Twenty-fifth anniversary of the
Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the

Guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews

September 2018
INTRODUCTION

2020 will be a pivotal year for the accelerated realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. As the global community marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), and five years of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, the moment is right to achieve irreversible and measurable progress towards this universal commitment to all women and girls, everywhere.

Leading up to the anniversary should be a comprehensive national-level review process that involves all stakeholders. Under the leadership of the Head of State/Government, reviews should mobilize all branches and levels of government, civil society organizations, the private sector, the entities of the United Nations system and regional and international organizations, academia, the media and other stakeholders. In particular, reviews should mobilize all women and men, of all ages, around a new and renewed dialogue for change, and actions to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against all women and girls.

This anniversary should be used as the occasion to bring a young generation of gender equality advocates and those who remain on the sidelines into the centre of a whole-of-government, whole-of-society effort. By joining forces, government together with society has the capacity to overcome and eradicate the root causes of gender inequality and chart a path forward for genuine, substantive equality, with equal rights and equal opportunities for women and girls.

This anniversary is also the opportunity to strengthen gender-responsive action and implementation of other global commitments, such as those under Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security; the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (2015); the Paris agreement on climate change (2015), among others.

On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Commission on the Status of Women of the United Nations will undertake a review and appraisal of progress made in implementation, in March 2020.

Accordingly, all States are called upon to undertake comprehensive national-level reviews of the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and of the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly held in 2000.

Governments are called upon to collaborate with relevant stakeholders at all levels on the preparations for the 2020 review so as to benefit from their experience and expertise. The United Nations regional commissions are invited to undertake regional reviews so that the outcomes of intergovernmental processes at the regional level can feed into the Commission’s 2020 review.

1 Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
2 General Assembly resolution 70/1.
3 ECOSOC resolution 2018/8.
4 Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.
And finally, in September 2020, the General Assembly is expected to convene a one-day high-level meeting\(^5\) to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary and accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

The present *Guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews* was prepared by UN-Women in collaboration with the five Regional Commissions (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)). It aims to support States and other stakeholders as they embark on comprehensive national-level reviews.

In a first section, the *Guidance note* makes suggestions on the process, (covering institutional setup, multi-stakeholder participation, and preparation of a national report, including a timeline and possible sources of information). In a second section, the *Guidance note* provides detailed suggestions and questions to support the preparation of a national report.

\(^5\) ECOSOC resolution 2018/9.
PART I. COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL-LEVEL REVIEWS

a. Objectives

Comprehensive national-level reviews should assess progress made in implementation and identify challenges encountered. They should take stock of achievements, identify gaps and setbacks, and outline strategies for addressing those gaps and challenges. They should result in renewed commitment and clear sets of priority actions, with timelines, actors and resources for their implementation. Reviews should align and build synergies with work on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and galvanize its gender-responsive implementation. They should involve all stakeholders.

b. Institutional setup and communications

Leadership: Comprehensive national-level reviews should encompass a whole-of-government approach. To this end, it is recommended that the overall leadership of national-level reviews be placed with the Head of State/Government, with the head of the national mechanism for gender equality and the empowerment of women, preferably at ministerial level, exercising a coordinating role.

All-of-government approach and coordination: An inter-ministerial committee or working group, chaired by the head of the national mechanism for gender equality and the empowerment of women and bringing together all ministries and government agencies, could be a conduit for an all-of-government approach to the review, thereby confirming that all ministries and government agencies contribute to and have a stake in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Local and municipal government authorities can also make an important contribution. Existing inter-ministerial committees could be strengthened for this purpose. It is also recommended that the review be discussed at least once by the Cabinet of the Head of State/Government. Collaboration and alignment with other existing institutional arrangements, in particular those responsible for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development or preparation of reports under international human rights treaties to which the State is a party, should also be sought.

Access to data: High quality, up-to-date and disaggregated data should inform the comprehensive national-level review. The review may also be leveraged as an impulse to collect additional data disaggregated by sex, age and other factors and gender statistics. The role of and collaboration with national statistical offices will be essential.

All-of-society approach and collaboration: In addition to institutional setups that ensure an all-of-government approach, arrangements for collaboration and consultation with other stakeholders should be in place. A national steering committee or similar arrangements should be constituted, convened by the head of the national mechanism for gender equality and the empowerment of women, to enable regular exchange with and inputs from stakeholders. Such stakeholders should include, among other actors, civil society organizations, in particular women’s and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls’ and youth-led organizations, trade unions, professional organizations, the private sector, academia, and national human rights institutions where they exist.

