

Indicator
Number of laws and policies where recommendations made by women's rights organisations have been taken on board by regional, national and local government bodies during the drafting or revision process, including in conflict-affected contexts.
GAP III Thematic area of engagement
Promoting equal participation and leadership
Aggregable indicator
Yes
Indicator type (quantitative/qualitative)
Quantitative
Related objective in the Gender Action Plan III
Overall thematic objective: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, participate equally in decision-making processes, in all spheres and at all levels of political and public life, including online, to take on leadership roles, to enjoy and exercise their human rights and seek redress if these rights are denied. Specific thematic objective 3: Women's organisations, other CSOs and women human rights defenders working for gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment and rights work more freely and are better protected by law.
Technical Definition
This indicator intends to measure how many new or revised laws and policies adopted by regional, national and local government bodies have incorporated the recommendations made by women's rights organisations, including in conflict-affected contexts. The following definitions apply: - <u>Women's rights organisations</u> (WROs) refer to those civil society organisations with an overt women's or girls' rights, gender equality or feminist purpose.¹ - <u>Laws</u> refer to any system of regulations to govern the conduct of the people of a community, society or nation, in response to the need for regularity, consistency and justice based upon collective human experience.² - <u>Policies</u> refer to a set of decisions by government bodies to influence, change or frame a problem or issue that has been recognised as such in the political realm by policy makers and/or the wider public.³ - The list of conflict-affected contexts is released annually by the World Bank Group. Given the complexity of fragility and conflict, the list is not meant to be comprehensive— it does not include all countries affected, nor is it a ranking of countries.
Rationale
Women's rights organisations are at the forefront of community responses in many countries to create conditions for equal participation in political life and leadership. However, they struggle to carry out their tasks due to diminishing funding, increased demands for services,

¹ OECD (2016): [Donor support to southern women's rights organisations](#)

² Extracted from [Legal Dictionary](#).

³ Extracted from [Science Direct](#).

shrinking civic space and conflict-related risks and limitations. For example, during the COVID 19 crisis, studies show that women's rights organisations are at risk of decreased funding.⁴

In addition, the pandemic has created new challenges for women's rights organisations and exacerbated pre-existing ones. For example, mobility restrictions, increased surveillance that has further reduced organisational spaces, exacerbated poor working conditions, and a decrease in resources at a time when demands have increased⁵ are some of the pandemic-related challenges that women's rights organisations are facing.

WROs drive collective actions for gender equality through strategies and alliances with political actors in order to influence policies and transformative change during the legislative drafting or revision process. They hold political leaders accountable for not addressing issues such as gender-based violence, access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, labour rights, financial inclusion, the repeal of discriminatory legislation and lack of compliance with national laws and international treaties and conventions. Furthermore, pressure by WROs has been instrumental in the adoption of quota laws in many countries⁶. Online activism is also a key tool for feminists and WROs to influence drafting or revision of laws and policies.⁷

In conflict situations⁸, the contributions of local WROs on gender-based-violence, social justice and peacebuilding issues are key to government peacebuilding processes.⁹ In particular, the participation of women in formal peace processes has frequently been initiated and attained through concerted pressure by WROs in combination with individual leaders. Partnerships with local WROs are ever more crucial, but much more is required to ensure their active and meaningful participation in decision-making and peace agreements processes.

Means to foster WROs are, for example:

- Adequate, transparent and accessible funding;¹⁰
- Support for their monitoring of the gender-sensitive implementation of gender equality policy and peace agreements;
- Support for their lobbying for, and monitoring of, the implementation of gender equality at all levels;
- Support for their implementation of capacity building in leadership, conflict analysis, negotiation and communication skills as well as their access to digital technology.

Data source and calculation

Reporting covers cooperation and development initiatives, humanitarian (if applicable) and investment frameworks funded by the EC (INTPA, NEAR, FPI, ECHO) and EEAS.

