

Goal 5

Target number: 5.a

Indicator Number and Name: 5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

Agency: FAO

Has work for the development of this indicator begun? Yes.

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools? The methodology and data collection tools have been drafted by FAO building on the FAO Legal Assessment Tool (LAT). The LAT, which maps out the existence (in policy and legal frameworks) of good practices for guaranteeing women's equal rights to land ownership/or control, by assessing progress against 30 indicators, has been applied in 31 countries. The LAT methodology has received inputs from UN women, World Bank, GIZ and Landesa at earlier stages.

Five proxies were defined to compose the indicator 5.a.2. Four proxies have been extracted from the LAT indicators, albeit with some refinements following a comprehensive literature review to ensure relevance and coverage. Those proxies encompass issues related to government commitment with public funds to increase women's access to land and/or access to productive resources and services; joint titling of private property; consent of the spouse or partner prior to the sale or transfer of landed property; and equal inheritance rights. The fifth proxy, linked to customary law, has to be added to reflect the inclusion of this dimension at the final stage of the adoption of the indicator. The language of this customary law proxy was drafted following a close analysis of good practices in the protection of women's rights in customary law.

FAO has prepared a draft methodological guide providing clear step-by-step guidance to countries for the assessment and reporting on indicator 5.a.2. The guide includes: description and rationale for each proxy, suggested responsible national entity, collection and recording of information, reporting process, computing mechanism (to be performed by FAO) and validation of results. To ensure the relevance and validity of the proxies proposed and the methodological approach followed, the finalised draft methodology and data collection tools will be discussed at an expert meeting in Rome with approximately twenty gender and land legal experts from diverse regions and legal systems in early March 2017. Representatives from the following institutions are expected to attend: UN-Habitat, UN-Women, The World Bank, Landesa, IDLO, OXFAM, and Action Aid. In addition, representatives from National Statistics Offices with land expertise, as well as representatives from IAEG will be invited to participate.

What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems (NSS) in the development of the methodology? NSSs are not expected to be involved directly due to the fact that indicator 5.a.2 is not a 'statistical' indicator, but rather a *process-based* or legal indicator. The draft reporting methodology prepared by FAO recommends national governments nominate a national institution with responsibility for upholding the rule of law, defending and promoting human rights – including gender equality to carry out the reporting functions under Indicator 5.a.2. National Ministries of Justice in particular would be in a privileged position to fulfil this role. Other potential national reporting entities include Human Rights Commissions, Gender Equality Commissions, Women's Affairs or Gender Ministries or Land Ministries. A strategy will be developed by FAO for reaching the most appropriate institutions at national level, taking into account that individual countries will ultimately nominate the responsible institution for the reporting and monitoring of this indicator. Although no direct involvement of National Statistics Offices (NSO) is foreseen, the methodology recommends that the designated national institution responsible for collecting the

information for SDG indicator 5.a.2 coordinates with the NSO, which usually has the overall responsibility of coordinating SDG monitoring and reporting, and may also be directly responsible for indicator 5.a.1, which has close linkages with 5.a.2.

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

The process of developing the methodology of the indicator is as follows:

- Preparation of the draft methodological guide. FAO finalised a draft methodological guide in January 2017. This tool provides step-by-step guidance on the assessment and reporting process for participating states, from the selection of a national entity and collection, recording and revision of information to the submission of data to FAO and final validation of the results.
- The methodological guide will be validated and refined at an expert workshop with international and national gender and land legal experts (see above) in Rome in early March 2017.
- The guide will subsequently be tested in a limited number of selected countries (from March until June 2017) depending on country engagement and funding availability. This will inform the final version of the guidelines.
- A country-based consultation procedure will be developed and carried out before the submission of the final methodology for endorsement.
- The methodological guide will be submitted for endorsement if needed.
- An e-learning course will be developed to facilitate the learning process on the methodological steps that need to be followed for the entire assessment and reporting processes.
- Capacity development activities for selected countries from the various regions will be undertaken.

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology. Non-applicable.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed? FAO expects to have the final methodology for endorsement by July 2017.

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator? Non-applicable. However, relevant legal and policy information is available for 90 countries in the [FAO Gender and Land Rights Database](#) and the LAT has been conducted for 31 countries, albeit adjustments need to be done, as the above-referred changes in the proxies need to be incorporated.

If yes, please describe: Non-applicable.

How do you plan to collect the data? National responsible designated institutions will collect the legal data. The methodological guide provides detailed information on the collection of the information and reporting. Standardised checklists, tables and questionnaires have been developed to facilitate the entire process and to ensure consistency and comparability across countries. An e-learning module and capacity development workshops will be conducted to provide support to countries for reporting in this indicator.

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here. The data source is generally the same for each proxy– the legal or policy framework. It may be that the information is contained in different legal instruments (national gender strategy, national land policy, land law). The assessment for each proxy will take place consecutively based on a thorough review of the relevant legal and policy frameworks.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected? Every two years.

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator? Yes.

If yes, please briefly describe: The results of the screening should be checked and validated by the responsible national entity, prior to communication to FAO. As noted above, it is highly recommended that at this stage the delegated national entity also informs the NSO that will have the overall responsibility in coordinating SDG reporting at national level. FAO will review the information for quality control and liaise with responsible designated entity if needed. Otherwise, FAO will compute the indicator based on the information supplied by countries according to a standardised methodology developed by FAO and validated at the March 2017 expert workshop (see above). FAO will communicate the result back to the national responsible institution and seek final confirmation before reporting the indicator to the UN SDG Secretariat. Detailed reporting guidelines will be provided to countries using the current methodology, including the formats in which the information should be compiled.

If you have any additional comments that you believe would be helpful to IAEG-SDG members in analysing the work plan and methodological development of the indicator, please provide them here

- 1) A particular challenge faced by this indicator relates to the designation of the national responsible entity by national governments. The fact that this is not a statistic indicator implies that the NSS is not the natural counterpart and therefore each country will need to designate a different relevant institution.
 - 2) The proxy on customary law should be included as an additional proxy as this cannot be incorporated in the computing of results, given that this proxy is not internationally applicable.
- FAO will be responsible for the computation of the results based on the information reported by countries. As noted above, all results will be validated at national level with the responsible institution prior to finalisation. Following receipt and computation of all national country data, FAO will aggregate the national classifications and detail the number or percentage of countries according to the defined global reporting methodology. The computation method, along with the overall methodology will be validated with national experts in March 2017.

(as of 3 March 2017)