

FAQs for Participating in the Second Monitoring Round of the GPEDC: **Indicator 8**

This document presents frequently asked questions and answers on the second monitoring round of the GPEDC.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR INDICATOR 8

The [Monitoring Guide](#) provides indicator factsheets (Annex II) and questions and definitions to guide data collection at the country level for each indicator (Annex III).

Indicator 8: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

The [Monitoring Guide](#) provides detailed information on this indicator in Annex III.

What does this indicator focus on?

The indicator on gender equality and women's empowerment measures the percentage of countries that have systems in place to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment. The indicator aims to address gaps in financing gender equality commitments by promoting transparency in public spending and making governments accountable for adequate allocation of resources for the implementation of gender equality commitments.

This indicator is NOT about measuring the actual allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment. The measurement of allocations is done through separate monitoring mechanisms.

What criteria are used to measure the indicator?

For a country to be considered as having a system in place to track allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment, at least one of the following three criteria should be met, :

1. There is an official government statement on a system for tracking allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment. This can for example be a framework or legislation on gender responsive budgeting.
2. Allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment are systematically tracked.
3. There is leadership and oversight of the tracking system by the central government unit in charge of public expenditures (for example the Finance Ministry or a sector ministry).

For a country to be considered as having systems in place to make public their allocations for gender equality, the following criteria should be met.

4. Gender equality focused budget information is publically available. This could be through parliamentary oversight, civil society scrutiny, publications, websites or other means.

In addition to the above criteria, countries may indicate if they a) use gender-specific indicators and data disaggregated by sex to inform budget allocation decisions at sectoral and/or local/district level; and b) conduct regular impact assessments of budgets which address how women and men benefit respectively from government expenditures.

What do you mean by "systems to track allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment"?

The systems to track allocations for gender equality are the processes and procedures to plan, approve, allocate and monitor public expenditures at the national and sectoral level in a way that ensures that expenditures are targeted appropriately to benefit both women and men. Such systems can include gender budget statements, classifiers, gender markers, and preliminary guidelines as outlined in call circulars. The system in place is overseen by a governmental body, in most cases the Ministry of Finance, that considers gender impact in budget decisions and incorporates measures to mitigate any adverse impact on gender equality and women's empowerment.

"Systematically tracked" means that a tracking process is planned and regularly conducted. For instance, if the tracking of budgets allocations towards Gender Equality is officially planned and conducted annually by an identifiable or designated body it can be said that allocations for gender equality are systematically tracked.

How do you define ‘allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment’?

These can be defined as:

- Resources allocated at sector and local level for programmes that specifically target only women or girls (direct allocation).
- Resources allocated at sector and local level to actions that target both women and men but where gender equality is a specific objective. For example an action that promotes employment of women and men, equal representation within management posts, and equal pay (direct allocation).
- Resources allocated at sector and local level to actions where gender is mainstreamed. For example, an infrastructure project that doesn’t include gender equality as the principal objective but has specific measures to ensure that women and girls benefit equally with men and boys (indirect allocations).

If a country has systems in place to track but doesn’t make information public, can such country still report on the indicator?

Yes. There are two components of the global indicator, one on tracking allocations on gender equality and another on making such allocations public. If a country tracks allocations but hasn’t developed systems yet to make the information public, it is important to report on the indicator as it indicates that the country is making progress on the indicator.

How is data collected and analysed?

For the gender indicator, data is collected as part of a wider monitoring process undertaken for the Global Partnership 2015-16 monitoring round. Data for the gender equality indicator is collected from the Ministry of Finance by the designated focal points at the country level. For more information on the data collection process, see the [Monitoring Guide](#) of the Global Partnership.

Once the data collection process is completed, the UNDP-OECD joint support team (JST) will analyse the data to prepare the progress report on the Busan Partnership Agreement. In case of the gender indicator, UN Women will take the lead in analysing the data and compiling the report in collaboration with the OECD-DAC Gendernet.

My country is interested in monitoring progress on gender equality indicator. What do I do?

Countries at all stages of development are encouraged to share evidence on their efforts in this area and performance against this indicator in view of advancing mutual learning and the exchange of experiences. Countries can use the methodology provided in the [Monitoring Guide](#) of the Global Partnership to report progress on the indicator.

For further questions, contact UN Women at gender.financing@unwomen.org and the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team at monitoring@effectivecooperation.org.