

**7<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Gender Statistics 2018**  
**Session 2**

**Women's ownership of agricultural land**

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From a gender perspective, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a significant step forward from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), covering for the first time all core areas of the women empowerment's agenda.

Recognizing that gender equality is critical to achieving the vision set out in the 2030 Agenda, and indeed an objective in its own right, Goal 5 is dedicated to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. Under Goal 5, Target 5.A directs countries to undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws. FAO is the custodian agency of target 5.A, which is monitored by two indicators, a 'de facto' indicator on women's land tenure rights land, indicator 5.a.1, and a 'de jure' indicator on women's land rights in the legal framework, indicator 5.a.2.

Ownership and/or control of land is critical for poverty reduction, food security, inclusiveness and overall sustainable development objectives. In terms of gender equality, an increase in the rights to land of women is strongly connected to women empowerment. Indeed, owning or bearing rights to land reduces women's reliance on male partners and relatives, increases their bargaining power within the household, improves their chances of accessing extension services and credit, and encourages them to undertake and expand their investments and join producers' organizations.

Indicator 5.a.1 is divided in two sub-indicators, which have been formulated as follows:

- (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex
- (b) Share of women among owners or rights bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure

Sub-indicator (a) measures the prevalence of people in the agricultural population with ownership or tenure rights over agricultural land (disaggregated by sex); sub-indicator (b) focuses on the gender parity, measuring the extent to which women are disadvantaged in ownership/tenure rights over agricultural land.

This presentation will focus on the methodology of the indicator 5.a.1, provide information on the reference population and discuss about the data sources that can be used to collect information in monitoring this indicator. Moreover, FAO will give information on recent accomplishments as well as on-going work for scaling up the indicator from Tier II to Tier I status under the SDG framework.