EXPERT GROUP WORKSHOP ON WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT
IN THE LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

Expert workshop held at the Pan American Organization HQ in July 2018

Fernanda Ewerling and Aluisio JD Barros

The inclusion of gender equality and the empowerment of gender equality and all women and girls as an explicit goal (Goal 5) within the Sustainable Development Goals, reflects the fact that, over the past 20 years, progress has been achieved but more slowly than desirable and at an uneven pace, with large differences between and within countries, especially in different wealth groups.¹

To overcome the lack of comparable individual-level measures, the Survey-based Women’s Empowerment Indicator (SWPER, pronounced super) was proposed in 2017, initially for countries in Africa.² The SWPER allows the assessment of empowerment at individual level and enables within-country and between-country comparisons, as well as analysis of time trends, which no other previously available indicator offers.

A global version of the SWPER is being developed, which will allow the use of the indicator in low and middle-income countries from all world regions. However, in the LAC region, women’s empowerment clearly has its specificities.³ It was therefore crucial to count upon regional expertise to adapt the SWPER to develop a powerful empowerment indicator relevant to the realities of women’s empowerment in the region of the Americas.

Thus, a three-day workshop was held at Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) headquarters in Washington DC, 11-13 July 2018, with the participation of 15-20 experts from PAHO, the ICEH group, and other agencies and universities. The workshop was organized by the Office for Equity, Gender and Cultural Diversity (EGC) and the Latin American Center of Perinatology, Women and Reproductive Health (CLAP) of the PAHO in collaboration with the Countdown to 2030 LAC Regional Network (Federal University of Pelotas, Brazil).
During the three days we have had a comprehensive discussion about the SWPER with respect to specificities of women’s empowerment in the LAC region. As a result, the Expert Group agreed upon a few adjustments to SWPER that might be made based upon key aspects of women’s empowerment in the LAC region and data availability.

The main recommendation from the Expert Group were:

1. The explicit use of a conceptual framework to guide the development of the SWPER
2. Use of other sources of data, including DHS and other survey-based available information.
3. Flexibilization of the SWPER when some of the items that compose the index are not available. For example, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) do not include any information on women’s participation in household decisions, however data on the other SWPER domains are available and should not be discarded.
4. The integration of unpartnered women in the indicator. LAC has a large proportion of women in reproductive age that are not married or living with a partner, and they should not be overlooked.
5. Adjust and refine the SWPER domains with the addition of variables related to sexual and reproductive autonomy; decision-making on the use of the woman’s income (replacing the variable related to whether the woman worked in the last 12 months); type of employment (formal or informal); ownership of land or house; and access to technology, as mobile phones.
6. As some specificities are still overlooked with the SWPER, specific measures may be needed in the future for specific populations, as indigenous women.

The next steps with the assessment of the applicability of the SWPER for all low- and middle-income country will take all these recommendations into account. In the next session we present the practical decisions that were made based on our exploratory analyses.
Practical decisions

Many of the questions we are planning to include in the index based on the expert recommendations started being collected just recently in the DHS. Thus, we decide to work in three steps.

1st step: Finalize the SWPER global paper

We urge for a practical and useful index to measure women’s empowerment for as many countries as possible. Thus, we have decided not to include new variables in this version of the paper because this would cause most countries not to have available information. The results of the SWPER global analyses are presented in Appendix B. The changes in the SWPER index that are being implemented in this step include:

1. Explicitly explain the conceptual framework that guided the construction of the index

The conceptual framework that guided the construction of the SWPER index was not explicitly presented in the original paper, which was a major limitation pointed by the Workshop participants. The literature we used to support the choice of the variables to be included in the SWPER was the same used by Miedema et al.4 to develop a women’s empowerment index for East Africa, which ended up being quite similar to the SWPER. Thus, we will use the conceptual framework they proposed (see Figure 1) to elucidate the grounds of the SWPER development. As the SWPER, this framework has three domains of empowerment: enabling conditions and instrumental and intrinsic agency. Enabling conditions are considered preconditions that allow women to gain more power5. This domain relates to our social independence domain, comprising schooling attainment, age at pivotal life events (as first cohabitation and first birth), spousal asset differentials (as age at first birth and age at first cohabitation). The authors 4 also included in this domain the work wage (being paid by in cash or in kind), which we are considering for inclusion in the next generation of the SWPER along with other variables.
Instrumental agency can be considered as the woman’s ability to make choices in the household, at family-level. It relates to our decision-making domain. Intrinsic agency is also related to the woman’s attitudes and beliefs regarding gender social norms, which is linked to the SWPER attitude to violence domain, that comprises questions about the women’s attitudes toward wife-beating.

