

DEFENDING RIGHTS. PROMOTING JUSTICE.



“Voices of African women and girls at the grassroots on their world post 2015”

www.acordinternational.org

Methodology

- Global checklist developed to guide community consultations
- 45 workshops held in 13 countries
- Six of this countries -workshops held with women
- Sex and age disaggregation
- ACORD staff encouraged to be part of the process
- Individual testimonies collected from women

Background



- The aim of this consultation was to hear from women at the grassroots, and to privilege their ideas and perspectives, and capture their voices
- To confront the issues at the grassroots and therefore facilitate some bare minimum requirements for the framework itself

Key Highlights

- There will be no development unless there is an uncompromising commitment to gender equality and women's rights.
- The issues of women's rights and gender equality are fundamental to their daily lives, and impact on everything from health to income to power. Hence the need for a stand alone goal. This will signal **political commitment** and help to **generate resources** to achieve it.
- The framework should not be gender-blind, for each indicator the framework must mandate disaggregated data by sex and age (as well as for other vulnerable categories). This will ensure that we understand how efforts are impacting on women and girls, to ensure they are not left behind.

Key Highlights

- So we have made some general recommendations - not detailed proposals here, for example arguing which targets should go under which goal etc.
- We are also in NO WAY arguing that the following recommendations constitute a full suite of targets and indicators
- Instead we make recommendations ONLY for the issues women raised with us during the workshops, rather than all issues pertaining to gender equality.
- Hence highlighting ideas of how the framework can address these specific issues that women have raised.

Thematic areas



- Violence against women and girls
- Access to and control over resources, including land, credit, energy and information technology
- Women's citizenship and leadership
- Access to basic services with an emphasis on reproductive and sexual health services
- Recognition, redistribution and remuneration of women's unpaid care work

Ending Violence Against Women

- A comprehensive set of targets on ending sexual and gender-based violence against women ; must include specific targets on the social norms, behaviours and attitudes that perpetuate violence against women, including FGM and all other harmful traditional practices
- Must include targets that address the current mechanisms to provide justice and support to women, with explicit recognition of and targets for both public and customary institutions
- Indicators measuring access to justice and the effectiveness of justice institutions
- It must have explicit targets and indicators related to SGBV suffered in conflict-affected and post-conflict states, support services and reparations and women's involvement in peace building processes

INCREASING CONTROL OVER RESOURCES

- Provision to increase land tenure security and the recognition of land rights, with specific targets for women
- Address investments in inputs, infrastructure, research, extension services specific to the needs of small-scale food production, the nature of which should be appropriate to local and national realities with specific indicators on access for women
- Targets for the reach of pro-poor financial institutions and financial instruments, both of which must be strictly defined, amongst women
- Measure the adaptive capacity and resilience of communities to climate change, with specific targets on adaptation finance, disaggregated by sex

50:50 LEADERSHIP

- Targets for women's representation, in terms of numbers and in terms of capacity for participating effectively in public institutions at all levels
- Targets on working with men as partners to promote women's active participation in politics should be a key strategy for promoting women in decision-making
- Commitment to and targets for citizen-led monitoring and regulation of policies is essential, and this should be disaggregated by sex
- There should be targets addressing decision-making power at household-level and community level with a set of indicators aimed at gauging women's attitudes to how this has improved
- Gender-balanced policies aimed at balancing the professional and private roles of women and men

Access to Health and Basic Services

- Indicators aimed at reducing maternal mortality and those that measure the availability of maternal care, with particular emphasis on vulnerable and remote groups
- Indicators to measure the quality of maternal health facilities, including trained staff
- There should be a goal on universal access to primary and secondary
- education recognising and legally entrenching citizens right to education, with targets specific to women and girls
- Targets and indicators must also focus on attendance and completion rate when measuring access, with disaggregated data for women and girls
- National policies and programmes must be designed to attract and cater to women's needs for tertiary education and must focus on measuring gender parity at tertiary level

The Burden of unpaid work

- The framework must have a target for reducing women's time spent in unpaid domestic work, with significant resources committed to provide the data to measure this
- Targets for increasing affordable childcare and community-care for the elderly and other dependents, with indicators measuring access
- Targets aimed at increasing investment in and access to labour-saving technologies in small-scale food production, disaggregated by sex

**Let us all work together to bring
these voices to policy spaces**

