



SDGs Localization workshop

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How to ensure gender integration in the SDGs national reporting

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Gender equality and the SDGs

- The common understanding is that the **Goal 5** of the Sustainable Development Goals is about achieving Gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.
- The 2030 Agenda is a **people-centered** set of universal and transformative goals and targets. This clearly states that **sustainable development cannot be achieved without achieving gender equality**.

“They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.”

- The 2030 agenda is guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law. The 2030 Agenda is **linked to some of the international conventions, commitments and principles relevant to women’s rights**, such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action and other human rights treaties.



Gender Equality and SDG Reporting: Voluntary National Reviews

- Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs): the main follow-up and review mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels
- The Voluntary National Reviews present a means to reflect the national vision for the sustainable development agenda and the SDGs, and also a means **to monitor progress in achieving gender equality and to shed light on the challenges hindering progress.**
- The VNR and pursuant planning processes, would help in **prioritizing gender-responsive investments, policies and programmes** to align actions with the principles, values and aspirations of the 2030 Agenda.
- The process also **strengthens accountability** through gender responsive processes and institutions to ensure an integrated approach to implementation, follow up and review with gender equality at its core.



Gender integration in SDGs reporting

- Integrating a gender equality perspective in the review requires attention on two levels: during the
 - 1) *preparation phase and in*
 - 2) *the analytical content of the themes of the review.*
- A closer look at *data and its challenges.*
- [Source: Handbook on Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Voluntary National Reviews, 2019](#)



Gender in the Preparation phase

- Coordination structure:

A government entity is tasked with coordinating the different stages of preparing the report: Ministry of Planning or an inter-ministerial group. The ***integration of women's rights and empowerment requires that the relevant national women's machinery be part*** of the overall institutional framework and national mechanisms.

It would be ***the responsibility of that entity to oversee inputs relevant to gender equality and empowerment of women***, and to work on the integration of the gender equality perspective in the preparation of the report and its content.



- **Scope:**

The scope of the review should consider if ***gender included in the SDGs that will be covered and how?*** identifying questions such as:

- are gender equality and women's empowerment issues identified in the report?
- How is the review highlighting the implementation of SDG5? How are other goals covering gender?

- **Stakeholder engagement plan:**

The plan should identify the main stakeholders that will be involved and their roles:

it must consider all government sectors at all levels, civil society, private sector, parliamentarians and national human rights institutions.

National women mechanisms, civil society organizations including grassroots women organizations, and relevant and active international bodies working on gender equality and women's empowerment must be included even if SDG5 is not under review.



- **Data collection:**

Gender-disaggregated data are necessary to monitor progress in gender equality and the empowerment of women across all goals and targets . ***The process should encourage Statistics offices to make gender-disaggregated data available.***

- **Use of different reports:**

To help in content, data and analysis, it is useful to refer to other reports. For gender the ***recommendations of CEDAW Committee, the reviews of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*** are examples.



Gender in the reporting stage- Analytical content of the VNR and how to integrate gender:

Integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental)

- Focusing on linking ***gender equality to policy design*** in the three dimensions of sustainable development;
- Showing how challenges linked to ***discrimination against women*** hinder achievement of the three dimensions and their integration;
- Analyzing ***multidimensional inequality and the interconnected*** causes of marginalization that result from gender-based discrimination and other factors.



Leaving no one behind

- Including an analysis of the situation of ***specific groups of women and girls***, for example in certain geographic areas in a country or a particularly vulnerable group of women;
- Identifying the mechanisms that will improve the process of data collection and disaggregation, and the policies and programmes that are implemented to ***address the needs of these groups***;



Institutional mechanisms

- Highlighting how the country is reviewing progress in implementing the SDGs, and how it is ***involving governmental and non-governmental stakeholders working on the integration of gender equality and women's rights.***

Structural Issues

- Highlighting ***structural challenges that hinder gender equality*** and identifying necessary procedures and policies to limit them.



Goals and Targets:

- Including in the review the achieved ***progress in the implementation of SDG 5*** in all VNRs carried out by the country even when the review focuses on specific goals;
- Considering the ***impacts on women*** resulting from the implementation of any goal;
- Highlighting the ***main achievements at the level of policies, legislations and methods of addressing challenges*** in promoting gender equality and empowerment of women;
- Developing ***national indicators for measuring gender*** as well as SDG 5 indicators; and other indicators by gender, if available;
- Including in the analysis ***concepts of empowerment of women and gender equality***.



