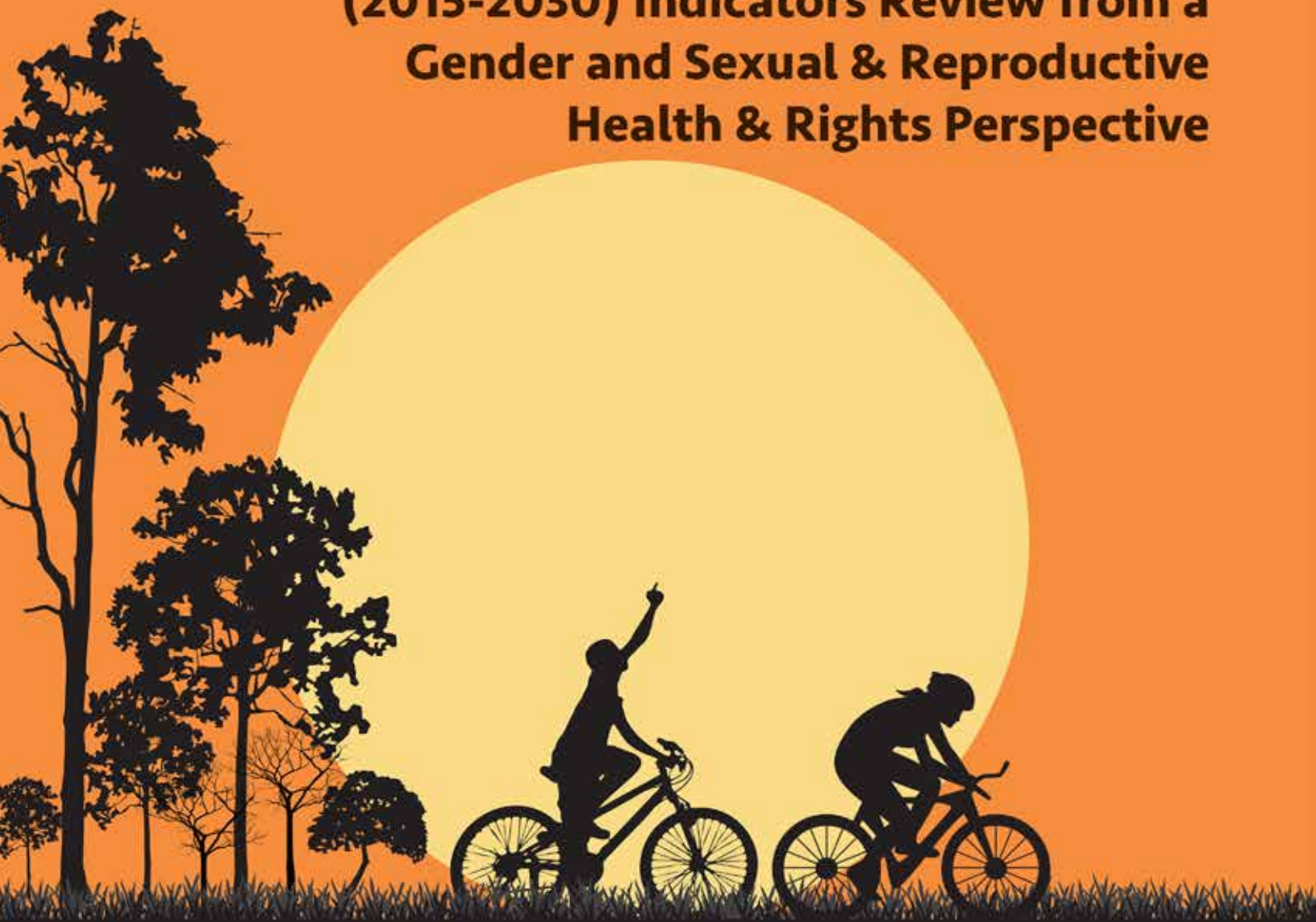


MEASURING POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT IN PAKISTAN

**Sustainable Development Goals
(2015-2030) Indicators Review from a
Gender and Sexual & Reproductive
Health & Rights Perspective**



Shirkat Gah - Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan
January 2016

Shirkat Gah would like to thank all the individuals, organizations and government officials that provided inputs at meetings held locally in collaboration with and support of the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), and UN Women, Pakistan. We would also like to thank Shirkat Gah's own team for their tireless analysis of key documents and the production of analytical reports used as material for this Brief.

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ADVOCACY BRIEF

Measuring Post-2015 Development in Pakistan:
Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030) Indicators'
Review from a Gender and Sexual & Reproductive Health
& Rights Perspective

Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan
January 2016

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INTRODUCTION

A New Roadmap for Sustainable Development

On September 25, 2015, all 193 Member States of the United Nations signed off on a 15-year transformative roadmap for world change. The document, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the seventieth UN General Assembly session, sets out 17 global Goals (the Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs) and 169 associated Targets¹.

The SDG agenda both succeeds and acts as a follow-up instrument to the Millennium Summit, 2000 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As the new international development framework for all countries, the SDGs and related processes are crucial for developing countries such as Pakistan.

The adoption of the sustainable development action plan for “people, planet and prosperity” has catalyzed numerous processes to frame global, regional and national indicators against each of the Targets. Of crucial importance is that national priorities are set accompanied by effective indicators for measuring performance. Gender is a cross cutting issue in the SDG Goals and Targets, providing an important opportunity for elaborating strong gender-relevant indicators, including against issues on which the previous MDGs were silent.

This Advocacy Brief aims to lay the foundation for and stimulate further work by local CSOs, relevant government departments, statisticians, researchers, gender advocates and the international community on operationalizing the SDGs in Pakistan through effective indicators.

Focused on the pivotal area of establishing effective indicators for actions that enable rigorous monitoring of progress on the new agenda in Pakistan, This Brief is

a process document. It has been developed by Shirkat Gah – Women’s Resource Centre in the light of, and as a means of contributing to on-going efforts to take forward the new Agenda from a gender perspective. The Brief is the result of successful collaboration between Shirkat Gah, the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWomen).

Based on Shirkat Gah’s extensive review of critical documents related to gender indicators, the Brief encapsulates the discussions of the various meetings and working groups held in Pakistan around developing national SDG indicators from a gender perspective. Discussions involved a broad spectrum of civil society organizations, individual experts, federal and provincial government departments as well as UN agencies.

Shirkat Gah will welcome further collaboration in overcoming shortcomings, language issues and the challenges of formulating effective indicators.

This Advocacy Brief aims to lay the foundation for and stimulate further work by local CSOs, relevant government departments, statisticians, researchers, gender advocates and the international community on operationalizing the SDGs in Pakistan through effective indicators.

The Process

Planning meeting 27 October 2015:

Discussions kicked off on 27 October 2015 at a planning meeting jointly organised by Shirkat Gah, the NSCW, and UNWomen. Gender experts, research experts, officials of the provincial Women Development Departments of Punjab and Balochistan, as well as the provincial Commissions on the Status of Women of Punjab and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa reviewed the status of indicator development in Pakistan for the SDGs and related Targets.

A Technical Working Group (TWG) was formed with a wider representation of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender experts from across Pakistan. The TWG was tasked with thoroughly reviewing available indicators to ensure that proposed indicators dovetailed with existing global or regional ones under the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), MDGs and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Shirkat Gah was assigned the dual role of reviewer and Secretariat for the TWG.

Gender is a crosscutting theme in the SDGs, and gender considerations articulated within various SGD Targets. Hence, Shirkat Gah reviewed each of the 17 Goals



and all 169 Targets rather than just the more obvious ones (see Table 4 for SGD targets directly addressing gender, women and girls).



Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November 2015:

Shirkat Gah compared the Global Minimum Gender Indicators, the Regional Core Set (RCS) gender indicators prepared by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the indicators in the Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, against existing indicators for the MDGs, CEDAW and BPfA. Existing and agreed upon gender indicators in the RCS were matched with SDG targets for relevance. Potential data collection sources were identified for indicators where data is not being collected, according to the completed questionnaire submitted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics to the UN Statistical Division under ESCAP.

At the TWG's suggestion, Shirkat Gah reversed the arrangement of indicators to lead with the SDG Targets under all 17 goals. The revised tables presented at the national consultation provided new insights into which targets lacked indicators in Pakistan, highlighting areas requiring further work.

National Consultation, 23 November 2015 :

The Chair of the Parliamentary Taskforce on SGDs, Ms. Maryum Aurangzeb, gave the keynote address at a high-level national consultation jointly organised by NCSW, UNWomen and Shirkat Gah, and attended by representatives of the provincial Women's Development Departments. The Planning Commission and the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics highlighted data collection issues in Pakistan; Shirkat Gah shared the review process and identified areas requiring more work as well as the challenges, limitations and strategies for localizing the SDGs in Pakistan.

A group of 55 government and civil society stakeholders formulated further indicators for potential inclusion against selected SDG Goals and Targets. Senior researchers, academics, media personnel, activists, national and local civil society organisations (CSOs) and international non-governmental organisations, (INGOs) all contributed.



Gender is a crosscutting theme in the SDGs, and gender considerations articulated within various SGD Targets. Hence, Shirkat Gah reviewed each of the 17 Goals and all 169 Targets rather than just the more obvious ones...

THE JOURNEY FROM CEDAW TO THE 'NEW AGENDA FOR GLOBAL ACTION'- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

Developing the Transformative Road Map of the SDGs

The Sustainable Development Goals are the result of lengthy deliberations and negotiations at the global level on completing the unfinished agenda of the Millennium Development Goals launched in 2000. The MDGs identified 8 Goals and 18 accompanying targets to be achieved by 2015. Progress was measured through 48 technical indicators. The expanded SDG agenda puts forth 17 Goals and 169 associated Targetsⁱ in the following five areas:

- Population
- Planet
- Prosperity
- Peace
- Partnership

The Agenda guides actions for transformation in the fields of: poverty eradication, hunger & food security, health, education, gender equality, water & sanitation, modern energy, economic growth, infrastructure & industrialization, inequalities within and between countries, human settlement, sustainable consumption & production, climate change, environmental conservation, terrestrial eco-systems, and peace & justice. The final goal, Goal 17, emphasizes strengthening the means of implementation and necessary

partnerships in the fields of finance, technology, capacity-enhancement, trade, and addressing systemic issues in order to realize the overall sustainable development agenda by 2030.

