



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Series of SDG Webinars for the Arab Region:

UN-Women & UNFPA

SDG 5.1.1, SDG 5.5.1(b), SDG 5.6.2, SDG 5.c.1

An Interagency and Experts Collaboration to Improve the Production and Dissemination of SDG Indicators from Official National Sources

26-27 October

Report of the meeting

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BACKGROUND

The need to improve the production and dissemination of reliable comparable and timely data on SDG

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus Resolution 70/1: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda). The Resolution reaffirms the need for the strengthening of national data systems through “collaboration between national statistical systems and the relevant international and regional organizations to enhance data reporting channels and ensure the harmonization and consistency of data and statistics for the indicators used to follow up and review the Sustainable Development Goals and targets”.

The resolution also urges countries, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions, and the Bretton Woods institutions among others “to intensify their support for strengthening data collection and statistical capacity-building, including capacity-building that strengthens coordination among national statistical offices”. Moreover, the resolution “Urges international organizations to base the global review on data produced by national statistical systems and, if specific country data are not available for reliable estimation, to consult with concerned countries to produce and validate modelled estimates before publication, urges that communication and coordination among international organizations be enhanced in order to avoid duplicate reports, ensure consistency of data and reduce response burdens on countries, and urges international organizations to provide the methodologies used to harmonize country data for international comparability and produce estimates through transparent mechanisms;”

Five years after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda several countries are facing considerable challenges in monitoring targets in many policy areas. The current COVID-19 pandemic highlights the value of measuring and monitoring: no strategy can be developed, and no measure can be implemented without a proper monitoring and evaluation system.

Many countries in the Arab region are reporting on SDG indicators, however, reporting on progress on many of the SDG indicators, remains limited in the region. Insufficient availability and quality of statistical information on SDG indicators hamper the capacity of policymakers to generate evidence-based and effective policy responses and implement the 2030 Agenda.

Translating these recommendations and resolutions into tangible results is imperative and will require intensive collaboration at the national, regional and global levels. Regional Commissions’ Statistical bodies “are the nexus between the Statistical Commission at the global level and the implementation at the national level of the norms endorsed by the Commission. In the context of the 2030 Agenda, the support provided by the regional commissions to assist Member States in adapting, implementing and measuring progress towards the implementation of national development plans is of particular significance as it influences the quality of statistics and methodologies used, as well as the use of new and innovative methodologies and sources of data, known as the transformative agenda for official statistics. The regional commissions carry out activities to strengthen the capacity of Member States to produce, use and

dissemination official statistics and also provide a regional platform for sharing experiences and practices in statistics work¹.”

Interagency and Experts Collaboration- ESCWA, UN-Women & UNFPA

In this context, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) implemented an assessment on availability of country data in the UNSD SDG Global database to identify those less reported by countries and/or less understood by national statistical offices (NSOs), and more estimated by UN Agencies or not reported on. Based on the assessment results, ESCWA in collaboration with relevant custodian agencies will organize virtual capacity development workshops on selected indicators for Arab countries to improve the production and dissemination of SDG indicators from official national source.

ESCWA, UN-Women and UNFPA discussed the organization of a joint webinar to build capacities of Arab countries to produce and use data for four SDG indicators.

OBJECTIVE- Why?

ESCWA, in collaboration with UN-Women and UNFPA, organized a series of webinars on selected SDG indicators to support a common understanding among data producers on how to collect, measure and disseminate SDG indicators to increase data production and enhance national data flow to policy makers, other users and custodian agencies.

The main objectives of the regional training are:

- Enhancing understanding of metadata and nature of data in the UNSD SDG database.
- Improving statistical capacities to stimulate production and use of comparable SDG indicators.
- Strengthening inter-institutional coordination to invigorate production of SDG indicators and data flow.
- Sharing and discussing country challenges in measuring SDG indicators

TARGET AUDIENCE - WHO?

The meeting was attended by 78 representatives from 16 country namely: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

SCHEDULE AND LANGUAGE– PLATFORM?

The regional training was held from 26 to 27 October from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Beirut time respectively via Zoom. Facilitation of the workshop was conducted in Arabic/English with simultaneous interpretation in English and Arabic languages.

¹ Source: Relevance and effectiveness of the statistical work of regional commissions - thematic evaluation of regional commissions, Committee for Programme and Coordination, 57th session, April 2017 (E/AC.51/2017/8)

OUTCOME- FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The participants from NSOs and other relevant stakeholders were familiarized with concepts, methods including data flow and dissemination channels. The webinar encouraged interactive dialogue and participants were invited to share national experiences in data collection and dissemination including challenges and concerns. Presentations to the meetings were made available in the Arabic and English languages. A record of the discussions is provided in Annex on Q&A of this report. The full webinar proceedings were recorded to develop training material.

5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex

A strong legal framework that promotes gender equality is a prerequisite to ending discrimination against women. It is a basic requirement under the Beijing Platform for Action and the CEDAW convention. Adopting and implementing legal frameworks that advance gender equality and women's human rights play a central role in changing social norms and practices and ensuring women choices and opportunities. States continue to carry out legal reforms and there has been quite a lot of progress, however discriminatory laws and gaps in legal protection remain worldwide. This indicator is a key tool to accelerate progress on the implementation of SDG 5 and all the other gender related commitments in the 2030 agenda.

