

Building Capacity and Confidence in Gender Transformative Programming **A Virtual Learning Experience**

Module 3 – Facilitator's Guide

Table of Contents

Session 13: MEAL: From Gender Sensitive to Gender Transformative and Feminist	3
Process	4
Annexes	9
Annex 13a: MEAL on a Gender Equality Spectrum	9
Annex 13b: Oxfam's 2017 Discussion Paper: Applying Feminist Principles to Program Monitoring, Evaluation, Account	ability and Learning 13
Session 14: Quality Indicators for Gender Equality Outcomes	14
Process	15
Annexes	24
Annex 14a: How to measure Empowerment and Agency	24
Session 15: Data Collection Tools and Sources for Gender Equality Indicators	25
Process	26
Annexes	29
Annex 15a: Data Sources and Data Collection Methodologies	29
Session 16: Accountability—data for whom? Using GE data to strengthen programming and v	vomen's/girl's
participation	31
Process	32
Annexes	36
Annex 16a: Accountability Discussion Support	36
Additional Session: Gender Based Analysis	40
Annex 12a: Gender Analysis Frameworks	42
Annex 12b: Gender Analysis Domains	44
Annex 12c: Gender Analysis Resources	45

Session 13: MEAL: From Gender Sensitive to Gender Transformative and
Feminist

Learning Objective Key Messages	 Participants understand that integrating and reflecting gender transformative and feminist approaches to MEAL exist on a spectrum, and can be applied to both process and outcome of MEAL activities. Gender integration in MEAL activities must comprehensive by addressing gender considerations in both <i>process</i> and <i>purpose</i>. The spectrum builds on itself as it intensifies. For example, gender <i>transformative</i> monitoring activities will necessarily have the characteristics of gender <i>sensitive</i> and <i>responsive</i> monitoring activities. Gender sensitive is the absolute bare minimum of gender integration that can be considered as good practice.
Facilitator's Notes	 If you have MEAL expertise in the room: use it! Make sure to distribute that expertise evenly in group work and give every opportunity for them to draw on their own experience.
Resources	Participant Resource PackagePowerPoint
Technology	 PowerPoint presentation Zoom Google Docs



Process

#	Facilitator Steps	Technology Support
1	 Ask participants to recall some of the terms and concepts that were discussed on from previous sessions in module 1. In plenary, invite participants to volunteer definitions or explanations of the following terms: Gender Sensitive Gender Responsive Gender Transformative If needed, you can reference the definitions sheet used on Day 1 to remind participants of how to understand these terms.	 Start the PowerPoint and share the screen. Progress through the accompanying slide(s). Follow the cues from the Facilitator when to switch slides.
2	<i>Explain to participants</i> : as discussed over the past few days, these terms are used to describe the extent to which gender equality is integrated and/or is the focus of programming. But it can also describe the approach to an organization or a project's MEAL	 Progress through accompanying slide(s)
	Note: if you feel that your participants are getting fatigued with break-away groups, you can also select ONE of the problem trees that you feel reflects a good diversity of domains and use that problem tree to have the discussion in plenary.	

Ask participants who to explain the acronym for MEAL, and some of the activities associated with each word:

- MONITORING is normally the systematic assessment of a programme's performance over time. It involves the ongoing collection and review of data to provide programme managers and other stakeholders with indications of progress against programme plans and towards programme objectives.¹
- EVALUATION takes place at a particular point in time, but complements ongoing monitoring activities by providing more in depth, objective assessments of the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of programmes. Formative evaluations are carried out during the life of the programme with a focus on improvement; summative evaluations take place towards the end of the programme and are used to judge its overall merit, worth or effectiveness.
- ACCOUNTABILITY mechanisms include crucial information sharing to project or organization stakeholders about the delivery of services, the use of resources, and the achievement of outcomes. This includes project donors, partners and beneficiary or participants communities. Accountability to government or donors is sometimes referred to as 'upward accountability', accountability mechanisms targeting beneficiary groups or communities is referred to 'downward accountability', and 'horizontal accountability' refers to sharing and learning activities with partners, colleagues, peer organizations and stakeholders.
- **LEARNING** activities are deliberate efforts to use project data (qualitative/quantitative/formal/informal/observational) to reflect on and improve upon programmatic and operational approaches. This often involves specific research initiatives.

Progress through accompanying slide(s)

¹ Oxfam GB: A Quick Guide to Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning in Fragile Contexts (no date)

Different MEAL activities are associated with different methodologies and approaches to implementation, or their **process**. And each MEAL activity will also have a **purpose** or **outcome**.

Ask participants to consider examples of process and purpose/outcome. For example, the purpose of a monitoring activity might be to determine satisfaction of adolescent girls with reproductive health services. Its process might include tool design, conducting focus group discussions, results analysis, etc.

Activity 13.1: MEAL Across the Gender Equality Spectrum

Take participants through the first row (monitoring) and explain the different elements – invite them to add (the bullets are not exhaustive!). Then guide them to Activity 13.1 their **Participant Resource Package**. Under the activity instructions, they will find which group they're assigned to. Each group is assigned one MEAL activity.

Participants will find a Google Doc link in their **Participant Resource Package.** They will find a table (similar to the one shown on the PowerPoint screen), with the top row (monitoring) filled out already. Participants are to fill in the cells of this table with their group of what characteristics they think the different components of MEAL would have across the Gender Equality Spectrum.

Ask groups to think about the process and to consider both MEAL *outcomes* and *process*. Groups will have about **20 minutes** to complete their grid. Tell them not to look at the Annex 13a yet.