The document, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (or Sustainable Development Goals –SDGs) has its foundation in the 2012 Rio+20 Conference, where a High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development was established and the process of developing the SDGs initiated. This culminated in the outcome document, The Future We Want (A/Res/66/288), proposing 12 goals and 54 targets for sustainable development to be achieved by 2030, as well as strategies for States and the UN to implement the agenda. A High-level Panel on Global Sustainability, appointed by the UN Secretary-General presented its conclusions in a report, Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosingⁱⁱ. The SDG Agenda was finalised by an Open Working Group of the UN General Assembly, after numerous multi-stakeholder multi-tiered consultations and negotiations, and taking into consideration online and offline recommendations from a range of stakeholders.

Representation and negotiations

The SDGs reflect an impressive level of participatory thinking, involving numerous multi-party consultations and lengthy negotiations. Yet, while millions contributed, the vast majority of consultations were held in English and online, with more representation and inputs from larger INGOs and well as the business sector.

In terms of development cooperation, the agenda is ambiguous about the commitments of the Global North in applying the SDGs to foreign policy and aid distribution to meet the financing demands of the agenda. The agenda emphasizes public-private partnerships and alternate sources of national and global funding to meet its financing needs. This does, however, create room for more innovative means of financing at the global, regional and national levels.

The earlier MDGs faced criticism on various counts

In terms of development cooperation, the agenda is ambiguous about the commitments of the Global North in applying the SDGs to foreign policy and aid distribution to meet its financing needs.

Gains and losses in the new Sustainable Development Agenda

from different quarters, including but not limited to: the choice of goals, the sources and allocation of financing and aid effectiveness, the focus on services and aggregates rather than human rights and equitable distribution, the weak follow-up and review processes, and the lack of State accountability for not achieving targets. MDGs were criticised for being a top-down agenda formulated by a triad bloc¹ working behind closed doors. From the gender perspective, MDGs were critiqued for a far weaker focus on human rights than the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) which, until then, had been the international framework for addressing gender inequality and discrimination and was aligned with the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Nevertheless, the latest UN global report on the MDGs shows significant improvements around targets in all Goalsⁱⁱⁱ. Progress is visible because of the strengthened emphasis on measurements (despite limitations) with more disaggregated data, the increased attention to core rights and development issues, as well as innovative partnerships enhancing technological capabilities to generate comparative information. The report does underscore the importance of learning from past mistakes for moving into the future, however.

¹United States, Europe and Japan.

**TABLE
01****THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Goal 1.	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2.	End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 3.	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 4.	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Goal 5.	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6.	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 7.	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8.	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 9.	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 10.	Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11.	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12.	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13.	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*
Goal 14.	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
Goal 15.	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16.	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Goal 17.	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

With respect to the SDGs, development practitioners and human rights activists point to losses in terms of the language used. For example, “sexual and reproductive health and rights” has been replaced with “sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights” (Target 5.6), omitting sexual rights; “social and economic groups” has been dropped in favor of “segments of society” (Point 4 of the SDG Declaration). Strikingly, the Declaration makes no direct reference to the “rights” of women, girls and adolescents. In terms of health, the document refers to universal health coverage as opposed to universal “access”, while the issue of refugees is altogether missing.

Recurring references in the SDG document to take nationally “appropriate” measures to address culturally justified gender inequalities raise concerns, as many harmful practices are condoned precisely on the basis of tradition and culture by States with weak human rights and gender records. One example is the text of Target 10.3 stating: “Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting *appropriate* legislation, policies and action in this regard”. [emphasis added]

...tracking reductions in Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) and increases in Contraception Prevalence Rate cannot accurately reflect improvements in crucial and related matters such as women's reproductive choices and freedom, or their ability to make decisions related to sexual rights....

Tracking Progress against Goals and Targets in Pakistan

Innumerable studies point to the global inability to close the gender gap in substantive terms over the years^{iv}.

In Pakistan, a host of factors have contributed to dismal gender indicators that persist despite many good initiatives^v. These factors include: socially constructed gender roles that impede the access of women and girls to supportive initiatives, and knowledge of their rights; feminized poverty; war and conflict; natural disasters; poor health and education; gender-based violence; religious extremism; poor governance; increased privatisation of essentials goods/services such as health care and education; and institutionalized gender discrimination combined with gender-blind policies and programmes. Additionally, the under-representation of women, girls, youth and other marginalized communities in decision-making processes allow outdated legislation and incoherent policies to continue, few of which have been reviewed systematically for outcomes^{vi}.

A major shortcoming of MDG indicators was the insufficient emphasis on social indicators that perpetuate inequalities within and across societies. Ordinal choices, such as percentage reduction in extreme poverty did not, for example, reflect the total number of people living under the poverty line, which may have increased as an aggregate. Similarly, tracking reductions in Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) and increases in Contraception Prevalence Rate cannot accurately reflect improvements in crucial and related matters such as women's reproductive choices and freedom, or their ability to make decisions related to sexual rights.

The SDG Goals and Targets, and the global movement to develop strong and relevant indicators present an opportunity for drawing out strong indicators for issues the MDGs did not take into consideration, or only demanded limited data.

SDG Goal 17 (Means of Implementation) emphasizes data collection as a means of providing insights into the

status of countries against priority issues and as a means of indicating where and how far States need to go. Goal 17 states the following:

By 2020, enhance capacity building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data *disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts* (Target 17.18); [emphasis added] and

By 2030, *build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries* (Target 17.19) [emphasis added]

The choice of indicators requires a careful recasting of social inequities for diagnostic measurements that would help assess the unfinished agenda of CEDAW, Beijing, ICPD and other human rights frameworks for gender equality and women's empowerment. States have committed themselves to a data revolution to better inform development initiatives. This requires work to ensure that numbers/ data/ statistics are effective and meaningful so as to support a better-informed and more equitable distribution of inputs to achieve the goals for everyone, leaving no one behind.



An elderly woman is lying on a makeshift bench in a hospital's courtyard, waiting the female doctor to call her in for the check-up.

The choice of indicators requires a careful recasting of social inequities for diagnostic measurements that would help assess the unfinished agenda of CEDAW, Beijing, ICPD and other human rights frameworks for gender equality and women's empowerment.



SDG GENDER INDICATORS AT GLOBAL & REGIONAL LEVELS

The SDG Goals and Targets can be read as a roadmap identifying issues of concern that need to be addressed holistically for truly inclusive and sustainable development to be achieved.

The realization of the SDG agenda demands the synchronisation of all the various parts and cogs. A stepped approach is needed, starting with benchmarking the current situation and setting national priority targets, involving all stakeholders at different levels (statisticians, executing bodies, planning commission, etc.), inviting expert inputs for various aspects of implementation, related data collection, monitoring and review processes, generating and allocating necessary resources, and addressing gaps through transparent and accountable means in a continuous loop. Actions must be regularly reviewed for responsiveness, and remedial measures and further improvements adopted.

A cross-sectional reading of the SDGs reveals that a vast number of Targets have gender implications, beyond Goals 3 and 5 that make explicit references to improving SRHR for women, girls and young persons as well as achieving greater gender equality and empowerment. This offers a larger bandwidth for women's rights work.

National priorities must be set and matched with carefully selected and/or developed indicators for measuring progress against the Goals and Targets in a manner that enables national, regional and global comparisons.

The UN Statistics Division is working with national statistical bureaus and commissions across the globe to finalize a list of global, regional and national measurements. Simultaneously, the UN Economic and Social Council is facilitating inter-governmental negotiations for the adoption of minimum indicators in March 2016.

Global Minimum Set of Gender Indicators:

A Global Minimum Set of Gender Indicators (GMSGI), developed in 2014 by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG) on Gender Statistics, is a guide for the national production and international compilation of gender statistics^{vii}. The UN Statistical Commission has tasked the IAEG with developing a global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda. The proposed framework will be presented at the Commission's 47th session in March 2016 for approval.

ESCAP, the UN's regional coordinating arm for the Asian-Pacific (AP) region, is assisting States to develop more comprehensive and gender sensitive statistics. A core set of gender statistics and indicators for the AP region developed to measure and monitor progress on achieving gender equality and gender-related goals serves as a guide for national policy development. The implications for Pakistan are discussed in the following sections. This is followed by a brief summary of key findings and recommended actions.

