Report of the consultation on 'Measuring the progress towards gender equality within SDGs framework'

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> -SAHAJ, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) and the Feminist Policy Collective (FPC)

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Background to the consultation

SAHAJ, as National Influencing Partner for Equal Measures 2030 (EM 2030) in India, is implementing a project named 'Evidence based civil society action for SDGs and Gender equality' since 2017.

The project include state level activities in selected states, viz., Assam, Gujarat and Punjab and at the national level. The activities include-

- monitoring of Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSND) at the local level in three districts of Assam in order to improve quality of maternal health services and proper monitoring of high-risk pregnancies and follow up for necessary actions to prevent maternal deaths;
- advocacy for improving maternal health services in two districts of Punjab on the basis of data collection at the local level;
- improving access to SRH services for Adolescents in selected district of Gujarat;
- · training civil society actors for using data for evidence-based civil society action for achieving SDGs in all the three states:
- policy dialogues at the state level as well as national level with different stakeholders such as health functionaries, other related departments and state SDG cells and the civil society organizations to deliberate upon progress of the states in achieving SDG targets with the focus on issues related to gender equality; and
- preparing state report cards for the selected states based on the SDG gender index released by EM 2030.

One of the important interventions of this project is to develop the state report cards based on the indicators used for SDG Gender Index1 by EM 2030. The State specific report cards will use the indicators in the index to measure the state level progress on achieving the SDGs. These report cards would form the basis of policy dialogues at the State level.

Government of India has been actively engaged with the SDGs agenda and has committed to achieve the targets set by the SDGs framework. In December 2018, NITI Aayog published a baseline report of the SDG India Index which covered 13 out of 17 SDGs. It tracked the progress of all the States and Union Territories (UTs) on a set of 62 National Indicators, measuring their progress on the outcomes of interventions and schemes of the Government of India. Around the same time, the Government also released the report of Health Index. This Index is based on a composite score incorporating 23 indicators covering key aspects of health sector performance.

Apart from these there have been parallel developments related to use of data and indices in order to measure the progress towards achieving the targets under SDG agenda. SAHAJ felt a need to have a common platform for discussion about the process of developing an index, different attempts of measurements and challenges encountered there in.

SAHAJ works collaboratively with like-minded organizations, academic institutes and collectives both at the state and the national level. For this consultation, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi² and Feminist Policy Collective³ (FPC) of which SAHAJ is also a part became the coorganizers. The consultation on 'Measuring the progress towards gender equality within SDGs framework' was collaboratively organized on 13th December 2019 in IEG Campus in New Delhi. Thirty three participants from various academic and research institutes in Delhi and across India and some independent researchers and advocates attended the consultation.

The objectives of the consultation were

- to examine various indices currently available for measuring the progress of SDGs in India,
- to critically analyze the lacunae in existing indices for capturing gaps in progress of SDGs from a gender equality lens,
- to study the sources of data used in the current indices, to understand the limitations of existing data to monitor the progress of SDGs especially in reaching out to vulnerable/ marginalized groups, and
- to learn more about the initiatives of GoI about developing Gender Equality Index for India.

Ms. Renu Khanna from SAHAJ briefly presented SAHAJ's history and its work with EM 2030 and the purpose of the meeting. She mentioned SAHAJ's work in selected states in Phase-1 of the project and the national level consultation at the end of the Phase-1. She also spoke about the process by which the Feminist Policy Collective (FPC) was formed. This was followed by a round of introductions by the participants. The list of participants is attached as Annexure- 1. The program schedule is attached as Annexure- 2.

Prof. Ajit Mishra, Director, IEG gave an inaugural speech. He began by saying that gender should be integral to sustainable development. Having worked on indices for a long time, he advised that the work on indices should be taken up with caution. Indices are used to measure progress but the cardinality is taken to an extreme and even 2-3-point differences are reported as a major finding. Sometimes measurements and rankings done at different points in time are compared. The indices that are based on perceptions of individuals might be biased. For example, Bangladesh performing badly in corruption perception index is considered as a fact based on a perception.

Prof. Mishra mentioned that he has been working with Prof. James Foster on measurement of vulnerability to poverty. He suggested to follow a process of explanations, deliberations and defining of various dimensions before working on indices. While working on any index one needs to think about the properties that characterize the index. For any multidimensional measurement aggregation and identification are two important parts of an index and the ways of aggregation and identification will be different depending on the depth of analysis required.

- Establishing platforms for dialogue and learning to strengthen linkages between activism, advocacy and academia to influence local, national and global policymaking priorities
- Creating knowledge for informing policy formulation, implementation and monitoring, centering women's voices from the ground
- · Taking forward key policy recommendations with the State for advancing women's constitutional rights in the context of the above
- · Building partnerships with like-minded organisations and networks, including with international and UN Agencies

The Secretariat of the Feminist Policy Collective is located in CBGA (Centre for Budgetary Governance and Accountability) New Delhi.

¹ SDG Gender Index developed by Equal Measures 2030 which measures the state of gender equality aligned to 14 of the 17 SDGs in 129 countries and 51 issues ranging from health, gender-based violence, climate change, decent work and others. This 2019 SDG Gender Index provides a snapshot of where the world stands, right now, linked to the vision of gender equality set forth by the 2030 Agenda. SDG Gender Index can be accessed at https://data.em2030.org/2019-sdg-gender-index/explore-the-2019-index-data/.

The Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) is an autonomous, multidisciplinary Centre for advanced research and training in the fields of economic and social development. Established in 1958, its faculty of about 23 social scientists (economists, demographers and sociologists) and a large body of supporting research staff focus on emerging and often cutting-edge areas of social and policy concern.

IEG's research falls into nine broad themes including:

Founded in 1958 by the eminent economist V.K.R.V. Rao, IEG's faculty, Board of Directors and Trustees have included a wide range of distinguished intellectuals and policy makers. Several former faculty members have served as members of the Planning Commission or on the Prime Minister's Panel of Economic Advisors (1972-1982) and since 1992 as President of the IEG Society. Mr. Tarun Das is the Chairman and Prof.Ajit Mishra is the Director of the Institute.

³ The FPC envisions transforming policy and financing agenda to achieve women's rights and gender equality in India. The collective is a culmination of a series of discussions and consultations around Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). The collective was formed in 2019 and aims to play a role of-

Technical Session 1

An overview of various initiatives measuring progress of SDGs/ gender equality

Chairperson: Dr. Mala Ramanathan (Professor, Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum)

Dr. Mala began the session by saying that identification of data, its representation and availability of data become crucial while working on indices related calculations. She introduced the first speaker-Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande and requested her to speak.



Speaker

Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande (SAHAJ)

Dr. Nilangi presented the SDG Gender Index developed by EM 2030. She explained that the purpose of the SDG Gender index is to help gender advocates working in different parts of the world. The focus is on the use of the index by the grass roots level advocates. It is one of the indices that covers the entire spectrum of SDGs and the gender aspects within them. The index was developed based on two major surveys- 1. with the gender advocates to know their needs and 2. with the policy makers to see where are the gaps in understanding of the policy makers. Along with this several consultations helped in forming the indicators for the gender index.

The SDG Gender Index has 51 indicators for 14 (out of 17) SDGs. The index compares 129 countries of the world covering 95 percent of the population of women and girls in the world. The indicators selected for the index are a combination of official indicators developed by Inter-agency and Expert Group (IAEG) and few complimentary indicators that include laws, policies and norms; perception related indicators and outcome related indicators. Apart from the criteria of easy to use by the gender advocates, other selection criteria for the indicators included availability of updated data across countries and transformation potential of the

indicators.

Dr. Nilangi presented the global picture as per the index. Gender equality is a concern for most of the countries across globe. The index has highlighted the need for public finance and gender disaggregated data for achieving gender equality. Identification of gender indicators is a task as not many indicators have gender disaggregated data. Apart from this, climate change, industry and innovation and gender equality goals are the areas of concern according to the index. The performance on social sector areas like health, education, sanitation and nutrition is comparatively better.

India stands at the 95th position in a list of 129 countries in the index. Nilangi shared about SAHAJ's plan to bring out India factsheet presenting India's position for each of the indicator. Higher education, disparities in opportunities for work and positions held by men and women in the parliament have shown huge gender gaps for India. She mentioned EM 2030's Gender Advocates' Data Hub to look for more details of the Index.

The presentation is attached as Annexure 4.

Speaker



Dr. William Joe

(Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi IEG)

Dr. William gave an overview of different indices such as Human Development Index (HDI), Multidimensional Poverty Index, Gender Inequality Index and NITI Aayog SDG Index and the main issues encountered while working on measurement. He shared ideas presented by Prof. Sudhir Anand in his paper 'Recasting Human Development Measures' which presents a critique of indices.

He presented a few examples:

- The differences in approaches taken by the old HDI and new HDI in computing poverty- The two indices differed in the aggregation process; the old index used arithmetic mean whereas the new one used geometric mean which heightened the plight of the poor. UNDP looked at this as a desirable feature as the gap between the rich and the poor is inflated. But the new index has a limitation, the geometric mean will be zero if one of the dimensions is zero. In these cases, some arbitrary numbers or measures are put which technically don't exist.
- While understanding an incremental change, the effect of change for a low ranked country and a high ranked country is totally different. In the case of life expectancy, a country ranked at a higher level will improve its rank in a better way even if the change in life expectancy is only 1 year. At the same time, the country ranked at a lower level will have to increase its life expectancy by several years (sometimes the number of years is impossible to achieve by any country) to replace the country above it. For example, Zimbabwe (the lowest ranked country)

will need a life expectancy of 154 years in order to replace the Democratic Republic of Congo (the second lowest ranked country).