Information dissemination: The comprehensive national-level review should be well publicized, and regular updates on activities provided, through traditional and new media, including social media.
c. Multi-stakeholder participation and contributions

**Stakeholders:** Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, everywhere, is a societal responsibility – this is amply confirmed in all critical areas of concern of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in the outcomes of its first review of 2000 and subsequent outcomes that invite stakeholders to contribute to implementation. An all-of-society approach should therefore complement the all-of-government approach for comprehensive national-level reviews. Key in such efforts are, in particular: civil society organizations in particular women’s organizations, women human rights defenders, national human rights institutions where they exist, organizations representing women and girls subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, other representative organizations such as trade unions, women’s self-help organizations, youth groups, faith-based organizations, and professional organizations, as well as the private sector, including employers’ organizations. Collaboration with and outreach to academia will also be important. Media should also be involved.

**Engagement:** Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls requires change at all levels, including at an individual level. National-level reviews present an opportunity to engage the general public – women and men, girls and boys – in a national discussion on the issue. Communications campaigns, including through social media, as well as national, sub-national and local discussion forums, town hall-style meetings, and other appropriate platforms can be used to ensure broad-based outreach and inclusive engagement.

**Contributions:** Participation by a wide range of stakeholders in a process promotes ownership. Comprehensive national-level reviews should ensure that all stakeholders participate in the process and contribute to accelerated implementation of existing commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. A multi-stakeholder engagement strategy could be put in place for systematic outreach to and involvement of all key stakeholders, as well as their mobilization and concrete contributions to the review process. Different stakeholders, such as the private sector, educational institutions, academia and others, can directly contribute to realizing gender equality through their own actions.

**Activities:** A calendar of activities should be maintained, and the contributions of all stakeholders, including their commitments to specific actions, compiled and publicized.

**Role of the UN system:** Entities of the United Nations system, in particular UN-Women where present, including Resident Coordinators, UN Country Teams and Gender Theme Groups, should be invited to support such processes. This could include technical inputs and support, serving as convener for stakeholder engagement and participation, and support for data collection and analysis.

**Role of the United Nations regional commissions:** The regional commissions are encouraged to undertake regional reviews so that the outcomes of intergovernmental processes at the regional level can feed into the Commission’s 2020 review. Regional commissions, as applicable, will also contribute to supporting their respective Member States in national preparations. The regional review meetings are expected to take place in late fall of 2019 and early 2020.
d. Timeline for comprehensive national-level reviews, preparation of a national report and its submission to the United Nations Regional Commissions and to UN-Women

Comprehensive national-level reviews should be launched as soon as possible, in a highly visible manner, and include a time table for consultations with stakeholders and of specific activities to take stock of achievements, identify challenges in implementation, and commit to concrete actions by all stakeholders, at all level.

The inter-ministerial committee or working group could oversee the process of writing a national report.

National reports should synthesize the progress over the last five years (approximately 2014 – 2019, or since the completion of the national report on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action), the persisting challenges for women and girls, and the way forward, based on the questionnaire provided in Part II. of this Guidance Note. They are one tangible outcome of the comprehensive national-level review.

Once completed, national reports should be launched in a highly visible manner, preferably by the Head of State/Government, and widely disseminated. They should be submitted electronically to UN-Women and to the respective Regional Commission. National reports will feed into the respective regional synthesis reports that Regional Commissions will prepare for their respective regional intergovernmental reviews. National reports will also feed into a global synthesis report that UN-Women will submit to the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women to be held in March 2020.