Note: During preparation for this session, ensure M&E advisors or researchers who are participating in this training are evenly distributed across the groups.

 Progress through accompanying slide(s)

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- Move participants to their pre-assigned Zoom break-out rooms (3, 1 x Evaluation; 1 x Accountability; 1 x Learning)
- Keep an eye on "raise hands" or participant groups who flag "help"
- Weave the facilitator in and out of the different groups to help guide their discussion and ensure they're on the right track
- Ensure all groups are utilizing the correct Google Doc link for their activity (consider posting the link in each group chat)

Low GE Integration		egration High GE Integration			
	Gender Aware/Sensitive	Gender Responsive	Gender Transformative/ Feminist		
Monitoring					
Evaluation					
Accountability					
Learning					
			<u></u>		
After the 20 minutes chat. Ask each group area that would reflec		 Move participants from the Zoom break-out rooms to the plenary discussion Consider utilizing gallery view for 			
	the resource sheet (An common understanding.	-	eir response and ensu	re	the group discussions/ presentations

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7	 Once presentations are complete, ask participants to reflect on the 1. Notice we didn't discuss 'gender unaware' or 'gender blin - Because anything less than gender aware or sensitive 2. What do you see as you move across the spectrum toware integration? That the characteristics build on themselves. 3. What are some of the practical implications to consider a intensity of gender integration? 4. Recall Day 2 discussion related to budget, human resource apply to the MEAL activities? 	d'. Why do you think that is? <i>e is unacceptable.</i> rds greater intensity of gender s you move towards greater	Continue with gallery view for this group discussion Progress through accompanying slide(s)
8	 Close by reviewing the key messages: Gender integration in MEAL activities must be comprehend considerations in both process and purpose. The spectrum builds on itself as it intensifies. For examplementary monitoring activities will necessarily have the characteristic responsive monitoring activities. Gender sensitive is the absolute bare minimum of gender considered as good practice. 	le, gender transformative tics of gender sensitive and	Maintain accompanying slide(s) to close out the session

8

Annexes

Annex 13a: MEAL on a Gender Equality Spectrum

	Gender Aware/Sensitive	Gender Responsive	Gender Transformative/ Feminism
Monitoring	 Monitors female and male beneficiaries and stakeholders Takes gender into consideration during planning and risk analysis for data collection Captures and organizes data disaggregated by sex/age 	 Monitors female and male beneficiaries and stakeholders Takes gender into consideration during planning and risk analysis for data collection Captures and organizes data disaggregated by sex/age Monitors gender-based differences between participation in and benefit from intervention Ensures meaningful participation of women and girls in monitoring activities 	 Monitors female and male beneficiaries and stakeholders Takes gender into consideration during planning and risk analysis for data collection Captures and organizes data disaggregated by sex/age Monitors gender-based differences between participation in and benefit from intervention Ensures meaningful participation of women and girls in monitoring activities Co-designs monitoring activities with women and girl participants Ensures the use of monitoring tools that capture individual and experiential data Uses monitoring activities that are empowering in and of themselves



	Gender Aware/Sensitive	Gender Transformative/ Feminism	
Evaluation	 Takes gender into consideration during planning and risk analysis for data collection Collects data disaggregated by sex/age Analyzes and presents the differential results for male and female beneficiaries of different ages (where possible/relevant) 	 Assesses the differential results for male and female beneficiaries of different ages Includes gender analysis of results and identifies gender-related drivers of change or lack of change Includes analysis of intersecting factors of identity 	 Assesses the differential results for male and female beneficiaries of different ages Includes gender analysis of results and identifies gender-related drivers of change or lack of change Includes analysis of intersecting factors of identity Uses a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to capture objectivity and subjective experience Evaluates the status and change of power dynamics between men and women/boys and girls (ie changes in <i>position</i>)



	Gender Aware/Sensitive	Gender Responsive	Gender Transformative/ Feminism
Accountability	 Ensures that information sharing is equally accessible for male and female stakeholders Shares results that disaggregate by sex and age 	 Ensures that information sharing is equally accessible for male and female stakeholders Shares results that disaggregate by sex and age Communicates results to and invites input from women and girls 	 Ensures that information sharing is equally accessible for male and female stakeholders Shares results that disaggregate by sex and age Generating results in collaboration and with input specifically from women and girls Assigns equal or greater priority to
			'downward' accountability activities and participation in planning, monitoring, learning

	Gender Aware/Sensitive	Gender Responsive	Gender Transformative/ Feminism	
Learning	• Research initiatives appropriately disaggregate data by sex and age	• Any research initiatives appropriately disaggregate data by sex and age	• Any research initiatives appropriately disaggregate data by sex and age	
	Learning initiatives consider gender in the design of methodology	• Learning initiatives include gender in the design of methodology	• Learning initiatives are co-designed with participants and include gender in the design of methodology	
	• Learning products document any findings that indicate differences between outcomes based on gender, or learnings related to implementation based on gender	• Learning products specifically include an analysis of outcomes based on gender, or learnings related to implementation based on gender	• Learning products specifically include an analysis of outcomes based on gender, or learnings related to implementation based on gender	
		 Learning results are validated by and shared with the diversity of participants or subjects 	 Learning results are identified and determined by the diversity of participants or subjects 	

Annex 13b: Oxfam's 2017 Discussion Paper: Applying Feminist Principles to Program Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning

https://oxfamilibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/620318/dp-feminist-principles-meal-260717-en.pdf?sequence=4

Oxfam's Feminist Principles of Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Accountability

Building on the contributions of feminist monitoring and evaluation (M&E) experts such as Srilatha Batliwala and Alex Pittman, the OI Feminist MEAL Principles are based on the understanding that discrimination based on gender identity is structural and systemic and that social justice in any context can be achieved only with change in power relations. Oxfam recognizes the autonomy and independence of partners in the work we do together, and is committed to relationships of mutual accountability. We recognize that evaluations and knowledge as political, transformative change processes are complex, and that change takes time and investment.

