Global Europe Results Framework Indicator Methodology Note

1. Indicator name
Number of people directly benefiting from EU-supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality

2. Technical details

Please use the information provided in OPSYS or the SWD.

Results Dashboard code(s): *65257.*

Unit of measure: *Number of (#).*

Type of indicator: *Quantitative (not Qualitative) – Numeric (not Percentage); Actual ex-post (not estimated or ex-ante); Cumulative (not annual); Direct (not indirect).*

Level of measurement: *Specific Objective – Outcome; Direct Output; Output.*

Disaggregations: Sex (*Female; Male; Intersex*); Gender (*Woman/girl; Man/boy; Non-binary; Prefer not to say*).

DAC sector codes: *11120 – Education facilities and training; 11220 - Primary education; 11230 - Basic life skills for adults; 11240 - Early childhood education; 11250 - School feeding; 11330 - Vocational training; 12220 - Basic health care; 12230 - Basic health infrastructure; 12240 - Basic nutrition; 12261 - Health education; 13020 - Reproductive health care; 13030 - Family planning; 13040 - STD control including HIV/AIDS; 14030 - Basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation; 14031 - Basic drinking water supply; 14032 - Basic sanitation; 14050 - Waste management/disposal; 15150 - Democratic participation and civil society; 15180 - Ending violence against women and girls; 15261 - Child soldiers (prevention and demobilisation); 16010 - Social Protection; 16020 - Employment creation; 16040 - Low-cost housing; 16050 - Multisector aid for basic social services; 16064 - Social mitigation of HIV/AIDS; 16070 - Labour rights; 16080 - Social dialogue; 24040 - Informal/semi-formal financial intermediaries; 43060 - Disaster Risk Reduction; 43072 - Household food security programmes; 52010 - Food assistance.*

Main associated SDG: *10.3 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.*

Other associated SDGs: *1.2 multidimensional poverty; 1.3 social protection; 1.4 access to equal rights resources and services; 4.1 education for girls and the vulnerable; 5.1 discrimination against women; 8.5 employment and decent work; 10.1 income growth of the bottom 40 percent; 10.2 inclusion without discrimination; 16.3 rule of law and justice; 16.b non-discriminatory laws.*

Associated GERF Level 1 indicator: *1.32 World Bank Gini index.*

Associated GERF Level 3 indicators:

3.13 Number and share of EU- external interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment

3.14 Number and share of EU-funded external interventions promoting disability inclusion

3.15 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance directed towards reducing inequalities

3.16 Amount and share of EU-funded external assistance qualifying as ODA

3. Policy context and Rationale

- The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, **SDG 10**, aims to reduce inequality within and among countries. In particular, a target is set to 'progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average'.
- The **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union** (Ch. III - 'Equality') covers equality before the law; prohibition of all discrimination; and the rights of children and the elderly.
- Article 3 of the **Treaty of Lisbon** states that the EU 'shall combat social exclusion and discrimination, and shall promote social justice and protection, equality between women and men, solidarity between generations and protection of the rights of the child'.
- The **European Consensus on Development** calls on the EU and its MS to 'act to reduce inequality of outcomes and promote equal opportunities for all… inclusive, sustainable growth …', to 'assess the determinants of and trends in economic and social inequality … to strengthen their tools and approaches to make them more effective in addressing inequality'
- The Commission SWD (2019) 280 '**Implementation of the new European Consensus on Development – Addressing inequality in partner countries**' (and its **Council Conclusions**) summarises the ways in which the EU supports the reduction of inequality in partner countries and presents a series of recommendations to further address inequality as a cross-cutting element necessary to achieve the objectives – and improve the impact – of EU development cooperation.

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 automatically[1].

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[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.

- **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 options[2]) 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 people directly benefiting from EU-supported interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality, using the technical definitions and counting guidance provided below. Please double check your calculations using the quality control checklist below.

Technical definitions

The ***interventions that aim to reduce social and economic inequality*** will be identified using the inequality marker (I-Marker) and will include those interventions where Inequality reduction is a significant objective (I-Marker Level 1) and where inequality reduction is the principal objective (I-Marker Level 2): see [Guidelines for the application and scoring of interventions](#) for further information.

I-1: Inequality reduction is a significant objective in those interventions that fulfill the following minimum criteria (should be met in full).

1. Generic contextual information on the levels of inequality in the country or sector[3] is provided and is used for the designing of the intervention.
2. The general objective or at least one of the specific objectives of the intervention is either to reduce inequality: i) in the country, ii) in a specific geographical area, or iii) in a specific sector.
3. Inequality indicators[4] are developed with targets set for measuring, directly or

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- *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*.

[3] Analyses at country level may include subnational disaggregation by geographical divisions, or rural vs. urban areas. Analyses at sectoral level may include economic activities listed under the 'International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC)', or sectors of public spending, as defined by the 'OECD Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG)'

indirectly[5], the effect of the intervention on the bottom (poorest) 40 per cent or socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, households or groups.

4. There is a clear plan to evaluate results, including inequality reduction targets.

I-2: Inequality reduction is the principal objective in those interventions where the intervention is designed with the principal intention of reducing inequality. All of the following criteria are present, relevant and thoroughly developed for the intervention.

1. Detailed analysis is provided on the levels, drivers, and determinants of inequality in the country and/or on the areas of intervention.
2. The general objective of the intervention is to reduce inequalities and at least one of the specific objectives is set to reach the bottom (poorest) 40 per cent or socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, households or groups.
3. Inequality indicators are developed with targets set for directly measuring the effects of the intervention on the bottom (poorest) 40 per cent or socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, households or groups.
4. An evaluation is planned to assess the intervention's impact on the bottom (poorest) 40 per cent or on socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, households or groups and on the reduction in inequality.