Figure 1. Theoretical framework that guided the construction of the SWPER.


2. Exclusion of variables

   a. Exclude variable that indicates whether the woman worked in the last 12 months
      ✓ Change was done, and the results do not change substantially.

   b. Delete frequency of reading newspaper or magazines
✓ We decide NOT to delete the variable because the question also covers the situation of online access to newspapers or magazines.

DHS MANUAL - Q. 113: NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE READING The purpose of this question is to find out whether the respondent is exposed to influences outside her local community by means of reading newspapers or magazines. It does not matter what type of articles she reads, what language she reads in, or who buys the newspapers or magazines she reads. The question is simply about how often she reads them. Make sure that you read the entire question before accepting her answer. If the respondent tells you that she is reading newspapers or magazines on the internet, this should still be considered as exposure to newspapers. The objective is to collect information on whether respondents are accessing newspapers or magazines, and if so, how frequently.

3. Give equal weight to decision made by women themselves, and decisions made jointly with the husband (joint decision making).

✓ Change was done, and the results do not change substantially.

4. Make the domains independent of each other

✓ We will also propose an alternative way to calculate the scores, so that in case one variable is missing, it will still be possible to assess the other empowerment domains. For example, MICS surveys do not have the decision-making variables. However, to calculate any SWPER domain, all 15 variables were necessary. By making the domains independent of each other when a variable is not available only the domain that comprises it will not be estimated. The limitation of this approach is that the variability of the scores, especially for the attitude to violence and decision-making domains, are strongly reduced.

5. Discuss the results we found in the exploratory analyses (see appendix for further details) of the additional variables recommended in the workshop and explain why we decided still not to include them

✓ More variables are being collected in recent DHS (phone ownership, decision on contraceptive use), but just in a small number of surveys until
now. We did not include these new variables in the SWPER because it would reduce drastically the number of countries for which we can have estimates. We are planning a new SWPER version including them in the future (see SWPER 2.0 below).

✓ Some variables were recommended because theoretically they are markers of economic empowerment (as land and house ownership), but in our exploratory analyses we found that they are actually markers of poverty and rural areas. They also present a negative correlation with all the SWPER domains (Ethiopia 2016).

2nd step - NEW Indicator using other sources of data
In this step we plan to develop a new empowerment indicator focused on Latin American and Caribbean countries that also includes unpartnered women. Measuring unmarried women’s empowerment will be a great challenge that will require a very different approach from the SWPER index. To do so, we will have to use other sources of data, as most information related to women’s empowerment in DHS are restricted to married women. By doing so we will also be capable of including in the index the variables recommended in the Expert Workshop that were not available in DHS surveys (variables categorized as Group 1 in the Appendix). However, as we need that this new index also warrants the assessment of inequalities at subnational levels, and many sources of information are not individual, we are planning to use an approach similar to the development of the Composite Coverage Index (CCI)⁶. The CCI is basically a weighted average of the health interventions coverage, which can be calculated at country level and also for subgroups of individuals. We are planning to propose a partnership with key persons from the Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC) as they have been collecting and analyzing data from different sources in the region and have expertise on that. Also, further discussion with the Workshop Experts will be necessary in this step.
3rd step - SWPER 2.0

New variables relevant to empowerment are being included in recent DHS rounds. But it will take time until there is a significant number of countries covered by surveys including these new variables. Therefore, a SWPER 2.0 will be designed, but for future use. We also plan to use another kind of factor analysis with imputation of missing values (for the case of skipped questions, for example). By doing so, it will be no longer necessary to impute data when calculating the index, which will facilitate its use and applicability.

References


2. Ewerling F, Lynch JW, Victora CG, van Eerdewijk A, Tyszler M, Barros AJDD. The SWPER index for women’s empowerment in Africa: development and validation of an index based on survey data. Lancet Glob Heal. The Author(s). Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an Open Access article under the CC BY 4.0 license; 2017;5(9):e916–23. doi: 10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30292-9.