The GMSGIs developed by the Statistics Division and UNWomen are classified in five main Domains:

1. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources
2. Education
3. Health & related services
4. Human rights of women and girl children
5. Public life & decision making

Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators

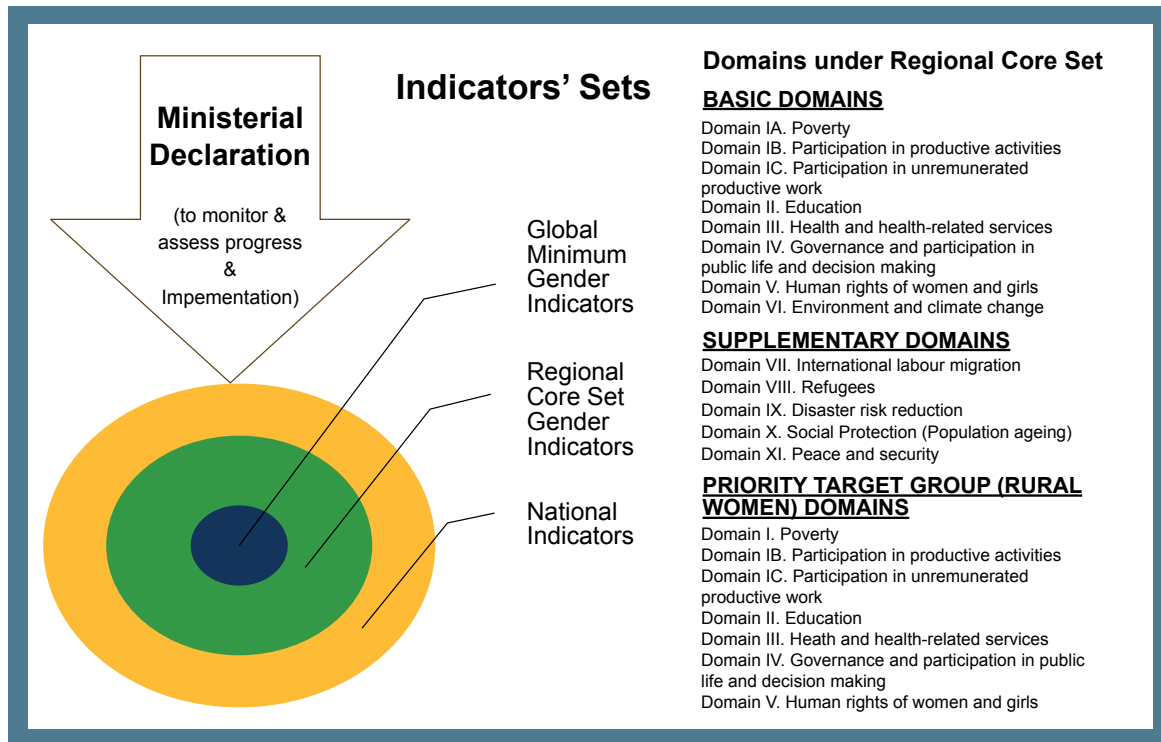
In preparation for the fourth session of the ESCAP Committee on Statistics (March 2015), an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) was held in December 2014. Bringing together 45 statistical and development experts, the EGM reviewed the SDG agenda, drew out implications for statistical development in Asia and the Pacific, and made recommendations on strategic priorities for consideration. The resultant Regional Core Set (RCS) of Gender Indicators is organized along the following lines:

- Six basic domains of the GMSGI^{viii}, adapted to meet the needs and address the priorities of the Asia-Pacific region;
- Five supplementary domains: considered as priorities by certain sub-groups of countries in the region; (See Figure 1 below)
- Priority target group (rural women): a subset of indicators in the basic domains to capture issues of particular concern to rural women.
- Qualitative indicators related to national norms^{ix}.

The RCS comprises 200 indicators across all the Domains. States were asked to fill out a questionnaire indicating availability of data, whether an indicator is or is not produced² in the country, and the national agency responsible for data collection against the recommended RCS indicators. The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has filled out this questionnaire for the country.

Supporting these domains is a list of Qualitative Indicators Related to National Norms that provide extended qualitative indicators against Domains 1, 4 and 5 depicted in Figure 1 below. (See Annex 2 for full list.)

FIGURE 1: Cross-set comparison of gender indicators in the global and regional (Asia-Pacific) sets



A large crowd of women is waiting outside the room of a female doctor for medical check-up

Most women in Pakistan do not find it appropriate to get medical check-ups from male doctors, due to taboos and socio-cultural values. The situation is worse in rural areas of the country where most rural hospitals do not have sufficient number of female staff members, further limiting women's access to quality medical care.

**TABLE
02**

SELECT GENDER INDICATORS FOR PAKISTAN

Indicator	HEALTH INDICATORS	
	Source	Value
Health expenditure, total (percentage of GDP)	Pakistan Economic Survey 2014-15	The total outlay for health sector is budgeted at Rs.114.2 billion, which is equivalent to 0.42 percent of the GDP during 2014-2015
Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	3.8
Percentage of married women aged 15-49 years using contraceptives	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	35
Contraception Prevalence Rate (CPR), any method	Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	35.4
Unmet need for family planning	Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	20.1
Under-five mortality rate, by sex	Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	89
Infant mortality rate	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2013	74
Malnutrition prevalence, height for age (percentage of children under 5), by sex	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	45
Malnutrition prevalence, weight for age (percentage of children under 5), by sex	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	11
Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with a body mass index below 18.5	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	13.9
Maternal mortality ratio	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2006-07	276 per 100,000 live births
Maternal mortality ratio	WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group, and United Nations Population Division Maternal Mortality Estimation Inter-Agency Group	178 (2015)
Proportion of births attended by skilled health professional	Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	52
HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS INDICATORS		
Proportion of ever-partnered women (between the ages of 15 and 49) subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the past 12 months	Pakistan Demographic Health Survey 2012-13	32
Percentage of women aged 20-24 years old who were married or in a union before age 18	Demographic Health Survey 2006-07	24



The crowded female surgical ward of a district public hospital in interior Punjab

Obstacles to necessary medical care during complicated pregnancies can also include physical delay in arrival to a medical care facility. Timely decisions are not made; inadequate facilities for the degree of the severity of complications and delay in referral to more specialized center further deteriorate the situation. These structural barriers are a leading cause to country's high MMR.

The situation of neonatal and infant health care is also abysmal in Pakistan, which has the highest infant mortality rate in the South Asia region. Lack of comprehensive newborn, infant and pediatric health care services at public health facilities is the leading cause of the country's high IMR. In addition to limited infant health care services, supply of medicines in public hospitals is also erratic⁵ and most of the pediatric medicines, especially essential medicines, remain out of stock.



Women line-up outside the hospital dispensary to purchase medicines

Cross-set comparison of gender indicators in the global and regional (Asia-Pacific) sets

Comparing the Global Minimum Set and Regional Core Set of gender indicators reveals minute language differences and the addition of: Supplementary Domains (see Figure 1), indicators for Priority Target Group (Rural Women) and extended Qualitative Indicators related to National Norms (see Annex 2 for list). The National Norms set comprises indicators against the following:

- Gender mainstreaming,
- Gender budgeting,
- Gender responsive data collection,
- Gender equality in employment,
- Commitment to support reconciliation of work and family life, and
- Commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Reporting progress under the National Norms will require States to adopt new national laws and to ratify international instruments. Pakistan has accepted both the Global Minimum and Regional Core Set Gender Indicators as the basis for producing comparable statistical data on gender.

The Regional Core Indicators include two related indicators for adoption by States within the National Norms domains (Indicator EA 9: Official adoption of the regional core set of gender indicators; and Indicator EA10: Extent to which the core set of national gender indicators aligns with the global minimum set of gender indicators as recommended by the Statistical Commission. National Norm indicators are structured around the same broad classifications as the SDGs Means of Implementation (Goal 17): addressing strengthening of

institutions, increasing finance, enhancing accountability and partnership building to achieve national gender goals.

Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

The Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (henceforth Ministerial Declaration)^x is Asia-Pacific input to the 20-year global progress review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at the 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2015. Pakistan has endorsed the indicators emerging from the Conference (see Annex 1 for details of indicators).

Indicators under the Ministerial Declaration are sub-divided into four areas in line with the BPfA review. These fit neatly against many SDG Goals and Targets, particularly Goals 5 (gender equality and empowering all women and girls) and Goal 17 (means of implementation). The areas are as follows:

- Strengthened institutions,
- Increased financing,
- Enhanced accountability, and
- Strengthened partnerships.

Pakistan's National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) is the entity responsible for country reporting, but there is no defined reporting mechanism against these indicators as yet.

INDICATORS' REVIEW FINDINGS

Data Collection against gender indicators in the UN ESCAP Regional Core Set

The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS), in consultation with other national agencies, reports that RCS relevant data is being collected and that, for the most part, relevant indicators are produced. However, data is mostly not collected under the following Domains or categories of indicators:

- Participation in unremunerated productive work,
- Human rights of women,
- International labour migration, and
- Refugees.

According to the information submitted to the UN Statistical Commission, currently no data is being collected by any government agency against forty-five of the 200 RCS indicators (22 percent). For an additional twenty-six indicators (13 percent), data is collected but indicators are not produced. Consequently, according to the PBS, no or inadequate data is being collected against slightly over one-third of the RCS proposed indicators.

The SDG Technical Working Group, however, found that data is in fact collected for some RCS indicators, albeit with limitations of language in some instances, marked 'uncollected' by the PBS.

Reporting progress under the National Norms will require States to adopt new national laws and to ratify international instruments. Pakistan has accepted both the Global Minimum and Regional Core Set Gender Indicators as the basis for producing comparable statistical data on gender.

According to the information submitted to the UN Statistical Commission, currently no data is being collected by any government agency against forty-five of the 200 RCS indicators (22 percent).

