

Consultation Process Overview as of April 2021

From June - August 2020, consultations with 15 subject matter and monitoring and evaluation experts were conducted, over email and through virtual meetings. In August 2020, the CanWaCH Metrics Working Group (MWG) discussed key issues in empowerment measurement (14 participants). As a follow-up to this discussion a joint meeting of the MWG and the Gender Equality Working Group (GEWG) was held in September 2020, where discussion questions on empowerment were delved into in small groups (15 participants). A webinar on empowerment, titled "Measuring Empowerment: The Way Forward to Localization" was also held in September 2020.

Using the feedback from these discussions, as well as resources both shared with us and collected from independent background research, the original draft of the Women's Empowerment Guidance Note was developed. In consultation with Dr. Elizabeth Dyke, an updated version of the note was developed, grounding this original work in a rigorous, systematic literature review and incorporating detailed feedback from Global Affairs colleagues. This version of the note was taken to two groups of experts for feedback (9 participants in total) in April 2021, representing various CSOs and academic institutions, as well as a group of diverse Global Affairs Canada (GAC) representatives from various departments (7 participants).

This feedback has been included into the latest published version of the note. Going forward, the guidance note will be a living, iterative document. As the understanding of women's empowerment measurement changes and evolves, so will this technical guidance note.

Looking Forward

Through the various consultations that have been held so far, some common themes have arisen, highlighting areas of empowerment measurement which require further exploration, but are outside the scope of this note. Firstly, regarding adolescent girls: while we acknowledge important differences in the empowerment of women, girls and adolescents, the note does not provide an in-depth exploration of adolescent girl empowerment. As voiced by experts and GAC colleagues, further guidance is required in this area.

Secondly, although indicators and domains related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are included within the note, the various intersections between SGBV and empowerment measurement are not fully explored here. This has also been noted in consultations as an area needing where additional guidance would be helpful.

As part of our iterative feedback process, please contact Jessica Ferne, Director, Global Health Impact at jferne@canwach.ca with additional feedback and suggestions.

Consulted Organizations:

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab
Action Against Hunger Canada
Aga Khan Foundation Canada
Alinea International
Bruyère Research Institute
Campbell Collaboration
Care Canada
Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research
Canadian Red Cross
Global Affairs Canada
Grand Challenges Canada
HealthBridge
MEDA - Mennonite Economic Development Associates
Oxfam Canada
Plan International Canada
The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
Salanga
Save the Children Canada
SickKids
University of Manitoba
University of Ottawa
University of Toronto
World Vision Canada
YWCA Canada