He also discussed several issues faced in measurement while producing a robust index and complex composition of indicators used in the indices. While talking about Gender Development Index, he mentioned that it is a simple ratio of HDI (Female) to HDI (Male). This becomes a normative judgement. Thus, economists are now proposing an axiom of 'difference sensitivity'. This means that even if the ratio of two countries at different levels is the same, they should not be placed at the same rank. Ratio Based Level Sensitivity is another axiom which states that if the ratio is same in two contexts, then the context with low base level should be ranked higher in GDI. This also means that as the country progresses, the gender gap should reduce.

While concluding, he mentioned following points to be remembered while developing a gender index. These are-

- whether female disadvantage should be considered equal to the male disadvantage.
- what should be used ratios or gaps?
- what should be used Arithmetic Mean or Geometric Mean?
- · whether 'Difference Sensitivity' axiom and 'Ratio Based Level Sensitivity' axiom be used?
- should all the dimensions be weighed equally?
- are inequality adjustments meaningful or not?

The presentation is attached as Annexure 5.

Ms. Subhalakshmi began by saying that the focus of her talk will be the 'Why' and 'What' of measuring as the previous presentations were focused on 'how'. While giving an historical overview of SDG processes, she mentioned that the inclusion of gender equality framework within SDGs began at the formulation process with a push from global women's movement through inequality thematic group co-hosted by UN Women and UNICEF. The success of the process was that in addition to the stand-alone goal for achieving gender equality, it was also considered as a cross cutting issue throughout the goals.

At the global level, availability of gender disaggregated data was an issue. When the IAEG started developing indicators, they divided the indicators in 3 tiers based on availability and comparability. Most of the gender indicators selected belonged to tier 2 and tier 3, with less or no data available for comparison.

In India, the SDGs and gender related efforts were supported by UN Women and UNFPA. The work focused on two dimensions-

1. Finding data to measure India's progress towards achieving the SDG targets

MoSPI co-hosted 2-3 roundtable consultations with different stakeholders including the academia, researchers and state representatives to come up with concrete recommendations reducing gender gaps. Following recommendations emerged from these consultations-

- Existing surveys will need to include newer models
- There is a need to strengthen the existing administrative and scheme data and collect gender disaggregated data
- Data gaps on certain indicators may need to be filled with standalone surveys; such as on violence prevalence and on women's unpaid work. (These gaps are consistent with the global data gaps around violence and women's work, as illustrated by the Time for Action SDG monitoring report of UN Women, 2018).

These recommendations were considered and some were taken up by MoSPI and the line ministries. An example of this is the announcement of 'Time use survey' which was initiated after a 20 year gap, and was expected to give a better picture of women's work.

2. Further use of data

Ms. Subhalakshmi further explained that when the National Indicator framework was formed, some of the recommendations were adopted. The states started to roll out their plans. In this process, SDG 5 (Gender Equality) was not prioritized by many states by stating that gender is a cross cutting issue across SDGs. The standalone gender equality part of SDG is forgotten by some states, and the focus is only on the sectoral gender equality indicators. In reality, SDG 5 was the one goal with maximum indicators in tier 3 with no data. Thus, gender advocates need to focus on SDG 5 more than anything else. This holds even more relevance today when newer indices are being configured from existing data, without due consideration to missing data.

UN Women's 2018 SDG monitoring report had also highlighted intersectionality and disaggregation across socio- economic groups as a global gap in data. The report had flagged a largely gender blind approach being adopted by the Census and the Labour surveys.

In India, although, the quality of census data has improved over years, it is still not enough. With respect to the labour survey, India is in crisis. ILO has moved ahead with the definitions of work, paid and unpaid work. But, in the labour surveys in the country, multiplicity and simultaneity of women's work is not considered. Another issue is lack of intrahousehold unit level data. The unit of data collection and analysis is still the household and not the individual.

All the current SDGs related work in India is happening currently based on existing data sets but there is a need to create newer data sets, or include new indicators in existing surveys, to meaningfully measure the progress. Even if perfect data sets are not available by the end of 2030, we need to have a plan and take required steps.

Subhalakshmi concluded by saying that, we need a good gender responsive policy in order to reduce gender gaps. The three points of discrimination for women are education, employment and marriage. The gender analysis that is emerging in both research and practice has shown that marriage penalty and motherhood penalty along with early marriage are the issues of concern. Lower levels of education and employment may not be solved unless it is looked at more holistically in relation to prevalent cultural and gender norms.

Open Discussion

Following points emerged from the discussions that followed the three presentations.

- India has a comprehensive maternity entitlements related policy. There are issues in policy implementation. It is important to understand the nuances of the discourse on maternity entitlement schemes and the whole legal and financial framework in order to understand the actual entitlements, limitations and conditions.
- In India, marital assets or property of women are not considered. The inheritance laws are only on paper. The women are land owners in true sense in only women headed households which are low in number. There is no data on access of women to assets in marital households. There is a need to respond to this. Unit level data should be collected instead of household level data which will give a clear picture of asset ownership. On a positive note, after a lot of efforts by *Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch* (MAKAAM), the department of land records has agreed to have disaggregated data for land records.
- Data collected in official surveys or studies does not cover the change of work pattern that has
 emerged in recent years for both men and women. Current classification of work is binary. The
 quality of data is also not good. There is no empirical connection between what kind of work is done
 and what kind of data are collected.
- There is a need to complement the picture shown by big data with women's lived realities through case studies. There is a need for conceptual and methodological change in perception about women's work to understand the realities.
- SDGs are about 'Leaving no one behind'. But the groups that are left behind are the invisible ones. We do not have data for those groups in the public domain. There is a need for alternative ways of conceptualizing evidence apart from data in order to include these groups.
- There is a double connection between women and water and sanitation. They are not only the ones who procure water for household level work and drinking purpose but, they are the ones who need more water for their biological needs (for example, during menstruation). In the indicators developed under the National Indicator Framework for India; these connections are not pulled out.

After these in-depth discussions, Dr. Mala gave her closing remarks. She said that computational adjustments are needed to capture the indicators properly. Transformability of variables and transferability of method also become important while choosing the indicators. She suggested a convergence approach in order to establish interconnections between individual work on different aspects of gender.

Technical Session 2

Methodological and data related challenges in capturing gender inequality

Chairperson: Prof. Tara Nair, Professor

(Gujarat Institute of Development Research - GIDR)



Speaker

Dr. Sona Mitra

(Principle Economist, Initiative for What Works to Advance Women and Girls in the Economy- IWWAGE)

Dr. Mitra pointed out that while measuring gender inequality, non-availability of data and quality of available data are the two major issues. Her talk elaborated the challenges faced while developing an index given the quality of available data with respect to women's work participation.

She mentioned that studies done by National Sample Survey Organziation (NSSO) and Central Statistical Office (CSO) are important because they collect data from the village level. Apart from these major studies, administrative datasets are major sources of official government data but these are not used by academicians for lack of consistency and periodicity. For indices where we need robust data with good consistency without any methodological issues, such sources are found to be of no use.

Dr. Mitra reported that SDG Gender Index for India is underway and will be published in a few months by NITI Aayog. There have been several domains listed from which a few will be selected for the final index. Women's work is a major domain that will be considered in this index. Data for indicators such as Unemployment Rate and Labour Force Participation Rate are mostly available and can be readily used for comparison across the states. The issue lies in the definition of work, understanding women's work and measuring it. On one hand, women are taking more and more responsibilities and performing many roles simultaneously and on the other hand the official statistics shows lower and lower participation rates for women.

During the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) by ILO (2013) the definition of work was expanded. According to the new definition, 'any activity that is performed to produce goods and services to be used by others as well as own use' is defined as work. The 'own use' part is crucial which goes way beyond what is captured as employment in our national surveys. The current indicators capture employment but not work. The gaps in work done by men and women are not clear in the indices because our measurement and definition of work restricts the understanding. The policies do not focus on unpaid work. This acts as a major barrier for women to access productive activities.

She also talked about the actual process of data collection during the big surveys. She said that there are gaps in capturing women's work. This can simply be improved by focusing more on the training of the enumerators to capture the nuances of women's work. Presently, a woman responding negatively to the question 'Do you work?' is immediately categorized in the 'non-working' population and not asked further questions. This needs to change.

She summarized her talk by saying that capturing work in its proper form and identifying nuances of women's work is important while calculating work participation rates.

Another challenge is capturing the indicators for economic participation of women from financial inclusion and social protection point of view. There are no data collected for these two domains by the CSO and we need to depend on the administrative sources (several scheme and programme websites) alone to look for data on actual benefits received by women. These data sets are not comparable with CSO data sets and thus the two cannot be merged. This results in diluting the index.

Thus, data on time use should be included in CSO data sets. Along with that, women's access to LPG, to electricity and to water can be included rather than depending on the scheme statistics.

