

Global Europe Results Framework Indicator Methodology Note

1. Indicator name
<p>GERF 2.26: Number of countries supported by the EU to conduct elections and/or improve their electoral process</p>
2. Technical details
<p><i>Please use the information provided in OPSYS or the SWD.</i></p> <p><u>Results Dashboard code(s)</u>: 65243.</p> <p><u>Unit of measure</u>: <i>Number of (#).</i></p> <p><u>Type of indicator</u>: <i>Quantitative (not Qualitative) – Numeric (not Percentage); Actual ex-post (not estimated or ex-ante); Cumulative (not annual); Direct (not indirect).</i></p> <p><u>Level(s) of measurement</u>: <i>Specific Objective – Outcome; Direct Output; Output.</i></p> <p><u>Disaggregation(s)</u>: <i>None.</i></p> <p><u>DAC sector code(s)</u>: <i>15150 – Democratic participation and civil society; 15151 – Elections; 15152 – Legislatures and political parties.</i></p> <p><u>Main associated SDG</u>: <i>16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decisionmaking at all levels.</i></p> <p><u>Other associated SDGs</u>: <i>16.3 rule of law and justice; 16.6 accountable institutions; 16.10 protect fundamental freedoms; 17.9 capacity building.</i></p> <p><u>Associated GERF Level 1 indicator</u>: <i>1.21 World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) Voice and Accountability Score.</i></p> <p><u>Associated GERF Level 3 indicators</u>:</p> <p><i>3.3 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance contributing to strengthening investment climate</i></p> <p><i>3.8 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance directed towards fragile states</i></p> <p><i>3.13 Number and share of EU- external interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment</i></p> <p><i>3.14 Number and share of EU-funded external interventions promoting disability inclusion</i></p> <p><i>3.16 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance qualifying as ODA</i></p>
3. Policy context and rationale
<p>The European Union's commitment to democracy is articulated in Article 21 TEU and, as such, is a key component of its foreign policy. It is also part of the European Commission's communication: the new European Consensus on Development (2017).</p> <p>The Human Rights and Democracy Action Plan (HRDAP) adopted on 18 November 2020 under Council Conclusions 12848/20 is the relevant policy framework for this</p>

indicator, especially Priority 2, ‘Building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies’.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) includes a commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16).

4. Logframe inclusion

If an intervention generates the result measured by this indicator, then it must be reported in OPSYS. Corporate targets have been set for the indicators used to monitor the Strategic Plan and the Multiannual Financial Framework (see Section 9). Progress towards these targets is reported annually in the Annual Activity Plan (for the Strategic Plan) and the Programme Performance Statements (for the Multiannual Financial Framework). These values are calculated by aggregating the results reported in OPSYS. These reports ultimately contribute to the Annual Management Performance Report submitted by the European Commission to the Council and Parliament during the annual budgetary discharge procedure. If targets are not met, explanations must be provided. Therefore, it is crucial that all results are recorded in OPSYS.

There are two ways of doing this:

1. Include the indicator directly in the logframe (recommended approach);
2. Match the indicator to the closest logframe indicator (only if the indicator was not originally included in the logframe and modification is not possible).

Why? The matching functionality in OPSYS only accommodates reporting current values and does not yet support encoding baselines and targets. This is a significant drawback because targets are a valuable piece of information, especially at the beginning of a Multiannual Financial Framework. Indeed, results take time to materialise as they are the last step in the chain, appearing only after programming, commitments, contracting, and spending have occurred. Targets allow to see what results are expected long before they materialise, which is reassuring to the different stakeholders concerned with accountability. **Therefore, include all corporate indicators directly in the logframe whenever possible, and reserve the matching functionality only for cases when this is not feasible.**

5. Values to report

The following values must be determined in line with the definitions provided in Section 6.

Baseline value: the value measured for the indicator in the baseline year. The baseline value is the value against which progress will be assessed.

