



# INDICATOR ANALYSIS

## SYSTEMS TO TRACK AND MAKE PUBLIC ALLOCATIONS FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

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

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Overview: | <p>UN Women, in collaboration with the OECD and the UNDP, have developed a system to measure a country’s status and progress regarding the existence of systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment (1). To measure the indicator, a questionnaire is sent to the country’s Ministry of Finance or agency in charge of the government budgets. Every country is evaluated based on three criteria that each have an associated set of questions. Each question within each criterion on the questionnaire is given equal weight (1). A country must satisfy a threshold number of “yes” responses to questions for a criterion to be met. Countries are subsequently classified as ‘fully meets requirements’, ‘approaches requirements’, and ‘does not meet requirements’ based on the number of criteria met per a pre-established set of matrices (1).</p> <p><i>Computation of the indicator:</i></p> <p><i>Indicator = (Number of countries that fully meet requirements) x 100 / Total number of countries</i></p> <p><i>(Unit: %)</i></p> <p>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> |
|-----------|--|

| <b>GLOBAL TRENDS</b>                             |   |
|--|---|
| What are the global patterns for this indicator? | This indicator has been classified as a Tier 2 SDG indicator due to its low availability (2). This lack of data makes it harder to accurately identify, analyze, and monitor global trends. |

| <b>RELEVANCE TO UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG GENDER, HEALTH, FRAGILITY/PEACE</b>        |   |
|--|---|
| How could this indicator contribute to our understanding of how gender, health and fragility | Adequate and effective financing is crucial in realizing SDG 5 and the gender-related targets across the SDG framework. By tracking and making public gender equality allocations, governments promote greater financial transparency (3). This could consequently result in better government accountability overall. Furthermore, this indicator encourages governments to put in place a system to |

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| and peace influence one another? | track and make public resource allocations which can then inform policy review, better policy formulation, and make more effective public financial management (3). More financial support could thus be allocated to programs that facilitate gender equality and female empowerment. This, in turn, could lower the levels of fragility and instability that women often face, and would serve as a crucial cornerstone in the development of peaceful societies. |
|----------------------------------|---|

| <b>UTILITY</b>                                |   |
|---|---|
| What does the indicator measure?              | This indicator measures the existence of systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment.  |
| What does it NOT measure - what does it miss? | This indicator does not measure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The extent to which these systems are effective</li> <li>b) What public allocations for gender equality are within a given country</li> <li>c) Whether these allocations make a positive difference toward women’s empowerment and gender equality.</li> </ul> |

| <b>AVAILABILITY</b>                     |  |
|---|--|
| Sources for indicator (CRVS, DHS etc.); | <p>According to the United Nations, an electronic questionnaire with “accompanying monitoring guidance” will be used to collect data on this indicator. The questionnaire will be conducted by UN Women in conjunction with the OECD and the UNDP (1).</p> <p>Indicator data are available from the following source:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SDG indicator database (country level and regional level 2018): <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 currently only available for the year of 2018 on the SDG database.   |
| Availability across geographic areas;   | Data is mostly available for African countries. However, in low-income or fragile states, the questionnaire may be more difficult to conduct.  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Availability in conflict affected settings; | Data availability in conflict affected settings varies by country: Yemen (2018); South Sudan (No Data); Libya (No Data); Somalia (No Data); DRC (2018); Afghanistan (2018); Syria (No Data). |
|---|--|

| <b>GRANULARITY</b>                                      |     |
|---|-----|
| <i>Disaggregation at national level</i>                 |     |
| Data disaggregated by sex;                              | No. |
| Data disaggregated by identity group (race, ethnicity); | No. |
| 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 this 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 surveyed may provide an answer that does not accurately reflect their country's status;</p> <p><i>Social Desirability bias (continued):</i> this indicator concerns subject matter that may be highly sensitive or stigmatized. Thus, respondents may not answer truthfully, and some governments may not agree to be respondents at all.</p> |

| <b>VALIDITY</b> |
|-----------------|
|-----------------|

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Clear and accepted international standards for indicator; | Clear standards for questionnaires do exist, as designed by UN Women in collaboration with the OECD and the UNDP (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.            |

### RELIABILITY

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Reliability of indicator generally accepted; | This questionnaire has only been executed once, in 2018 (1). Thus, reliability of the data is to date uncertain, since the questionnaire and data collected from it has not been repeated and results cannot therefore be analyzed for reliability (1). However, data collection for the questionnaire is led by national coordinators appointed by their respective government to coordinate data collection and validation across relevant government ministries, departments and agencies. Thus, data collection is expected to be reliable. |
|--|---|

### COMPLEXITY

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Enables analysis across time and location. | Depending on the frequency of the data gathered, it can provide an opportunity for comparisons across time and location. |
|--|--|

### OTHER REFLECTIONS

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Is the Indicator modelled? Other reflections on debate, accuracy, etc. | No. |
|--|-----|

## References

1. United Nations Statistics Division. Indicator 5.c.1: Percentage of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment [Internet]. United Nations Statistics Division; 2018. Available from: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-05-0c-01.pdf>
2. United Nations Statistics Division. Tier Classification for Global SDG Indicators [Internet]. United Nations Statistics Division; 2020. Available from: [https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/Tier%20Classification%20of%20SDG%20Indicators\\_17%20July%202020\\_web.v2.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/Tier%20Classification%20of%20SDG%20Indicators_17%20July%202020_web.v2.pdf)
3. UN WOMEN. Transparency and Accountability [Internet]. Available from: <https://gender-financing.unwomen.org/en/areas-of-work/transparency-and-accountability>