The indicator is based on an assessment of legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality. The assessment is carried out by national counterparts, including NSOs and National Women's Machinery, and legal practitioners/researchers on gender equality, using a questionnaire composed of 42 yes/no questions under four areas of law:

- overarching legal frameworks and public life
- violence against women
- employment and economic benefits
- marriage and family

The answers to the questions are coded with 1 for yes and 0 for No. For questions 1 and 2 only, answers may be scored N/A in which case are not included as part of the overall score calculation for the area. Examples of some of the questions include:

Overarching Legal Frameworks & Public Life	Violence against Women	Employment & Economic Benefits	Marriage & Family
<p>Promote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is customary law invalid if it violates Constitutional provisions on equality? • Are there quotas for women in national parliament? <p>Enforce/Monitor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the law establish a specialized independent body tasked with receiving complaints of gender discrimination? 	<p>Promote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there legislation that specifically addresses sexual harassment? <p>Enforce/Monitor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there budgetary commitments by government entities for the implementation of legislation addressing violence against women? 	<p>Promote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the law mandate non-discrimination on the basis of gender in employment? • Does the law mandate equal remuneration for work of equal value? <p>Enforce/Monitor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is childcare publicly provided or subsidized? 	<p>Promote</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do women and men have equal rights to enter marriage and initiate divorce? <p>Enforce/Monitor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is marriage under the legal age void or voidable?

The questionnaire containing preliminary findings based on information compiled by the World Bank’s Women, Business and the Law and OECD SIGI is sent to country counterparts to review and validate. Final answers are arrived at after the process of validation with country counterparts. Results are reported every two years. Data is available in the UNSD SDG Global Database.

While Lebanon domestic violence legislation, Morocco’s Labor Code and Iraq’s Labour Law are considered as some of the good practices that showcase the legal reforms undertaken in those countries, data for the mentioned countries as well as State of Palestine and UAE are being labelled Global in UNSD SDG Database as Global. More countries good practices are available on [UN Women data hub](#)

Indicators	Nature of data as indicated in the Global SDG database as of 20/08/2021	
	Country data (C)	Global monitoring data (G)
5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	0	6 (G)*: Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, State of Palestine, UAE

* Data are derived from an assessment of country's legal frameworks completed by National Statistical Offices and/or National Women’s Machinery, and legal practitioners/researchers on gender equality, using a questionnaire

Recommendations for Countries:

- Countries are encouraged to participate in the data collection cycle of the questionnaire
- Countries to ensure collaboration between NSOs and Women’s Machinery to collect data

5.5.1 b Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government

SDG 5.5.1b measures the proportion of elective seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government. The indicator is based on three concepts: local government, deliberative bodies, and elected positions. As per 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA), there is a distinction between three spheres of government: central government, state/intermediate government, and local government. **Local government** is defined as institutional units whose fiscal, legislative and executive authority extends over the smallest geographical areas distinguished for administrative and political purposes. In a given country, the identification of local government is based on national legal framework, including national constitutions and local government acts or equivalent legislation. Most countries have a local government sphere while a quarter of countries have an intermediate sphere of government. In the Arab Region for example, while Libya and Oman have one level tier of local government at the level of municipalities, Comoros' government below the central level is divided into intermediate government and local government.

The second concept refers to deliberative bodies. Each local government unit typically includes a deliberative body and an executive body. **Deliberative bodies**, such as councils or assemblies, are formal entities with a prescribed number of members as per national or state legislation. They are usually elected by universal suffrage and have decision-making power, including the ability to issue by-laws, on a range of local aspects of public affairs. On the other hand, executive bodies, consisting of an executive committee or a mayor, may be elected, appointed or nominated and they prepare and execute decisions made by the legislative/ deliberative body. In some countries, members of executive bodies are also part of the deliberative bodies.

Elected positions are selected in local elections, based on a system of choosing political office holders in which the voters cast ballots for the person, persons or political party that they desire to see elected. It includes elected persons who competed on openly contested seats and persons selected during/through the electoral processes on reserved seats or through a candidate quota. Appointed positions are not included.

For ease of data collection, UN-Women has created an online profile for each country identifying their local government based on reviews of national legal frameworks. The data collection forms used in the global and regional data compilations are also customized to reflect the specific organization of local government in a given country.

This indicator is computed as the sum of elected positions held by women in deliberative bodies of local government divided by the sum of elected positions held by women and men in deliberative bodies of local government, multiplied by 100. For example, in the case of Oman which has one level tier of local government, $SDG\ indicator\ 5.5.1b = 7 * 100 / 202 = 3.47\%$

Local government tier	Women	Men	Total
Municipal councils	7	195	202

As for Djibouti, it has two tiers of local government, therefore, SDG indicator 5.5.1b = $(14 + 42) * 100 / (65 + 129) = 28.87\%$

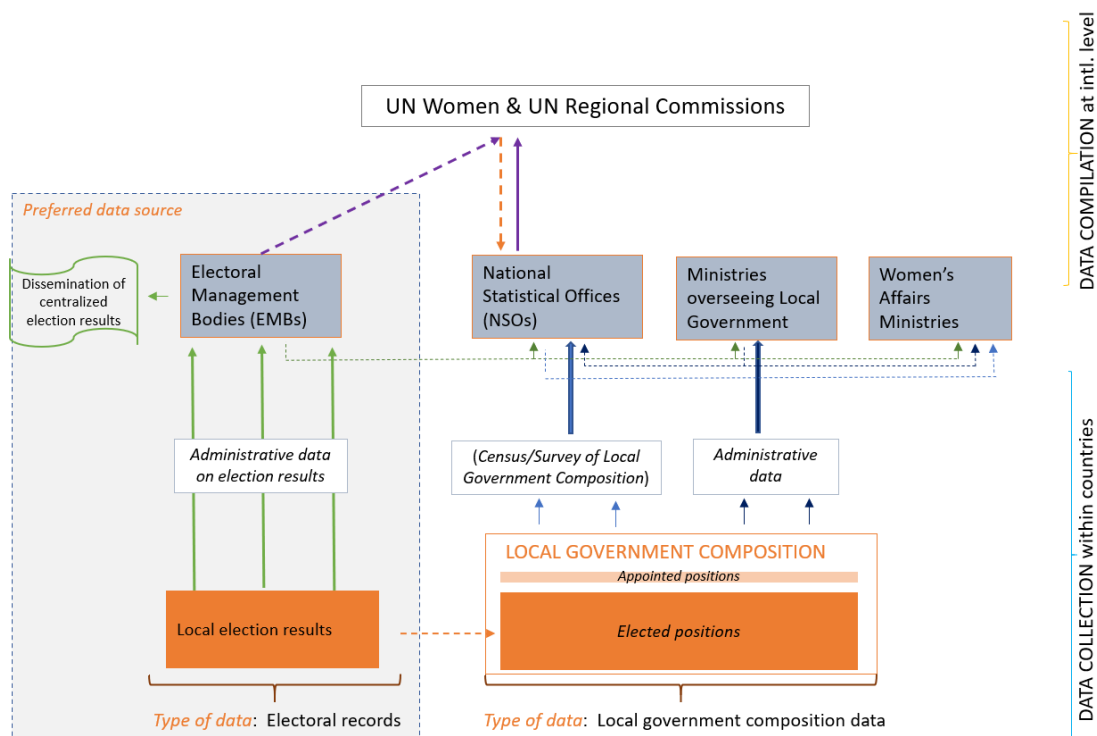
Local government tier	Women	Men	Total
Regional councils	14	51	65
Commune and city councils	42	87	129