Counting guidance

1. The GERF value should correspond to the number of people directly benefiting from interventions marked I-1 or I-2: see technical definitions above.
2. If only household data is available, the number of people can be computed by using the average composition of the household. Such data should be retrieved from – in order of preference – intervention surveys, surveys realised in the same area of the intervention, department/regional statistics, and ultimately national statistics. If these sources are not available, use the data on the following   website: https://population.un.org/Household/index.html#/countries/840. Round the output of the calculation to the nearest whole number. Record the calculations in the calculation method field to facilitate quality control.
3. The Gender Action Plan III (GAP III) requires the reporting of gender-disaggregated values if possible and sex-disaggregated values if not. Use intervention data to provide the disaggregation.
4. Double counting is not allowed: a person can be counted only once in the same reporting period. This means that if the same person benefits from one or more forms of support over one or more years in the same reporting period, from the same intervention or different interventions, this person should be counted only once. To avoid the double counting of people over time, two approaches are possible. If it is possible to reliably estimate the number of people supported in the first year, and the number of new people supported in the following years (i.e. not yet supported during the reporting period in question), these numbers

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[4] Inequality Indicators can include those measuring dimensions related to either horizontal inequality (e.g., opportunity, access, targeting of vulnerable groups) or vertical inequality (e.g., outcome, income level, etc.), and can include a level of disaggregation that identifies beneficiaries as belonging to the bottom (poorest) 40 per cent or socio-economically disadvantaged individuals, households or groups.

[5] For example, an indicator measuring the inequality-related outputs of a technical assistance intervention would count as an inequality indicator.

can be added up without the risk of double counting. However, if this information is not available, the maximum result of the reporting period should be used instead. Record the calculations in the calculation method field to facilitate quality control of the values reported. Report the geographic location of the people in the comment field to facilitate quality control of double counting.

5. However, there are exceptions to the double counting rule: people counted under GERF 2.39 can also be counted under GERF 2.20 *Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support* AND one of the other GERF indicators for which the unit of measurement is number of people, if the relevant conditions are met.

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. Has the intervention been marked I-1 or I-2?
4. Does the GERF value count people? If only the number of households is available, then convert to the number of people using average household size.
5. Is the GERF value a whole number? The number of people cannot be a decimal number.
6. Have gender (or sex) disaggregated values been reported? Gender (or sex) disaggregation is mandatory.
7. Does the intervention focus on migration? If so, this result should also be reported under GERF 2.20 *Number of migrants, refugees, and internally displaced people or individuals from host communities protected or assisted with EU support*, if all conditions are verified. Double counting with GERF 2.20 is allowed.
8. Could some or all of the people counted under GERF 2.39 qualify for one of the other GERF indicators for which the unit of measurement is number of people? Double counting with one of these other GERF indicators is exceptionally allowed.
9. Has any other double counting been avoided? People should be counted only once, except for the cases mentioned above.
10. Have all calculations been recorded in the calculation method field? Has all relevant information, including the geographic location of results, been reported in the comment field?

7. Examples of calculations

Example 1

The EU is financing an intervention which is in the final stages of implementation and has constructed a secondary school in each of the three poorest rural areas in Country A. One of the specific objectives of the intervention is to reduce the economic inequalities in the country, and the intervention has been marked I-1. One of the

schools opened in 2023 and enrolled 97 students, including 40 girls, with no new enrolments in 2024. The remaining two opened in 2024 and enrolled 78 students (including 25 girls) and 113 students (including 43 girls).

The value to report for GERF 2.39 in 2023 is 97, along with the sex disaggregation of 40 girls and 57 boys.

The value to report for GERF 2.39 in 2024 is 97 + 78 + 113 = 288, along with the sex disaggregation of 40 + 25 + 43 = 108 girls and 57 + 53 + 70 = 178 boys.

The same values should also be reported for GERF 2.36b *Number of students enrolled in education with EU support: (b) secondary education*. Indeed, this type of double counting is allowed for GERF 2.39.

8. Data sources and issues

Please use the data source categories specified in OPSYS.

<u>EU intervention monitoring and reporting systems</u>: *Progress and final reports for the EU-funded intervention; ROM reviews; Baseline and endline surveys conducted and budgeted by the EU-funded intervention.*

Include any issues relating to the availability and quality of the data.

9. Reporting process & Corporate reporting

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.

This indicator is used for corporate reporting in the following contexts:

- ○ *NDICI via the Annual Report*
- ○ *NDICI via the Programme Statements*
- ○ *INTPA Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report*
- ● *NEAR Strategic Plan via the Annual Activity Report*
- ○ *FPI Strategic Plan*

This indicator has been included in the following other Results Measurement Frameworks:

- ● *EFSD+*
- ○ *GAP III*
- ● *IPA III*
- ● *TEI-MORE*

10. Other uses

GERF 2.39 can be found in the following thematic results chains:

- Human Rights

- Resilience, Conflict sensitivity and Peace

GERF 2.39 can be found in the following groups of EU predefined indicators available in OPSYS, along with other related indicators:

- Human rights
- Nutrition
- Resilience, Conflict sensitivity and Peace

For more information, see: Core indicators for design and monitoring of EU-funded interventions | Capacity4dev (europa.eu)

11. Other issues