Appendix A: Preliminary analyses

Addition of recommended variables

The variables recommended by the experts were categorized in three groups. For this report we focused on a more in-depth analyses of the availability of these variables in DHS surveys. Group one presents the variables that are not available in DHS surveys and will require other sources of information. The availability of such variables in other sources of information will be further evaluated when we start the development of the new empowerment index detailed in the Step 2 of this report. Group 2 comprises the variables that are available in some (but not all) DHS surveys. Generally, these questions started to be collected more recently. Group 3 presents the variables that are available for most DHS surveys. The variables are also grouped by the empowerment domain they would most likely fit in.

GROUP 1 – Variables that are not available in DHS surveys

Attitude to violence domain
a. Attitudes toward other types of violence including and beyond IPV (Economic violence, psychological violence, sexual violence, harassment, digital violence).

Social independence
b. Time usage: Paid vs unpaid work hours or total hours worked.

Decision-making
c. Formal or informal work.

d. Woman generating any income (from work, cash transfer, or other) – DHS only has data on type of earnings from work (cash, in-kind or not paid), which was included in GROUP 2.c.
GROUP 2 – Variables available for some DHS surveys (more recent surveys)

Social independence

a. Decision maker for using contraception – available in all surveys (only asked for women using contraception).

Decision maker for NOT using contraception – available in 8/61 surveys (2015 onwards)

Even when these are both available, being pregnant is a filter for the question.

- Variable has the same categories as the other decision-making indicators and will be categorized accordingly: husband or other person decides alone=-1; woman decides alone or jointly with the husband=1.

b. Woman has a personal mobile phone – available in 8/61 surveys (2013 onwards)

- Categories: No=0; Yes=1.

GROUP 3 – Variables available for most DHS surveys

Social independence


We explored the use of the variables (house and land) separately and combined (creating an indicator of ownership of house or land).

- Categorization: Does not own=0; Owns alone or jointly=1.

Decision-making

b. Being able to refuse sex – available in 46/61 countries

- Categories: No=0; Yes=1.

c. Type of earnings from respondent's work (not paid, cash, in-kind) – available in all surveys

- Categorization: not working or not payed=0; in-kind only=1; cash and in-kind or cash only=2.

- Problem: How to categorize women that do not work? We explored the use of each category as a dummy variable.
d. Decision making on who decides about how to spend the woman’s income – available in all surveys
   - Problem: How to categorize women that do not work? We explored the use of each category as a dummy variable.

e. Type of employment: respondent works for family, others, self-employed – available in all surveys
   - After discussion we considered this variable too context-sensitive; thus, this variable will not be added.

Further explorations

1. Being able to refuse sex
   a. The addition of a 3.b did not change much the loadings of the other variables. Being able to refuse sex showed a low loading (~0.12) and appeared in both social independence and decision-making domains.

2. Categorization of work-related variables: explore the use of each category as a variable (dummy variables) for the Group 3 indicators c, d and e.
   a. Inclusion of variables type of earning had loadings >0.05 for “paid in cash” and “not paid at all”. Thus, categories “paid in-kind only” and “cash and in-kind” were excluded.
   b. Decision-making on spending its own earnings was included as 2 dummy variables: “Husband/partner or other decide alone” and “Respondent alone or joint decision” to be consistent with the other decision-making variables categorization. Women that do not work or that work but do not earn any cash were considered as zero.
   c. Type of work (woman works for family member, someone else or is self-employed) presented divergent results and the dummy “Works for someone else” presented the highest loading (positive). This is a very context-sensitive indicator (as the work indicator itself); thus, it was decided not to include it.

3. Ownership of house or land
a. Results are very similar using the variables together or separately. Both have negative loadings (-0.34) in the social independence domain for Ethiopia. Using them together the loading is of -0.25. Women living in rural areas and in the poorest quintiles are the ones with higher prevalence of house or land ownership. This variable will have to be further analyzed and discussed.