In the case of a country with full local elections in 2020 and partial elections in 2021, the computation of SDG 5.5.1b for 2022 includes the results of partial elections in 2021 and well as the results of full elections in 2020 (minus the results in municipalities with partial elections).

Type of positions	Women	Men	Total
Partial elections in 2021 (10 out of 100 municipalities)	20	30	50
Full elections in 2020 (all 100 municipalities), out of which:	100	400	500
90 municipalities that did not conduct new elections in 2021	90	360	450
10 municipalities that conducted elections in both 2020 and 2021	10	40	50

SDG indicator 5.5.1b (as of 1st January 2022) = $(\text{Number of elected seats held by women}) * 100 / (\text{Number of elected seats held by women and men})$
 $= (20 + 90) * 100 / (50 + 450) = 22 \%$

Data for this indicator is collected through customized data request forms sent to National Statistical Offices which directly compiles the data from the Electoral Management Bodies' (EMB) website. When this data is not obtained, UN-Women may reach out directly to the EMBs to collect the data and then communicate back to the NSOs. All data disseminated in the UNSD SDG Database are data confirmed beforehand by the NSOs. Data collection cycle typically starts in November and ends in January of the next year.



This indicator is reported by 20 Arab Countries to UN-Women except for Egypt for which elections have not yet taken place and Libya.

Indicators	Nature of data as indicated in the Global SDG database as of 20/08/2021	
	Country data (C)	Global monitoring data (G)
5.5.1 b Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government	20 (C)	0

Recommendations for Countries:

- Countries are encouraged to consult their country profiles at UN-Women website to better understand their local governments composition or contribute with additional information.
- Countries to ensure collaboration between NSOs and EMBs to collect data

Recommendations for UN-Women/ESCWA:

- UN-Women to include comparison between countries on their website
- UN-Women to expand the forms to include data on age groups and executive bodies in addition to deliberative bodies.

State of Palestine experience:

Data for this indicator in State of Palestine are based on administrative records data from the Election Commission. Data from municipal councils of local authorities are collected from village councils by

disaggregation at the city, district or village council level. Data is collected in cooperation with Ministry of Women, Ministry of Local Government and National Statistical Offices.

5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment

Indicator 5.c.1 seeks to measure government efforts to put in place systems to track budget allocations for gender equality throughout the public finance management cycle and to make these publicly available. The indicator aims to support national governments to integrate gender equality and gender analysis in public finance management systems and commit to making information about allocations for gender equality available to the public. Data reporting should be led by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with National Women’s Machineries, sectoral ministries and National Statistical Institutions as appropriate.

To collect data on this indicator, a questionnaire composed of 13 yes/no questions measuring three criteria is sent to the designated focal point in the Ministry of Finance, or agency in charge of the government budget. The questionnaire is organized as follows:

- Criterion 1 on whether or not policies and or programmes of the government are designed to address well identified gender equality goals and have adequate resources allocated within the budget.
- Criterion 2 on the extent to which the PFM system integrate gender equality
- Criterion 3 on whether assesses budget allocations to gender equality are publicly available.

It also includes eight optional questions which are useful in terms of identifying areas of progress and areas where improvements may be needed.

Reporting on the indicator requires coordination among government, with leadership by the Ministry of Finance and consultation with the National Statistical Institution and/or Gender Ministry. After the validation process, the government submits the final questionnaire to UN-Women, as the lead custodian of the indicator. UN Women reviews the data and liaises with government for any clarifications. In this process, a country will be considered to satisfy each criterion as follows:

	Requirements per criterion
A country will satisfy Criterion 1	if it answers “Yes” to 2 out of 3 questions in Criterion 1
A country will satisfy Criterion 2	if it answers “Yes” to 4 out of 7 questions in Criterion 2
A country will satisfy Criterion 3	if it answers “Yes” to 2 out of 3 questions in Criterion 3

Based on the responses to the 13 binary questions, a country will be classified:

Fully meet requirements			
	Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3
Case A	✓	✓	✓
Approaches requirements			
	Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3
Case B	✓		

Case C		✓	
Case D			✓
Case E	✓	✓	
Case F	✓		✓
Case G		✓	✓
Does not approach requirements			
	Criterion 1	Criterion 2	Criterion 3
Case H			

Table 1: "Checked" boxes represent satisfied criteria; "Unchecked" boxes represent unsatisfied criteria

Although five countries of the ESCWA region are reporting on this indicator to UN-Women, data are being labelled in UNSD SDG Database as "Global".

Indicators	Nature of data as indicated in the Global SDG database as of 20/08/2021	
	Country data (C)	Global monitoring data (G)
5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment	0	5 (G)**: Comoros, Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, Yemen

** Data are derived from country reporting on 13 binary questions on questionnaire, collected through the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation

Recommendations for Countries:

- Countries are encouraged to participate in the data collection cycle of the questionnaire.
- Countries are encouraged to coordinate efforts with different stakeholders and to validate the data before submitting it.
- Countries, if needed, to request further capacity strengthening trainings from UN-Women as lead custodian for this indicator on how to collect data, fill in the questionnaire and to ensure consistency.