Thus, Oxfam MEAL should support the generation of knowledge that is meaningful, accessible and useful to those who rightly own it, and should:

Planning

- Examine gender and power relations, why they exist and how they change, and strive to produce knowledge in a way that acknowledges power;
- Be co-designed and co-managed with participants, so that participants agree on the assessment conclusions and how the evidence generated will be used;

Tools

- Use participatory tools and methods, encouraging broad participation, in particular by removing barriers to participation;
- · Take a rights-based approach;
- Ensure that the process of measuring and evaluating impact and change is gender-just and rights-based;

Self-awareness and attitudes

- Acknowledge that persons facilitating evaluative processes should be self-aware and should possess skills including, but not limited to, facilitating, listening, interviewing, and writing/recording;
- · Recognize that time is needed to build trust and understanding;
- Be flexible, adaptable and responsive to context, because originally proposed results and related indicators may be revised as people and organizations respond to change;
- Recognize that change is non-linear and complex, thus requiring the tracking and capturing of negative impacts, resistance, reaction, and unexpected outcomes;
- Use both qualitative and quantitative methodologies and methods that assess contribution, rather than demand attribution;
- Support strengthening of organizational capacity for meaningful engagement in feminist MEAL;
- Ensure that different levels of accountability are emphasized and seen as valuable by, for example, using meaningful feedback mechanisms; and
- Ensure that learning is incorporated and shared throughout the MEAL process and that it contributes to future work.

Session 14: Quality Indicators for Gender Equality Outcomes

Learning Objective	Participants will understand how to construct and select quality indicators to support gender equality putcomes and gender transformative programming.				
Key Messages	 Indicators are a signal of change, and need to effectively respond to the level of change in project outcomes; they MUST be gender sensitive as a minimum level of gender equality integration Gender transformative change refer to changes in social behaviours and attitudes (position, not just condition), and therefore requires a combination of indicators that must include qualitative indicators 				
Facilitator's Notes	 Facilitators that don't have a strong background in RBM and related tools should read <u>Global Affairs</u> <u>Canada's RBM Guidance</u> in preparation for the following sessions, and in particular those sections that discuss outcomes, indicators and data collection methods. Another useful sources is the <u>World Banks 10</u> <u>Steps to RBM and Evaluation Systems</u>. This is not an RBM or M&E training – but this basic discussion can help participants contribute to and support the development of M&E tools and systems that reflect gender equality best practices. 				
Activities	 Introduction (40 minutes) Activity (20 minutes) Wrap-up (10 minutes) 				
Resources	Participant Resource PackagePowerPoint				
Technology	PowerPoint presentationZoom				

Process

#	Facilitator Steps							Technology Support	
1	developing of are a key ele Performance Global Affair in this session transformation	eloped their of quality indica ement of the e Measureme rs Canada pro on and the n ive programn Indicator(s)	e results m ent Framev ovides the ext we wil	pport the easureme vork). following I focus or	measurer ent design elements the natu	nent of thos (referred to in their ter re of the cir	o in RBM as poin RBM as nplate for pa cled elemen	artners, and ts in gender	 Start the PowerPoint and share the screen. Progress through the accompanying slide(s). Follow the cues from the Facilitator when to switch slides.
		What is being measured?	Where are you starting from?	Where will you end up?	Where or who is the data coming from?	How is it being collected?	How often is this data being collected?	Who is collecting the data?	

First, to ensure we have a shared basic understanding of what an indicator is, we will cover basic definitions and types of indicators.

Ask participants, what is an indicator?

Simply put, an indicator is a signal that shows change has happened. Quality indicators are built in a specific way and have specific attributes, and many of you will be familiar with the GAC definition of an indicator:

Note: According to GAC, an indicator, also known as a performance indicator, is a means of measuring actual outcomes and outputs. It can be qualitative or quantitative, and is composed of a unit of measure, a unit of analysis and a context. Indicators are neutral; they neither indicate a direction of change, nor embed a target. • Progress through accompanying slide(s)

	ly unpack what eac two types of inc	 Progress through accompanying slide(s) 	
Quantita	ative Indicators	 Quantitative indicators are used to measure quantities or amounts. They are <i>objectively verifiable</i>. For example: temperature, distance, middle upper-arm circumference, death rate, but also individual knowledge and skills. 	
Qualita	tive Indicators	 Qualitative indicators are <i>subjective</i>. They capture experiential information, such as the quality of something, or beneficiaries' perception of their situation, their opinion or preferences. They also would measure an individual's <i>perception</i> of their own knowledge or skills. 	

Ask for a quick shout out, answering the following questions:

Which type of indicator, qualitative or quantitative, do you think would be particularly important for measuring transformative change? Ask a couple of volunteers to explain why.

Every indicator has 3 building blocks:

- 1. The **unit of measure** is the number, percentage, level, ratio, etc.
- 2. The **unit of analysis** is who or what will be observed: individuals, institutions, social artifacts or social groups
- 3. The **context** is the set of circumstances that specify the particular aspect of the output or outcome that the indicator is intended to measure.