A suggested timeline for comprehensive national-level reviews is as follows:

- **September 2018**: issuance by UN-Women and the United Nations Regional Commissions of the present *Guidance note for comprehensive national-level reviews*
- **September to December 2018**: planning process within government initiated, including establishment of committees and working groups, and initial outreach to stakeholders; planning process initiated by stakeholders
- **January to May 2019**: following an official launch of the comprehensive national review process by the Head of State/Government, consultations and stakeholder activities take place, in parallel with preparation of national report
- **1 May 2019**: submission of national report to the respective UN Regional Commission and to UN-Women
- **April to September 2019**: Regional Commissions organize regional consultations with various stakeholders
- **May to October 2019**: high-visibility presentation of national report at country level, followed by implementation activities. (Also, as applicable: Completion of all initiated national reports and submission to regional commissions and UN-Women)
- **October / November 2019 / February 2020**: regional intergovernmental meetings
- **March 2020**: 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women
- **September 2020**: high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Beijing+25, with participation of Head of State/Government
By 1 May 2019, Governments are invited to send their national reports, electronically and in hard copy, in one of the six official languages of the United Nations, to their respective Regional Commissions and to UN-Women, at the following addresses:

**UN-Women**
Intergovernmental Support Division  
220 East 42nd Street, Room 18-43  
New York, NY 10017  
Contact: Ms. Christine Brautigam  
Director, Intergovernmental Support Division  
Email: Beijing25nationalreviews@unwomen.org

**ECA**
Contact: Ms. Ngoné Diop  
Chief, Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Section  
Email: diop@un.org (Reference: Beijing+25)

**ESCAP**
Contact: Ms. Cai Cai  
Chief, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Section  
Email: escap-sdd@un.org (Reference: Beijing+25)

**ECE**
Contact: Ms. Malinka Koparanova  
Senior Social Affairs Officer and Gender Focal Point  
Email: ECE-Beijing+25@un.org

**ECLAC**
Contact: Ms. Lucia Scuro  
Social Affairs Officer, Division for Gender Affairs  
Email: Lucia.scuro@un.org; dag@cepal.org (Reference: Beijing+25)

**ESCWA**
Contact: Ms. Mehrinaz El Awady  
Director, ESCWA Centre for Women  
Email: escwa-ecw@un.org (Reference: Beijing+25)

UN-Women will not translate reports and will post them on the website in the language(s) received.

e. Sources of information

National reports should build on and draw from the inputs of national consultative processes. They should also utilize existing sources of information.

Sources of information could include:

- Reports submitted to international human rights treaty monitoring bodies, in particular the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (see [http://tb.ohchr.org/default.aspx](http://tb.ohchr.org/default.aspx) for States parties’ reports); and regional monitoring bodies, such as those established under the Istanbul Convention ([https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-](https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-))
convention/country-monitoring-work), and the Convention of Belem do Para (http://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/nosotros.asp)

- Reports submitted under international review processes, such as the Universal Period Review (under the Human Rights Council), or Voluntary National Reviews (under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
- Reports submitted under regional review processes, such as those held under the auspices of regional intergovernmental bodies.


Relevant information may also be found in the following publications and websites:


- **Preventing conflict, transforming justice, securing the peace: A global study on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325.** This study prepared for the fifteen-year anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 provides an assessment of progress and recommendations for the way forward: http://www.unwomen.org/~/media/files/un%20women/wps/highlights/unw-global-study-1325-2015.pdf

- **ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development.** This is an intergovernmental process with universal participation mandated to review the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (Addis Agenda) and other financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/ffdforum/. The Annual Report gives an overview of progress and prospects: https://developmentfinance.un.org/

- United Nations Climate Change website: https://unfccc.int/


The websites of regional commissions also offer publications and sources of information that can support national-level reviews.

Information about the 25-year review and appraisal process, including national reports, will be posted at the following website: http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw64-2020
This guidance note provides questions to orient national reviews and reporting, covering the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (henceforth, ‘BPfA’). 2020 will be the first time that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is reviewed with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (henceforth, ‘the 2030 Agenda’) fully in place. For practical purposes, the 12 critical areas of concern have been clustered into six overarching dimensions that highlight the alignment of the two frameworks.

The 2030 Agenda dedicates a specific goal to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls (SDG 5, achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) with targets that resonate strongly with the BPfA (see the two columns in the table below). It also stresses that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the Agenda is crucial. As an issue that cuts across the other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Agenda includes a series of gender-related targets addressing critical areas of concern of the BPfA, from women’s poverty to women in the environment (see bottom row in the table below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beijing Platform for Action (12 critical areas of concern)</th>
<th>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (targets under SDG 5)6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Women and poverty</td>
<td>5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Education and training of women</td>
<td>5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Women and health</td>
<td>5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Violence against women</td>
<td>5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Women and armed conflict</td>
<td>5.5 Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Women and the economy</td>
<td>5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Women in power and decision-making</td>
<td>5a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women</td>
<td>5b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Human rights of women</td>
<td>5c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Women and the media</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K. Women and the environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. The girl-child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (gender-specific targets under other SDGs)7