Recommendations for UN-Women/ESCWA:

- ESCWA and UN-Women to share good practices to support learning

Tunisia experience:

There is the new law for preparing budgets, which introduces a legal requirement for all ministries to prepare gender budgets and take into account gender when preparing budgets. The Prime Minister's recent circular recognizes the need to prepare the next plan so that it depends on gender in all matters relating to the development of strategies and policies for the next stage, even for the preparation of Tunisia's 2030 vision. We are now in the stage of preparing ministries to be able to use mechanisms that enable them to include gender in budgets and policies.

Jordan experience:

In Jordan, this is an indicator that combines the participation of the Department of Statistics and the Ministry of Finance. Capacity has been built for all ministries to implement gender budgets. A national team, headed by the National Committee and the Supreme and Ministerial Committee for the

Empowerment of Women, has been established to oversee the strengthening of institutions' capacity to include gender data in all ministries and policies.

Morocco experience:

The Moroccan experience in formulating and implementing gender-responsive budget mechanism in view of its role in policy development has been strengthened since the publication of Organic Law No. 130/16 since 2015. This law has established the concept of results-based policies taking into account the gender dimension. Annually, in addition to financial law reports, an annual report on gender budgets has been issued. Since March 2020, a circular has been issued by the Prime Minister urging ministerial sectors to take into account gender in the budget programming process over a three-year period. There is a need for collaboration from different stakeholders to collect this 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

This indicator provides information on the enabling and regulatory and legal environment. It was collected by DESA/UNFPA through 12th UN Inquiry on Population and Development questionnaire in 2018 and collected through 13th UN Inquiry on Population and Development questionnaire in 2021. This inquiry is sent to NSOs who in turn send it to the Health Ministries or other related institutions to complete the relevant questions for the 13 components. It is then sent back to NSOs that dispatches it to DESA. The last round of data collection was initiated in November 2020 and it ends on 30 September 2021. The country consultation and validation process is now underway and will conclude on November 30, 2021. DESA/UNFPA will collect data for this indicator once every four years through the same process.

As for the method of computation, 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:

$$C_i = \left(\frac{e_i}{E_i} - \frac{b_i}{B_i} \right) \times 100$$

C_i : Data for component i
 E_i : Total number of enablers in component i
 e_i : Number of enablers that exist in component i
 B_i : Total number of barriers in component i
 b_i : Number of barriers that exist in component i

For the first component, Maternity care for example, questions highlighted in blue are for the enablers of the law and questions highlighted in orange are for the barriers:

2.18 Does the Government have any law(s) or regulation(s)⁸ that guarantee access to maternity care?

YES	No
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.19 If YES to 2.18, are there any plural legal systems⁹ contradicting the above?

YES	No
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.20 Does the law(s) or regulation(s)⁸ identified in Q 2.18 include any restrictions based on any of the following characteristics?

RESTRICTION	YES	No
a. Age	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Marital status	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. 3 rd party authorization (e.g. spousal, parental/guardian, medical)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If the country answers yes for question 2.18, and no for questions 2.19-2.20, the indicator will be calculated as follows:

$$Ci = \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{0}{4}\right) \times 100 = 100\%$$

If the country answers yes for 2.18, yes for 2.19, yes for 2.20 a and no for 2.20b and c, the calculation will be:

The calculation of all components under each section as well as the indicator follows the below table:

$$Ci = \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{2}{4}\right) \times 100 = 50\%$$

	Formula
C1	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.18 = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.19, 2.20 \text{ a,b,c} = \text{yes})}{4}$
C2	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.22 \text{ a} - \text{m} = \text{yes})}{13}$
C3	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.34 \text{ a,b,d,f} = \text{yes})}{4} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.35 \text{ b,d,e}, 2.36 = \text{yes})}{4}$
C4	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.37 = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.38 + 2.39 \text{ a} - \text{c} = \text{yes})}{4}$
S1	$\frac{(C1 + C2 + C3 + C4)}{4}$
C5	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.23 \text{ a} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{((\# \text{ of } 2.24 \text{ a} = \text{yes}) + (\# \text{ of } 2.26 \text{ a (all 4)} = \text{yes}))}{5}$
C6	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.23 \text{ c} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.24 \text{ c} = \text{yes})}{1}$
C7	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.23 \text{ b} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{((\# \text{ of } 2.24 \text{ b} = \text{yes}) + (\# \text{ of } 2.26 \text{ b (all 3)} = \text{yes}))}{4}$
S2	$\frac{(C5 + C6 + C7)}{3}$
C8	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.15 = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.16 = \text{yes})}{1}$
C9	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.17 \text{ a} - \text{h} = \text{yes})}{8}$
S3	$\frac{(C8 + C9)}{2}$
C10	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.30 \text{ a} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{((\# \text{ of } 2.31 \text{ a} = \text{yes}) + (\# \text{ of } 2.32 \text{ a (all 4)} = \text{yes}))}{5}$
C11	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.30 \text{ b} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{((\# \text{ of } 2.31 \text{ b} = \text{yes}) + (\# \text{ of } 2.32 \text{ b (all 4)} = \text{yes}))}{5}$
C12	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.30 \text{ c} = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{((\# \text{ of } 2.31 \text{ c} = \text{yes}) + (\# \text{ of } 2.32 \text{ c (all 3)} = \text{yes}))}{4}$
C13	$\frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.13 = \text{yes})}{1} - \frac{(\# \text{ of } 2.14 = \text{yes})}{1}$
S4	$\frac{(C10 + C11 + C12 + C13)}{4}$
SDG 5.6.2 Total	$\frac{(C1 + C2 + \dots + C13)}{13}$

Although 11 out of 22 Arab Countries have submitted the 12th inquiry to UNFPA/DESA, data are being labelled in UNSD SDG Database as “Global”.

