Indicator Proposal Summary Template

Note: This document is provided as a template for the 1-2 page summary that should accompany your Indicator proposal for the 2020 Comprehensive review

Additional information/documentation that should accompany the summary include:
- Draft metadata *(Word file only please)*
- Available data and/or link to where data can be located-
- Any methodological documents and/or links to these documents

Full name of the Indicator:

5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner since the age of 15, by age and place of occurrence

Custodian Agency(ies):

UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WHO,

Goal and target addressed:

Propose to **replace/refine** current target on non-partner sexual violence 5.2.2

Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence, with the following indicator:

Proportion of women aged 20-29 who have ever experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since age 15

1. Background and rationale for the indicator proposal

We are proposing the replacement/refinement of the current indicator 5.2.2 for several methodological and measurement reasons based on analyses of the currently available data on non-partner sexual violence (NPSV).

The data coverage for NPSV is much lower than for intimate partner violence (IPV). A further problem is the timeframe of 'previous 12 months' in the current indicator. In preliminary analysis by WHO, while there are 93 countries with measures on life-time prevalence of NPSV, there are only about 15 countries with data on the proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months. The current focus on the experience of NPSV in the past year for an aggregate age group of women 15+ is problematic and the reporting is often zero or close to zero in surveys. This makes it difficult to provide meaningful measurement and hard to detect change over time. We therefore propose that the current time frame of "past 12 months" be replaced by "ever" experienced NPSV since age 15.

We also recommend narrowing the age range of women's experiences of NPSV since age 15 to the 20-29 year age group for the following two reasons: 1) the under-estimation of the prevalence of NPSV resulting from the use of the past 12 months' time-frame is exacerbated by its application to a very broad range of women and girls aged 15 years and older, and 2) as the measure is violence experienced since 15, analyses focusing specifically on the 20-29 age group creates a cohort that

would allow for better monitoring of changes over time than would not be possible across the whole age range. It is proposed that data be collected for all age groups and the guidance for tracking trends will be the analysis of sexual violence occurring to women between 20-29 years old.

Given these abovementioned measurement, methodological and data availability factors, the calculation of global, regional and national NPSV estimates, and monitoring of SDG 5.2.2 is particularly challenging currently. A multi-agency consensus involving international experts and UN partners, led by WHO in 2014 prior to the SDGs identified the following indicator being proposed: Proportion of women aged 20-29 who have ever experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since age of 15. The co-custodians reviewed and discussed this proposal and agreed to propose such indicator, which would enable more robust analyses of trends.

The group recognised the value of disaggregation by place of occurrence, but this data is currently not available, hence it is not being included in the proposed indicator.

2. Information on how and when the methodology has become an international standard and who is the governing body that approves it.

NPSV was included in the WHO methodology of the Multi-Country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence, which became the gold standard methodology for research on the prevalence of violence against women. It is also collected in the Domestic Violence module of the DHS. The UNSD Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women also include a statistical definition of NPSV. More countries have data on NPSV now compared to 10 years ago, but as noted there are still weaknesses in the coverage and quality of the data. Having an indicator however, can contribute to strengthening both coverage and quality.

3. Data sources and data availability

The SDG 5.2.2 Indicator Database comprises namely data from population-based household surveys implementing an internationally standardised methodology. A significant proportion of data is gathered through DHS Domestic Violence Module questionnaire. In addition, some data come from dedicated surveys on violence against women in countries that have implemented, for example, WHO's violence against women survey methodology. Where available, other surveys like the Reproductive Health Surveys and Crime and Victimisation surveys are included if the data is deemed comparable. All sources date from 2000 onwards.

4. Confirmation/explanation of joint submission with other partner/co-custodian agencies (if applicable)

Co-custodians (UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC UN Women and WHO) have discussed the proposal and reviewed and agreed their submission.

5. Conclusion

We recommend replacing the current 5.2.2 indicator with *Proportion of women aged 20 to 29 who have ever experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since age 15.* As described above, this would enable more robust analyses of trends and strengthen the coverage and quality of data on NPSV.