**TABLE
03**

Official sources of data collection related to gender in Pakistan

◆	Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)
◆	Household Integrated Economic Survey (HIES Surveys –PBS)
◆	Planning, Development and Reform Division
◆	Labour Force Survey (PBS)
◆	Ministry of Finance
◆	National Education Management Information System (NEMIS)
◆	National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS- PDHS)
◆	Ministry of the Interior
◆	Establishment Division
◆	National Assembly Secretariat
◆	National Provincial Assemblies
◆	High Courts
◆	Ministry of Environment & Climate Change
◆	State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)
◆	National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
◆	Employees Old-age Benefits Institution (EOBI)
◆	Insurance companies
◆	Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)
◆	Ministry of Labour and Manpower
◆	Ministry of Defence
◆	Ministry of Law and Human Rights

**TABLE
04**

Regional Core Set Gender Indicators against which Data is Not Collected in Pakistan, Source: PBS response to the UN Statistical Commission (ESCAP) reviewed by Shirkat Gah

SDG Target Reference Number	Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators	Status of data collection and suggested sources (based on Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November, 2015; Islamabad)
T.5.4	I.4 <i>Average number of hours spent on paid and unpaid domestic work combined (total work burden), by sex</i>	Data is not collected in Pakistan. For this, a time-use survey can be carried out every 5-10 years. Alternately, the indicator can be integrated in the Pakistan Standard of Living Measurement (PSLM) survey or introduced in the Labour Force Survey (LFS).
T. 1.4, 5.5, 5a & 8.3	I.11 <i>Percentage of firms owned by women, by size</i>	Economic data is collected from firms but not disaggregated by sex. The LFS can introduce sex disaggregation in its surveys to obtain this data. Additionally, there is no urban-rural disaggregation of this indicator under Priority Target- Rural Women group to get percentage ownership of firms by rural women, which can be introduced at the national level.
T. 1.4, 5.5, 5a & 8.3	I.17 <i>Proportion of adult population owning land, by sex</i>	Indicator produced unevenly across Pakistan. Punjab official surveys gather information on rural land ownership from the Union Council to District level in some districts only. Other provinces do not collect this data. The indicator can be integrated into the LFS or PSLM.
T. 5.4 & 8.5	I.23 & I.23R for rural series <i>Average number of hours spent on unpaid domestic work (excluding child care and other care work), by sex</i>	This data can either be collected through a time-use survey every 5-10 years or integrated into the LFS.
T. 5.4 & 8.5	I.24 & I.24R for rural series <i>Average number of hours spent on child care, by sex</i>	As above.
SDG Target Reference Number	Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators	Status of data collection and suggested sources (based on Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November, 2015; Islamabad)
T. 5.4 & 8.5	I.25 & I.25R for rural series <i>Average number of hours spent on elderly care, by sex</i>	As above.
T. 8.5 & 10.4	I.26 <i>Employment rate of persons between the ages of 25 and 49 with a child under the age of 3 living in the household, by sex</i>	Data on employment is collected by the PSLM survey. This indicator can be either integrated in the PSLM or the LFS.
T. 8.5 & 10.4	I.27 <i>Employment rate of persons between the ages of 25 and 49 with no child under the age of 3 living in the household, by sex</i>	As above.

SDG Target Reference Number	Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators	Status of data collection and suggested sources (based on Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November, 2015; Islamabad)
T. 5.4 & 8.5	I.28 <i>Proportion of children under age 3 in formal care</i>	The indicator is more relevant to other Asia-Pacific countries which have formal care systems. In Pakistan, elder family members usually provide formal care to children of working women; Government-provided formal care is very limited (through State-run fosterage or public/private orphanages, etc.). Given the increasing number of women taking up economically active roles in the formal sector, this data should be tracked by integrating questions into either the PSLM or LFS with (elder) family members taken as proxy providers of childcare to assess need for such services.
T. 4.4, 4.5, 4a & 4b	II.6 <i>Share of female science, engineering, manufacturing and construction graduates at tertiary level</i>	The Academy of Educational Planning and Management (AEPAM) report ³ Education for All ^{xi} captures part of the data, but the female teachers' ratio data is estimated for only non-formal basic education (NBE) institutions and religious education (deeni madaris). The Ministry of Professional and Technical Training can collect this data through AEPAM or the responsibility for collecting data given to the Higher Education Commission.
T. 4.5, 4.5, 4.6, 4a & 4c	II.7 <i>Proportion of females among tertiary education teachers or professors</i>	As above.
T. 2.1 & 2.2	III.6 & III.6R for rural series <i>Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with a body mass index below 18.5</i>	Data routinely collected by the Pakistan Demographic Health Survey (PDHS).
No defined Target	III.11 <i>Proportion of adults who are obese, by sex</i>	The SGD Goal and Targets mention malnutrition and food sufficiency, but do not address obesity. Western studies usually link this indicator with overall health and economic well-being. The PDHS survey can generate this data.
T. 3.8 and 3b	III.13 <i>Access to anti-retroviral drugs, by sex</i>	The National Aids Control Organization under the Ministry of Health does collect data on men and women receiving treatment. However, this may not indicate the level of access for all persons. This indicator needs to be produced and data collected through the PDHS.
T. 5.1, 5.5, 5c & 16.7	IV.4 <i>Women's share of managerial positions</i>	The LFS does not collect this data nor is the indicator produced. This can be addressed by introducing the indicator in the LFS survey tools.
T. 5.2, 5.3, 5c, 16.1 & 16b	V.A <i>Intentional homicide (per 100,000 of the population), by male and female victims (percentage)</i>	Data on gender-based homicide is collected and the indicator produced by various agencies, including the Ministry of Interior (Mol), and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). The PBS collects data on various types of violence, but not the full gambit of gender-based violence, nor does it produce sex-disaggregated data for victims. The Mol and FIA can collect this data jointly. Further, genders other than male/female (e.g., transgenders, homosexuals, etc.) can be further included in the indicator.

SDG Target Reference Number	Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators	Status of data collection and suggested sources (based on Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November, 2015; Islamabad)
T. 5.2, 5c, 16.1 & 16.2	V.2 & V.2R for rural series <i>Proportion of women (between the ages of 15 and 49) subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner, since age 15</i>	The National Police Bureau (NPB) is a source for this data. The NPB can consider adopting the Standardized Indicators on VAW prepared by the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW). The Health Ministry can also be a source for cases that involve medico-legal aid and examinations.
T. 5.2, 5.3, 5c & 16.1	V.3 & V.3R for rural series <i>Prevalence of female genital mutilation/cutting</i>	The Health Ministry can be a source of data by introducing screening questions at health facilities.
T. 5.2, 5.3, 5c & 16.1	V.4 Femicide rate (plus V.4R for rural series)	The National Police Bureau is a source for this data; it can consider adopting the Standardized Indicators on VAW prepared by the NCSW.
T. 3.7, 5.6, & 5c	V.6 & V.6R for rural series <i>Adolescent birth rate</i>	The PDHS collects fertility data for 5-year cohorts starting at 15 years and then 50 years and above. However, the high prevalence of child marriages means that fertility may start before 15 years in Pakistan. Hence, fertility should be tracked from year 10 using the following revised age brackets at the lower end: 10-16 (below the legal age of marriage 16 years across the country); 17-18 (to capture the 18-year minimum legal age of marriage in Sindh province); 19-20; then continuing with the existing cohorts.
T. 7a, 11.6, 13.2, & 13b	VI.A Green house gas emissions per capita	The Ministry of Climate Change does calculate greenhouse emissions, but this is a weak indicator in terms of gender as emissions impact general populations and the indicator does not demand sex-disaggregated.
T. 8.8 & 10.7	VII.A <i>Recent migration – economically active foreign-born population in the country for less than five years as a percentage of total population, by sex</i>	The Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis can include this indicator in its data collection tools, as can the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment. Currently, data is collected sector-wise but is not sex-disaggregated.
T. 8.8 & 10.7	VII.a <i>Ratio of female to male documented migrants</i>	As above.
T. 8.8 & 10.7	VII.b <i>Percentage of labour migrants holding legally enforceable contracts issued in the country of destination, by sex</i>	The indicator can be integrated into the existing LFS tools.
T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 8.7, 10.7, 16.2 & 16.3	VII.c <i>Number of reported cases of trafficking (all forms), by sex</i>	The FIA collects data on external trafficking, but not internal trafficking within Pakistani borders and cross provinces/cities. The FIA can be source for this information in the future. Currently, the Immigration Wing of the Ministry of Interior also maintains records of reported cases of trafficking, but none of the reports capturing this data are published, online or otherwise.

SDG Target Reference Number	Regional Core Set of Gender Indicators	Status of data collection and suggested sources (based on Technical Working Group meeting, 13 November, 2015; Islamabad)
T. 10.7	VII.C <i>Documented emigrants as a percentage of total population, by sex</i>	The Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis can include this indicator in its data collection tools, so can the Bureau of Emigration and Overseas Employment. Currently, data is collected sector-wise but is not sex-disaggregated
T. 8.8 & 10.7	VII.d <i>Ratio of female to male documented international migrants</i>	As above.
T. 8.8 & 10.7	VII.e <i>Percentage of labor migrants holding legally enforceable contracts issued before departure, by sex</i>	As above.
T. 8.8, 10.7 & 10c	VII.f <i>Proportion of migrants sending remittances back to their country of origin, by sex</i>	As above.
No well-defined Target in the SDGs for Refugees and Asylum Seekers	VIII.A <i>Number of refugees per 1,000 inhabitants</i> VIII.B <i>Number of refugees per 1 US\$ of GDP (PPP) per capita</i> VIII.a <i>Ratio of female to male registered refugees and/or asylum seekers</i> VIII.b <i>Average number of years for refugees/ asylum seekers to receive a decision on their application for refugee status, by sex</i> VIII.c <i>Percentage of female members in food distribution committees / camp management committees at refugee camps (where applicable)</i> VIII.d <i>Percentage of asylum seekers, registered refugees, and refugee camp staff that have participated in sexual and gender-based violence training, by sex</i>	The Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON) collects information related to refugees and displaced persons in Pakistan. SAFRON along with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) could take up these indicators.
T. 10.4, 11.5 & 13.1	XI.c <i>Percentage of benefits received by women and girls from temporary employment provided in early economic recovery programmes</i>	
T. 16.1 & 16a	XI.d <i>Percentage of peace agreements with specific provisions to improve the status and security of women and girls</i>	

NATIONAL- LEVEL INDICATORS FOR SDGS IN PAKISTAN- SUMMARY OF RCS SHORTCOMINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The exercise carried out by Shirkat Gah to park regional core set indicators (RCS) against SDG Goals and Targets faced challenges: the process became text-bound, limited by the language of indicators, Goals and Targets. It did however identify gaps. The findings are as follows:

General Observations

↗ Limited indicators in RCS against SDG Goals and Targets:

The Regional Core Set (RCS) has 200 gender indicators; the SDGs 169 Targets.

Very few RCS indicators correspond to single SDG targets. Most RCS indicators correspond to several goals and targets. However, the limited number of indicators available in the RCS increases the risk of including weak indicators against some SDG Goals.