6 Shorthand versions of the official targets are used for ease of communication.
7 This list is illustrative and not comprehensive. Targets were only included if the related indicator(s) explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as the underlying objective. For further information, please consult chapter 2 in UN Women (2018) Turning promises into action: gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. New York.
The Political Declaration on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women\(^8\) highlighted a number of implementation strategies for the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Accordingly, national reports should review progress on laws, policies and strategies; institutional mechanisms for gender equality; the transformation of discriminatory norms and gender stereotypes; investments to close resource gaps; accountability for existing commitments and capacity building, data collection, monitoring and evaluation. Countries are encouraged to conduct evidence-based assessments of achievements as well as setbacks and challenges in these areas with a focus on 2014 onwards.

Section one should provide macro analysis of priorities, achievements, challenges and setbacks, with a focus on the past five years (i.e. 2014 to 2019, or five years since the completion of the last report); as well as new and emerging priorities for the future.

Section two should provide a more detailed analysis of measures taken to advance gender equality across the twelve critical areas of concern of the BPfA with a focus on the last five years (i.e. since 2014 or the completion of the previous report). The use of the thematic clusters and guiding questions is encouraged to reflect on how the BPfA and the 2030 Agenda can be implemented in a mutually reinforcing manner to accelerate progress for all women and girls. For each of the areas, special attention should be given to elaborate on concrete examples of the measures that were taken, the challenges encountered and the achievements made, using data to document them where available.

Section 3 should cover national processes and mechanisms, linking those related to the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action with those related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Section 4 should highlight progress on the availability of data disaggregated by sex and gender statistics, linking the monitoring of implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action with gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Given the 2030 Agenda’s commitment to ‘leave no one behind’ guiding questions about the situation of women and girls who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination have been integrated across sections. Additionally, States are invited to provide, whenever possible and available, information about targeted measures they have implemented for disadvantaged groups of women and girls, particularly those listed in question 3. Similarly, States are encouraged to consider the human rights of women (critical area of concern I.) and women and girls of different ages, including the girl child (critical area of concern L.), across sections and dimensions.

---

\(^8\) E/2015/27, resolution 59/1.
Section One: Priorities, achievements, challenges and setbacks

1. What have been the most important achievements, challenges and set-backs in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women over the past 5 years?

In answering this question, please explain why your country considers these important, how it has addressed them, the challenges encountered and the factors that have enabled progress or led to set-backs in each case (3-5 pages).

2. Which of the following have been the top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country over the past five years through laws, policies and/or programmes? (please check relevant categories)

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
- Political participation and representation
- Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression)
- Women’s entrepreneurship and women’s enterprises
- Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation (e.g. paid maternity or parental leave, care services)
- Gender-responsive social protection (e.g. universal health coverage, cash transfers, pensions)
- Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, transport etc.)
- Strengthening women’s participation in ensuring environmental sustainability
- Gender-responsive budgeting
- Digital and financial inclusion for women
- Gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience building
- Changing negative social norms and gender stereotypes
- Other

Please provide brief reflections on how your country has addressed these priorities (3 – 5 pages).

3. Over the past five years, have you taken specific measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination? (please check relevant categories)

- Women living in remote and rural areas
- Indigenous women
- Racial, ethnic or religious minority women
- Women living with disabilities
- Women living with HIV/AIDS
- Women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities
- Younger women
- Older women
Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses (2 pages max.).

4. Has the increasing number of humanitarian crises—caused by conflict, extreme weather or other events—affect the implementation of the BPfA in your country?

YES/NO

If YES, please give concrete examples of the effects of humanitarian crises on progress for women and girls in your country and of measures taken to prevent and respond to humanitarian crises in a gender-responsive manner (1 page max.).