Indicators	Nature of data as indicated in the Global SDG database as of 20/08/2021
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	Country data (C)	Global monitoring data (G)
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	0	11 (G): Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Yemen

Recommendations for Countries:

- Countries are encouraged to participate in the data collection cycle of the inquiry.

Recommendations for UNFPA /ESCWA:

- UNFPA to reconsider labelling nature from “Global” to ‘Country’ or “Country adjusted, as seem appropriate, based on the fact that the indicator is based on country data.

ATTENDANCE AND EVALUATION

An electronic evaluation was completed during the 2 days webinar. The results were as follows:

An electronic evaluation was completed by 12 participants during the webinar. The results were as follows:

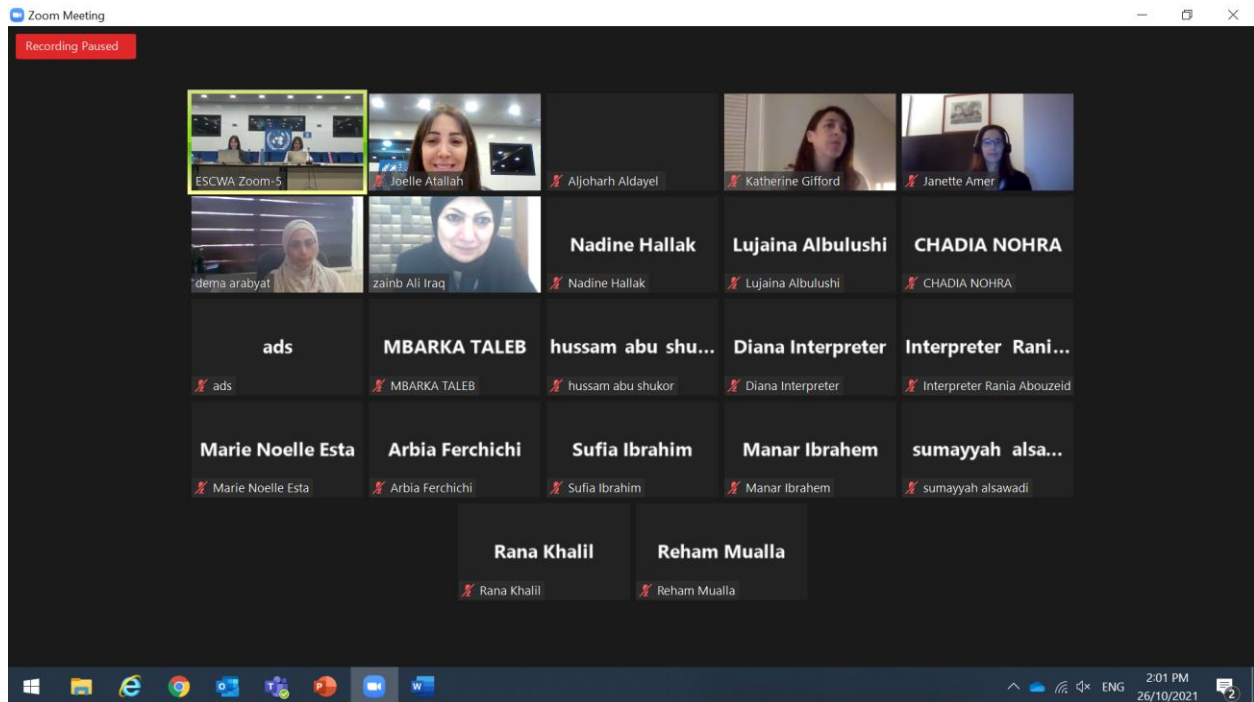
- 67 per cent of respondents rated the overall quality of the webinar as “Excellent” and 33 per cent as “Good”.
- 42 per cent indicated that the webinar was successful in reaching its intended objectives as “Excellent”, 58 per cent as “good”.
- 42 per cent rated the inputs provided by presenters in reaching the intended outcome of the webinar as “Excellent”, 58 per cent as “Good”.
- 58 per cent rated the overall organization and logistics of the webinar as “Excellent” and 42 per cent assessed it as “Good”.

TRAINING CERTIFICATION

Participants who successfully attended the ESCWA SDG webinar were awarded a training certificate by the organizers.

GROUP PHOTOS

26 October



27 October

Zoom Meeting

View

	Maha Shareef	Ashwaq Alsarieei	Android Bluedr...	Sufia Ibrahim
ESCWA Zoom-5	Diana Interpreter	Interpreter Rania	CHADIA Interpr...	Rana
Marie Noelle Esta	rawan Maaitah	Manar Ibr.	hussam abu shu...	dema arabyat
moufida zoug	WIDAD ALMAD...	Abdulrahman R...	Nora Abd El-kh...	

Unmute Stop Video Security Participants 24 Polls Chat Share Screen Record Breakout Rooms Interpretation Reactions Leave

4:06 PM 27/10/2021

LIST OF ANNEXES

Annex 1: AGENDA

Annex 2: LIST OF ORGANIZERS & PARTICIPANTS

Annex 3: RESOURCES

Annex 4: Q & A

Annex 5: METADATA

Annex 1: AGENDA

Day 1: 26 October		Speakers
2:00-2:05 P.M.	Introduction to the Webinar (objective, speakers, and content)	ESCWA – Neda Jafar
2:05 – 3:00 P.M.	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	UN-Women - Janette Amer
	Discussion – Q&A	
3:00 – 4:00 P.M.	5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment	UN-Women - Katherine Gifford
	Tunisia experience Jordan experience Morocco experience Discussion – Q&A	Mbarka Taleb Rawan Maaytah Meryem Bhija
Day 2: 27 October		
2:00 – 3:00 P.M.	5.5.1(b) Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government (%)	UN-Women – Ionica Berevoescu
	State of Palestine experience Discussion – Q&A	Sufia Ibrahim
3:00 – 3:50	Method of Computation of 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	UNFPA - Mengjia Liang
3:50 – 4:00P.M	Way forward and conclusion	ESCWA – Neda Jafar