Current value:

- **For logframe indicators:** the most recent value for the indicator at the time of reporting. The current value includes the baseline value which is reported separately for logframe indicators in OPSYS.
- **For matched indicators:** the most recent value for the results achieved at the

time of reporting since the start of implementation of the intervention. This value is obtained by taking the most recent value for the indicator at the time of reporting and subtracting off the baseline value which is not reported separately for matched indicators in OPSYS.

Current values will be collected at least once a year and reported cumulatively throughout the implementation period.

Final target value: the expected value for the indicator in the target year.

Intermediate target values (milestones). A tool has been developed in OPSYS to generate intermediate targets automatically¹.

- **For outputs:** the intermediate targets are generated using a linear interpolation between the baseline and target values because it is assumed that outputs materialise sooner and more progressively over implementation (than outcomes).
- **For outcomes:** the expected progression over the course of implementation will vary across interventions. During the creation of a logframe, the expected outcome profile must be selected (OPSYS offers four options²) and this selection triggers the generation of intermediate targets for all 30 June and 31 December dates between the baseline and target dates for all output and outcome quantitative indicators. All automatically generated intermediate targets values and dates can be subsequently modified by the Operational Manager or the Implementing Partner with the approval of the Operational Manager.

6. Calculation of values

Specify all assumptions made, list definitions for all technical terms, provide any relevant guidance on (double) counting, and include checklist for quality control.

The value for this indicator is calculated by counting the number of countries supported by the EU to conduct elections and/or improve their electoral process, using the technical definitions and counting guidance provided below. Please double check your

¹ This has been done in the context of the Primary Intervention Questionnaire (PIQ) for the EAMR. Three new KPIs provide an overall assessment of ongoing interventions (current performance and future performance) and completed interventions (final performance). Scores will be calculated for all INTPA and NEAR interventions participating in the annual results data collection exercise.

- *KPI 10* reflects the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of ongoing interventions. The information on relevance is provided by the Operational Manager's response to a question in a survey. The information on efficiency and effectiveness is provided either by the logframe data, if sufficient data is available, or the response to a question in a survey, if not.
- *KPI 11* reflects expectations regarding the most probable levels of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability that can be achieved by ongoing interventions in the future. In this case, all the information is provided by the Operational Manager's responses to questions in a survey.
- *KPI 12* reflects the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of completed interventions. The information on relevance is provided by the Operational Manager's response to a question in a survey. The information on efficiency and effectiveness is provided by the logframe data if sufficient data is available, or the response to a question in a survey, if not.

² a. *steady progress*: The outcomes are achieved continuously throughout implementation; b. *accelerating progress*: The outcomes are achieved towards the end of implementation; c. *no progress until end*: The outcomes are mostly achieved at the end of implementation; d. *none of the above*.

calculations using the quality control checklist below.

Technical definitions

Elections include those at all levels of government (national and local) and for all institutions or positions, including presidential elections, local government elections, regional elections, referendums and initiatives.

A distinction is drawn between election assistance and (international) election observation. These activities are clearly related but, because of the intrinsic conflict of interest between them, they are measured separately. An individual involved in election observation is less likely to criticise an electoral process that they have supported through election assistance. For this reason, the EU has decided that different institutions should manage these activities: the European Commission (INTPA and NEAR) for election assistance, and the EEAS and the European Parliament (with FPI support) for election observation. Nevertheless, the two activities remain related, because the European Commission will use the recommendations made by the EU Election Observation Missions (EOMs) to design new election assistance programmes.

Support for an election refers to election assistance only and does not include international election observation. It should be understood to include activities to improve the quality of the electoral process such as updating voter registers, domestic electoral observation and support for electoral commissions.