The review revealed that strong indicators still need to be developed against many SDG Goals and Targets in Pakistan, especially those with no relevant regional, global indicators or national indicators. This is particularly true for many forms of VAWG⁴, for example.

↗ Relevance of RCS to national context:

Pakistan needs to weed out RCS indicators for issues with more relevance for other countries in the Asian-Pacific region, and/or better contextualize against priority issues, such as Indicator 1.28: Proportion of children under age 3 in formal care.

↗ Absence of gender-disaggregation in RCS indicators:

Some RCS indicators do not specifically mention sex-disaggregation. Examples include:

RCS Domain I: Poverty

- Indicator I.F (Poverty): Age dependency (ratio of population under younger than 15 and older than 65 years to the population between the ages of 16 and 64);
- Indicator I.G: Child dependency ratio (ratio of population younger than 15 years to the population aged 15 to 65);

⁴Statistical departments may refer to the NCSW's list of Standardized indicators on VAW for Pakistan, available at <http://www.ncsw.gov.pk/previewpublication/36>.

- Indicator I.H: Old-age dependency ratio

RCS Domain II: Education

- Indicator II.A: Total spending on education as a percentage of GDP;
- Indicator II.B (Education): Public spending on education (percentage of government expenditure);

RCS Domain III: Health & Health-related services

- Indicator III.A: Health expenditure (percentage of GDP);
- Indicator III.B: Public health expenditure (percentage of total health expenditure);
- Indicator III.C: Public spending on health as a percentage of total government expenditure.

RCS Domain IV: Governance and participation in public life and decision making

- Indicator IV.A: Number of police personnel per 100,000 of the population

RCS Domain V: Human rights of women and girls

- Indicator V.A: Intentional homicide (per 100,000 of the population), by male and female victims (percentage).

RCS Domain VIII: Refugees/ Asylum seekers

- Indicator VIII.A: Number of refugees per 1,000 inhabitants.

The RCS does request male-female disaggregated data against the indicators listed below, although there is no reference

to other genders that might face gender-based violence (GBV) or discrimination:

- Indicator V.A: Intentional homicide (per 100,000 of the population), by male and female victims (percentage);
- Indicator X.C: Percentage of public social security expenditure on benefits targeting persons in old age;
- Indicator X.A: Social Protection Index (SPI) for women as a ratio of the overall SPI for both sexes;
- Indicator X.C: Percentage of public social security expenditure on benefits targeting persons in old age.

Disaggregation by Rural/Urban Residence:

The RCS does not demand rural-urban disaggregated indicators except those appearing under the Priority Group - Rural Women. Although rural/urban disaggregated data is aspirational for most gender goals, such disaggregation may not be possible in some instances, or may not make sense.

It is thus important to review which set of indicators could be usefully disaggregated by urban-rural residence to help provide a more holistic picture of impact on women and girls. Amongst the factors to be considered for rural/ urban indicator disaggregation are: globalization, climate change, cultural norms (including restricted mobility and access to resources), lack of infrastructure and access to basic services tend to effect rural populations, particularly women and girl disproportionately and may require higher or different types of hard and soft investments.

Domain specific observations

Indicators on Women and technology (RCS Domain I: Poverty):

Women and technology are addressed under Goal 9.c of the SDGs: "Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020".

Corresponding gender indicators in the RCS, however, are limited to tracking individuals by sex: using the internet (Indicator I.20), mobile-cellular telephones (Indicator I.21), as well as the proportion of households with access to mass media (radio, TV, internet) disaggregated by the sex of household head (Indicator I.22).

Increasing women's access to information is articulated in SDG Target 5b (use of enabling technology to promote the empowerment of women") as well as Target 16.10 (public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms).

Reading Goal 9.c, 5b and 16.10 together, suggests that women's access to information can be further increased by strengthening existing legislation on the Right to Information in provinces and the federal territory, and by carrying out awareness campaigns for women as well as men on the use of the law. Women's access to information would also benefit from promoting women's knowledge about rights in general, including sexual and reproductive rights, for example.

New indicators must complement those outlined in the RCS to reflect the impact technology has on women^{xii}. For instance, indicators can be produced and tracked for the number of women reporting

technology-driven GBV, a rising concern in Pakistan with the increased access to cellular phones and Internet, should be considered. The task of data collection should be assigned to the Federal Investigation Agency that is responsible for investigating and recording cyber-crimes.

Indicators on Education (RCS Domain II):

RCS gender indicators related to education pertain largely to enrollments from primary to tertiary levels, the sector-wise ratio of female teachers, and improving overall educational attainment for all ages^{xiii}.

Various other indicators point to low levels of education attainment for girls in Pakistan (distance to school, missing facilities, corporal punishment and other social determinant). In keeping with the constitutional right to free and compulsory education (Article 25A), indicators beyond those recommended in the RCS can be adopted. One point of reference is the World Education Forum (2015), which produced a set of thematic indicators^{xiv} related to education⁵ to meet SDG Goal 2 by 2030.

Additional indicators are needed to collect data linking educational attainment to non-discriminatory employment for women and girls.

Indicators on health (RCS Domain III: Health and health-related services):

From a gender perspective, the RCS health indicators capture a significant section of SRHR indicators recommended at the regional level. However, the ESCAP questionnaire for national data collection does not specify the age bracket defining 'adolescents'. The UN describes 'adolescence' as ages 10-19 years; 'youth' as 15-24 years of age; and 'young people' as 10-24 years of age. In Pakistan, the PDHS collects fertility data for ages defined in 5-year cohorts starting at 15-19 years,

⁵The World Education Forum framework suggests developing Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) based on national contexts, but Pakistan's Vision 2030 document, issued in 2007 suggests no measures to introduce CSE in schools.

and ending at 45-49 years. These age groups do not effectively capture adolescent or youth groups.

Pakistan's commitments for collecting data against other indicators need to be taken into consideration. For example the 2020 Family Planning Conference (FP) core indicators⁶ that define adolescents as persons aged 15 to 19.^{xv}

Moreover, the high prevalence of child marriages means that in Pakistan, fertility needs to be tracked from years 10 of age onwards.

It is recommended that the following revised age brackets be used for the younger age groups to align with legal provisions in Pakistan:

- o 10 to less than 16 years old (i.e. all those below the legal age of marriage in all parts of Pakistan);
- o 17 to less than 18 years of age (to take into account those below the minimum legal age of marriage in the province of Sindh);
- o 19-20 year olds.

Other 5-year cohorts can remain the same.



Unsterilized instruments in the surgical ward at a rural public hospital.

In Pakistan, the PDHS collects fertility data for ages defined in 5-year cohorts starting at 15-19 years, and ending at 45-49 years. These age groups do not effectively capture adolescent or youth groups.

**TABLE
05**

SRHR-related Goals and Targets in the SDGs

Target Number	Description
3.1	By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births
3.2	By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under 5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births
3.3	By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
3.7	By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes
3.8	Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all
3.c	Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States
4.7	By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
5.1	End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
5.2	Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
5.3	Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
5.6	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
5.c	Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels
16.6	Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
16.7	Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
16.9	By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

➤ Vulnerability and “Refugees/Asylum seekers” (RCS Domain VIII):

The SDGs make no explicit reference to (political) refugees and asylum seekers, such as providing housing and rehabilitation support to international refugees, despite the global crisis resulting in millions of development funds being retrenched, across Europe in particular.

The SDGs refer to “vulnerable” populations under Targets 1.3-1.5, 2.1, 4.5, 6.2, 11.2 and 11.5; however, vulnerability is contextually linked to poverty, gender disparities, education, access to safe housing (climate-related), etc., and not to geo-political factors.

Issues of refugees and asylum seekers, that have deep gender and SRHR dynamics as well as social, economic and political implications, are of direct concern for Pakistan that has a substantial refugee population of its own. Indicators on the topic are included in the RCS, however, which is encouraging.

➤ Indicator on “Governance and participation in public life and decision making” (RCS Domain IV); “Peace and Security” (RCS Domain XI):

Curiously enough, few of the indicators agreed upon in the Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment are reflected in the RCS. Exceptions mostly fall under Domain IV: Governance and participation in public life and decision-making and Domain XI: Peace and security. Included indicators are as following (SDG Target numbers (T) are provided here for ease of reference):

- Indicator IV.A Number of police personnel per 100,000 of the population (SDG T. 16.3, 16a)
- Indicator IV.1: Women’s share of government ministerial positions (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)
- Indicator IV.2: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)

- Indicator IV.3: Ratio of women to men representatives in sub-national and local governments (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)
- Indicator IV.4: Women’s share of managerial positions (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)
- Indicator IV.5: Percentage of female police officers, by rank (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)
- Indicator IV.6: Percentage of female judges (SDG T. 5.1, 5.2, 5c, 16.7)
- Indicator XI.a: Percentage of representatives of post-conflict and peace-building bodies/entities who are women, for local, national and international bodies separately (SDG T. 5.5, 16.6)
- Indicator XI.b: Percentage of women in governance bodies of national human rights bodies (SDG T. 5.5, 16.6)
- Indicator XI.e: Percentage of women in the military ((SDG T. 16.1, 16a)
- Indicator XI.f: Percentage of women in the diplomatic service (SDG T. 5.1, 5.5, 16.7)
- Indicator XI.g: Percentage of national funds allocated and/or disbursed by government to civil society organisations (CSOs) for women, peace and security initiatives (SDG T. 16a)
- Indicator XI.h: Percentage of official development assistance (ODA) funds allocated and/or disbursed by bilateral donors to governments or CSOs for women, peace and security initiatives (SDG T. 17.2, 17.3)
- Indicator XI.i: Percentage of ODA funds allocated / disbursed by bilateral donors for the provision of services and other interventions for women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence associated with situations of conflict (SDG T. 17.2, 17.3)

The Government should adopt the complete set of indicators in the Ministerial Declaration, to measure progress and gaps against gender mainstreaming efforts and gender budgeting, gender responsive data collection, gender equality in employment, commitment to support reconciliation of work and family life, and commitment to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Indicators for “Human rights of women and girls” (RCS Domain V):

While the RCS include physical and sexual violence by intimate partners, female genital mutilation/cutting, femicide, child/forced marriage and birth-rates amongst adolescents, other forms of GBV pervasive in Pakistan are not covered.