5. Which of the following does your country consider to be the top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country for the coming five years through laws, policies and programmes? (please check relevant categories)

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Access to affordable quality health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
- Political participation and representation
- Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression)
- Women’s entrepreneurship and women’s enterprises
- Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation (e.g. paid maternity or parental leave, care services)
- Gender-responsive social protection (e.g. universal health coverage, cash transfers, pensions)
- Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, hygiene, energy, transport, communication, etc.)
- Strengthening women’s participation in ensuring environmental sustainability
- Gender-responsive budgeting
- Digital and financial inclusion for women
- Gender-responsive disaster risk prevention, reduction and resilience building
- Changing negative social norms and gender stereotypes
- Other

Please provide brief reflections on how you plan to address these priorities (3 – 5 pages).
Section Two: Progress across the 12 critical areas of concern

This section covers progress across the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action. To facilitate the analysis, the 12 critical areas of concern have been clustered into six overarching dimensions that highlight the alignment of the BPFA with the 2030 Agenda. This approach is aimed at facilitating reflections about the implementation of both frameworks in a mutually reinforcing manner to accelerate progress for all women and girls.

Inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical areas of concern:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Women and poverty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Women and the economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Human rights of women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. The girl child</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to advance gender equality in relation to women’s role in paid work and employment?

- Strengthened / enforced laws and workplace policies and practices that prohibit discrimination in the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in the public and private sectors, and equal pay legislation
- Introduced / strengthened gender-responsive active labour market policies (e.g. education and training, skills, subsidies)
- Taken measures to prevent sexual harassment, including in the workplace
- Strengthened land rights and tenure security
- Improved financial inclusion and access to credit, including for self-employed women
- Improved access to modern technologies (incl. climate-smart technologies), infrastructure and services (incl. agricultural extension)
- Supported the transition from informal to formal work, including legal and policy measures that benefit women in informal employment
- Devised mechanisms for women’s equal participation in economic decision-making bodies (e.g. in ministries of trade and finance, central banks, national economic commissions)
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

7. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to recognize, reduce and/or redistribute unpaid care and domestic work and promote work-family conciliation?

- Included unpaid care and domestic work in national statistics and accounting (e.g. time-use surveys, valuation exercises, satellite accounts)
- Expanded childcare services or made existing services more affordable
- Expanded support for frail elderly persons and others needing intense forms of care
- Introduced or strengthened maternity/paternity/parental leave or other types of family leave
- Invested in time- and labour-saving infrastructure, such as public transport, electricity, water and sanitation, to reduce the burden of unpaid care and domestic work on women
- Promoted decent work for paid care workers, including migrant workers
- Conducted campaigns or awareness raising activities to encourage the participation of men and boys in unpaid care and domestic work
- Introduced legal changes regarding the division of marital assets or pension entitlements after divorce that acknowledge women’s unpaid contribution to the family during marriage
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

8. Has your country introduced austerity/fiscal consolidation measures, such as cuts in public expenditure or public sector downsizing, over the past five years?

YES/NO

If YES, have assessments on their impact on women and men, respectively, been conducted?

☐ Yes, their impact on women/men was estimated before measures were put in place.
☐ Yes, the impact was assessed after measures were put in place.
☐ No, the impact on women/men has not been assessed.

If YES, please describe the findings (1-2 pages).

Poverty eradication, social protection and social services

Critical areas of concern:
A. Women and poverty
B. Education and training of women
C. Women and health
I. Human rights of women
L. The girl child
9. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to reduce/eradicate poverty among women and girls?

- Promoted poor women’s access to decent work through active labour market policies (e.g. job training, skills, employment subsidies, etc.) and targeted measures
- Broadened access to land, housing, finance, technology and/or agricultural extension services
- Supported women’s entrepreneurship and business development activities
- Introduced or strengthened social protection programmes for women and girls (e.g. cash transfers for women with children, public works/employment guarantee schemes for women of working-age, pensions for older women)
- Introduced/strengthened low-cost legal services for women living in poverty
- Other

*Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)*

10. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve access to social protection for women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened social protection for unemployed women (e.g. unemployment benefits, public works programmes, social assistance)
- Introduced or strengthened conditional cash transfers
- Introduced or strengthened unconditional cash transfers
- Introduced or strengthened non-contributory social pensions
- Reformed contributory social protection schemes to strengthen women’s access and benefit levels
- Improved access to the above for specific populations (e.g. women in informal employment, including domestic workers; migrant and refugee women; women in humanitarian settings)
- Other

*Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)*

11. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve health outcomes for women and girls in your country?

- Promoted women’s access to health services through expansion of universal health coverage or public health services
- Expanded specific health services for women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health services, mental, maternal health and HIV services
- Undertaken gender-specific public awareness/health promotion campaigns
- Provided gender-responsiveness training for health service providers
- Strengthened comprehensive sexuality education in schools or through community programmes
- Provided refugee women and girls as well as women and girls in humanitarian settings with access to sexual and reproductive health services
- Other

*Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)*

12. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve education outcomes and skills for women and girls?