Unit of Measure	Unit of Analysis	Context
#/total	Adolescent girls and boys aged 15-19 (disaggregated by rural/urban setting)	Who have attended a health clinic in the past 12 months.
Level of confidence	of male partners of women of child-bearing age	In the privacy provided during family planning counselling
%/total	health institutions (public/private)	providing gender sensitive services to ethnic populations in their language of choice
Degree of support	Amongst adult males	For women's engagement in work outside the home
%/total	of individual citizens trained (disaggregated by sex, age, and provinces)	reporting change in media consumption habits one month after participating in the propaganda-proof training
#	of policy proposals passed	that create conditions for national reconciliation in conflict zones
Ratio	of women to men	in decision-making positions in the government

 Progress through accompanying slide(s)



Finally, an indicator should be neutral — meaning that it does not indicate a direction of change (for example 'increased' or 'improved'), and it does not include a target (a target is usually identified after a baseline is established).	
 Now that everyone has the basics, explain that you're going to discuss how indicators can best serve gender equality objectives. An indicator must always be developed or selected to effectively capture the level of change of a result (transformative/aware/etc.), and must always be gender sensitive, regardless of the level of change. Gender sensitive is the <i>minimum</i> level of gender integration. What do we mean by this? When we talk about gender transformative results, in order to be effective, we want to measure changes in attitudes and perceptions about the value of women and girls, and their agency and decision making. Most outcomes have multiple indicators and will include some that are quantitative and some that are qualitative. Disaggregate by sex and age Disaggregate by sex and age Disaggregate by sex and age Disaggregate by other relevant factors of intersectionality Use language that describes in gendered detail the unit of analysis Use language that incudes gender-related elements of the context 	/ing

Show the example of the following Outcome Statement: **Increased empowerment of** adolescent girls to claim their right to safe and accessible contraceptive services and resources.

Ask in plenary: In order to respond to this outcome, would we want to measure <u>only</u> the rate of usage of contraceptives by adolescent girls?

Give participants an opportunity to answer in plenary, and then explain that **no** – in fact, we **also** must measure whether that *right* is being realized – which requires us to measure their agency in the decision to use contraceptives. Usage rates alone do not tell us about an adolescent girl's **empowerment**.

Discuss: In an extreme example, take a reduction in rates of maternal mortality (MMR). The right to quality sexual and reproductive health services, including maternal, newborn and child health services, should definitely result in a reduction in MMR. However, that can also be achieved without the realization of rights or the empowerment and agency of women and girls. Consider if a state mandates a facility-based delivery for all births – while this would likely reduce the MMR, it is a decrease in agency and decision-making power for women and girls.

Explain that for health programming, we want to measure the improvement of health outcomes – but from a gender equality and rights-based perspective, we also want to measure **how** those outcomes have been improved, and whether those improvements have been achieved through **increased agency**, which is essential for **empowerment**.

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- Consider using gallery view during plenary discussion

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Explain to participants that before they develop their indicators for their outcome statements and include terms like 'agency and empowerment', it is helpful to ask themselves: **How can we measure complex concepts like agency, choice and empowerment?** Participants might come up with three possibilities – if not, facilitators can introduce the following:

Let's talk through some of the strengths and limitations of several approaches:

- Asking beneficiaries directly about their empowerment, agency, choice.
- Using an indicator that *suggests* empowerment/agency, sometimes known as a 'proxy' indicator.
- Using a composite indicator or index to measure the multi-dimensional aspects of empowerment and agency.

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- Consider using gallery view during plenary discussion

Activity 1: Quality Indicators for Gender Equality Outcomes

8

Ask participants to refer to Activity 14.1 in their **Participant Resource Package** where they will find their group links and see detailed activity instructions. Using the outcomes generated in a previous session, participants are to develop quality indicators for one immediate and one intermediate outcome that capture gender equality changes in an effective way in their groups. Give the groups about **30 minutes** to think of their indicators.

Ask participants to remember:

- An outcome can have multiple indicators! For example, an outcome related to improved sexual and reproductive health could have an indicator on reduced teenage pregnancy rates, increased household decision making, and reduced incidents of sexual and gender-based violence.
- There are no PERFECT indicators and this is not an M&E training. Groups should focus on capturing the gender transformative change they've described in their outcome statements.

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- Separate participants into their assigned Zoom break-out room
- Move the facilitator in and out of the different group break-out rooms in order to ensure participants are on the right track
- Keep an eye out for groups that need support (look at the chats, look for raised hands, etc.)

Bring the groups back to plenary and have 1 person from each group share their indicators. Invite feedback and ideas from the rest of the groups, keeping it constructive.

There is an art to developing or selecting indicators and it takes practice – allow the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) folks in the room to support the construction of the indicators – but try not to get too caught up in the M&E technical aspect of indicator development.

10

Close the session with the **key messages**:

- 1. Indicators are a signal of change, and need to effectively respond to the level of change in project outcomes; they cannot be gender transformative but MUST be gender sensitive as a minimum level of gender equality integration
- 2. Gender transformative change refer to changes in social behaviours and attitudes (position, not just condition), and therefore requires a combination of indicators that must include qualitative indicators

- Bring everyone back to plenary
- Consider utilizing the gallery view for plenary discussion

 Progress through accompanying slide(s)

Annexes

Annex 14a: How to measure Empowerment and Agency

A direct question about empowerment would have participants indicate whether they have experienced empowerment. For example: 'Do you feel empowered with respect to decisions related to your reproductive health?'. Self-reporting the experience of complex and multi-dimensional phenomena like empowerment or agency can be problematic for a couple of reasons: it assumes that the respondent has a shared understanding of the meaning of the concept; it assumes that the respondent sees no risk or benefit to responding positively or negatively to a question of their own empowerment or agency; it assumes that their understanding of that concept will have remained the same over a period of time.