Annex 2: LIST OF ORGANIZERS & PARTICIPANTS

LIST OF ORGANIZERS

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Annex 3: RESOURCES

- UNSD: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>
- UN Women: <https://data.unwomen.org/data-portal/sdg>
- UN Women (forthcoming): localgov.unwomen.org
- https://data.unwomen.org/data-portal/sdg?tab=map&annex=Gender%20Equality&finic%5B%5D=SG_LGL_GENEQLFP&fiac%5BVC_VAW_MARR%5D%5B%5D=15-49&fiac%5B%5D=STA_FGMS%5D%5B%5D=15-49&fiac%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPD%5D%5B%5D=ALLAGE&filc%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPD%5D%5B%5D=ALLAREA&fiac%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPDCW%5D%5B%5D=ALLAGE&filc%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPDCW%5D%5B%5D=ALLAREA&fiac%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPDDC%5D%5B%5D=ALLAGE&filc%5B%5D=BSL_DOM_TSPDDC%5D%5B%5D=ALLAREA&fyr%5B%5D=Latest%20available&fsr=countries
- Coding guidelines: https://data.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/modules/sdg-files/localdata/5_1_1_coding_guidelines.pdf
- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2021/03/policy-brief-covid-19-and-fiscal-policy>
- Handbook of Governance Statistics: https://ine.cv/praiagroup/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PRAIA-Handbook-final_web.pdf
- Link to Local Government Website (coming soon): localgov.unwomen.org

Annex 4: Q & A

Country /Name	Questions	Answers
Indicator 5.1.1		
ESCWA	Do UN-Women map all four indicators or present them as disaggregated by each?	For SDG 5.1.1, there is no one score. There are the four scores that are presented for each area. Each country has four percentage points, for the different areas. For example, violence against women, employment and marriage and family needed to be presented on their own. rather than have one score.
ESCWA	What are the main challenges at the country level to answer those questions? Is there an explanatory note for the questions?	Sometimes there are misunderstandings of the questions and UN-Women often engage with countries to explain the methodology and the coding guidelines because with these qualitative indicators, specific criteria are needed in order to have a have the indicator be comparable across all countries. But also, the coordination between different stakeholders to gather the data can be a challenge because it takes time. The coding guidelines serve as an explanatory note that explains each question, what is a yes what is a no and what the question is aimed at.
ESCWA	What is the cycle of data collection?	Data collection cycle start on going throughout the prior year, if not the year before. So right now, UN-Women are continuing the data collection and it's really ongoing because for this indicator it does take time for the countries to review and send their responses, and then for us to engage. This indicator is collected every two years. So normally when the questionnaire is sent, we give a three-week period of time is initially given for governments with a possibility of extension to engage. But for reporting it should be done by January.
Saudi Arabia - Widad Almadani	Can we retrieve the data for this indicator from administrative data or need to be a survey	Countries may do it differently as far as we're concerned, UN-Women will send the survey and expect the responses to the survey.
Indicator 5.5.1b		
Lebanon - Zeina Maalouf	In Lebanon we have the optional elections. Is it the elections of the mayors? Are optional	Lebanon local government country profile page shows that the local government organization in Lebanon has 1029 municipalities and the municipality of Beirut. The deliberative body in Lebanon is the municipal council and is composed of 9-21 elected members. The executive

	elections included in the calculation of this indicator?	body is the Governor of Beirut or the Council President municipalities. In this particular case, only the municipal councils elected councils are included in the calculation of this indicator. I believe we receive information on both municipalities and the unions. I can look in the data that we received for the country and get back to you.
ESCWA	The periodicity for local election is every three or four years as per country. In order to have the data set populated in a better way shouldn't we repeat the data for the for these periods of of the council being elected during these four years, the same way that IPU does?	This is a very good suggestion that also. But, this is a very new indicator, so the first time data was collected, the reference here was 2018 righ. UN-Women didn't want to put the exact years of elections, but to go with the reference year because at the beginning we are not sure how many countries would be able to report data from the electoral management bodies or would have other types of source of data or would prefer other types of sources. Dome countries in Europe are sending the same data from the previous elections, for every year while waiting the new elections to take place. This is something doable for all the countries while adding footnotes mentioning that data refers to previous years.
Indicator 5.c.1		
ESCWA	Does it make it more challenging if a country doesn't yet have a gender responsive budgeting?	UN-Women always endeavors to ensure that we make ourselves available to have that dialogue in terms of responding. Sometimes countries will ask the question it they don't yet have gender budgeting, so perhaps all of the answers or many of the answers are no, if that would be ok. The answer is of course it is ok because, it's simply to capturing that right now the system that the country have has not yet integrated gender equality sufficiently, and there are for improvement. If specific actions are taken over time, the country would then advance along the trajectory towards having a stronger system in place.
ESCWA	Does UN-Women target those countries to help them do gender, responsive budgeting?	UN-Women provides support globally based on government request. Over the last 20 years, we have supported more than 100 countries to introduce and implement gender responsive budgeting. The data received for this indicator is incredibly important in terms of identification of trends, identification of where particular gaps exist. By way of example, few countries are doing gender budget audits which is an area that needs more attention, more investment, more work. UN-Women, in collaboration with governments, and other partners works to provide