Mr. Ghosh started his talk by giving example of an indicator. GDP per worker is one of the indicators used to calculate a country's development. If unpaid work is considered while calculating this indicator, the GDP will go up considerably. Thus, inclusion of unpaid work, even though agreed principally, is not considered while defining work.

He pointed out that before working on gender inequalities, the real meaning of gender should be understood in its totality. He questioned the use of Gender Parity Index to measure the relative access to education for males and females if gender is beyond just sex segregated data.

He briefly spoke about the global process by which the SDG indicators were finalized. He said that a basket of indicators that decide the progress made towards achieving goals was given to us by an expert group. The whole process was done at the global level and was not localized. Even the decisions of moving indicators from one tier to the other based on data availability were taken internationally. He said that the National Indicator Framework (NIF) is considerably different from the global one. He questioned the need for coming up with indices and put forth his reservations about aggregation of different indicators to form an index. According to him, more than the complex statistical work that goes into creating indices, policy makers will be more convinced with the indicators that have policy implications and are simple to understand.

He gave an example of Global Hunger Index and argued that the indicators selected to measure hunger are not enough to form an index. Major drawback of indices according to him was that the indices combine different things that are separately measured. The standardization methods also need to be revisited. He stated that data collection is a tedious process, data collected from authentic data sources also have limitations of underreporting and perceptions-based reporting. There is no full proof method of data collection.



Speaker

Mr. G U S Prakash

(Assistant Vice President, Measurement Science at Broadcast Audience Research Council India)

Mr. Prakash worked with Plan India during the process of formation of Gender Vulnerability Index. Mr. Prakash presented few of the challenges encountered during the development of Gender Vulnerability Index and the steps they followed.

He began by saying that while working on any index, the most important first step is to get a clarity about the need for an index as developing an index is a tedious, time consuming process. A thorough work on selection of indicators, their exact meaning and repercussions of choosing those indicators needs to be done. He listed availability of data from all the countries or states to be ranked in the index as an issue in choosing the indicators. Another issue is choosing the right indicator. For example, if the indicator is about presence of a policy, the official records could show the policy that is existent on paper, but unless we know the implementation

statistics for the policy, we do not get the whole picture. This part would be missing if we simply choose an indicator for 'presence of policy'.

Sometimes, the ground level realities we come across while working on the field and the official figures from the selected data sources differ significantly from each other. For developing an index, the data needs to be taken from official sources but this difference creates a dilemma.

He presented some of the analysis that emerged from this index. Further challenge while working at the level of lower administrative clusters (districts) is the unavailability of uniform data for the selected indicators. At the end he stated that data literacy in India is still poor and we need more data to achieve the targets. The presentation is attached as Annexure 6.

Dr. Hema focused her talk on 'data' rather than 'indices'. She selected a few targets from the National Indicator Framework - Targets 1.4, 5a and 5b related to economic activities and looked at the indicators selected by NITI Aayog in order to reach those targets. According to her, the indicators chosen are quite broad for looking at the nuances of these targets.

She spoke about measurement issues in collecting gender data. Household is generally the unit of data collection for most of the surveys. Gender analysis is supposed to be done at the individual level which is not possible in its real sense with household level data. All poverty and inequality related indicators are individual based but the level of data collection remains at the household level. She proposed that individual should be considered as a unit of data collection and claimed that it is possible.

Another important issue she raised was that the gender analysis of male headed and female headed households needs to be done separately. Recent economic and sociological theories are unpacking the intra household relations and resource control within the households but the data collection systems have not picked that up. Theory has moved far ahead and empirically we are still catching up.

She explained that analysis of asset ownership for individuals within the households is a complex endeavor owing to various concepts including legal ownership, control over and access to common property and different forms of ownership.

She further added that for addressing the issues of power and violence within the household, an intra household gender analysis is also possible while considering the household as the unit of analysis. After this she spoke about some practical challenges encountered during data collection. Given the time constraints, household data are generally gathered from a person available all the time however, there needs to be a consideration of whether the question is about themselves or for others. Divergent responses in case of proxy vs self-reporting are often found. For example, in the Karnataka State Household Survey, individual is the unit of analysis and two people from each household are asked the questions. The results have shown that the perceptions of work done by the other person in the same household differ significantly from the self-reporting in cases of both men and women.

Structure of the tool also becomes important. Adding simple questions in the present structures of the survey tools can give more information for gender analysis. For example, while talking about ownership of household, in addition to the question of 'Type of household', an additional question can be asked in order to gain information on 'who within the household owns the household' in case of 'own house'.

Dr. Hema concluded by saying that data innovation is important for incorporating gender analysis and the cost of not doing data innovation is high. The presentation is attached as Annexure 7.

Open Discussion

- There is a need for multi stakeholder inputs including the practitioners and a need for collaboration between different sectors- academia and other researchers, government and advocates
- The administrative data and the official statistical data never converge. There is a need for the government to collect data on indicators for social sectors
- No holistic measures have been taken for addressing data gaps. The line ministries do not know how to address data gaps
- Process indicators are as important as input and outcome indicators
- Inclusion of women's work in GDP calculation will bloat the GDP but the status of women will remain the same. There should be policy measures to improve the status
- Prevalence data on violence against women won't be of use because of the known fact of under reporting. The perceptions data collected by NFHS makes much more sense
- Perception related data should not be analyzed through the usual tabulation method
- The additional cost incurred because of individual level data collection should be considered. One survey for individual as well as household data might not be possible. Indirect costs such as the interviewee's time, violence faced by the interviewers and the willingness of women respondents are also important decision-making factors. Training of the enumerators is a critical part of data collection
- We should remember that measuring piecemeal indicators is not equivalent to measuring progress

Chairperson, Dr. Tara Nair concluded the session by saying that biases can come at any step. National level macro surveys should not be loaded with nuanced points. Micro nuanced studies can complement the macro data. More money for research in these areas can be demanded.

Technical Session 3

Government initiatives for measuring the progress of SDGs and gender equality

Chairperson: Prof. Manoj Panda

(Professor, Institute of Economic Growth - IEG)



Speaker

Mr. Sourav Adhikari

(Policy and Development Advisory Group - PDAG)

Mr. Sourav presented PDAG's proposed model to address the existing gaps in data within the SDGs framework. To start off, he gave an overview of different indices produced globally and nationally under the SDGs framework and pointed out that the commonality is in the lack of gender statistics. He presented the current status of SDGs related data in India through the aspects of accessibility, comparability and accuracy amongst many others. He said that 84 percent of the NIF indicators in India are updated annually which is a positive thing. In terms of accuracy, a robust monitoring system is lacking in the current model.

He pointed out some of the issues in the data used for official purposes and for national level indices including the lack of grassroots data collection personnel, robust monitoring mechanism, lack of incentives in capturing ground level data, inadequate understanding of gender data gaps and lack of political will which is essential part of the SDGs framework.

He listed the lack of political will and accountability mechanisms as an important issue. NITI Aayog's current approach is an administrative one, with no spaces for participatory approach even for the parliamentarians or the local elected representatives. NITI Aayog itself talks about localizing SDGs and supplementing the SDG Index with the local and regional data.

PDAG has come up with an idea to bridge the gaps and correlate different state and national level schemes with the gender indicators in the indices. The indicators are present in the NIF but the gaps that are present can be mapped at the local level.

The gaps can go along with the indicator to create a supplemental understanding. The data can be taken from different schemes and programme statistics. To supplement the SDG Gender Index, gender equality scorecards can be produced at the district level.

The idea is to leverage commitment from the elected representatives for this initiative and build capacities of local women for collecting data and mapping the gender gaps through community mobilization.

The data will be collected at the grassroots level with the participatory GIS based tools. Robust monitoring system to minimize the missing data points will be set up along with training of the enumerators. Audio recordings, geo-spatial tagging can be used to monitor the quality of data. Another advantage of this kind of data is that it can be aggregated or disaggregated to whatever geographical level we want. Currently district wise data are collected. Parliamentary constituencies are not the same as districts. Sometimes there is overlap, sometimes one district has more than one constituency. If government representatives need to take initiative, the geotagged data can be helpful in getting the constituency wise aggregation. Based on the information collected and the gender map of the area, the schedule for further data collection can be updated.

PDAG is working with ICRW on this project. They are hoping to get support from UN Women for the advocacy component in order to get the elected representatives on board for this activity. For getting gender based statistics and data driven decision making, political will is an essential component. The presentation is attached as Annexure 8.

Open Discussion

Following points emerged from the discussion after this presentation.

- Ethical and legal issues are present in geo tagging that PDAG is proposing.
- Comparability is an issue because the parliamentary constituencies keep changing and the populations also change.
- As all action and planning happens at the district administration level, it is better to make district the unit rather than the parliamentary constituency.
- Localization of all indicators is important. Schemes are from supply side and we look at it from the demand side.
- MoSPI will be undertaking a Multi Indicator Survey, in 2020 with 30 indicators including some gender issues
- The current idea of gender equality considers only two groups men and women. No data are available for other gender groups.



Mr. Steven talked about practical application of the discussions happening in the consultation specifically about Gender Equality Index undertaken by the NITI Aayog.