- Taken measures to increase girls’ access to, retention in and completion of education, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and skills development programmes
- Strengthened educational curricula to increase gender-responsiveness and eliminate bias, at all levels of education
- Provided gender equality and human rights training for teachers and other education professionals
- Promoted safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls
- Increased access to skills and training in new and emerging fields, especially STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and digital fluency and literacy
- Ensured access to safe water and sanitation services and facilitated menstrual hygiene management especially in schools and other education/training settings
- Strengthened measures to prevent adolescent pregnancies and to enable adolescent girls to continue their education in the case of pregnancy and/or motherhood
- Other

*Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)*
13. In the last five years, which forms of violence against women and girls, and in which specific contexts or settings, have you prioritized for action?

- Intimate partner violence/domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape
- Sexual harassment and violence in public places, educational settings and in employment
- Violence against women and girls facilitated by technology (e.g. cyberviolence, online stalking)
- Femicide/Feminicide
- Violence against women in politics
- Child, early and forced marriages
- Female genital mutilation
- Other harmful practices
- Trafficking in women and girls
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

14. What actions has your country prioritized in the last five years to address violence against women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened violence against women laws, and their enforcement and implementation
- Introduced, updated or expanded national action plans on ending violence against women and girls
- Introduced or strengthened measures to increase women’s access to justice (e.g. establishment of specialist courts, training for the judiciary and police, protection orders, redress and reparations, including for femicide cases)
- Introduced or strengthened services for survivors of violence (e.g. shelters, help lines, dedicated health services, legal, justice service, counselling, housing)
- Introduced or strengthened strategies to prevent violence against women and girls (e.g. in the education sector, in the media, community mobilization, work with men and boys)
Monitoring and evaluation of impact, including evidence generation and data collection, including regarding particular groups of women and girls
Introduced or strengthened measures for improving the understanding of causes and consequences of violence against women among those responsible for implementing measures on ending violence against women and girls
Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

15. What strategies has your country used in the last five years to prevent violence against women and girls?

- Public awareness raising and changing of attitudes and behaviours
- Work in primary and secondary education, including comprehensive sexuality education
- Grassroots and community-level mobilization
- Shifting the representation of women and girls in the media
- Working with men and boys
- Perpetrator programmes
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

16. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology (online sexual harassment, online stalking, non-consensual sharing of intimate images)?

- Introduced or strengthened legislation and regulatory provisions
- Implemented awareness raising initiatives targeting the general public and young women and men in educational settings
- Worked with technology providers to set and adhere to good business practices
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)
17. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to address the portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media?

- Enacted, strengthened and enforced legal reforms to combat discrimination and/or gender bias in the media
- Introduced binding regulation for the media, including for advertising
- Supported the media industry to develop voluntary codes of conduct
- Provided training to media professionals to encourage the creation and use of non-stereotypical, balanced and diverse images of women and girls in the media
- Promoted the participation and leadership of women in the media
- Established or strengthened consumer protection services to receive and review complaints about media content or gender-based discrimination/bias in the media
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

18. Has your country taken any action in the last five years specifically tailored to address violence against specific groups of women facing multiple forms of discrimination?

YES/NO

If YES, please list them and provide up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

Participation, accountability and gender-responsive institutions

**Critical areas of concern:**

- G. Women in power and decision-making
- H. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
- I. Human rights of women
- J. Women and the media
- L. The girl child

19. What actions and measures has your country taken in the last five years to promote women’s participation in public life and decision-making?

- Reformed constitution, laws and regulations that promote women’s participation in politics, especially at decision-making level, including electoral system reform, adoption of temporary special measures, such as quotas, reserved seats, benchmarks and targets
20. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase women’s access to expression and participation in decision-making in the media, including through information and communication technologies (ICT)?