		guidance and technical support in areas where it is most needed, based on available data and analysis of trends.
Morocco – Meryem Bhija	What is the threshold involved in calculating this indicator? How do we capture different stakeholders' contributions?	<p>Regarding the second question, the questionnaire has 13 binary questions and for each question, there is space to report qualitative data to support a yes value. This can include examples of policies that have gender objectives, examples of where sex disaggregated data are being used to inform budgetary decision making, etc.</p> <p>Now of course we know that if there's a lot of things happening, perhaps across government, we may not be able through a brief questionnaire to capture all of the nuanced information of GRB practice on the ground, but qualitative reporting does give space for recognizing work that's happening in different sectors and at different levels.</p> <p>And also, the optional questions - even if not included in the computation of the indicator - help capture the diversity of work on gender responsive budgeting. This includes information on tax policy, engagement of women organizations and/or Parliament in analyzing the budget, also work at local levels.</p> <p>For each criteria there is a threshold and a country needs to meet the threshold for all three criteria to be classified as 'fully meeting the requirements'. These are the kind of different ways for a country to have a classification of 'approaching requirements', for example, if you meet the threshold for just one criterion, that will qualify as approaching requirements. The methodology and classification are formulated to really leave space for countries to demonstrate progress over time.</p> <p>This methodology was developed with the guidance from Ministries of Finance. It was really intended to set a high enough standard so that when a country is classified as having met the requirements that it truly does represent a strong system, strong policy framework, the integration of gender equality and gender analysis in the public finance management system, as well as transparency of data. The issue of transparency is really important to make this information publicly available so that it can be scrutinized and monitored. This is part of strengthening accountability like the example stated by Morocco of the publicly available gender budget report.</p>
ESCWA	It was mentioned that the first criteria, public expenditure	If gender equality objectives are in the national development strategy and/or if there is an overarching gender equality policy strategy that lays out, for example, objectives across different

	<p>should be mentioned or allocated to policies, strategies, objective integrated in the framework. Is it the development plan strategy and not the sectoral strategy? how do you determine the sufficiency of the resources as it is subjective to each machinery?</p>	<p>sectors, certainly that would qualify for a yes answer. UN-Women also encourages countries to look across their policy framework, so it certainly could include sectoral policies that integrate gender equality objectives. If gender equality is in the national development strategy generally there might be a pillar, or it might be mainstreamed, or both but oftentimes this provides an overarching set of objectives that then are get integrated into those sectoral policies. Therefore, it's not expected that countries would do a comprehensive review of every single policy but just to assess if these gender equality objectives are in the main frameworks that guide the policies. This is why it is critically important this collaboration between ministries of finance and gender equality machinery because reporting by ministries of finance on certain questions may draw on data from gender machinery.</p> <p>In terms of sufficiency of budget, to try to avoid subjectivity, it should be based – at least in part – on some form of costin. We want to be clear that the assessment of sufficiency of resources needs to look at the resources being allocated to gender equality objectives, whether they be in the national development strategy, et cetera.</p> <p>UN- Women understands countries are not often in a position to do a comprehensive costing of every single policy, but costings done or national action plans for gender equality, national gender policies, laws on gender equality, laws on violence against women, provide very useful information about what is required in terms of cost for implementation of those policy objectives t. A gap is often found between what's needed and what's actually allocated so that then would lead to a no answer on that question. If the answer is yes, we would expect to see some supporting information to justify that yes value.</p>
Iraq – Zainab Ali	<p>How is the gender responsive budget implemented? Iraq is adopting an item budget, not a software budget, and we are working on implementing a gender responsive budget. Is it possible to implement this in some service ministries, and</p>	<p>Gender responsive budgeting can be applied in all budget systems, all budget approaches, so it can certainly be applied in the context of line-based budgeting. It is wonderful to hear that Iraq are making efforts to implement gender responsive budget, UN-Women regional office can answer any question that might arise in that regard.</p>

	then include the rest of the ministries?	
Jordan – Lama Mitwalli	How can it be monitored and evaluated periodically in order to improve the efficiency, quality and effectiveness of implementing gender-responsive budgets, especially in light of the Covid pandemic?	<p>UN-Women is endeavoring to collect it every two to three years, so it does provide an opportunity for countries, especially when they've reported previously to then assess where, perhaps progress has been made. So, if for example, a country has responded in the first round of data collection and they have been classified as approaching requirements and perhaps then over the course of a period of time, have invested in and made certain changes, have introduced new practice they might then move from approaches requirements to fully meets requirements. This methodology provides a framework for that assessment, but recognizing that through 13 questions there are aspects of this work that might be more nuanced too, and certainly we see both the qualitative data as well as answering and responding to the optional questions as providing space to do more of that in depth assessment.</p> <p>In terms of the time of pandemic, UN-Women recognize the immense fiscal constraints that countries most countries are facing in terms of investment in all areas, and the agency just recently produced a policy brief exactly on the issue of GRB and COVID-19. The brief provides some guidance around how to do some of these analyses, how to introduce some of the tools of gender responsive budgeting within the pandemic context and then strengthen and develop those over time.</p>
Algeria - Dalila Ferradji	As for the optional questions, how are they entered to calculate the indicator?	In fact, these questions are not included as part of the actual calculation of each country classification, but those questions are really critically important for many countries when they are doing their sort of own assessment of what is happening on the ground in terms of the work on gender, responsive budgeting.
Lebanon - Zeina Maalouf	How to back up info included in the SDG questionnaire?	On SDG indicator 5.c.1 certainly the backing up of the answers and the responses is by the space under each of the 13 binary questions, as well as the optional questions to provide that qualitative information, just to mention that in addition to that, there are countries in their reporting process that have provided examples of samples or excerpts from medium term expenditure frameworks that show budget allocations made to gender equality, examples of

