GUIDANCE TOOL

GETTING IT RIGHT FROM PLANNING TO REPORTING:

A GUIDANCE TOOL FOR WOMEN'S LAND RIGHTS DATA AND STATISTICS



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ABBREVIATIONS

CAPI Computer-assisted personal interviewing

CI Cognitive interview

CSOs Civil society organizations

CT Cognitive testing

DHS Demographic and Health Surveys

EA Enumeration area

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

GIS Geographic information system

GLTN Global Land Tool Network

GLII Global Land Indicators Initiative

IAEG-SDGs Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
INGO International non-governmental organization

LSMS Living Standards Measurement Study
GSBPM Generic Statistical Business Process Model

LR Land rights

MAPI Mobile-assisted personal interviewing

NGO Non-governmental organization

NSO National Statistical Office

PAPI Paper-and-pencil interviewing

PSU Primary sampling unit

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SD Standard deviation

SSU Secondary sampling unit

UN-Habitat United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UN Women United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

VGGT Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests

WB The World Bank Group
WLR Women's land rights

ABOUT THIS GUIDANCE TOOL

To ensure a better and more sustainable future for all, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ("the 2030 Agenda") has identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030. SDGs range from poverty eradication, zero hunger, decent work and reduced inequalities to quality education, clean water and sanitation, and gender equality, only to name some of them. 1 To monitor progress made towards the SDGs, a total of 244 statistical indicators have been developed accordingly, including indicators to monitor women's land rights (WLRs). Women's full realization of their land rights (LRs) is not only a key factor in reducing gender disparities and improving women's living conditions—including the full realization of human rights—but also a key vehicle to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger and ensure a path to sustainable development.2

This guidance tool aims to explain the practical steps towards enhancing the quality of WLRs data and statistics for data producers, analysts and researchers. In doing so, it addresses critical gaps in the quality of the design, collection, analysis, management and dissemination of data and statistics on women's land rights. The tool recognizes the diverse relationships between women and land with respect to their land rights, which vary from country to country and even context to context, based on legal, policy and institutional regimes.

In particular, this tool provides guidance on survey design, the data collection and statistics development process, and analysis and reporting on WLRs data. It suggests good practices for enhancing the quality of data and statistics on women's land rights in the context of measuring, monitoring and reporting on Sustainable Development Goals indicators 1.4.2, 5.a.1 and 5.a.2.3

The data value chain process is structured around four main stages: a) planning and design; b) collection; c) analysis and d) reporting. Each stage is further separated into additional substeps, which all include checklists of quality measures.

Although data on women's land rights can be collected through a number of statistical instruments, including agricultural censuses, land registries and satellite imagery, this tool specifically provides guidance on survey data collection instruments, which represent the best and most cost-effective method to collect data on women's land rights since they allow gathering all the necessary information that are required to construct WLRs-related indicators. This is because administrative data on land rights are often not disaggregated by sex, nor do they contain an individual identification number (ID) that is associated with the sex of the individual to produce gender statistics. Therefore, they do not always support the identification of whom these rights are associated with. For instance, the use of cadastral maps would allow for an even more reliable measurement of parcels and plots of land, as compared to self-reported data from surveys, but they generally do not allow for a breakdown of these data by sex.

Who can use this guidance tool?

This tool is for use by data producers and data users alike. It is a useful tool for government data and statistics authorities, the private sector, civil society, research and grassroots organizations that generate and/or use WLRs data and statistics. The tool is developed by taking into account the data elements that are required to construct the SDG indicators⁴ on women's land rights but has further use. It aims to complement and support data and statistics efforts of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and national land institutions, human rights and research organizations in the monitoring of the three SDG indicators mentioned above through the responsible custodian agencies, and also supports the collection of data and monitoring of other non-SDG indicators on women's land rights. Building on the global methodologies for monitoring these SDG indicators, this tool profiles and strengthens responsiveness to WLRs issues in the generation of data and statistics to ensure quality and reliable data for evidence-based decisions are achieved. Although this tool is aligned to the approved methodology for the relevant SDG indicators, its content also addresses key issues that affect the quality of WLRs data and statistics more broadly. For more guidance on the approved methodologies, including tools for data collection on SDG land indicators, visit indicator 5.a.2⁵ and access the joint module for collecting data and reporting on SDG indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1.⁶

Why women's land rights data and statistics matter

In the context of women's land rights, the goal of collecting data is to best describe the status of women's tenure rights, with the ability to show any inequalities and trends faced by women in securing land rights, at one point in time and over time. More specifically, data will show whether women are granted equal rights to land as men, if they can exercise those rights, if these rights are enforceable, and if women risk losing them arbitrarily. Data will also give more nuances into the effects of a specific land tenure system, on how those rights are granted and secured and who are those individuals or groups that face more disadvantages in securing land rights are (e.g. indigenous versus non-indigenous people, young or old, men or women, urban or rural settlers, and their main activity for deriving their livelihoods).

Collecting, analysing and reporting on WLRs data and statistics are key to planning and policy decisions that impact women and girls. Data and statistics on women's land rights are important to:

- 1. Identify legal and institutional challenges faced by women in accessing, using and securing their land rights, as compared to men.
- 2. Provide objective and empirical foundations for informing decisions about national policies to be enforced, developed, reviewed or repealed.
- 3. Be used as a baseline for policymaking and to set targets.
- 4. Enable comparison of the situation of women's land rights in different contexts including customary, indigenous, urban, and informal settlements, among others.
- 5. Inform strategies for closing gaps and serve as a tool for advocacy and influence around women's land rights linked to global, regional and national development frameworks including the SDGs, the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGTs), the New Urban Agenda and other state obligations to international conventions on human rights and gender equality.

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