☐ Strengthened the provision of formal and technical vocational education and training (TVET) in media and ICTs, including in areas of management and leadership
☐ Taken measures to enhance access, affordability and use of ICTs for women and girls (e.g. free wifi hubs, community technology centers)
☐ Introduced regulations to advance equal pay, retention and career advancement of women within the media and ICT field
☐ Collaborated with employers in the media and ICT field to improve internal policies and hiring practices on a voluntary basis
☐ Provided support to women’s media networks and organizations
☐ Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

21. Do you track the proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

YES/NO

If YES, what is the approximate proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women?
Please provide information on the specific areas in which these resources have been invested as well as reflections on achievements and challenges encountered in making budgets gender-responsive.

22. As a donor country, does your country track the proportion of official development assistance (ODA) that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

YES/NO
Not applicable

If YES, please provide further information on the methodology, the scope of tracking, past trends and current proportion of investments.

23. Does your country have a valid national strategy or action plan for gender equality?

YES/NO

If YES, please list the name of the plan and the period it covers, its priorities, funding and alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the targets under SDG 5.

If YES, has the national action plan been costed and have sufficient resources been allocated to its achievement in the current budget?

24. Does your country have an action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (if a State party), or of the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review or other United Nations human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/discrimination against women?

YES/NO

If YES, please provide some highlights of the action plans and timeline for implementation.

25. Is there a national human rights institution in your country?

YES/NO
If YES, does it have a specific mandate to focus on gender equality or discrimination based on sex/gender?

If YES, please provide up to three examples of how the NHRI has promoted gender equality. (2 pages max.)

Peaceful and inclusive societies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Critical areas of concern:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Women and armed conflict</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Human rights of women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. The girl child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

26. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to build and sustain peace, promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implement the women, peace and security agenda?

- Adopted and/or implemented a National Action Plan on women, peace and security
- Integrated women, peace and security commitments into key national and inter-ministerial policy, planning and monitoring frameworks
- Used communication strategies, including social media, to increase awareness of the women, peace and security agenda
- Increased budgetary allocations for the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda
- Taken steps to reduce excessive military expenditures and/or control the availability of armaments
- Re-allocated funds from military spending to social and economic development, including for gender equality and the empowerment of women
- Supported inclusive and gender-sensitive conflict analysis, early warning and prevention mechanisms
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

27. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase the leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response, at decision-making levels in situations of armed and other conflicts, and in fragile or crisis settings?

- Promoted and supported women’s meaningful participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements
Promoted equal participation of women in humanitarian and crisis response activities at all levels, particularly at the decision-making level
Integrated a gender perspective in the prevention and resolution of armed or other conflict
Integrated a gender perspective in humanitarian action and crisis response
Protected civil society spaces and women’s human rights defenders
Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

28. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to enhance judicial and non-judicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action and crisis response?

Implemented legal and policy reform to redress and prevent violations of the rights of women and girls
Strengthened institutional capacities, including of the justice system and transitional justice mechanisms as applicable, during conflict and crisis response
Strengthened capacity of security sector institutions on human rights and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse
Increased access of conflict-affected, refugee or displaced women to violence prevention and protection services
Taken measures to combat illicit arms trafficking
Taken measures to combat the production, use of and trafficking in illicit drugs
Taken measures to combat trafficking in women and children
Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

29. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to eliminate discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child?

Taken measures to combat negative social norms and practices and increased awareness of the needs and potential of girl children
Strengthened girls’ access to quality education, skills development and training
Tackled disadvantages in health outcomes due to malnutrition, early childbearing (e.g. anemia) and exposure to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases
Implemented policies and programmes to reduce and eradicate child, early and forced marriage
Implemented policies and programmes to eliminate violence against girls, including physical and sexual violence and harmful practices

Implemented policies and programmes to eradicate child labour and excessive levels of unpaid care and domestic work undertaken by girl children

Promoted girls’ awareness of and participation in social, economic and political life

Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

Environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation

Critical areas of concern:
I. Human rights of women
K. Women and the environment
L. The girl child

30. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives and concerns into environmental policies?

Supported women’s participation and leadership in environmental and natural resource management and governance

Strengthened evidence and/or raised awareness about gender-specific environmental and health hazards (e.g. consumer products, technologies, industrial pollution)

Increased women’s access to and control over land, water, energy, and other natural resources

Promoted the education of women and girls in science, engineering, technology and other disciplines relating to the natural environment

Enhanced women’s access to sustainable time- and labour-saving infrastructure (e.g. access to clean water and energy) and climate-smart agricultural technology

Taken measures to protect and preserve the knowledge and practices of women in indigenous and local communities related to traditional medicines, biodiversity and conservation techniques

Taken steps to ensure that women benefit equally from decent jobs in the green economy

Monitored and evaluated the impact of environmental policies and sustainable infrastructure projects on women and girls

Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women.
31. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives into policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation?