A 'proxy' indicator is an indicator that is used in place of a direct measurement. Much like it sounds, it 'approximates' or represents a phenomenon or occurrence. For example, increased income is often used as a 'proxy' for economic empowerment. The assumption is that increased income suggests that economic empowerment has taken place. However, proxy indicators can be problematic when it comes to elements of control and choice. In the case of economic empowerment, it is important to understand other elements of agency and empowerment related to the increased income: for example to understand whether she is able to choose how the increased income is spent, whether the increased income was gained through exploitative practices, whether earning the increased income was her choice, and whether it has improved her wellbeing or merely added to her burden of work and vulnerability.

A composite indicator or index aggregates multiple elements to create a single measurement for complex, multi-dimensional phenomena. These indicators can be composed of multiple quantitative and qualitative sub-indicators. For example, a composite index used to measure women's economic empowerment might include elements that measure their increased income, their decision-making role in household expenditures, and changes in their burden of unpaid household labour and care. The advantages of a composite indicator or index are many: it can be designed in response to specific context, project design and priorities; the sub-indicators or domains can usually be disaggregated and provide a deeper and more insightful understanding of the change (or lack of change) that is occurring; and most importantly, it affords the space to explore these multi-dimensional aspects of agency and empowerment. Disadvantages may include the fact that the development and analysis of composite indicators requires a higher level of technical skill, that the complex nature of its design means that a newly designed composite should be tested before applied, and the design usually involves assigning weights and thresholds, which can embed bias and assumptions into the tool and the calculation of results. In addition, a composite indicator or index can require a more lengthy tool or data collection process because it reflects multiple dimensions, which have time and budget implications.

Session 15: Data Collection Tools and Sources for Gender Equality Indicators

Learning Objective	Participants will understand how feminist principles and gender transformative programming can be reflected and promoted in data collection design.
Key Messages	 The voices of women and girls is essential for the measurement of gender transformative change and to align with feminist approaches to MEAL There is a wide variety of data collection tools that can effectively respond to indicators, and all have the <i>potential</i> to challenge power dynamics, align with feminist principles, and contribute to the measurement of transformative change – depending on the <i>process</i> of their use.
Facilitator's Notes	 Make sure that before facilitating this session, you have a good basic understanding of the data collection tools and sources that are being discussed. You don't need to be an expert, but you should be able to answer general questions about different methodologies.
Activities	 Introduction (20 minutes) Activity (20 minutes) Wrap-up (20 minutes)
Resources	Participant Resource PackagePowerPoint
Technology	PowerPoint presentationZoom

Process

componer	<i>participants</i> the pmF methods for get	that was s	hown to t	hem previ	ously: data	-		 Start the PowerPoint and share the screen. Progress through the accompanying clide(s).
Expected Result	Indicator(s)	Baseline Data	Targets	Data Sources	Data Collection Methods	Frequency	Responsible	 slide(s). Follow the cues from the Facilitator when to switch slides.
Outcome or results statement	What is being measured?	Where are you starting from?	Where will you end up?	Where or who is the data coming from?	How is it being collected?	How often is this data being collected?	Who is collecting the data?	

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Note: There are MANY and not all need to be mentioned!

As you review these lists and add any new ones, ask participants to consider gender transformative programming and feminist approaches. In plenary, lead a brief discussion about which data sources most reflect a feminist approach and would be most essential for understanding women's and girls' empowerment and agency.

Explain to participants:

3

Qualitative and less formal or structured methodologies are often associated with a feminist approach or feminist principles, because they are thought to be more participatory, to be more likely to acknowledge and challenge the power dynamic between data collector and subject, and to be more effective at capturing individual and subjective experiences. However, there are also those who feel that the characterization of formal, rigorous methodologies as less 'feminine' or feminist is in itself a way of creating false dichotomies.²

However, best practice tells us the at the strongest MEAL systems will use a mixed-method approach which employs both quantitative and qualitative data to measure changes in state, and will use those to triangulate and build a deeper understanding of change. This obligates us as practitioners, and as advocates for gender equality, to explore how the process and application of these different methodologies **can best reflect feminist principles and effectively measure gender transformative change**.

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- Consider moving to gallery view for the discussion piece

² <u>http://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/article/view/974/2124</u>

Activity 15.1: Data sources and Methodologies

Next, *ask participants* to return to their working groups, and for each of their indicators, determine: The data source(s): the data collection methodolog(ies).

Instruct each group to keep in mind the following during their discussions:

- Using a composite indicator or index, they should list the 'domains' what will it include? Considering data sources, they should be as specific as possible.
- For each methodology, the groups should identify key considerations in the process that would ensure the amplification of women's and girls' voices, that would promote empowerment and challenge unequal power dynamics, that would allow for co-creation and co-generation of knowledge, etc.

Give groups about **20 minutes** to identify the data sources and methodologies for their indicators. Explain that when they come back to plenary, they might be asked to describe why they chose those data sources/methodologies.

Note: Be cautious not to allow the conversation to go too heavily into the technical details and specifics of indicator and tool development. The purpose here is to apply a gender transformative and feminist lens to the work of MEAL, recognizing this is not exhaustive, and that the design of a PMF and dataflow is a much longer and technical exercise.

In plenary, *ask each group* to share one or two examples of their work – give each group **20 minutes**. Invite participants to question, recommend and explore the examples in a positive and constructive way.