- It is recommended that different statistical departments consider integrating the indicators proposed by the NCSW for VAW that include harmful tradition practices and violence in the political arena.

RCS Indicators for “Environment & Climate Change” (RCS Domain VI); “Disaster risk reduction”(RCS Domain IX):

RCS indicators against climate change and its impact on women include the following:

- Indicator VI.1: Proportion of environmental and climate change funds allocated to women and gender issues at the national level;
- Indicator IX.a: Ratio of women affected by disaster who received assistance;
- Indicator IX.b: Percentage of available funds allocated to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction activities, last budget year;
- Indicator IX.c: Proportion of capacity-building workshops that include gender-related modules on disaster risk-reduction, by administrative level; and
- Indicator IX.d: Number of women as a percentage of all members of the national and local disaster risk reduction coordination mechanism.

The RCS provides no indicators against the important environment and climate change Goals 14 and 15. This is both surprising and unfortunate as women are disproportionately affected by the resultant social and environmental implications.

Similarly, there is no corresponding RCS gender indicator for Goal 12 (sustainable consumption

and production patterns). The Goal encompasses sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, halving food wastage at the consumer level and managing water and soil contaminants to avert adverse health impacts. It would be important to track the number of women suffering adverse health outcomes as a direct result of exposure to harmful pesticides, both during gestational periods and otherwise.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDICATORS

- Gender is a crosscutting issue in the sustainable development agenda. This is a welcome and necessary approach. It is encouraging that a review of existing and agreed upon indicators at the regional level (taking from the Global Minimum Gender Indicators) reveals that most indicators can be parked against SDG Goals 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16 and 17. Different agencies may focus on particular Goals, but it would be unhelpful to isolate any one or two Goals with respect to gender implications.
- Many quantitative indicators in the Regional Core Set need to be supported by qualitative indicators to gauge gender outcomes. For example, a higher representation of women in public life and decision-making positions in government departments and assemblies, should not be taken to indicate improved decision-making for women and girls across the various strata of society.
- Indicators need to be developed to measure the extent of government protection and fulfillment of women's rights and to track reductions in inequities across all spheres and levels of society. A careful analysis must underpin the selecting/ adopting/ crafting of indicators and organizing them against inputs. Indicators must include fiscal allocations, human resources and institutional/systemic measures; technology and partnerships, outputs and ultimate outcomes for women and girls. (See Annex 2 for regional minimum Qualitative Indicators related to National Norms).
- Similarly, the ratification of key international conventions should be monitored. Ratification is only a first step. Further indicators to be formulated to measure progress on gender-just policy and legislation that track how effectively international obligations have been translated into domestic law and public policy. This should include the withdrawal of reservations and declarations such as Pakistan's Declaration on its ratification of CEDAW (making all actions conditional on not being in contradiction to the Constitution).
- Pakistan has to prioritize the Human Rights cause in the wake of the special incentive arrangement for Sustainable Development, known as GSP+, which offers additional duty free exports for developing countries in their ratification and implementation of 27 core International conventions concerning Human Rights, Labor Rights, Environment, Narcotics Control and Corruption. Pakistan, traditionally, has led in treaty ratifications and has done so for all 27, legislating 273 laws around them domestically. However, there is a dire need to strengthen implementation of these laws, improving governance structures, and ensuring civil society's active role in accountability mechanisms.
- Time-use surveys are a lengthy but useful tool in quantifying women's contributions to unremunerated work. Such surveys need to be undertaken at 5-10 year intervals to assess the burden of work undertaken by women within and outside households that impedes their participation in public life.
- Overlaps and repetitions in data collection must be avoided. The Government can adopt many gender-relevant indicators suggested by different agencies in an integrated manner. Examples include a list of standardized VAW indicators proposed by NCSW, indicators developed by the Punjab Commission on the Status of Women around CEDAW, and other commitments under international instruments (e.g.

Family Planning Conference 2020 core indicators⁷; Education 2020 indicators⁸, WHO Short list of RH indicators for global monitoring^{xvi}, etc.).

- Many official surveys already collect data that can be easily disaggregated for sex as well as urban/rural residence. In many instances, therefore, new indicators are not required. The need of the hour is for the Government to integrate gender in applied data sciences in different instruments of data collection.
- Census's recent postponement is a crucial blow to the kick-off of SDGs and a major cause for concern, particularly since the last census was held nearly 20 years ago (1998). For any development framework to be practical and relevant to the demographical dynamics of the country,

it is absolutely essential that transparent census be held without further delay.

- A thorough research is required to clearly identify areas in which gender indicators are already produced and data collected across Pakistan beyond the RCS. This process may need to be supported.



A female medical officer is doing a medical check-up of her patients at a local hospital.

Indicators need to be developed to measure the extent of government protection and fulfillment of women's rights and to track reductions in inequities across all spheres and levels of society.

...a higher representation of women in public life and decision-making positions in government departments and assemblies, should not be taken to indicate improved decision-making for women and girls across the various strata of society.

⁷FP2020 Core Indicators for all 69 countries including Pakistan, available at: <http://www.track20.org/pages/data/indicators>

⁸Thematic Indicators to Monitor the Post-2015 Education Agenda, available at: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/tag-proposed-thematic-indicators-post2015-education-agenda.pdf>

STRENGTHENING THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION (MOI)

SDG Goal 17 entails strengthening the means of implementation (MOI)⁹ in order to realise the overall agenda. MOI are categorized under the following heads:

-  Finance
-  Technology
-  Capacity-building
-  Trade
-  Systemic Issues (including policy and institutional coherence; multi-stakeholder partnerships; and data, monitoring and accountability).

Meeting Gender Financing Needs

The need to increase financing for achieving gender equality and empowerment has been reiterated by nearly all major multi-lateral agencies, working groups and ministerial-level meetings on women, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region, in light of lessons learnt.

In addition to the language losses in the SDGs mentioned earlier, critics point to parallel processes as compromises made, such as discussions around Common but Differentiated Responsibility^{xvii} and Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, AAAA or FfD for short)^{xviii}. These along with the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Treaty (TTIP) are seen as rendering unrealistic any expectations of a meaningful

reconfiguration of status quo between the Global North and Global South as proposed by the new agenda.

SDG Goal 10 proposes reducing inequalities within and between States by 2030. Stark gender inequalities in Asia-Pacific increase the significance of Goal 10 and related Targets. The 2015 FfD outcome document^{xix} calls for the mobilization of global financial resource to remove such inequalities, but fails to provide a timeline for developed countries to fulfill their Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments such as providing 0.7 percent of their Gross Net Income (GNI) to ODA for developing countries, of which 0.15% to 0.20% should be provided to least developed countries.

In terms of creating 'fiscal space' in Pakistan to achieve the SDGs, World Bank projections^{xx} suggest that, in addition to other sources of income, ODA, which is lower than expected in Pakistan, be increased. Suggested measures include increasing tax intake, improving tax to GDP ratio, reducing low priority spending, decreasing fuel subsidies and increasing net ODA as a percentage of GNI which has been declining since the mid-1990s^{xxi}.

Pakistan is in the Lower Middle Income group of countries. GDP for 2014 was US\$246.9 billion, with an estimated population of 185.1 million (World Bank, 2015). Public debt¹⁰ was 61.8 percent of GDP as at end-March 2015, compared with 62 percent in the previous year. Public debt increased by Rs. 940 billion in the first nine months of fiscal year 2015-2016 as compared with the same period the previous year. According to the Finance Ministry in 2015,

"A rising debt burden has implications ... to meet debt-servicing obligations, an extra burden is placed on limited government resources [impacting] foregone public investment or expenditure in other sectors of the

⁹MOI is described in the SDG document as "the interdependent mix of financial resources, technology development and transfer, capacity building, inclusive and equitable globalisation and trade, regional integration as well as the creation of a national enabling environment required to implement the new sustainable development agenda...."

¹⁰Public debt has two main components, namely domestic debt (which is incurred principally to finance fiscal deficit) and external debt (which is raised primarily to finance development expenditure).

economy.... Public debt servicing consumed nearly 44.5 percent of total revenues during first nine months of current fiscal year against a ratio of 47 percent during the same period last year. Ideally, this ratio should be below 30 percent to allow government to allocate more resources towards social and poverty related expenditures.”^{xxii}

Under the MDGs, ODA aid flow was concentrated in the health and education sectors. There was a significant underinvestment in gender equality in the economic and productive sectors.

Realizing the gender goals of the SDG agenda for 2030 demands sufficient resources. There is a dire need to revisit existing national investments, the provincial shares of development and social sector programs, and build on existing work.

Addis Ababa Action Agenda's emphasis on enhancing domestic resource mobilization for sustainable development places developing countries like Pakistan in an uphill battle against a crippled taxation system. MOI's (Goal 17) capacity building initiatives will have to serve more than words for Pakistan towards progressive taxation, while retaining a balanced equation with inflation, to widen the tax net focusing on redistribution. This should not just reduce the country's massive fiscal deficits enhance the budgeting for developmental initiatives, but also reduce intra-country inequalities. The country also requires technical, technological, and systemic support to enhance the private sector's contribution towards development as currently no such framework exists. The ambitious pathway towards a green economy should then become clearer.

Managing the flow of international and national financial resources judiciously is imperative to meeting gender-financing needs of the country, whether this is through the ODA Fund, local (private) fund-raising measures, or adopting a mix of the WB recommendations. Expected income and required expenditures need to be accurately estimated to ensure resources are available to roll out the SDGs.