He gave an account of the process that led to the conception of this Gender Equality Index. In 2015, Gender Parity Index developed by McKinsey Global Institute showed a significant variation at the global and regional level among countries. In 2018, another index for the South Asia including India was developed with the same methodology and similar findings even within India. After this, NITI Aayog went into discussion with the group on development of Gender equality Index to understand the variation at the state level but it didn't work out. In 2019, NITI Aayog reconvened the process and organized consultations with various stakeholders such as government experts and some external organizations and other experts

for conceptual understandings about the Index. He reported that the next consultation for the discussion on implementation process will soon be organized.

He said that the process started a few months ago and is still at a preliminary level. A list of domains has been compiled. It will be built upon the work already done by EM 2030 and NITI Aayog's previous indices on water sanitation, education, health and SDG India Index. Most of these indices touch upon the gender aspect.

This Gender Equality Index will be regularly published every 2-3 years until 2030. State report cards will also be prepared to showcase the detailed analysis at the state level.

Steven assured that the index will be a work based on aggregation of past work and the report will be an action-oriented one

Open Discussion

The discussion that followed the presentation included following points:

- The government has a strong preference for their own data. With the time constraints for developing the index, primary data collection cannot be done. Most of the data used are government data that are publicly available.
- Availability of data from scheme related official records could be taken into consideration depending on the final selection of indicators.
- State consultations with different stakeholders are planned before the Gender Equality Index is finalized and launched around International Women's Day (March 8, 2020).
- Substantial amount of evidence is available as a collective wisdom from different stakeholders in the country but these are not considered in the official indices or other reports. Processes for localizing and documenting perceptions and voices to triangulate the schemes' related data and possibilities of dialogues with the public were suggested.
- Although the NIF includes an indicator on percentage of Gross State Domestic Product spent on health, the Health Index of NITI Aayog excludes this indicator. The point that was made was that budget allocations should be an indicator for the Gender Equality index. Resource allocation is an important part which is not paid enough attention and without it no recommendations are going to work.

Technical Session 4

Opportunities, Collaborations and Way forward

Facilitators: Ms. Subhalakshmi Nandi and Ms. Renu Khanna

The last session was an open discussion in which all the participants put forth their ideas about taking the process ahead. Following are some of the important points that were put forth:

• On the basis of EM 2030 SDG Gender Index, SAHAJ is planning to produce report cards for the states of Assam, Gujarat and Punjab on the 'status of women'. These report cards will include key gender issues for that state. The focus will be on advocacy with respect to policy, programmes, laws, implementation, budgets. The civil society organizations' priorities for work in local areas will also be considered while developing the report cards even if there is scarcity of data. The demands for availability of data of these indicators will be included in the report cards. The mapping of the indicators done will be shared by all the participants. Practical availability of data will be an important restricting factor while preparing the report cards.

Many in the group seemed interested in this kind of exercise. The methodology can be developed together and the organizations can work in their respective areas. The advocacy will also be focused at the state level with the state specific issues. There could be a national level discussion towards the end.

- For the organizations such as Breakthrough, that are working on the ground level along with the advocacy part, there is no reliable data source that clearly indicates the areas that need to be put in more resources. No movement is seen at the grassroots level.
- The discussions and conversations that are organized within the civil society circle and the

- academic institutes at the national level, do not reach the states. Many organizations working at the local levels who can contextualize the issues better do not know about the SDGs and their reporting. There needs to be some efforts for reaching out to the state and district level organizations.
- In states like Karnataka and Kerala, State Planning Boards work on state and district level human development reports. There is a possibility of working towards including a gender chapter in these reports.
- The state level processes for monitoring of SDGs differ in all the states. Many states have prioritized certain goals and targets for themselves. Examples of Assam, Gujarat, Punjab, Odisha and Jharkhand were shared by different participants. Smaller states that are more open can be prioritized for work.
- Women's work is getting a lot of mileage at the government level. A range of people are interested in the economic rights including assets. At the national level this issue can be taken forward.
- Benchmarking is more important than ranking where differentiated performance of a state vis a vis a desirable and aspirational benchmark can be assessed.
- There is a need to work with the system. We need to pick up specific indicators for each of the line ministries and give them the data so that it becomes relevant for them. While closely working with the system, inputs are accepted more readily.
- Addressing media partners with an SDGs perspective and media advocacy is necessary.

• Indicators that are valid at the state level may not be valid at the district level but we need to find the proxies and use the appropriate data to show the picture.

All the participants were engaged with the issues discussed in the last session and showed readiness to share their expertise, experiences and research work for taking the process ahead. As a first step, SAHAJ would be reaching out to friends to further think through the State Report Cards.

Throughout the day, there were engaging discussions around various indices, the process of formation of indices, the hurdles on the way and the limitations of these indices. There were also discussions on newer ways of incorporating gender equality lens in the indices.

Some specific areas for future engagement could also be in using the report cards in relation to technical inputs and advocacy for the Voluntary National Reporting (VNR) process of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), in building greater capacities and momentum at state and local levels, and also in shaping new generation research agenda around missing data.

The consultation ended with Dr. William Joe from IEG thanking all the participants for their presence and inputs throughout the day and the administrative staff of the IEG for making great arrangements for the meeting.

Annexure 1

List of participants

Name	Organization
Prof. Mala Ramanathan	AMCHSS, SCTIMST
Ms. G.U.S. Prakash	BARC India
Ms. Leena Sushant	Breakthrough
Ms. Shreya Jha	Breakthrough
Ms. Priyambada Seal	Feminist Policy Collective
Ms. Nilanjana Sengupta	ICRW
Prof. Manoj Panda	IEG
Dr. William Joe	IEG
Prof. Ajit Mishra	IEG
Dr. Hema Swaminathan	IIM-B
Mr. Steven Walker	International Innovation Corps
Dr. Sona Mitra	IWWAGE
Mr. Sourav Adhikari	Policy Development Advisory Group
Mr. Onkar Ghosh	MOSPI
Dr. Ruby Alambusha Singh	IEG
Ms. Rajini Menon	OXFAM India
Ms. Radhika Uppal	ICRW
Ms. Sreerupe Pillai	CWDS
Mr. Sandip	IEG
Mr. Rajeev Sharma	IEG
Mr. Oindrilla De	IEG
Dr. Sakshi Saini	IEG
Mr. Ajay Kumar Verma	IEG
Dr. Narendra Patel	IEG
Dr. S.K. Sen	IEG
Ms. Dhamini Ratnam	Hindustan Times
Mr. Khobaib Ahmad	IEG
Prof. Tara Nair	GIDR
Ms. Subhalakshmi Nandi	Feminist Policy Collective
Ms. Renu Khanna	SAHAJ
Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande	SAHAJ
Ms. Rashmi Padhye	SAHAJ
Ms. Hemal Shah	SAHAJ

Annexure 2

Schedule of the Consultation

Time	Session	Speakers	Chairperson
9.30 AM- 10.30 AM		Registration	
10.30 AM - 11.00 AM	Welcome and introductions	Ms. Renu Khanna (SAHAJ)	
11.00 AM - 11.15 AM	Inaugural speech	Prof. Ajit Mishra, Director IEG	
11.15 AM - 12.45 PM	Technical Session I: An overview of various initiatives measuring progress of SDGs / gender equality	Dr.NilangiSardeshpande (SAHAJ) Dr. William Joe (IEG) Ms. Subhalakshmi Nandi (Co-Convenor, FPC)	Prof. Mala Ramanathan (SCTIMST)
12.45 PM - 2.15 PM	Technical Session II: Methodological and data related challenges in capturing gender equality	Dr. Sona Mitra (IWWAGE) Mr. Onkar Ghosh (MoSPI) Mr. G. U. S. Prakash (BARC India) Dr. Hema Swaminathan (IIM-B)	Prof. Tara Nair (GIDR)
2.15 PM - 2.45 PM		Lunch	
2.45 PM - 4.00 PM	Technical Session III: Government initiatives for measuring the progress of SDGs and gender equality	Mr. Sourav Adhikari (PDAG) Mr. Steven Walker (IIC- UChicago)	Prof. Manoj Panda (IEG)
4.00 PM - 5.15 PM	Technical Session IV: Opportunities for collaboration and Way forward	Open discussion	Moderator- Ms. Subhalakshmi Nandi Ms. Renu Khanna

Annexure 3

Bios of chairpersons and speakers

Prof. Ajit Mishra

Ajit Mishra is currently the Director of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, India. After completing his PhD from the Delhi School of Economics, he has been actively engaged in research and teaching over the last twenty-five years. His research interests are Economic Development, Public Economics, and Economic Theory. Prior to joining the Institute, he taught at various institutions including the University of Bath, University of Dundee and University of Edinburgh in the UK and Delhi School of Economics, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, and Ashoka University in India.

Technical Session I: An overview of various initiatives measuring progress of SDGs/ gender equality

Chairperson: Dr. Mala Ramanathan

Dr. Mala Ramanathan is a professor at Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies in Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology at Trivandrum. She has been a faculty in the institute for more than 20 years. She is a statistician-demographer. She also has a Masters degree in Medical Anthropology. She has completed her fellowship in research ethics at the Harvard School of Public Health. In addition to teaching at the Achutha Menon Centre, she is also the Working Editor for the Indian Journal of Medical Ethics. Her areas of research are gender and health and research ethics with a strong focus on methodological innovations both in terms of qualitative and quantitative approaches.

Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande

Dr. Nilangi is the project anchor for SAHAJ's current project on 'Evidence Based Civil Society Action for Gender Equality and SDGs'. She is CommonHealth Steering Committee member. She is an ayurvedic doctor and has a PhD in social sciences from TISS. She has more than 15 years of experience of working on women's health and health rights issues.

Dr. William Joe

Dr. William Joe is Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. Dr. Joe holds M.Phil (Applied Economics) and PhD (Economics) from Jawaharlal Nehru University with research interests in Health Economics, Demography and Development Economics. Dr. Joe's research work has appeared in prominent national and international journals. Dr. Joe was an Expert Member of the Maternal Mortality Expert Group 2016 and was technical lead in drafting the Annual Health Survey Reports for EAG States and Assam. He has led several evaluations including Evaluation of ICDS Scheme for the NITI Aayog. Since 2012-13, Dr. Joe is engaged in program monitoring of the National Health Mission (NHM) across highfocus districts of India. Currently, in collaboration with UNICEF, Dr. Joe is leading the Technical Support Team at the Institute of Economic Growth to support the Anemia Mukt Bharat Program of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

Ms. Subhalakshmi Nandi

Ms. Subhalakshmi is a feminist and public policy specialist working on connecting grassroots realities with wider advocacy efforts. Her areas of work include connecting data and research with policy and program and connecting social policy with economic policy. She has experience on issues of labour, livelihoods and political economy of violence.

Technical Session II: Methodological and data related challenges in capturing gender equality

Chairperson: Prof. Tara Nair

Dr. Tara Nair is a Professor at the Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR), Ahmedabad. Having received training in economics and development studies, Dr. Nair has worked extensively on the policy and institutional aspects of pro-poor financial arrangements and the political economy of Indian print media. Her current research focuses on financialisation of poverty, sharecropping and commercial agriculture, and social economy of the fisheries sector. Dr Nair works closely with the development sector in India and serves on the boards and advisory committees of research initiatives and non governmental organisations.

Dr. Sona Mitra

Dr. Sona Mitra has been working in the area of women and development for almost one and a half decades, focusing especially on issues related to women's work. She holds a doctorate in Economics from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her core research interests have been in areas related to women's economic empowerment by enabling access to labour markets, engendering macro-economic policies to introduce a gender lens and analyzing public policies using the same. She is currently the Principal Economist at IWWAGE, LEAD at Krea University. Prior to that she worked with both government and non-government think tanks working on the issues of public finance and policies.

Mr. Onkar Ghosh

DMr. Onkar Ghosh is a Deputy Director General in Social Statistics Division (SSD) in Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). He is a statistician with an experience of 17 years with National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO).

Mr. G. U. S. Prakash

Mr. Prakash has a Masters degree in Populations studies with 15+ years of expertise in Monitoring Evaluation, Research and Learning. He is currently working as Assistant Vice President, Measurement science at Broadcast Audience Research Council India, world's largest TV audience measurement panel. In the past, he has worked with Plan International India Chapter, Project Concern International and Room to Read India. He has an experience of implementation of different monitoring protocols in the development sector. He has developed the first of its kind "Gender Vulnerability Index" for India and an "SDG tracker" to track the progress of the goals at the field level. His research Portfolio has versatile topics from streams of health, education, Livelihood and child rights; including advocacy and policy level research in different parts of India.

Dr. Hema Swaminathan

Dr. Hema Swaminathan is Associate Professor and Chair at Centre for Public Policy in IIM, Bangalore. Professor Swaminathan's ongoing research focuses on inequality in income and wealth distributions between men and women and its implications for welfare outcomes. Her other research interests

include understanding the links between economic growth and women's labour supply in India and the effect of policy initiatives on health outcomes. She also works on survey methodology to collect improved data on several domains; individual-level data asset ownership and wealth, decision making by women, and women's engagement with the labour market in developing countries. She is currently working on a study that looks at intersection of identities and labour market experiences.

Technical Session III: Government initiatives for measuring progress of SDGs and gender equality

Chairperson: Prof. Manoj Panda

Dr Manoj Panda is the RBI Chair Professor at the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. He was Director of IEG during Nov. 2012 to June 2019 and before that during 2008-2012, he was the director of the Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Hyderabad. He has been a Member of the Financial Sector Regulatory Appointment Search Committee. He was also a Member of the National Statistical Commission.

Mr. Sourav Adhikari

Sourav Adhikari is a Consultant at Policy & Development Advisory Group (PDAG). His work includes automation of data collection workflows, analysis of large scale socio-economic and political datasets and geospatial analysis. His interests include effective usage of data in advocacy, decision-making, public-policy and politics; using participatory methods in data generation and effective dissemination and consumption of collected data.

Mr. Steven Walker

Steven is a Project Lead at the International Innovation Corps - a development consultancy out of the University of Chicago. Currently, he is leading the development of a gender equality index with the national government through NITI Aayog. Prior to that, he worked with the IIC and Rajasthan's Department of Education on a number of state-level education reforms. Before coming to India, he worked in Cambodia on public health with the Peace Corps, and social protection programs with UNICEF. Steven holds a Masters of Public Policy from the University of Chicago.

Annexure 4 : PRESENTATION

Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande

(SAHAJ)

SDG Gender Index

developed by EM2030

Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande SAHAJ 13th December 2019

About Equal Measures 2030

- Partnership between regional and global organisations from civil society, development sector and private sector
- ► Plan International, Data 2X, IWHC, FEMNET, CLADEM, Women Deliver, ARROW, BMGF, KPMG International, One Campaign
- ► Colombia, El Salvador, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Senegal, and Tanzania

About the SDG Gender Index

- ➤ Comprehensive tool to measure overall progress towards gender equality that is aligned to the SDGs which can be used as accountability tool by gender advocates
- ► Currently no other global index that compares progress on girls, women and gender equality across the SDGs

How the index was developed?

- ▶ Needs assessments surveys with gender advocates
- ► Consultations within and across the EM2030 partnership (including EM2030 national partners in six countries)
- ► Public consultations, including online and at the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March
- ► Inputs from a Technical Reference Group, comprising technical experts in gender statistics, SDG data and index
- ► Surveys with policymakers

Pilot index -2018

- ▶ Launched during UNGA 2018
- lacktriangle Included data for six partner countries
- ▶ Covered 12 out of 17 SDGs
- ▶ 43 indicators included in the pilot index

Subsequently, the pilot index framework was reviewed by the COIN team at EU Joint Research Centre and also reviewed during technical consultations, the latest version of the SDG Gender Index was launched during Women Deliver Conference in June 2019

About SDG Gender Index 2019

- ▶ Indicators for two more goals added (SDG 9 and SDG 11)
- 51 indicators across 14 SDGs out of 17
- Covers 129 countries 95% of the world's population of girls and
- Includes official gender related indicators developed by Inter-Agency Expert Group [IAEG] and plus 33 complementary indicators
- Index reflects 'inputs' (such as laws, policies, norms) that affect the lives of girls and women, 'women's voices' on a range of issues, 'outcomes' such as maternal mortality ratios, secondary school

Selection of indicators

- ▶ 63% of the indicators specifically capture the conditions of girls and women
- Remaining indicators capture issues that have a disproportionate effect on the lives of girls and women.

For e.g. Number of households below poverty line is one of the indicators because there is no global data on the intra-household allocation of resources, and living in a household considered in poverty, disproportionately limits the opportunities of girls and women

Criteria for selection of indicators

- Data availability Captures the current situation, not older than 2012, available for at least 80% of the countries in the world
- SDG alignment aligns to the intention of specific SDG targets, Captures a unique dimension of progress towards SDG targets
- ➤ Ease of use calculated in a way that is transparent for users, easily understood and provides a clear measure of progress
- Transformational potential- reflects the voices of women and girls, represents new and innovative ways of capturing lived realities
- Advocacy can be used to hold specific stakeholders accountable, relevant for women and girls in both rich and poor countries ${\bf r}$

Construction of the index

- ▶ All indicators given score between 0 to 100
- By standardising indicators, it allows for country comparisons and eventually trend analysis based on index
- ▶ Both the standardised score and the actual indicator value
- ➤ Typically, the actual indicator value is simpler to communicate than the indicator score which is a byproduct of the process needed to construct the index.

Construction of the index

- ▶ Arithmetic mean used to calculate the goals and global scores
- ▶ Weights given to the indicators are same
- However, as the number of indicators varies among the SDGs, SDG 5 and 8 (both with 5 indicators each), have a slightly larger impact on the global index scores.
- Weights not given as the aim was to keep the index as transparent and understandable as possible for users and weights may have introduced subjectivity and complexity into the design of the index.