Implementation:

- Making available financial, human and technical statistical resources;
- Providing ***statistical capacities for disaggregated data*** collection and for building indicators that reflect the situations of women and gender equality;
- Making available the provided ***financial resources to implement the goals and policies in a genders specific way.***



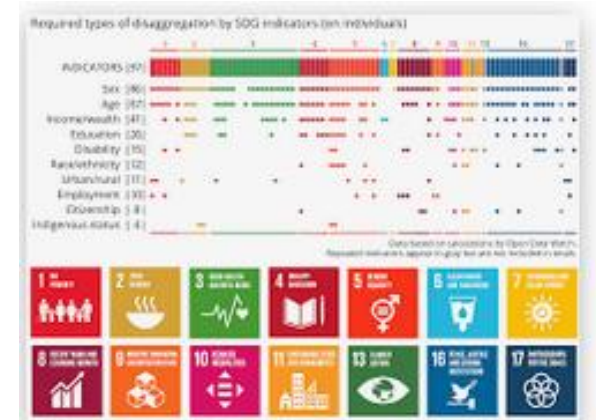
Conclusions and next steps:

- Identifying the commitment of States to international conventions on women's rights and gender equality;
- Writing plans to achieve these commitments in the future.



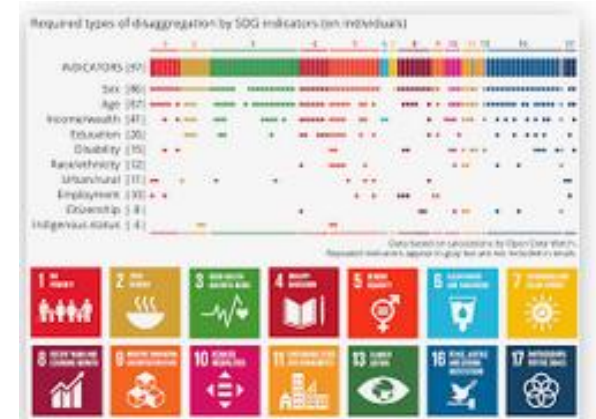
The challenge in gender-disaggregated data

- There are 232 indicators in the SDG framework, 80 indicators are relevant to gender, 14 indicators are under SDG 5.
- The ***gender perspective needs to be mainstreamed*** in national statistical strategies and given priority in regular data collection processes.
- There are challenges: the nature of the SDG indicators and the availability of methodological standards and theoretical clarity, regularity of data collection and the ability of national institutions to produce data especially from a gender perspective.



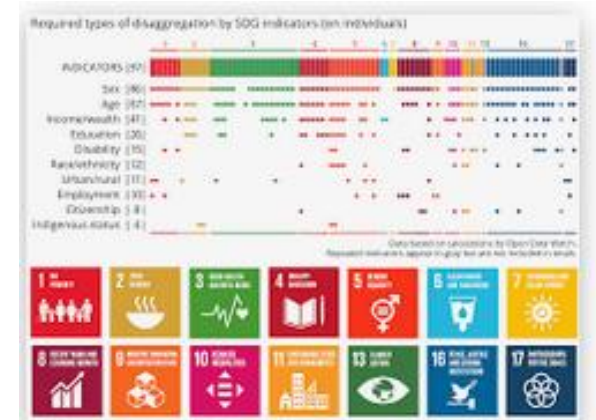
The data challenge: what is needed

- Strengthen **commitment at the highest political level** to an open, inclusive, transparent and gender-sensitive SDG monitoring process.
- Work towards the **regular collection of data for gender-specific indicators**, ensuring quality and comparability.
- Develop global, regional and national strategies for identifying groups that are being left behind. **Data should be disaggregated by sex and other characteristics** including age, class, ability, ethnicity, migration status and others relevant in national contexts.
- As the **ultimate guarantor of public data, the state** has an important role in ensuring that data production adheres to these standards and principles.



The data challenge: suggested solutions

- Start using the little ***existing statistical data available to measure the global indicators*** whose computation methodology has been identified.
- Greater ***technical and financial resources for national statistical systems*** will be critical for achieving this.
- ***Generating qualitative indicators*** for the targets and conducting a qualitative analysis of the data related to gender, not only qualitative. Both are necessary as qualitative analysis of quantitative data plays an important role in deepening our understanding of these data, giving them a deeper meaning.



Sources

- [Source: Handbook on Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Voluntary National Reviews, 2019](#)
- [Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2018](#)

Gender SDG indicators sources:

- <https://data.unwomen.org/sdg-monitoring>
- [ESCWA Data Portal](#)
- [Gender justice and the law: tracking SDG 5.1.1.](#)
- <https://www.data4sdgs.org/>
- <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs>
- <https://sdg-tracker.org/>

Thank you