Counting guidance

1. If the intervention relates to international election observation, then please report results under GERF 2.27 *Number of electoral processes and democratic cycles supported, observed and followed by means of Election Observation Missions*.
2. If the intervention supports the conduct of elections and/or the improvement of the electoral process, then it is mandatory to include this indicator in the logframe, even if the intervention is implemented in one country and the value to be reported is one. Indeed, this indicator might not be useful for monitoring purposes, but it is necessary to ensure accurate corporate reporting.
3. The unit of measurement is the number of countries, not the number of elections.
4. Overseas countries and territories (OCTs) should be counted as countries.
5. The EU can provide a country with more than one type of election assistance. In addition, the EU can provide election assistance at national and sub-national level. However, to avoid double counting, a single country can be counted only once in these instances, even if support is provided for different elections or by different interventions or in different years of the same reporting period.

Quality control checklist

1. Has the indicator been included directly in the logframe? Reserve the OPSYS matching functionality only for cases when this is not feasible.
2. If the indicator has been included directly in the logframe, does the current value *include* the baseline value? If the indicator has been matched to a logframe indicator, does the current value *exclude* the baseline value?
3. Does the value exclude support provided via EU Election Observation

<p>Missions? EOMs should be reported using GERF 2.27 <i>Number of electoral processes and democratic cycles supported, observed and followed by means of Election Observation Missions.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Have you considered elections at all levels of government (national and local), and elections for all institutions or positions, including presidential elections, local government elections, regional elections, referendums and initiatives? 5. Has the definition of support been met? Support refers to activities to improve the quality of electoral processes, and can include funding or training domestic election observers, but not EU EOMs. 6. Does the GERF value count countries? The GERF value does not count elections. 7. Is the GERF value a whole number? The number of countries cannot be a decimal number. 8. Have OCTs been included? OCTs are counted as countries. 9. Has double counting been avoided? Countries can only be counted once. 10. Have the countries been listed in the comment field? This facilitates quality control of potential double counting between national and regional interventions. 11. Have all calculations been recorded in the calculation method field? Have all relevant explanations been reported in the comment field
<p>7. Examples of calculations</p>
<p>In Nigeria, the EU provided support for the general election, as well as local elections in 30 Nigerian states and the Federal Capital Territory. Some state elections were held on the same date as the general election, whereas others were held on different dates. The EU provided both election assistance through the EDF and then the NDICI-funded SDGN program (Supporting Democratic Governance in Nigeria) and election observation through a fully-fledged EU EOM. In this case, the total number of countries supported to conduct elections and/or improve their electoral process was one.</p>
<p>8. Data sources and issues</p>
<p><i>Please use the data source categories specified in OPSYS.</i></p> <p><u>EU intervention monitoring and reporting systems</u>: <i>Progress and final reports for the EU-funded intervention; ROM reviews; Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention.</i></p> <p><i>Include any issues relating to the availability and quality of the data.</i></p>
<p>9. Reporting process & Corporate reporting</p>
<p>The data collected on this indicator will be reported in OPSYS by the Implementing Partner. The values encoded in OPSYS will be verified, possibly modified and ultimately validated by the Operational Manager. Once a year the results reported will be frozen for corporate reporting. The methodological services in HQ that are responsible for GERF corporate reporting will perform quality control on the frozen data and aggregate as needed to meet the different corporate reporting requirements.</p> <p>This indicator is used for corporate reporting in the following contexts:</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>NDICI via the Annual Report</i> ○ <i>NDICI via the Programme Statements</i> ● <i>INTPA Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report</i> ○ <i>NEAR Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report</i> ○ <i>FPI Strategic Plan</i> <p>This indicator has been included in the following other Results Measurement Frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>EFSD+</i> ○ <i>GAP III</i> ○ <i>IPA III</i> ○ <i>TEI-MORE</i>
10. Other uses
<p>GERF 2.26 can be found in the following thematic results chain, along with other related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Democracy <p>GERF 2.26 can be found in the following groups of EU predefined indicators available in OPSYS, along with other related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Democracy <p>For more information, see: Predefined indicators for design and monitoring of EU-funded interventions Capacity4dev (europa.eu)</p> <p>External bodies using the same or similar indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNDP: Number of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) with strengthened capacity to conduct inclusive and credible elections.
11. Other issues