Indicator name
Extent to which measures supported by the EU to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence in situations of fragility and conflict are effective in preventing sexual and gender-based violence and providing services to survivors

Thematic area of engagement
Ensuring freedom from all forms of gender-based violence

Aggregable indicator
No

Indicator type (quantitative/qualitative)
Qualitative

Related objective in the Gender Action Plan III

Overall thematic objective: Women, men, girls and boys are free from all forms of gender-based violence in the public and private spheres, in the workplace and online.

Specific thematic objective 6: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, are better protected from sexual and gender-based violence in fragile and humanitarian crisis situations.

Technical Definition
This indicator intends to measure the level of effectiveness of EU supported measures in preventing sexual and gender-based violence and providing services to survivors in situations of fragility and conflict. The list of fragile and conflict-affected situations is released annually by the World Bank Group.¹

The following definitions apply:

- **Sexual violence** refers to any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic a person’s sexuality, using coercion, threats of harm or physical force, by any person regardless of relationship to the victim.² Sexual violence can take many forms, including rape, sexual slavery and/or trafficking, forced pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and/or abuse, and forced abortion.³

- **Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** is a violation of human rights and refers to violence directed against a person because of that person’s gender, gender identity or gender expression, or violence that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately.⁴ GBV includes violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence against women, men or children living in the same domestic unit.⁵

- **Survivor** refers to a person who has experienced gender-based violence. The terms “victim” and “survivor” are often used interchangeably. “Victim” is a term commonly used

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¹ World Bank: Nevertheless, given its complexity, this annual list is not meant to be comprehensive as it does not include all countries affected and it is not a ranking of countries as such. For further info see Classification of Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations

² WHO (2002): World report on violence and health


⁴ EIGE Glossary and Thesaurus: Gender-based violence.

⁵ European Commission: What is Gender-based violence?
in the legal and medical sectors, while “survivor” is the term generally preferred in the psychological and social support sectors because it implies resilience.  

- **Measures supported by the EU** refer to dedicated interventions (programmes, projects, grants, initiatives, etc.), as part of the EU framework agreements or specific initiatives concerning the country(ies) of operation. This may include, among others:
  
  - Prevention measures that promote changes in the social and cultural patterns of behaviour of women and men with a view to eradicating prejudices, customs, traditions and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women or on stereotyped roles for women and men.  
  
  - Combating GBV measures aimed at enacting laws and policies, providing financial support for protection and response initiatives, implementing lobbying, advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns and interventions, information and communication.
  
  - Provision of services to survivors, e.g., health care, psychological and social support, security and legal advice and redress mechanisms.

### Rationale

Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) takes many different forms in the context of situations of institutional and social fragility and violent conflict where civilians are often the target of a wide range of abuses, exploitation, and violence. In these contexts, while men and boys are targeted particularly when they are subjected to torture and/or detention, the majority of victims/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence are women and girls.

One of the characteristics of GBV, and in particular of sexual violence, is under-reporting due to shaming and blaming, social stigma, risk/fear of re-victimisation and often rejection of the victim/survivor by their family and community.

In conflict situations, sexual violence can be used as a weapon of war against women and girls, and increasingly against men and boys. It has terrible physical and psychological effects on the survivors, but it is also capable of disrupting, if not destroying, whole communities, perpetuating conflict and instability.

### Data source and calculation

Reporting covers cooperation and development initiatives, humanitarian and investment frameworks funded by the EC (INTPA, NEAR, FPI, ECHO) and EEAS.

EUMS may provide information related to their interventions through their contributions to GAP III reports or through the EUDs, e.g., in cases of joint dialogue (i.e., as part of joint programming or TEI).

**Data sources:**

The intervention’s monitoring and reporting systems, e.g., inception, interim and final reports from implementing organisations (including governments, international organisations, national and international civil society and humanitarian organisations, etc.), ROM reviews and evaluations.

Government statistics on provision of services, surveys/interviews conducted and budgeted by

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6 *Idem 2.*


8 *Idem 2*

the intervention can also be relevant data sources.

Baseline and endline studies conducted and budgeted within the EU intervention. These studies can be conducted as part of the gender country profile and / or gender sector analysis, or be based on existing official reports and published data. Baseline and endline studies should be conducted using the same methodology for assessing the extent to which local counterparts act to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence.

**Calculation:**

- Change in knowledge, skills, attitudes, job performance of operators of services/staff involved in the intervention at different levels/staff in institutions, etc.
- Availability of services and facilities to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (functioning and in sufficient quantities); accessibility (non-discrimination, physically and economically accessible, information accessibility); acceptability (culturally acceptable, sensitivity to marginalised/vulnerable groups) and quality (safe, technically approved and sustainable).
- Application and effectiveness of laws, policies and procedures to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence in situations of fragility and conflict.

Any of the above-mentioned measures, among others, supported by the EU intervention to prevent and combat SGBV in situations of fragility and conflict is counted once.

**Worked examples**

**In country A**, the EU intervention promoted community cohesion during the post conflict/transition process, and strengthened the capacity of government in responding to sexual and gender-based violence. The intervention contributed to significant changes in women’s lives. Seeking justice for crimes against women has evoked positive changes in the cultural, institutional and socio-economic paradigms that produce gender-based discrimination before, during and after the conflict. The intervention supported local actors in drafting an Action Plan on Access to Justice for Victims of Sexual Violence, which also included reparation schemes. As a result, the action plan was adopted and resulted in the allocation of economic empowerment schemes to 200 survivors.

Any component of the EU intervention to prevent and combat SGBV in situations of fragility and conflict is counted once.

**In country B**, the EU intervention aimed to prevent and combat sexual and gender-based violence in conflict by strengthening the ability of service facilities to adopt a survivor- and victim-centred response and to support mechanisms, in which the experiences, rights, needs, and interests of survivors are at the centre. The targeted service facilities provided health care, psychological and social support, and legal advice. Over the 3 years of the intervention, the service facilities, through EU support, supported more (+ 20%) survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, ensuring availability, accessibility, quality and non-discrimination.

**Baseline**

Data from governmental (where applicable) counterparts (including data from service providers, statistical offices, gender equality observatories and women’s national machineries, among others). Data from international, humanitarian, women’s rights and civil society organisations or other independent non-state actors.

If the above data are lacking, a mapping can be done at the start of the intervention using surveys / interviews conducted and budgeted by the EU intervention.

The baseline can be 0 when the indicator is achieved with the EU funded intervention.
## EU Gender Action Plan III – Methodological Note

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### Availability and Timeliness

Information should become available annually, depending on the duration of the intervention.

### Related DAC Code/CRS


### Associated SDGs

SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Target 5.2: Indicators 5.2.1 (see Metadata) and 5.2.2 (see Metadata)

### Other issues

The gender country profile and / or gender sector analysis can be relevant sources of information for establishing baselines.

If there is no gender analysis available at the EUD, it is recommended to look at the analysis undertaken by EU Member States or other trusted partners (UN, World Bank, human rights national and regional mechanisms, etc.) as well as the national-level reviews carried out in 2019 by UN Women and the partner countries to assess progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Special attention should be paid to following up on partner country institutions reached with EU support.