Issues covered by SDG Gender Index

▶ SDG 1 - Poverty

Poverty, Social assistance coverage, Laws on women's land rights, Women's views on food affordability

▶ SDG 2 - Hunger & Nutrition

Undernourishment, Obesity among women, Anaemia among women

▶ SDG 3 - Health

Maternal mortality, Adolescent birth rate, Access to family

Issues covered by SDG Gender Index

▶ SDG 4 - Education

Girls' primary school progression, Girls' secondary education completion, Young women not in education, employment or training (NEET), Women's literacy

▶ SDG 5 - Gender Equality

Child, early, and forced marriage, Perceptions of partner violence, Legal grounds for abortion, Women in parliament, Women in ministerial roles

▶ SDG 6 - Water & Sanitation

Basic drinking water access, Basic sanitation access, Women's satisfaction with water quality

Issues covered by SDG Gender Index

▶ SDG 7 - Energy

Access to electricity, Access to clean fuels and technology, Women's satisfaction with air quality $\,$

▶ SDG 8 - Work & Economic Growth

Wage equality, Women in vulnerable work, Collective bargaining rights in law, Laws on women's workplace equality, Women's ownership of bank accounts

► SDG 9 - Industry, Infrastructure & Innovation

Women's use of digital banking, Women's satisfaction with roads, Women's internet access, Women in science and technole

Issues covered by SDG Gender Index

▶ SDG 10 - Inequality

Palma income inequality ratio, Freedom from discrimination, Migration treaty ratification

▶ SDG 11 - Cities & Communities

Women's views on housing affordability, Air pollution, Women's

▶ SDG 13 - Climate

Women's representation in climate change political process, Commitment to disaster risk reduction, Climate vulnerability

Issues covered by SDG Gender Index

▶ SDG 16 - Peace & Institutions

Coverage of birth registration systems, Female victims of homicide, Women justices on high courts, Views on state openness and legitimacy $\,$

▶ SDG 17 - Partnerships

Government spending on social assistance, Tax revenue, Disaggregation of national budgets, Openness of gender

Key findings - Global

- ▶ Global average score of 65.7 out of 100 barely a "passing
- ▶ Nearly 40 percent of the world's girls and women 1.4 billion live in countries that are failing on gender equality (scores of 59 or less out of 100) and another 1.4 billion live in countries that "barely pass" (scores of 60–69 out of
- ➤ Top ten countries Denmark (89.3), Finland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Slovenia, Germany, Canada, Ireland, and Australia.

Key findings - Global

- ➤ SDGs where gender equality is major concern- public finance and better gender data (SDG 17), climate change (SDG 13), industry and innovation (SDG 9), and worryingly, "gender equality" goal (SDG 5).
- ➤ Better performance where coordinated and concerted policy focus and funding over the past 10 to 20 years, including on hunger and nutrition (SDG 2), water and sanitation (SDG 6), health (SDG 3), and education (SDG 4)

Common areas for improvement

- 17 a: Social expenditure as a % of GDP (all types of social assistance programs
- 13 b: Extent to which a state is committed to disaster risk reduction
- 17d: Openness of gender statistics
- 5e: Proportion of ministerial/senior government positions held by women
- 17b: Tax revenue as a % of GDP
- 16d: Extent to which a state is viewed as legitimate, open, and representative
- 5d: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments
- ${\bf 16c} \colon {\operatorname{Percentage}}$ of seats held by women on a country's Supreme Court or highest court
- 9a: Proportion of women who have made or received digital payments in the past
- 9c: Proportion of women with access to internet service
- 1b: Proportion of the poorest quintile of the population covered by social assistance programs

Key findings - Asia and the Pacific

- ► Average regional index score of 64.6
- \blacktriangleright Performs better on the indicator related to commitment to disaster risk reduction
- ▶ Second lowest performer on the measure of women's Second lowest performer on the measure of women's ability to rise to the top ranks of national governments; Indonesia, New Zealand, and Philippines more than half way toward the target of full gender parity in ministries or senior government positions

Key findings - India

- ▶ Overall score 56.2
- ▶ Ranking 95 out of 129
- ▶ Access to higher level schooling for girls one of the challenges
- ▶ Huge disparities in opportunities for work- amongst the 15-24 year-old age group about 8 percent of boys were not in employment, education or training (NEET), compared to 49 percent of girls (2012)
- ▶ Proportion of seats held by women in parliament



Annexure 5 : PRESENTATION

Dr. William Joe

(Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi IEG)



Gender Inequality and Development Indices

Measurement Insights for SDG Gender Index

William Joe. NO



Human Development Index (HDI)

- Old HDI
 - · Life expectancy
 - Schooling (literacy and school enrolment)
 - Per capita national income (In(Y):implies diminishing returns to HD from additional income)
- New HDI (HDR 2010)
 - Life expectancy

 - Schooling (mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling)
 Per capita national income (In(Y); implies diminishing returns to HD from additional income)
- $LE LE^{min}$ $I_{LE} = \frac{LE - LE^{min}}{LE^{max} - LE^{min}}$

$$I_S = \frac{S - S^{min}}{S^{max} - S^{min}}$$

$$l_Y = \frac{\ln(Y) - \ln(Y^{min})}{\ln(Y^{max}) - \ln(Y^{min})}$$

$$H_{old} = \frac{1}{3}(I_{LE} + I_S + I_V)$$

$$H_{new} = I_{LE}^{1/3} \times I_{S}^{1/3} \times I_{Y}^{1/3}$$

HDI:Arithmetic Mean vs Geometric Mean

- Geometric Mean heightens plight of the poor with sharp HDI gradient. Poor performance in any dimension lowers the HDI
- UNDP (2010) claims that we should not let go changes in the dimensions go unnoticed as one of the justification for new HDI
- $(l_{10}, l_{0}, l_{\gamma}) = (0.5, 0.4, 0.6)$
- . H = 0.0 and H = 0.3
- · (l,p, lp, ly) = (0.8, 0.4, 0.0)
- · H_{see} = 0.0 and H_{sit} = 0.4

	Ty b	To To	10	HDia	skaupt -
KE.	0.260	8.306	0,300	0.262	
12	0.200	8,300	0.310	0.265	8.00
ıı.	0.400	0.600	0.300	0.416	
2	0.400	0.650	6.318	0.421	0.005
	Ty b	le	1	HDis	change
i	0.200	0.300	0.300	0.267	
1	0.200	11.500	0.310	9.270	41,000
	0.400	0.600	0.300	0.433	
1			0.319		0.000

HDI:Arithmetic Mean vs Geometric Mean

- 2010 HDI(new): Zimbabwe had the lowest value of 0.14 and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with next lowest at 0.24.
- How much life expectancy will Zimbabwe need to overtake DRC?
- Ravallion (2012, p.204) "Troubling Tradeoffs in the Human Development Index", journal of Development Economics, Vol. 99, pp. 201–9.
- "What the would it tole to get Zimbalove off the bottom rung of the HDI lodder? To answer this one cannot simply excupolate linearly using the marginal weights (i.e. first partial derivatives), but one must sake the appropriate nonlinear equation for the HDI (equating Zimbaloves HDI or other of the DRC, while holding schooling and income constant or Zimbaloves is connect level; then solving for the required value of (E). On doing so one finds that Zimbaloves would need a life expectancy of 154 years! And that would only at Zimbalove to the DRCs HDI. That does not sound like a promising route for getting off the bottom rung of the HDI lodder."

Inequality-Adjusted HDI

- If the three dimensions are considered at an individual level (rather than national or group level) it would allow estimation of interpersonal inequality
- Life expectancy at birth and expected years of schooling are not individual-specific possessions



 $I_a^* = (1 - A_a) \cdot I_a$

 $IHDI = (I_{Houlth}^{+} \cdot I_{followithm}^{+} \cdot I_{followithm}^{+})^{i_{1}} =$

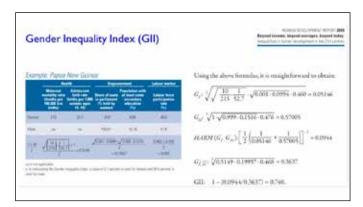
• The zero-vake problem of geometric means $(1-A_{Boulh}) \cdot (1-A_{Boulh}) \cdot (1-A_{Boulh})^{(l)} = 0$ • The zero-vake problem of geometric means $(1-A_{Boulh}) \cdot (1-A_{Boulh}) \cdot (1-A_{Boulh})^{(l)} = 0$ • The zero-vake for more parallel for the state of the distribution of positive incomes. The trip 0.5 percentals of the distribution of positive incomes. The trip 0.5 percentals of the distribution of the state of

RSWI, GGM, GRS and WD

- Arithmetic Mean v/s Geometric Mean
 1/3(2+1+0.5) = 1.17
- · 1/3(0.5+1+2) = 1.17
- · (2*1*0.5)*(1/3) = 1 · (0.5*1*2)*(1/3) = 1
- 1/3(1.5+1+0.5) = 1
- · 1/3(0.5+1+1.5) = 1
- · (1.5*1*0.5)*(1/3) = 0.909
- · (0.5*(*1.5)*(1/3) = 0.909

$ESW = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{E_f}{E_m} + \frac{L_f}{L_m} + \frac{w_f}{w_m} \right)$ $GGM = \left(\frac{LE_f}{LE_m} \times \frac{ED_f}{ED_m} \times \frac{LF_f}{LE_m}\right)^{th}$ $GRS = \prod_{i} \left(\frac{x_i}{y_i}\right)^{w_i}$

Gender Inequality Index (GII) · Gll reflects women disadvantage in · Reproductive health Empowermen Labor market · Mixing up of well-being and empowerment indicator · Mixing up of absolute and relative indicators No clear interpretation