• Utilize gallery view for the group share-back

 Progress through accompanying slide(s)



Close the session with the **key messages** and thank the groups. Explain that in the next session you will be discussion how the *use of data* can be gender transformative and aligned with feminist principles.

- 1. The voices of women and girls is essential for the measurement of gender transformative change and to align with feminist approaches to MEAL
- There is a wide variety of data collection tools that can effectively respond to indicators, and all have the *potential* to challenge power dynamics, align with feminist principles, and contribute to the measurement of transformative change – depending on the *process* of their use.
- Progress through accompanying slide(s)

Annexes

Annex 15a: Data Sources and Data Collection Methodologies

	Data Sources: "Is this first hand information, or second hand information?"
Primary	 Participants (individuals) Intermediaries Government documents (policies, program documents, proclamations, etc.) Institutional/organizational records Photographs or artifacts Physical environment
Secondary	 Demographic health survey data Human development report Global Peace Index Peer reviewed research Reports from community of practice



Data Collection Methods

- Surveys
- Focus Group Discussions
- Guided Observation
- Conversation with concerned individuals
- Most significant change
- Field visits/observation
- Transect walk
- Critical reviews of official records or other documents
- Individual and key informant interviews
- Official records/secondary data
- Census
- Scientific research

Session 16: Accountability—data for whom? Using GE data to strengthen programming and women's/girl's participation

Learning Objective	Participants will be introduced to and explore different approaches to accountability and how sharing data and learning can be gender transformative and strengthen programming.
Key Messages	 Good accountability and learning practices should include mechanisms for upward accountability, downward accountability and horizontal accountability that reflect gender equality considerations From a rights-based and feminist perspective, beneficiaries (or participants) themselves must be equal owners of the data (by having access to it, understanding it, contributing to its analysis and use).
Activities	 Introduction (15 minutes) Activity 1 (30 minutes) Activity 2 (20 minutes) Wrap-up (15 minutes)
Resources	Participant Resource PackagePowerPoint
Technology	 PowerPoint presentation Zoom

Process

3

#	Facilitator Steps	Technology Support
1	 <i>Explain to participants</i>: you've now discussed what information you want to collect and how you will collect it. In this session you will be exploring the following questions from the perspective of gender transformative programming. o Data for <i>what purpose</i>? o Data for <i>what purpose</i>? o Data for <i>whom</i>? Ask participants to discuss in plenary: What do we use data for? To understand progress To improve programming To communicate progress To report and be accountable for achievement of outcomes 	 Start the PowerPoint and share the screen. Progress through the accompanying slide(s). Follow the cues from the Facilitator when to switch slides.
2	Ask participants to recall the earlier discussion about the definitions behind M-E-A-L. What did we mean by accountability? Note: Accountable means obligated to explain, justify, and take responsibility for one's actions, and to answer to someone.	Progress through accompanying slide(s)

own ideas.

Recall: ACCOUNTABILITY mechanisms include crucial information sharing to project or organization stakeholders about the delivery of services, the use of resources, and the achievement of outcomes. This includes project donors, partners and beneficiary or participants communities. Accountability to government or donors is sometimes referred to as 'upward accountability', accountability mechanisms targeting beneficiary groups or communities is referred to 'downward accountability', and 'horizontal accountability' refers to sharing and learning activities with partners, colleagues, peer organizations and stakeholders.⁴

Explain to participants: what is meant by upward, downward and horizontal accountability – who is the audience for each of these levels of accountability?



questions listed in Activity 16.1 in their Participant Resource Package. The

facilitator(s) will be capturing the discussion on a Mural page [link to be created by

facilitator], but participants are also welcomed to join the Mural page and input their

• Progress through accompanying slide(s)

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
 - The facilitator is going to lead the discussion, while the tech support populates the brainstormed ideas on a Mural page.

⁴ Note that some participants may rightly observe that the terms 'upward' and 'downward' accountability employ a language of hierarchy that implies an associated importance which would be interrogated and rejected by many feminist approaches.

Explain that you will explore how the other areas of accountability can reflect a transformative or feminist approach.

Note! For the discussion, encourage participants to share anecdotes from their own experience!

We will have **30 minutes** for this discussion to brainstorm thoughts on mural. Explain that you will return to the Mural where the discussions on Downward Accountability were captured above and build on those notes.

Upward Accountability

- What kind of activities does this include?
- Why is this level of accountability important in gender transformative programming?
- How can we use our donor reports to advocate for women's empowerment and rights-based approaches?
- What is it that we report on? What do we highlight? How do we present our data?

Horizontal Accountability

- What kind of activities does this include?
- Why is this level of accountability important in gender transformative programming?
- How can horizontal accountability reflect and promote feminist principles?
- How can horizontal accountability improve gender transformative programming?

- Progress through accompanying slide(s)
- The facilitator is going to lead the discussion, while the tech support populates the brainstormed ideas on a Mural page.
- Participants are also encouraged to enter the mural page and input their own ideas
- Provide participants with the Mural link in the Zoom group chat

Close with **key messages**:

- 1. Good accountability and learning practices should include mechanisms for upward accountability, downward accountability and horizontal accountability that reflect gender equality considerations
- 2. From a rights-based and feminist perspective, beneficiaries (or participants) themselves must be equal owners of the data (by having access to it, understanding it, contributing to its analysis and use).

• Maintain the accompanying slide(s)

Annexes

Annex 16a: Accountability Discussion Support

Below are some ideas to support the discussions in this session. Facilitators should reflect on these ideas and include their own thoughts and experiences to enrich and contextualize the content.

