCET-SIGHT COMMISSION ON PEACEFUL SOCIETIES THROUGH HEALTH AND GENDER EQUALITY

<p>Overview:</p>	<p>The indicator is a percentage (%) score from 0 to 100, indicating a country’s status and progress in the existence of national laws and regulations relating to four thematic areas. Each thematic area contains individual sub-components with thirteen components in total, which have been included based on consultations with global experts (1). For each component of each section, information is collected on the existence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) specific legal enablers</li> <li>b) specific legal barriers, and</li> <li>c) plural legal systems that contradict co-existing positive laws and regulations</li> </ul> <p>The 13 components are placed on the same scale, with 0% being the lowest value and 100% being the most optimal value. Each component is calculated independently and weighted equally. The formula for the calculation of a component's value <math>C_i</math> is the following:</p> $C_i = \left( \frac{e_i}{E_i} - \frac{b_i}{B_i} \right) \times 100$ <p>where:</p> <p><math>e_i</math> = Number of enablers that exist in component <math>i</math>  <math>E_i</math> = Total number of enablers in component  <math>b_i</math> = Number of barriers that exist in component <math>i</math>  <math>B_i</math> = Total number of barriers in component <math>i</math></p> <p>Value for this indicator is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the 13 component scores</p> <p>The percentage score a country receives reflects its progress in the promotion of national laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men to sexual and reproductive health care, information, and education (1). This indicator is part of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a specific indicator for Target 5.6, which seeks to “ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences (1). Both this indicator and Target 5.6 fall under the broader scope of SDG 5 “Gender Equality”, whose primary objective is to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” (1).</p>
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<b>GLOBAL TRENDS</b>	
<p>What are the global patterns for this indicator? Trends, geographic patterns etc.</p>	<p>Data is too limited to discuss global patterns and trends for this indicator.</p>

<b>RELEVANCE TO UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG GENDER, HEALTH, FRAGILITY/PEACE</b>	
<p>How could this indicator contribute to our understanding of how gender, health and fragility and peace influence one another?</p>	<p>The existence of laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education promotes greater levels of mental and physical health among women and men aged 15 years and older (2). For example, when both men and women have access to reproductive healthcare, information, and education, maternal mortality decreases by two-thirds, infant mortality decreases by three-fourths, the burden related to pregnancy and delivery experienced by women and newborns decreases by three-fourths, and mother-to-infant HIV transmission is nearly eliminated (2). There are also many positive social and economic benefits yielded when men and women have access to sexual reproductive health, information and education. These benefits are felt from the micro to the macro level, by women, their families, and their communities (2). Furthermore, removing discriminatory laws and putting in place legal frameworks that advance men and women’s equality are prerequisites to ending discrimination against women and achieving gender equality. This, in turn, is a crucial step toward achieving peaceful societies.</p>

<b>UTILITY</b>	
<p>What does the indicator measure?</p>	<p>This indicator measures the existence of laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information, and education.</p>
<p>What does it NOT measure - what does it miss?</p>	<p>This indicator does not measure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Whether the laws that exist are consistently implemented</li> <li>b) Whether the existence of these laws has had a positive impact</li> </ul>

<b>AVAILABILITY</b>
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Indicator: Laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive healthcare, information and education

Sources for indicator (CRVS, DHS etc.);	<p>According to the United Nations, data for this indicator is collected through an electronically administered, self-reported national survey, which is designed to measure the legal and regulatory environment across a wide range of parameters of sexual and reproductive health care, information, and education (1). The United Nations maintains that this survey tool has been designed to pre-code responses where applicable, and to allow space for open-ended responses to add descriptions and explanations. It has been designed with skip patterns to avoid redundancy. The data for this indicator will be provided through the survey by relevant government ministries, departments and agencies who must report on the status of their country (1).</p> <p>Indicator data are available from the following sources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WHO's Maternal, Newborn, child and adolescent health and ageing data portal (country level and regional 2019): <a href="https://www.who.int/data/maternal-newborn-child-adolescent-ageing/indicator-explorer-new/mca/extent-to-which-countries-have-laws-and-regulations-that-guarantee-women-aged-15-49-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-care-information-and-education-(sdg-5.6.2)">https://www.who.int/data/maternal-newborn-child-adolescent-ageing/indicator-explorer-new/mca/extent-to-which-countries-have-laws-and-regulations-that-guarantee-women-aged-15-49-access-to-sexual-and-reproductive-health-care-information-and-education-(sdg-5.6.2)</a></li> <li>2. SDG indicator database (country and regional 2019): <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage</a></li> </ol>
Most recent data available;	Data is available for the year of 2019. Data collection will be scheduled every 2-3 years [1].
Availability across geographic areas;	Data is mostly available for African countries with some data available in central and southern Asia, eastern Europe and South America.
Availability in conflict affected settings;	Data is available in most conflict affected settings: Yemen (2019); South Sudan (2019); Libya (2019); Somalia (No Data), DRC (2019), Afghanistan (2019) and Syria (2019).

<b>GRANULARITY</b>	
<i>Disaggregation at national level</i>	
Data disaggregated by sex;	No.
Data disaggregated by identity group (race, ethnicity);	No.

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Data disaggregated by income	No.
<i>Disaggregation at sub-national level</i>	
Data disaggregated by geographic region;	No.
Data disaggregated by identity group (race, ethnicity);	No.
Data disaggregated by income.	No.

<b>SOURCES OF BIAS</b>	
What bias can exist with these data?	<p><i>Social desirability bias</i>: sometimes, respondents seek to gain the approval of the person/institution conducting the survey. For this reason, governments and ministries surveyed may provide an answer that does not accurately reflect the status of their country's laws and regulations;</p> <p><i>Social Desirability bias (continued)</i>: this indicator concerns subject matter that may be sensitive or stigmatized in a particular region. Thus, responding government and ministries may not answer truthfully, and some may choose not to respond at all.</p>

<b>VALIDITY</b>	
Clear and accepted international standards for indicator;	According to the United Nations, the United Nations Population Fund will coordinate the completion of these surveys by coordinating with the relevant government ministries, departments, and agencies [1]. Following completion of the survey, agencies such as WHO, UNFPA and UN Women, civil society groups, national statistics offices, and government partners will review survey responses and assess their validity [1].
Validity of measurement of indicator generally accepted;	Issues with bias in survey response may undermine the validity of the measurement in a particular setting. However, review of survey responses will take this issue into consideration and data should be adjusted accordingly.

<b>RELIABILITY</b>
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Reliability of indicator generally accepted;	Indicator values are only computed if data is available for all sub-components which suggests a high level of reliability (1).
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<b>COMPLEXITY</b>	
Enables analysis across time and location.	Data is only currently available for the year of 2019 which prevents any temporal analysis. This indicator does enable for analysis across time as there is no time related limitation explicitly identified within its definition.

<b>OTHER REFLECTIONS</b>	
Are indicator values imputed/modelled?	No.

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## References

1. United Nations Statistics Division. Indicator 5.6.2: Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education [Internet]. United Nations Statistics Division; 2021. Available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-05-06-02.pdf>
2. Barot S. Sexual and reproductive health and rights are key to global development: the case for ramping up investment. The Guttmacher Institute. 2015;