Addressing systemic issues

Pakistan's indicators for governance, transparency, rule of law, freedom of expression, etc. over the decades have shown limited improvement compared to other developing countries. Access to basic healthcare, education and gainful economic activity remain restricted for a large majority of Pakistanis to varying degrees. A rich corpus of literature exists on the structural weaknesses in State delivery of public goods on the one hand, and the absence of a unified, clearly stated and widely accepted social contract with its citizens, on the other.

Pakistan needs to set ambitious but attainable targets based on its national priorities against the SDGs. It must decide how to engage with international economic systems such as – a compliance-based model, for example, the GSP Plus¹¹ that restricts and rewards market access depending on human rights indicators.

To realize the vast SDG agenda, it is crucial to ensure that actions are supported by coherent legal, policy and institutional frameworks. In terms of coherence, for instance, sustainable and inclusive development cannot be achieved while ignoring people's rights.

¹¹Trade agreements like GSP Plus, linking subsidies and improved access to foreign markets to human rights have the potential to act as binding economic instruments, particularly since there are no legal obligations attached to the SDGs.

Follow-up and Review

Hard-fought gains in the field of gender equality, including the SRHR agenda, risk being eroded by the diluted role of civil society in the monitoring and reporting processes outlined in the SDG document. The disproportionate use of the words “follow-up and review” as opposed to transparency or accountability, coupled with the review process being reduced to a voluntary, State-led process, opens considerable room for skepticism regarding the truly transformative power of the SDGs.

Weak follow-up and review was identified as a critical factor for not achieving the MDGs, along with everyone being responsible for achieving the goals, hence no one responsible in effect. Consequently, the new sustainable development agenda follow-up and review mechanisms need to be well-defined and rigorously observed at all levels in ways that ensure that different stakeholders effectively fulfil their respective roles.

This means allowing State performance to be assessed against their starting points in 2015 and tracking meaningful and equity-based progress over the years in the political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental arenas.

At the local and national levels, civil society, including community monitoring, should be utilized to provide more effective feedback to the Government. Public hearings, social audits, community score cards, citizen report cards, participatory expenditure and budget reviews have been used effectively in the past to provide useful feedback to public institutions under the MDGs^{xxiii}. These should be systematically adopted for the SDGs.

A parliamentary task force on the SDGs has been established at the Federal level, and provincial units are being established. Responsibility for coordination,

follow-up and review would lie with these entities. These entities need to liaise with various government departments, effectively coordinate the collation of performance indicators, and highlight issues in implementation in a timely fashion. However, despite notification of the establishment of a unit for Sindh, officially notified terms of reference are yet to be communicated and reporting systems still need to be put into place. It is essential to establish and empower these Units and provide the necessary technology, capacity and resources (including financial and human) to carry out work effectively.

At the regional level, technical and review committees will need to engage regularly with both governments and the High Level Political Forum. They will need to ensure a balance between national capacity-limitations and performance reporting by States in a bid to secure international aid for enhancing local implementation.

Strong accountability mechanisms need to be rolled out nationally with increased interdepartmental coordination on data collection. Planning and review of developmental processes must likewise be undertaken to correct gender inequality and achieve women and girl's empowerment.

CONCLUSION

The new world consensus roadmap, Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is an exciting vehicle for continuing and completing the gender equality agenda, especially since gender is reflected across numerous Goals and associated Targets. Appropriate effective indicators are pivotal for tracking progress towards the goals and targets and identifying gaps.

To deliver on the Agenda by 2030, Pakistan needs to integrate a gender perspective in establishing national priorities and set ambitious but attainable targets against the SGDs. An integrated approach to women's human rights is required in line with international commitments, including for example, the GSP Plus. All development planning and review processes must integrate a gender equality perspective.

The establishment of a parliamentary task force on the SGDs and the envisaged provincial units are a welcome indicator of high level commitment. Units need to be established and empowered and be provided with the necessary technology, capacity and resources (including financial and human) to carry out work effectively.

Many official surveys already collect data that can be easily disaggregated for sex as well as urban/rural residence. New indicators may only be required in a few instances. SDG indicators should dovetail with the country's existing data collection commitments and enable regional and international comparisons. It is encouraging that the review of existing and agreed upon Global Minimum Gender Indicators shows these do respond to numerous SDG Goals. To avoid duplication of efforts, a thorough review should identify areas in which gender indicators are already produced and for which data is collected across Pakistan beyond those identified in the RCS.

The participatory process in developing the SDGs is a distinguishing factor of the new agenda. This spirit has been reflected in Pakistan in the multi-stakeholder collaborative processes looking at gender-relevant

indicators, that have informed the development of this Brief. Mechanisms need to be put into place to ensure that this continues from the local to national levels. Civil society, including community monitoring, can be an effective means of gathering useful feedback for public institutions both for tracking progress and for early course correction measures. Consultations with experts, academic institutions and the private sector as well as government departments and autonomous bodies, in particular the commissions on women and women's caucuses, should be institutionalized and reporting mechanisms strengthened for effective feedback loops and continuous review and learning from both best practices as well as challenges.

At the level of the Asia-Pacific region, technical and review committees should engage regularly with governments and the High Level Political Forum and ensure a balance between national capacity-limitations and performance reporting to enhance local implementation.

ANNEX 1: Ministerial Declaration Indicators- Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Strengthened Institutions (SI) CORE INDICATORS

National Women's Machinery

No.	Indicators	To be recorded
SI 1:	Position of the national women's machinery (or machineries) within the government structure	name & level
SI 2:	Proportion of the annual national budget allocated to the national women's machinery	%
SI 3:	Total amount of government funding received by the national women's machinery (financial year)	\$ amount
SI 4:	Number of full-time, fully-funded staff of the national women's machinery	# (by sex, function)

Normative Frameworks

SI 5:	Existence of an national human rights action plan that explicitly references the human rights of women and girls	NHRA
SI 6:	Legislation adopted by parliament that supports the full and effective implementation of the Platform for Action (previous 12 months)	Primary and enabling legislation

Participation & Representation

SI 7:	Percentage of government ministerial positions occupied by women	%
SI 8:	Mandatory quota for women's representation in national parliament	quota
SI 9:	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament	%
SI 10:	Proportion of seats held by women in sub-national/local parliaments	%
SI 11:	Percentage of judges, at each tier of the judicial system, who are women	%
SI 12:	Percentage of women in governance positions of independent national human rights institution	%
SI 13:	Percentage of women in the diplomatic service, by level	%

Strengthened Institutions (SI) SUPPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

National Women's Machinery

SI 14:	Proportion of required funding for the national women's machinery to fulfil its mandate that is received (financial year)	%
SI 15:	Number of national women's machinery staff who report an increase in their technical capacity	# (by sex, subject)

Normative Frameworks

SI 16:	Number of national laws that discriminated against women and girls that were abolished / retracted (previous 12 months)	laws
SI 17:	Proportion of legislation adopted by national parliament that is gender-responsive[1] (previous 12 months)	% & legislation
SI 18:	Proportion of proposed legislation that was reviewed from a gender perspective by the national women's machinery (previous 12 months)	% & legislation

Participation & Representation

SI 19:	Mandatory quota for women's representation in local government	quota
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Coordination & Gender Focal Points

SI 20:	Formal intra-governmental coordination mechanism(s) for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment	mechanism(s)
SI 21:	Proportion of national government departments (or equivalent) that have a Gender Focal Point	%
SI 22:	Proportion of sub-national / local government bodies that have a Gender Focal Point	%
SI 23:	Proportion of members of parliament who participated in gender capacity development initiatives, disaggregated by sex	%

Capacity Building

Increased Financing (IF) CORE INDICATORS

IF 1:	Government multi-year mechanism/s in place for financing initiatives that address one or more of the 12 critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action	mechanism(s)
IF 2:	Sources of financing for gender equality initiatives	Funding sources (domestic resources / tax; ODA; FDI; private sector; philanthropy; remittances); sector
IF 3:	Total funding provided by private sector entities for gender equality and women's empowerment initiatives	\$ amount (by source)
IF 4:	Macro-economic policies that uphold the principle of equal opportunity for women and men and explicitly promote gender equality	policies
IF 5:	Trade agreements that uphold the principle of equality of opportunity for women and men	trade agreements

IF 6:	Institutionalised gender-responsive budgeting across the public sector, whether by legislation, regulation or other means	GRB mechanism
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(IF) SUPPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

IF 7:	Government multi-sectoral measures for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls that are fully funded	measures
IF 8:	Government gender equality and women's empowerment programmes that address the rights of women and girls with disabilities	programmes
IF 9:	Government gender equality programmes that address the rights of the girl child	programmes
IF 10:	Number of private sector entities that fund gender equality initiatives	list entities
IF 11:	Number of private sector entities that fund women's empowerment initiatives	list entities
IF 11:	Mechanism for tracking the results of financial allocations and expenditure for the achievement of gender equality, women's rights and the empowerment of women and girls	mechanism

Enhanced Accountability (EA) CORE INDICATORS

Accountability Mechanisms

EA 1:	Mechanism(s) in place to hold the government accountable for full and effective implementation of the Platform for Action in national (i) policymaking, (ii) planning, and (iii) public expenditure	mechanism(s) (for i, ii and iii)
EA 2:	Timely submission (every four years) of national reports on progress in implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.	date of submission of latest national CEDAW report
EA 3:	Government mechanism(s) for engaging women, women's organizations and other civil society actors in decision-making bodies and processes for promoting women's rights and achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls	mechanism(s)
EA 4:	Proportion of government budgets released as public documents	%
EA 5:	Means through which government policies, legislation and other official documents pertaining to gender equality and women's empowerment are made publically available	means

Statistics

EA 6:	Dedicated national gender statistics budget	\$ amount
EA 7:	Legislation on gender statistics	law
EA 8:	Existence of a gender unit /expertise in the national statistical office	unit
EA 9:	Official adoption of the regional core set of gender indicators	core set
EA 10:	Extent to which the core set of national gender indicators aligns with the global minimum set of gender indicators as recommended by the Statistical Commission	alignment