- Supported women’s participation and leadership, including those affected by disasters, in disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation policies, programmes and projects
- Strengthened the evidence base and raised awareness about the disproportionate vulnerability of women and girls to the impact of environmental degradation and disasters
- Promoted access of women in situations of disaster to services such as relief payments, disaster insurance and compensation
- Introduced or strengthened and implemented gender-responsive laws and policies related to disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation (e.g. disaster laws addressing vulnerability of women in disaster)

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)
Section Three: National institutions and processes

32. What is your country’s current national machinery for gender equality and the empowerment of women? Please name it and describe its location within Government.

33. Is the head of the national machinery a member of the institutional process for SDG implementation (e.g. inter-ministerial coordinating office, commission or committees)?

   YES/NO
   There is no national process for SDG implementation

   If YES, please provide further information

34. Are there formal mechanisms in place for different stakeholders to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

   YES/NO

   If YES,

   a) Which of the following stakeholders participate formally in national coordination mechanisms established to contribute to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

      **Beijing Declaration and PfA**
      □ Civil society organizations
      □ Women’s rights organizations
      □ Academia and think tanks
      □ Faith-based organizations
      □ Parliaments/parliamentary committees
      □ Private sector
      □ United Nations system
      □ Other actors, please specify..........................................

      **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
      □ Civil society organizations
      □ Women’s rights organizations
      □ Academia and think tanks
      □ Faith-based organizations
      □ Parliaments/parliamentary committees
      □ Private sector
      □ United Nations system
      □ Other actors, please specify.................................

   b) Do you have mechanisms in place to ensure that women and girls from marginalized groups can participate and that their concerns are reflected in these processes?

      YES/NO

      Please provide further details about the mechanisms used. (2 pages max.)
c) Please describe how stakeholders have contributed to the preparation of the present national report.

35. Is gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls included as a key priority in the national plan/strategy for SDG implementation?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ There is no national plan/strategy for SDG implementation

Please explain.
Section Four: Data and statistics

36. What are the **top three areas** in which your country has made most progress over the **past five years** when it comes to gender statistics at the national level?

- Promulgated laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy setting out the development of gender statistics
- Established an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- Used more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- Re-processed existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- Conducted new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- Improved administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps
- Produced knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
- Developed a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
- Engaged in capacity building to strengthen the use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)
- Other

*Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)*

37. Out of the following which are your country’s **top three priorities** for strengthening national gender statistics over the **next five years**?

- Design of laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy promoting the development of gender statistics
- Establishment of an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- Use more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- Re-processing of existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- Conduct of new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- Greater utilization and/or improvement of administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps
- Production of knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
Development of a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
Institutionalization of users-producers’ dialogues mechanisms
Statistical capacity building of users to increase statistical appreciation on and use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)
Other

Please provide a brief explanation and examples of your plans (2 pages max.).

38. Have you defined a national set of indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs?
☐ Yes
☐ No

If YES, how many indicators does it include and how many of those are gender-specific?9

If YES, how many of the gender-specific indicators are additional country indicators (i.e., not part of the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework)?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

If NO, how many global gender-specific SDG indicators (list provided in Annex 1) are available in your country?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

39. Has data collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs begun?
☐ Yes
☐ No

If YES, please describe which indicators have been prioritized

If NO, explain the main challenges for collecting and compiling data on these indicators

40. Which of the following disaggregations is routinely provided by major surveys in your country?
☐ Geographic location
☐ Income
☐ sex

---

9 The term ‘gender-specific indicators’ is used to refer to indicators that explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as the underlying objective. For example, SDG indicator 5.c.1 captures the percentage of countries with systems to track public allocations that are directed towards policies and programmes that promote gender equality—the underlying objective is the promotion of gender equality. The term is also used for indicators where women and girls are specified within the indicator as the targeted population (see UN Women. 2018. Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. New York).

10 As specified in A/RES/70/1, with the addition of education and marital status.
☐ Age
☐ Education
☐ Marital status
☐ Race/ethnicity
☐ Migratory status
☐ Disability
☐ Other characteristics relevant in national contexts

***