		policies, links to those. That isn't necessarily a requirement per say, but it is useful information for countries in the process of demonstrating and validating the data.
Indicator 5.6.2		
Jordan - Lama Mitwalli	What is the periodicity for this questionnaire?	The 12th and the 13th inquiries are two years apart which is their baseline data and the current round of data collection. But after the current round, the next data collection round will be in 2025. So data will be collected after four years.
ESCWA	Is the questionnaire sent to the national statistical offices or to other agencies?	Because this is a secretary general mandated UN inquiry, it has to go to the permanent mission of each country. So basically the the UN, the secretary there, the population division would send the Secretary General letter, as well as the inquiry itself, to the permanent missions. The permanent mission will then send it to the national statistical offices which will play the coordination role between all relevant line ministries to collect the data. So in short, the NSO should be aware of this inquiry and also for this round we will sure that when the Population division send this letter to the permanent mission, they always copy the SDG data focal point.
Lebanon - Zeina Maalouf	Can we add an indicator on the COVID nd its impact on fertility reproductive health of women?	It is a very interesting suggestion and it's actually a very hot topic. Since the beginning of the pandemic, different agencies have tried different means like web data, mobile data, big data or hotline data to show the impact of Covid including a range of the areas like the fertility. UN-Women has also prepared a technical briefing on COVID and fertility where you can find it on our website. It is a great idea and we can discuss it with our colleagues in the laws department.

Annex 5: METADATA

Indicators	Data Source	Metadata	Questions
<p>5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex</p>	<p>Laws, policies/actions plans</p>	<p>The indicator is based on an assessment of legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality. The assessment is carried out by national counterparts, including National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and/or National Women’s Machinery (NWMs), and legal practitioners/researchers on gender equality, using a questionnaire comprising 42 yes/no questions under four areas of law: (i) overarching legal frameworks and public life; (ii) violence against women; (iii) employment and economic benefits; and (iv) marriage and family. The areas of law and questions are drawn from the international legal and policy framework on gender equality, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which has 189 States parties, and the Beijing Platform for Action. As such, no new internationally agreed standard on equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex was needed. The primary sources of information relevant for indicator 5.1.1 are legislation and policy/action plans.</p> <p>Computation method: The answers to the questions are coded with simple “Yes/No” answers with “1” for “Yes” and “0” for “No”. For questions 1 and 2 only, they may be scored “N/A” in which case they are not included as part of the overall score calculation for the area. The scoring methodology is the unweighted average of the questions under each area of law calculated by: $A_i = \frac{q_1 + \dots + q_{mi}}{mi}$</p>	<p>SDG 5.1.1 Questionnaire</p>

		<p>Where A_i refers the area of law i; m_i refers to the total number of questions under the area of law i; $q_1+...+q_m$ refers to the sum of the coded questions under the area of law and where $q_i="1"$ if the answer is "Yes" and $q_i="0"$ if the answer is "No". Results of the four areas are reported as percentages as a dashboard: $\langle A_1,, A_2,A_3, A_4 \rangle$. The score for each area (a number between 0 and 100) therefore represents the percentage of achievement of that country in that area, with 100 being best practice met on all questions in the area.</p>	
5.5.1(b) Proportion of seats held by women in local governments	<p>Administrative records (Electoral Management Bodies) or NSOs</p> <p>Secondary sources: Ministries overseeing local government, Women's affairs Ministries</p>	<p>Indicator 5.5.1(b) measures the proportion of positions held by women in local government. It is expressed as a percentage of elected positions held by women in legislative/ deliberative bodies of local government across all tiers of local government.</p> <p>Indicator 5.5.1(b)= (Number of seats held by women) * 100 / (Total number of seats held by women and men)</p>	
5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and	<p>Ministry of Health, Gender Equality Ministry, Ministry of</p>	<p>Laws: laws and statutes are official rules of conduct or action prescribed, or formally recognized as binding, or enforced by a controlling authority that governs the behavior of actors (including people, corporations, associations, government agencies). They are adopted or ratified by the legislative branch of government and may</p>	<p>United Nations Thirteenth Inquiry Among Governments on Population and Development Module on Reproductive health</p>

<p>equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education</p>	<p>Women's Affairs</p>	<p>be formally recognized in the Constitution or interpreted by courts. Laws governing sexual and reproductive health are not necessarily contained in one law. Regulations: are considered to be executive, ministerial or other administrative orders or decrees. At the municipal level, regulations are sometimes called ordinances. Regulations and ordinances issued by governmental entities have the force of law, although circumscribed by the level of the issuing authority. Under this methodology, only regulations with national-level application are considered. Restrictions: many laws and regulations contain restrictions in the scope of their applicability. Such restrictions, which include, though are not limited to, those by age, sex, marital status, and requirement for third party authorization, represent barriers to full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education. Plural legal systems: are defined as legal systems in which multiple sources of law co-exist. Such legal systems have typically developed over a period of time as a consequence of colonial inheritance, religion and other socio-cultural factors. Examples of sources of law that might co-exist under a plural legal system include: English common law, French civil or other law, statutory law, and customary and religious law. The co-existence of multiple sources of law can create fundamental contradictions in the legal system, which result in barriers to full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education. Computation Method: The indicator measures specific legal enablers and barriers for 13 components across four sections. The calculation of the indicator requires data for all 13 components. 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. Each component is calculated as: $C_i = ((e_i/E_i) - (b_i/B_i)) * 100$ Ci: Data for component i Ei:</p>	
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<p>5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment</p>	<p>Policies, budgets and public finance management system (Ministry of Finance)</p>	<p>Indicator 5.c.1 seeks to measure government efforts to track budget allocations for gender equality throughout the public finance management cycle and to make these publicly available. This is an indicator of characteristics of the fiscal system. It is not an indicator of quantity or quality of finance allocated for gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE). The indicator measures three criteria. The first focuses on the intent of a government to address GEWE by identifying if it has programs/policies and resource allocations to foster GEWE. The second assesses if a government has planning and budget tools to track resources for GEWE throughout the public financial management cycle. The third focuses on transparency by identifying if a government has provisions to make allocations for GEWE publicly available.</p> <p>Computation method: Indicator 5.c.1= (Number of countries that fully meet the requirements) * 100 / Total number of countries</p>	<p>SDG 5.c.1 Questionnaire</p>