



Measuring Violence against Women: Indicators for global monitoring in the 2030 Development Agenda

Francesca Grum
Chief, Social and Gender Statistics Section
United Nations Statistics Division
grum@un.org

Violence against women - Definition



Violence against women is defined as any act of “gender-based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of acts such as coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”.

- [\(Source: United Nations General Assembly, 1993, Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women\)](#)

International Instruments to end Violence Against Women - VAW



- VAW
 - Obstacle to achieving objectives of equality, development and peace
 - Violation of Human Rights
 - Affecting all societies, regardless of income, class and culture

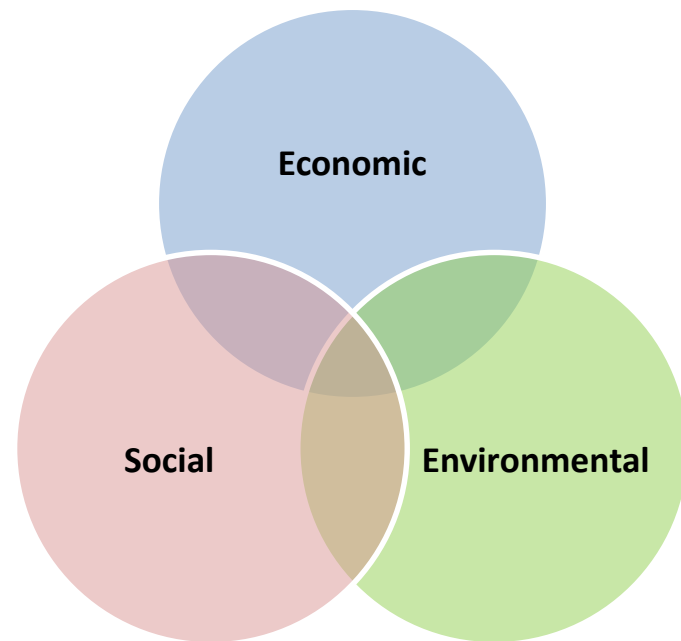


- Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (GA resolution - 1993)
- Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Outcome Document/Resolution of 4th World Conference on Women - 1995)
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Outcome Document/Resolution of UN Sustainable Development Summit - 2015)

All calling for more/better data

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Adopted by all countries;
- Has at its core the integration of the **economic**, **social** and **environmental** dimensions of development...
- ... and the principle of “leaving no one behind” =>
 - Inclusive development
 - Reduction of inequality
- Identifies a roadmap for SD with goals and targets that are ambitious, integrated, indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable:
 - SDGs =17 Goals and 169 Targets