Downward Accountability

What kind of activities does this include?

- Communication of results and progress to beneficiaries/participants
- Validation of results through participatory analysis and interpretation.

Why is downward accountability important? Why specifically for gender transformative programming?

- A rights-based approach, which is essential for transformative programming, demands that participation, transparency and accountability are at the core of processes and programming. Downward accountability should be central to program design and implementation.
- The core of gender transformative programming is shifting patterns of power, and empowering those who have been marginalized or excluded both through the initiative results, as well as through participation in the process.
- Gender transformative programming is focused on building agency and empowerment, and that includes ownership of information and co-creation of knowledge. "Nothing about me, without me".

What are the benefits? For whom?

- Information and participation are key to empowerment. By ensuring that both processes and results are co-owned and validated, participants can benefit from increased agency.
- Practitioners have an obligation to be accountable to community/participants/beneficiaries. But in addition, the process of co-creation of knowledge can benefit and strengthen the design and also the credibility of a program or initiative.

Upward Accountability

What kind of activities does this include?

- Reporting to or sharing progress/results to donors
- Reporting to or sharing progress/results to clients⁵
- Reporting to board members or owners

Why is this level of accountability important in gender transformative programming?

- Where clients/donors are prioritizing transformative change, upward accountability demands that progress/results are effectively achieved and reported.
- Organizations and institutions can have an important influence on the decisions and priorities of donors, clients, etc, though the way they share data, results, lessons learned. When gender transformative changed is monitored, measured and reported on, it can drive change upwards by demonstrating pathways to change.
- Constraints and challenges to transformative change that are related to the scope, scale and parameters laid out by donors/clients can be addressed through reporting and sharing. For example, budgets and timelines that do not afford adequate space for the achievement of social change are more likely to be adjusted when practitioners and partners demonstrate how those constraints are hindering results.

How can we use our donor reports to advocate for women's empowerment and rights-based approaches?

⁵ The term 'client' usually refers to the person or group to which a service is provided, and from whom a payment is issued. 'Client' can therefore be used by some organizations to refer to beneficiaries (recipient of services), and by others to refer to groups or individuals providing payment (funders). When referring to upward accountability, we are using the latter understanding of the term.



- The more we focus on the quality of gender analysis in our reporting, the more we build the capacity of our donors and recipients to understand gender equality outcomes
- The more we highlight cost, time, and human resources in our reporting for gender transformative programming, the more effectively we can advocate for longer timelines, larger budgets, etc.

What is it that we report on? What do we highlight? How do we present our data?

- Regardless of the focus of an initiative, gender equality considerations and contributions to social change can either be highlighted as
 important or can be downplayed in reports and presentation of data, and the voices of women/girls/gender-marginalized people can
 either be excluded or amplified. From the simple act of disaggregating data effectively, to deeper analysis and interpretation from a
 gender perspective, and of gender transformative change (or lack of change). Raising awareness amongst donors/clients about
 progress (or lack of progress) towards gender equality is an important step in furthering the conversation, and advocating for increased
 support.
- Gender transformative changes takes time and is complex. Outcomes are not always achieved to the extent that was planned, and it is essential that the reasons for inadequate results are well understood and reported on. This not only improves programming within the organization, but can contribute to the improvement of the sector by informing donors/clients and their funding schemes/parameters.

Horizontal Accountability

What kind of activities does this include?

- Participating in and sharing with communities of practice (for example, clusters)
- Publishing reports and lessons learned to contribute to sector
- Open-sourcing methodologies, tools, resources
- Working through and contributing to partnerships and opportunities for collaboration/sharing

Why is this level of accountability important in gender transformative programming?

- Social transformation must be effective as a movement for change, and cannot be achieved through unilateral and isolated initiatives or actors.
- Feminist principles demand that collaboration, transparency, cooperation and inclusion are driving factors in work for gender equality and social change. Mutual accountability for the realization of these principles is key to building a movement for change.

How can horizontal accountability improve gender transformative programming?

- Gender transformative change is complex, and must reflect intersecting factors of exclusion and marginalization. When organizations engage in mutual accountability within a community of practice, a diversity of voices is heard and can inform programming/initiatives across the sector.
- When organizations are held accountable by a community of practice, and behave in a way that is accountable to others, it raises all standards in the movement for social change. "A rising tide floats all boats".

39

Additional Session: Gender Based Analysis

All **gender analysis frameworks** have different domains of inquiry, but ultimately, the goal is to understand the reality and gender dynamics of the target group – it is a *situation analysis* that is focused on the examination of the role of gender in particular.

Gender Analysis Frameworks provide step-by-step methodologies for conducting gender analysis. A thorough gender analysis should reflect the ways in which all other cross-cutting issues (age, environment, ethnicity, rights) also impact on women, men and gender diverse people. (reference to annex and associated links)

There are a number of key historical gender-analysis frameworks. Historically these have been evolving. We have created **Annex 12a** with key frameworks you can reference.

Common domains you will often see used by various organizations and institutions pull from all of these frameworks, and might include:

- 1. Roles & responsibilities
- 2. Social norms/gender norms
- 3. Participation and decision making
- 4. Access to/control over resources
- 5. Systemic/institutional norms

Historically, a lot of these frameworks didn't look at intersectionality effectively. Which is where Global Affairs Canada's Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) comes in. Global Affairs Canada defines Gender-based analysis (GBA+) as an analytical process used to assess how diverse groups of women, men and non-binary people may experience policies, programs and initiatives.⁶ The "plus" in GBA+ acknowledges that GBA+ goes beyond biological (sex) and socio-cultural (gender) differences. GBA+ considers many identity factors, such as race, ethnicity, religion, age, and mental or physical disability.⁷ Recall our discussion in Session 4 on intersectionality.