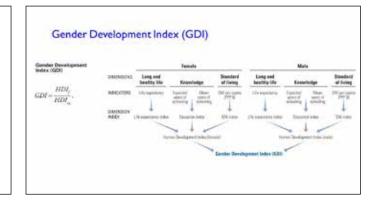




Human Poverty Index (HPI)

- A composite index measuring deprivations in the three basic dimensions captured in the human development index a long and healthy life, knowledge and a decent standard of living
- HPI = $[1/3*(P_1^3 + P_2^3 + P_3^3)]^{1/3}$
 - Probability at birth of not surviving to age 40 (times 100)
 Adult illiteracy rate

 - Unweighted average of population without sustainable access to an improved water source and children under weight for age



Country Ranking: An Elementary Concern

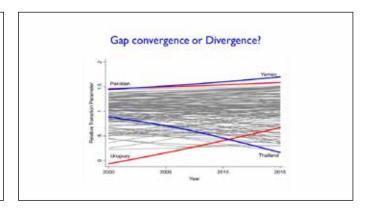
- · Ratio Sensitivity
- Suppose Country A:
 - HDI_f = 0.2 and HDI_m = 0.4;
 GDI = 0.2/0.4 = 0.500
- And Country B:
 HDl_f = 0.4 and HDl_m = 0.8;
 GDI = 0.4/0.8 = 0.500
- · GDIA = GDIE?
- · Difference Sensitivity
- Suppose Country A:
- HDI_f = 0.2 and HDI_m = 0.4;
 HDI_m HDI_f = 0.2
- And Country B:
 - HDI_f = 0.6 and HDI_m = 0.8;
 - HDI_m HDI_f = 0.2
- GDI_A > GDI_B OR GDI_A < GDI_B?

Ratio-Based Level Sensitivity (RBLS)

- Ratio-Based Level Sensitivity:
- · Whenever the ratio between HDI of females and males is equal across two contexts, then the context with lower base level should be ranked ahead in GDI
- · Previous example, Suppose Country A:
 - HDI_f = 0.2 and HDI_m = 0.4; GDI = 0.2/0.4 = 0.500
- HDI_t = 0.4 and HDI_m = 0.8; GDI = 0.4/0.8 = 0.500
- · In this case, GDIa should be ranked ahead of GDIa
- · Valuing convergence or bridging of gender gap

Difference-Based Level Sensitivity (DBLS)

- · Difference-Based Level Sensitivity:
- Whenever the difference between HDI of females and males is equal across two contexts, then the context with lower base level should be ranked ahead in GDI
- · Previous example, Suppose Country A:
 - HDI_f = 0.2 and HDI_m = 0.4; HDI_m HDI_f = 0.2
- · And Country B:
 - HDI_f = 0.6 and HDI_m = 0.8; HDI_m HDI_f = 0.2
- In this case, GDI_A should be ranked ahead of GDI_B
- · Valuing convergence or bridging of gender gap



SDG India Index

- 62 priority indicators
- . 13 out of 17 SDGs in the index
- SDGs 12, 13, 14 and 17 not included

$$x' = \frac{x - \min(x)}{\Gamma(x) - \min(x)} \times 100$$

$$x^{i} = \left[1 - \frac{x - \Gamma(x)}{\max(x) - \Gamma(x)}\right] \times 100$$

$$I_{ij}(N_{ij}, I_{ijk}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N(j)} \frac{1}{N(j)} I_{ijk}$$



Critical Questions

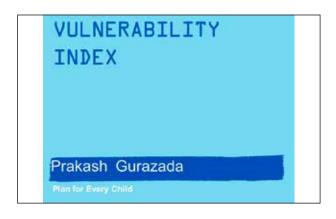
- · Female Disadvantage = Male Disadvantage?
- Female Disadvantage > Male Disadvantage?
- · Should we use ratios or gaps?
- · What should be preferred: arithmetic mean or geometric mean?
- · Are DBLS and RBLS desirable features?
- · Can we capture convergence?
- Should dimensions be weighed equally?
- · Should ratios or gaps be weighed equally?
- · Can inequality-adjustments be meaningful?

Acknowledgments jyoti Saini, Mala Ramoruthun, Manog Panda, bulami Desgupta, Ruby A Singh and US Mahra. Thank You! wilam@sgnds.org

Annexure 6: PRESENTATION

Mr. G U S Prakash

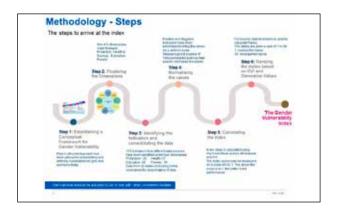
(Assistant Vice President, Measurement science at **Broadcast Audience Research Council India)**

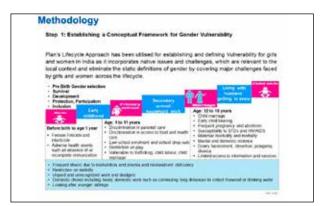




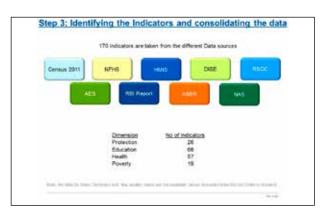




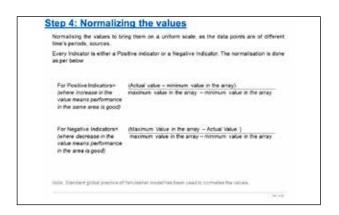


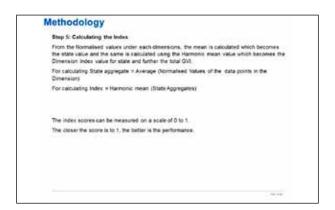


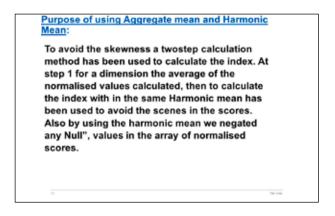


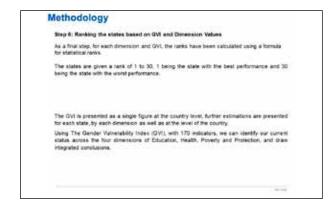


Step 3: Remarks Skewness of data: When the dimensions are to be decided the scenario few dimensions have more indicators, this may tend to the skewness in the final score of the index. This has taken care as the final score is an aggregate of the four dimensions not all indicators together, the final score got equal representation and hence the skewness towards a single dimension is negated and invariably the limitations and void Agency and Individual Indicators related to agency and individual is considered in a single dimension this may be questionable. The response to this is as this calculated at state level and normalised scores has been applied the same will be negated, hence forth the composite score will be taken when district level GVI is calculated. Data from different sources and timelines : To reduce the same and made the limitation void, the values for the indicators have been normalised. While normalising standard yelchausets principal has been used.

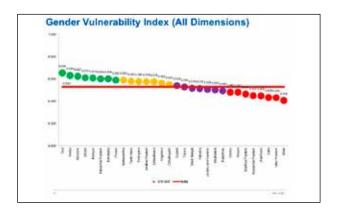


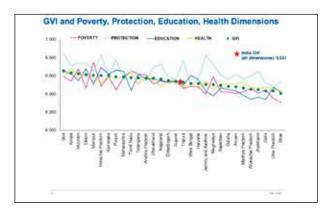






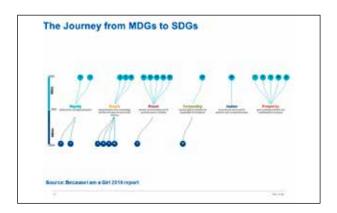


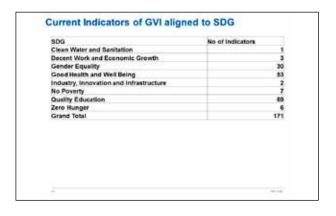


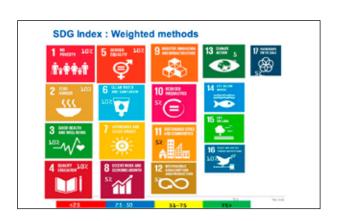


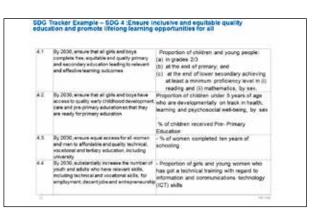


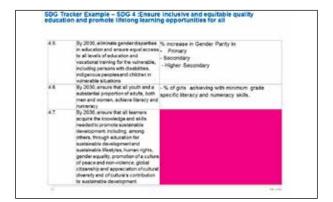
District Vulnerability Index and SDG Tracker Based on the Key Dimensions; Indicators will be selected which are in sync with SDGs. · SDGs Index for the district will be calculated with GVI mensions as a prima face · An Online SDG tracker tool for districts will be developed based Any one can access the tool and input the data as and when updated to see the status.