Enhanced Accountability (EA) SUPPLEMENTARY INDICATORS

Accountability Mechanisms

EA 11:	Mechanism(s) in place to hold the government accountable for commitments pertaining to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	mecha- nism(s)
EA 12:	Mechanism(s) in place to hold the government accountable for commitments pertaining to the gender-related goals and targets of the global Sustainable Development Agenda	mecha- nism(s)
EA 13:	Mechanism/s in place for the sharing of information pertinent to gender equality and women's empowerment between the parliament, civil society and public and private sectors	mecha- nism(s)

Statistics

EA 14:	Annual national budget allocation for the national statistical office	% & \$ amount
EA 15:	Proportion of funding required by the national statistical office to fulfill its mandate that is received	%
EA 16:	Number of full-time, fully-funded staff of the national statistical office	# (by sex, function)
EA 17:	Proportion of national statistical office staff members who have participated in targeted gender capacity development initiatives (previous year)	%
EA 18:	Existence of a national plan of action on gender statistics	action plan
EA 19:	Number of government-produced analytical reports, publications and similar documents that provide gender statistics information / data that are made publically available.	# (by type of document)

Reporting

EA 20:	Mechanism(s) in place for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on progress and results in the implementation of the Platform for Action and other relevant mandates on gender equality and women's empowerment	mechanism(s)
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Strengthened Partnerships (SP) CORE INDICATORS

SP 1:	Number of formal partnerships for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment between the national government and one or more of the following: national parliament, United Nations entity, international organization, regional organization, non-governmental organization, development bank, educational institution, research institution, private sector entity, workers' organization, employers' organization, media entity	partnerships
SP 2:	Coordination and consultation mechanism(s) between government and civil society groups, including women's organizations, on key gender equality policy, programme and budget issues, in place	mecha- nism(s)
SP 3:	Mechanism(s) in place for engaging civil society in the design, implementation and evaluation of measures pertaining to the Platform for Action and gender-equality results	mecha- nism(s)
SP 4:	Number of public-private partnerships in support of the full and effective implementation of the Platform for Action and/or other gender equality and women's empowerment mandates	partnerships

Annex 2: Qualitative Indicators related to National Norms

DOMAIN/ INDICATORS	
DOMAIN I. POVERTY, PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPATION IN UNREMUNERATED PRODUCTIVE WORK	
QI.I.1	Extent of country commitment to gender mainstreaming ¹²
QI. I.1a	Gender mainstreaming is institutionalized ¹³ into national policy, planning and/or programming processes
QI.I.1b	Gender mainstreaming is institutionalized into sub-national or local planning and/or programming processes
QI.I.1c	Review of all new legislation from a gender perspective is institutionalized
I.2	Extent of country commitment to gender budgeting
QI.I.2a	Gender budgeting is institutionalized in national budget processes
QI.I.2b	Gender budgeting is institutionalized in sub-national or local budget processes
I.3	Extent of country commitment to gender-responsive statistics
QI.I.3a	Existence of law on gender statistics or gender statistics explicitly covered in a general statistics law
QI.I.3b	Existence of a gender unit in the national statistics office
QI.I.3c	Existence of a national plan of action on gender statistics or gender statistics explicitly covered in a national plan of action on statistics
QI.I.4	Extent of country commitment to gender equality in employment
QI.I.4a	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 100) concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value
QI.I.4b	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 111) concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation
QI.I.5	Extent of country commitment to support reconciliation of work and family life
QI.I.5a	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 156) concerning Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment for Men and Women Workers: Workers with Family Responsibilities
QI.I.5b	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 175) concerning Part-Time Work
QI.I.5c	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 177) concerning Home Work
QI.I.5d	Ratification of International Labour Organization Convention (No. 183) concerning the revision of the Maternity Protection Convention (revised)
QI.I.6	Length of maternity leave
QI.I.7	Percentage of wages paid during maternity leave
DOMAIN IV. GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE AND DECISION-MAKING	
QI.IV.1	Extent of country commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment
QI.IV.1a	National Women's Machinery established in government
QI.IV.1b	National Women's Machinery participates in decision making at the highest level of government (cabinet or the equivalent)
QI.IV.2	Presence of a gender quota for parliament (reserved seats and legal candidate quotas)

¹²Defined as the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality, report of the Economic and Social Council for 1997 (A/52/3).

¹³The term "institutionalized" refers to the existence of a formal requirement under legislation, regulation or other similar instrument.

QI.IV.3	Presence of a gender quota for local government (reserved seats)
QI.IV.4	Presence of a gender quota for parliament (voluntary party quotas)
DOMAIN V. HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRL CHILDREN	
QI.V.1	No reservation to article 16 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
QI.V.2	Existence of laws on domestic violence
QI.V.3	Existence of data on violence against women from a national survey conducted within the last 10 years
QI.V.4	Inheritance rights do not discriminate against women and girls
QI.V.5	Legal minimum age at marriage, by sex
QI.V.6	Status of ratification of the 18 core international human rights treaties and optional protocols

- i. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Available at http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/70/L.1. Last retrieved January 05, 2016.
 - ii. Report available at http://uscib.org/docs/GSPReportOverview_A4%20size.pdf. Last accessed December 07, 2015.
 - iii. Millennium Development Goals Report, 2015. Available at [http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20\(July%201\).pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2015_MDG_Report/pdf/MDG%202015%20rev%20(July%201).pdf). Last retrieved January 11, 2016.
 - iv. See, for example:

Transformative financing for gender equality and women's empowerment commitments:

Expectations from Financing for Development Conference, UN Women. New York, 2015. Available at: http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2015/05/UN-Women_Key-Messages_updated_24APR2015.pdf. Last retrieved, December 29, 2015; and report of the 47th session of Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs E/CN.3/2016/20- available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/47th-session/documents/2016-20-Gender-statistics-E.pdf>.
 - v. For example the Lady Health Workers programme, passage of various legislation and policy providing improved legal protection to women and girls (albeit with uneven results), Karachi Declaration (2009) and enabling policies and women's improved access to safe uterine evacuation and post-abortion care, etc.
 - vi. Most laws passed in the past 10 years in Pakistan concerning violence against women and girls have no in-built review mechanisms or budgets allocated for capacity enhancement and local implementation.
 - vii. Based on an agreement reached at the United Nations Statistical Commission's 44th session in 2013
 - viii. See E/CN.3/2014/18 and E/CN.3/2015/21
 - ix. These monitor how national legislation works in ensuring gender equality through ratification of relevant international conventions and the institutionalization of specific measures and policies to eliminate discrimination against women and promote gender equality.
 - x. See E/ESCAP/GEWE/L.1. For full Conference report, see: <http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Beijing%2B20%20Conference%20Report%20%28Web%20version%29.pdf>
 - xi. Education for All 2015 National Review Report: Pakistan, May 2014. Islamabad. Report available at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0022/002297/229718E.pdf>
 - xii. Bangkok Declaration for Beijing +15, 2009; 22: "While information and communication technologies (ICTs) have brought considerable benefits to women in the region, women still lack equal access and these technologies have also aided the proliferation of pornography and sexualized, disparaging and violent imagery of women on the internet, and are creating new forms of exploitation of women, including its use in facilitating and organizing the trafficking of women and children"; and 43: "To address and develop measures to combat ICT-related violence and exploitation of women."
 - xiii. Bangkok Declaration for Beijing +15, 2009; 14: "Improvements in girls and women's education have not systematically translated into greater economic opportunities for many women in the region, and women on average are considerably paid less than men and underemployed."
 - xiv. Thematic Indicators to Monitor the Post-2015 Education Agenda, available at: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/tag-proposed-thematic-indicators-post2015-education-agenda.pdf>. Last accessed 09 January 2016.
 - xv. FP2020 Core Indicators for all 69 countries including Pakistan, available at: <http://www.track20.org/pages/data/indicators>. Last accessed 11 January 2016.
 - xvi. World Health Organization (WHO) Short list of RH indicators for global monitoring (available at: http://www.cpc.unc.edu/measure/prh/rh_indicators/specific/global/whos-short-list-of-reproductive-health-indicators-for-global-monitoring)
 - xvii. CBDR consists of "universality, differentiation and responsibility; differentiation in crafting targets for different countries; responsibility in delivering actionable means of implementation and creating an enabling international environment for development, policy space, and the global partnership for development and universality in embodying the relevance, commitment, and priorities of goals relevant for all". A Geopolitical Analysis of Financing for Development (FfD3), 2015, pg.6. <http://www.twn.my/title2/finance/2015/f150302/A%20Geopolitical%20Analysis%20of%20FfD3%20-%20Regions%20Refocus,%20TWN,%20DAWN.pdf>
- The Rio Declaration states: "In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command." Similar language exists in the Framework Convention on Climate Change: parties should act to protect the climate system "on the basis of equality and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities." Similarly, the Stockholm Declaration

stressed the need to consider “the applicability of standards which are valid for the most advanced countries but which may be inappropriate and of unwarranted social cost for the developing countries.”

xviii. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda), adopted by the General Assembly on 27 July 2015 (resolution 69/313).

xix. Report available at: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/69/313 . Last accessed 02 January 2016

xx. Gable, Lofgren and Rodarte (2015). Trajectories for Sustainable Development Goals: Framework and Country Applications. World Bank Group, NY. Available at: http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2015/11/25/090224b083440c38/1_0/Rendered/PDF/TrajectoriesOf0country0applications.pdf. Retrieved 21 January 2016

xxi. *ibid*

xxii. Chapter 9: Public Debt. Available at: http://www.finance.gov.pk/survey/chapters_15/09_Public%20Debt.pdf. Last accessed 17 October 2015.

xxiii. UNDP (2010). Beyond the midpoint: Achieving the Millennium Development Goals. NY



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