For more information on GBA+, including videos and examples, visit: <u>https://cfc-swc.gc.ca/gba-acs/index-en.html</u>

Activity 12.1 Instructions: Gender Based Analysis

- 1. Participants are to go back to their problem analysis and discuss:
 - a. Do the problems identified in their problem analysis fit into these domains?
 - b. Can they see how this framework analysis would help identify different areas of inequality?
 - c. And how can it help in turn, to inform programmatic responses?
- 2. Take **20 minutes** to connect with your groups via Zoom break-out rooms and discuss the above questions. See the table below for a reminder of your group assignments and the Mural link to your problem tree.

Group assignments:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
MURAL link: [Insert link]	MURAL link: [Insert link]	MURAL link: [Insert link]
-	-	-

3. Refer to **Annex 12b** for the list of 5 domains.

Annex 12a: Gender Analysis Frameworks⁶

Source: https://www.equilo.io/gender-analysis

There are a number of **key historical gender-analysis frameworks.** Historically these have been **evolving.** We have created this Annex 12awith key frameworks you can reference.

	Historical Gender-Analysis Frameworks:
Harvard Analytical Framework	Objective: To demonstrate there is an economic rationale for investing in women as well as men; to map the work of women and men in the community and highlight differences.
	Strengths: Collects and organizes information about gender division of labour; distinguishes between access and control over resources.
	Limitations: Tends to oversimplify, based on tick box approach; ignores other inequalities such as race, class and ethnicity.
Moser Framework (Gender Planning Framework –	Objective: Focus on strategic gender needs and concentrate on gender inequalities and how to address these at programme and policy level.
Caroline Moser)	Strengths: Makes all work visible through the concept of triple roles; distinguishes between practical gender needs (those that relate to women's daily life) and strategic gender needs (those that potentially transform the current situation).
	Limitations: Framework does not mention other inequalities like class, race and ethnicity; looks at separate, rather than inter-related activities of women and men; framework is static and does not examine change over time.
⁶ https://www.equilo.io/gender-analysis	

CanWaCH GE Training Module 3 -

Social Relations Framework (Naila Kabeer IDS)	 Objective: Analyze gender inequalities in the distribution of resources, responsibilities and power; analyze the relationships between people, their relationships to resources and activities and how these are reworked through institutions; to emphasize the human well-being as the final goal of development. Strengths: Conceptualizes gender as central to development thinking and not an add-on; highlights interactions between inequalities (race, class, ethnicity) Centers analysis on institutions and highlights their political aspects. Limitations: Since it looks at all inequalities, the focus on gender can be lost.
Women's Empowerment Framework	 Objective: To achieve women's empowerment by enabling women to achieve equal control over factors of production and participate equally in the development process. Strengths: Articulates empowerment as essential element of development; enables assessment of interventions based on grounds of empowerment; aims to change attitudes. Limitations: Framework profiles are statis and do not take account of change over time; ignores other forms of inequality.

Annex 12b: Gender Analysis Domains

Roles & responsibilities

Refers to how gender shapes the way people spend their work and leisure time and how they relate to each other in the distribution of roles within households, at work and within the community. This usually includes productive, reproductive and community labour, and can also include what people are expected NOT to do, in addition to the behaviours and activities that they *are* expected to do.

Social norms/gender norms

Gender norms are social norms defining acceptable and appropriate actions for women and men in a given group or society. They are embedded in formal and informal institutions, nested in the mind, and produced and reproduced through social interaction

Participation and decision making

Refers to the nature of and degree to which an individual exercises agency in their lives and in their community, as well as the physical and figurative decision-making spaces to which they are allowed access. This usually reflects a scale – where participation is important but the power to make or contribute to decisions (at the household and community level) is optimal.

Access to/control over resources

The role of gender in determining a person's ability or freedom to benefit from and use a variety of resources, from financial resources to public services, including access to and control over things like information, transportation, and land. Key to this is the difference between access to and control of.

Systemic/institutional norms

This refers to the policy and institutional environment that has been shaped by, and in turn contributes to, the realization of rights, prevailing gender norms, and the achievement (or absence) of gender justice and equality. This can include constitutional and legislative elements at the national level, but can also refer to the functioning of systems and institutions down to the community level as well.

Annex 12c: Gender Analysis Resources

Engendering Transformational Change: Save the Children Gender Equality Program Guidance & Toolkit. Save the Children. 2014. <u>https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/sites/default/files/documents/genderegualitytoolkit_es_20final.pdf</u>

Ten Gender Analysis Frameworks & Tools to Aid with Health Systems Research. UK Aid. 2015. <u>https://ringsgenderresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Ten-Gender-Analysis-Frameworks-and-Tools-to-Aid-with-HSR.pdf</u>

Global Affairs Canada Gender Analysis https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/gender_analysis-analyse_comparative.aspx?lang=eng

Jhpiego Gender Analysis Toolkit for Health Systems https://gender.jhpiego.org/analysistoolkit/gender-analysis-framework/

Oxfam Guide to Gender Analysis Frameworks https://www.ndi.org/sites/default/files/Guide%20to%20Gender%20Analysis%20Frameworks.pdf

Equilo Gender Analysis https://www.equilo.io/gender-analysis

Cascape Manual on Gender Analysis Tools https://agriprofocus.com/upload/CASCAPE Manual Gender Analysis Tools FINAL1456840468.pdf