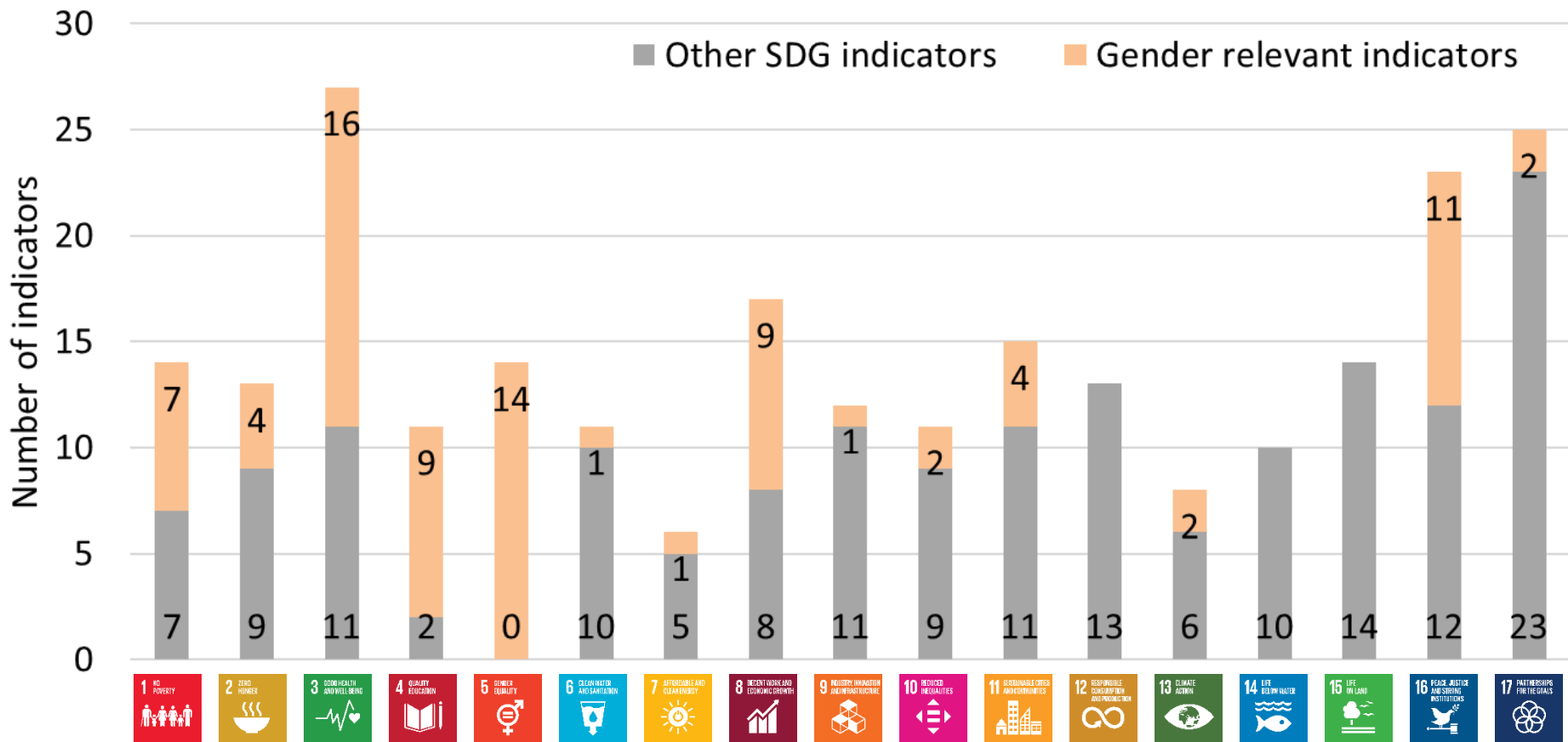
Global SDGs indicators framework



- **Global Indicators** for “follow up and review” of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - Adopted by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2017
 - Adopted by ECOSOC in July 2017 -> GA in September 2017
- Global indicators identified by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (IAEG-SDGs members=28 Member States)
 - Worked since June 2015; plenary meetings; online consultations with all stakeholders for their comments/contributions;
- **SDGs framework: 17 Goals, 169 Targets, 232 indicators**
 - Around 1/3 of indicators are “people based” and => gender relevant and 7 indicators specifically on magnitude of different forms of VAW

None covered in the MDGs

Gender relevant SDGs



Based on 244 indicators including repeated indicators.

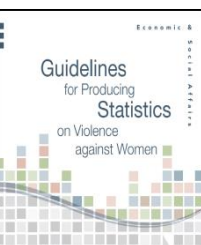
The total number of indicators listed in the global indicator framework of SDG indicators is 244. However, since nine indicators repeat under few targets, the actual total **number of individual indicators in the list is 232**.

SDG global indicators on VAW



Covering:

- Prevalence of sexual, physical, psychological violence by intimate partner (last 12 months), by age
- Prevalence of sexual violence by non-intimate partners (last 12 months), by age and place of occurrence
- Prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)



FOC UN Statistical
Commission 2009

SDG

5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

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

5.3.2 Proportion of girls or women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age

Beyond SDG 5: SDG global indicators related to VAW



+ Covering:

- 11.7.2 Physical or sexual harassment by sex, age, place of occurrence, in the last 12 months
- 16.1.1 Intentional homicides by sex and age
- 16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking by sex, age and form of exploitation
- 16.2.3 Young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18

Challenges in existing data



Availability of data on physical, sexual, psychological violence:

Proxy to ind.	In the last 12 months	# of countries with data since 2005
5.2.1	Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)	~ 90
5.2.2	Non-IPV sexual only	~ 50

Lack of data on changes over time – trend analysis not possible

Comparability of data

- Dedicated survey vs Module approach
- Current/most recent vs. any previous partner
- Reference age-group: 15-49 DHS, 18-74 EU FRA
- Willingness to talk about experience of violence may vary across countries

New requirements from SDGs

Existing methods to measure prevalence of VAW are currently under review to be aligned with and respond to new SDGs requirements

Additional challenges: Data gaps and lack of standards



- Violence among sub-groups of women, including older women, women with disabilities,...SDG emphasis on leaving no one behind= data disaggregation!
- Other forms of violence included in SDGs– human trafficking (detected + “non detected”), “femicides”, harassment, etc.

Way forward



Several global/regional initiatives to improve methods and data on VAW;

- WHO/UNWomen/UNSD/UNICEF/UNFPA
- Eurostat
- UNFPA-Asia Region
- UN-Statistical Entities (DA10 project)

Aiming at assisting countries in producing data according to agreed standards => improved harmonization across countries

Focusing on:

- Development of methods/guidelines to collect data on missing dimensions and to fill in current data gaps
- Building national capacity to apply/use agreed standards/methods for the collection of VAW data (technical workshops, ad-hoc missions, ...);
- Promoting/broadcasting national VAW data and their use to inform policies



Thank you!

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/default.html>