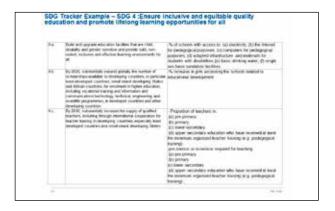














Annexure 7: PRESENTATION

Dr. Hema Swaminathan

(Associate Professor, Centre for Public Policy, IIM Bangalore)

Methodological & data challenges in capturing gender equality Hema Swaminathan Centre for Public Policy Indian Institute of Management Bangalore Progress Towards Gender Equality within SDGs 13th December 2019, New Dehi

Key SDG indicators · Picking a few goals where not much progress has been made in terms of measuring gender inequalities

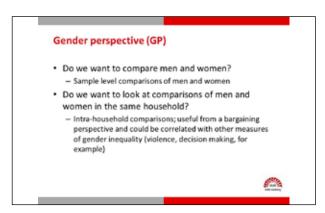
Goals and indicators 1.4 All men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance. [also 2.3] 5.a Give women equal rights as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property ... 5.c promotion of GE and Number of homeless households per 10,000 households No indicator 5.c promotion of GE and No indicator empowerment of women and girls at all levels



Gender and assets/wealth · Most databases world over collect asset information using 'household' as unit NSSO All India Debt and Investment Survey collects asset data at the household level (IHDS and NFHS 4 are exceptions) Inequalities are masked, especially those across gender. Gender analysis is confounded with headship and marital Unitary model does not fully capture intra-household resource allocations; our understanding has moved beyond it - Assets owned by individuals within households Individuals acquire, use, and dispose of assets differently Data collection, however, believes in unitary model!



How to measure ownership (cont'd.) · Reported ownership who is identified as the owner(s)? Key for understanding empowerment and gaps between legislation and implementation of property rights · Documented ownership, where applicable whose name(s) is listed as owner on document? Economic ownership who derives eco · Rights to assets right to sell right to bequeath · Forms of ownership (exclusive or joint)



Whose answer counts? Proxy vs. self reported

- · What does this mean? Should it make a difference?
- · There could be a divergence for several reasons:
 - First, incomplete pooling of information within households. For example, the head of household may be aware of the full stock of assets but unable accurately to identify who the owners are
 - Second, prevailing gender norms about asset ownership may bias proxy responses about the ownership status
 - Finally, people's perceptions of whether they consider themselves to be asset owners is relevant particularly for status, bargaining power and so on



Whose answer counts? Proxy vs. self reported

- · Evidence for proxy vs. self reported divergence exists in other domains as well
 - income
 - labour force participation (ask women about women's work)
 - decision making (always self-reporting); but this is not a solo activity



These details have implications for

- Questionnaire structure
- Data collection protocols
 - Questionnaire structure
 - Interview protocols (who, how many). Depends on what is being answered
- Reconciling multiple, and sometimes conflicting responses



INDICATORS (ASSETS & WEALTH)



Concept: % adult population owning land, by sex

All respondents

Female land owners Male land owners Total number of adult males' Total number of adult females

Self-reported only:

Self – reported male land owners Total number of male respondents Total number of female respondents

Referred to as 'incidence gap'



Concept: distribution indicators

Share of women among owners of agricultural land

female landowners Total number of land owners



Gender wealth gap

Comparison of the share of asset value owned by women with that of men

Value is split for jointly owned assets

Value of female assets Value of male assets Total value of assets Total value of assets

Calculated only for larger assets not all assets



Which measure to use?

The distribution of assets by form of ownership indicates the proportion of assets that are owned individually by men or women or owned jointly. It does not tell us how many different men and women own these assets. It could be that many of the assets are owned by a few individuals or that they are widely distributed.

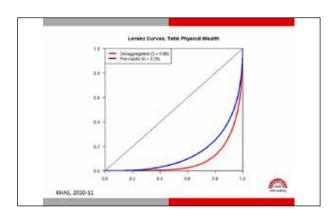
The incidence gaps indicate the proportion of men and women who are owners of a particular type of asset, but do not tell us anything about whether the quality and quantity owned varies among owners.

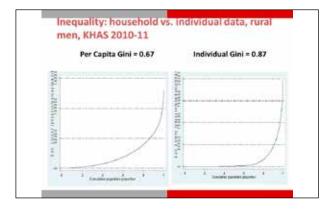


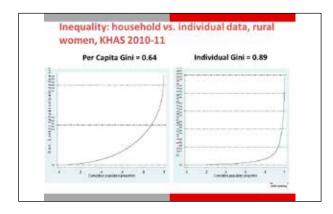
Which measure?

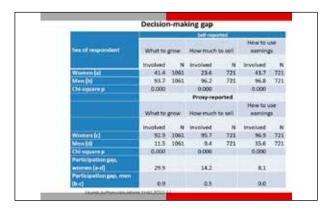
- · Value data provides important information on gender and asset ownership beyond a simple count of women's and men's asset holdings
 - Women and men in a given community may own an equal number of agricultural parcels, suggesting gender equality in land ownership, but men's parcels may in fact be more valuable because of superior attributes (such as size or soil quality)
 - Expressing asset values in monetary terms provides a method for summarizing differences between women's and men's ownership of assets, by type of asset, or in an aggregated measure for all assets











To conclude

- · We have to make disaggregated data collection the new 'normal'
- · Some challenges, but can be surmounted
- · Insights from such data are too important to ignore



Annexure 8: PRESENTATION

Mr. Sourav Adhikari

(Policy and Development Advisory Group (PDAG))

A Participatory approach to mapping gender data



Measurement of SDGs/GE through indices

- · The idea of an index is to capture progress, measure and initiate timely action
- Global
 - The Global Gender Gap Report, 2018 World Economic Forum (108/149)
 - Sustainable Development Report, 2019 UNSDSN (115/162)
 - EM2030 SDG Gender Index, 2019 Equal Measures (95/129)
- - SDG India Index, 2018 Niti Aayog
- · Lack of Gender Statistics



Current Status of Data in the country

- · Accessibility: Open Govt Data Platform (OGD) for public accessible
- · Update Frequency: 84% NIF indicators updated annually
- Comparable: in sync with update frequency
- · Accuracy : Lack of robust monitoring system
- Comprehensiveness: Efforts needed to capture all aspects
- · Ownership : fragmented
- · Dissemination : High time lags for unit level data
- · Gender sensitivity : Severely lacking



The issues

- · Lack of grassroot data collection personnel
- · Robust monitoring systems absent
- · Lack of incentives in capturing ground truth data
- Inadequate understanding of gender data gaps
- Absence of community ownership
- · Minimal political will or accountability as envisaged in SDG



Our idea

- Correlating existing programmes and schemes Central and State – with gender indicators as per UN targets and NIF
- · Preparation of Gender Equality score cards within the SDG framework in a localized approach to supplement SDG India
- · Leverage commitment of ERs in this initiative
- · Build capacities of women community institutions in community driven data collection and mapping of gender gaps



SING	UN targets indicators with gender finkages	NS indicators	bodia SENI Index - Cute Availability	Mapping Gender Date
IDG1 - No. powerly	by 2001, reduce at least by but the proportion of next, winners and children of all ages being in poverty in all its deservaces according to reduced definition.	Percentage of population Sungitation the National Powerty Line	Ter-Last 2011-12	MCC data - Total women sovered and total women treated hospitation indicator I point deprivation indicator
	Implement nulsurally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2006 actions substantial overlage of the poor and the volves after	Percentage of hecosholds with any usual member covered by any health scheme or health insurance + 2	Yes - Carl 2015-16 (NOSC)	Precentage of receive who received some forms of social security and age persons, exclusivity personal, in a of everlage women personality and women participation rate in 1900s. Seri I I'm.
	by 2001; recurrent at all meet and sement in gentinative the poor and vollentine. Any opportunity to exponent in the comments recovery, as well as access to basic services, remaining and combot down later and other trains of powerly inheritance, motivate recovering, appropriate rew technology and financial services, to basic services.	Number of humains households per 10,000 households	Home Afters (CRG)	Indicipation of PMAY (for all forms) from the physical register for the period of the physical forms of the physical forms of the physical register for the physical register for the physical forms of the physical forms o

Who will collect the data?

- The primary data to be collected at grassroots using community participatory tools
 Community enumerators will be skilled using capacity building sessions.
- Robust monitoring will be set up to minimise issues with accuracy of the data and missing data points

How will the data be collected?

- Data to be collected using CAPI surveys tagged with geo-coordinates of the geographical unit
 Data to be synced to servers upon internet availability
- This will help in minimizing data loss. The geotags will help in aggregating the data any level using tools of GIS



What will it lead to?

- · A GE map of the district aggregated at AC or PC level
- · Identification of priority concern areas that need to be addressed in the next decade
- · A planned update schedule of the data
- · A midline assessment in 2024 to aid in course correction
- · An endline assessment in 2029 to capture the final status of completion towards SDG 2030



About PDAG

- A policy advisory and research firm of young, committed and dynamic professionals
- Proven skills in research, policy analysis, strategic consulting, communications & media management, government relations & information technology
- Working with leading international universities, global social networks and policy-makers on research, strategic advisory and communications with Gender as core thematic area





About SAHAJ

SAHAJ (Society for Health Alternatives), registered in 1984, envisions a society with social justice, peace and equal opportunities for all. We focus on children, adolescents, and women in two specific sectors- health and education. We strive to make a practical difference in the lives of marginalized women and girls through direct action in the communities and through action research and policy dialogues. SAHAJ believes in developing programs based on the expressed needs of the communities and being led by the communities. For greater impact at the state and national level, we collaborate with like-minded organizations to form coalitions.