⁴ [“COVID-19 and the participation of women and women's rights organisations in decision-making”](#) (K4D, 2020)

⁵ The Oxfam survey [“Impact of COVID-19 on Women Rights Organisations: A Call for Global Alliance to Support Women Rights Organisations”](#) has found that one in every three women's rights organisations say they have been left out of conversations and policy-making decisions on their country's COVID response and recovery efforts because they were not considered to be key stakeholders

⁶ UN SG Report on [“Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”](#) (65th CSW, 2021).

⁷ Online social campaigns have influenced transnational and global politics, such as the “MeToo” movement (#metoo), which had worldwide consequences for perpetrators of gender-based violence and led to tangible policy reform in multiple countries, and the Ni Una Menos (not one woman less) movement (#niunamenos, #NotOneWomanLess).

⁸ [Women and peace and security Report](#) (UNSC, 2020)

⁹ [Promoting Women's Participation in Peace Negotiations and Peace Processes](#) (GIZ, 2014)

¹⁰ [EU Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security](#) (2019-2024)

EUMS may provide information related to their interventions through their contributions to GAP III reports or through the EUDs, e.g., in cases of joint dialogue (i.e., as part of joint programming or TEI).

Data sources:

Mapping and assessment using primary sources/official government documents, in particular laws, regulations and policies as well as reports and studies from WROs, other civil society organisations (CSOs) or political parties.

The intervention's monitoring and reporting systems, e.g., inception, interim and final reports from implementing organisations (including governments, international organisations, national and international civil society organisations, etc.), ROM reviews and evaluations.

Surveys/interviews conducted and budgeted by the intervention can also be relevant data sources in coordination with official counterparts (i.e., line ministries and departments, national women's machinery, national gender observatories, human rights institutions or election observer bodies, etc.) at national, regional and local level.

Baseline and endline studies conducted and budgeted within the EU intervention using the same data collection methodology. The baseline and endline studies can be conducted as part of the gender country profile and/ or gender sector analysis, or be based on existing official reports and published data.

Calculation:

Number of adopted laws and policies at regional, national or local level where recommendations made by WROs during the drafting or revision process were incorporated.

Any of the new or revised laws and policies is counted only once.

Worked example

In country A, included in the World Bank list of conflict-affected countries, the EU supports WROs' engagement on the revision of an electoral law in order to include a 50/50 quota. This proposal was already accepted and the legislation was successfully amended in year 1. The same proposal was made at local level in year 3 and a new law on gender-responsive local elections was adopted.

- In this case, the number of laws amended is 2.

In country B, thanks to the EU support during years 1 and 2, WROs have been submitting proposals to the Ministries of Health and Women's Affairs in charge of the revision of the National Health Action Plan in order to ensure that refugee women have equal access to sexual and reproductive health services. Unfortunately, these proposals were not accepted and the new national action plan does not include specific services for refugee women.

- In this case, the number of new or amended policies is 0.

Intervention 1	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Laws/policies	1		1	2

Intervention 2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Laws/policies	0	0		0

Total number of new or	Intervention 1+2
------------------------	------------------

	revised laws and policies thanks to EU support		
		2	
Baseline			
Data from official counterparts (i.e., line ministries and government institutions, national women's machinery, gender observatories, etc.). Data from civil society and international organisations as well as from other independent non-state actors. If baseline data are lacking, a mapping can be done at the start of the intervention using surveys/ interviews. The baseline can be 0 when the indicator is achieved with the EU funded intervention.			
Disaggregation			
N/A			
Availability and Timeliness			
Information should become available annually, depending on the duration of the action.			
Related DAC Code/CRS			
151 - Government & Civil Society-general / 15130 - Legal and judicial development/ 15170 – Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions			
Associated SDGs			
SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Target 5.1: Indicator 5.1.1 (see Metadata) Target 5.c: Indicator 5.c.1 (see Metadata)			
Other issues			
The gender country profile and/ or gender sector analysis can be relevant sources of information for establishing baselines. If there is no gender analysis available at the EUD, it is recommended to look at the analysis undertaken by EU Member States or other trusted partners (UN, World Bank, human rights national and regional mechanisms, etc.) as well as the national-level reviews carried out in 2019 by UN Women and the partner countries to assess progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Special attention should be paid to following up on partner country institutions reached with EU support.			