4. Include variables that started being collected more recently (decision on CP use and phone ownership).

   a. To include decision on CP use we had to impute data for decision on CP use for pregnant women as they do not respond this question. Using the same strategy used for the age at first birth, imputation was performed using hotdeck imputation using the woman’s age and her participation on decision-making regarding her own health care. Variable was then recoded as the other decision-making variables as “Husband/partner or other decide alone” and “Respondent alone or joint decision”. It had a positive loading in the decision-making domain (0.26).

   b. Personal mobile phone ownership presented a very high loading in the social independence domain.
### Appendix B: SWPER Global – results

Table B1. Variables used in each domain of the African-oriented survey-based women’s empowerment (SWPER) index and the changes made in the global version of the index, according to gender experts’ recommendations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable (v)</th>
<th>Code or unit</th>
<th>Changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attitude to violence domain</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Beating justified if wife goes out without telling husband</td>
<td>Yes = -1; DK=0; No=1</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Beating justified if wife neglects the children</td>
<td>Yes = -1; DK=0; No=1</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Beating justified if wife argues with husband</td>
<td>Yes = -1; DK=0; No=1</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Beating justified if wife refuses to have sex with husband</td>
<td>Yes = -1; DK=0; No=1</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Beating justified if wife burns the food</td>
<td>Yes = -1; DK=0; No=1</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social independence domain</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Frequency of reading newspaper or magazine</td>
<td>Not at all=0; &lt;once a week=1; ≥once a week=2</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Woman education in completed years of schooling</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Age of woman at first birth*</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Age at first cohabitation</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Age difference: woman’s minus husband’s age</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Education difference: woman’s minus husband’s years of schooling</td>
<td>Years</td>
<td>No changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decision-making domain</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Who usually decides on respondent’s health care</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; joint decision=0; respondent alone=1</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; Joint decision or respondent alone=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Who usually decides on large household purchases</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; joint decision=0; respondent alone=1</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; Joint decision or respondent alone=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Who usually decides on visits to family or relatives</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; joint decision=0; respondent alone=1</td>
<td>Husband or other alone= -1; Joint decision or respondent alone=1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. Respondent worked in last 12 months</td>
<td>No = 0; In the past year = 1; Have a job, but on leave last 7 days = 2; Currently working = 2</td>
<td>Variable excluded</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This variable age at first birth was imputed for those women who had not had a child.
Table B1. Composition patterns of the variables that compose the SWPER domains with loadings’ equal or above 0.3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Region &amp; Country</th>
<th>ISO code</th>
<th>Survey Year</th>
<th>Attitude to violence</th>
<th>Social independence</th>
<th>Decision-making</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>POOLED DATASET</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>AFG</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>BGD</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>IND</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>MDV</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>NPL</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>PAK</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH ASIA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>KHM</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>IDN</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>MMR</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>PHL</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>TLS</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>ALB</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>ARM</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>AZE</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>KGZ</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>MDA</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>x x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUROPE &amp; CENTRAL ASIA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Column 1</td>
<td>Column 2</td>
<td>Column 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>TJK</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>UKR</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Column 1</th>
<th>Column 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>EGY</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Column 1</th>
<th>Column 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>BEN</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>BFA</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>CMR</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>TCD</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo DR</td>
<td>COD</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cote d'Ivoire</td>
<td>CIV</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>GAB</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>GMB</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>GHA</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>GIN</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>LBR</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>MLI</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>NER</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>NGA</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Tome &amp; Principe</td>
<td>STP</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>SEN</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>SLE</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>TGO</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EASTERN & SOUTHERN AFRICA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Column 1</th>
<th>Column 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>AGO</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>BDI</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comoros</td>
<td>COM</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>ETH</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>KEN</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x x x x x</td>
<td>x x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>LBN</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>MDG</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>MWI</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>MOZ</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>NAM</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>RWA</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>SWZ</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>TZA</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>UGA</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>ZMB</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>ZWE</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATIN AMERICA &amp; CARIBBEAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Some variables are repeated in the table because they presented a loading equal or above 0.3 in different domains across the countries.

Key to variable numbers: Beating justified if: (1) wife goes out without telling husband; (2) wife neglects the children; (3) Wife argues with husband; (4) wife refuses to have sex with husband; (5) wife burns the food. Variable (6) frequency of reading newspaper or magazine; (7) Education; (8) Age at 1st birth; (9) Age at 1st cohabitation; (10) Age difference: woman's minus husband's age; (11) Education difference: woman's minus husband's years of schooling; (12) Work. Who usually decides on: (13) respondent’s healthcare; (14) large household purchases; (15) visits to family or relatives.
Table B3. Pearson correlation between the country-specific women’s empowerment measure and the SWPER global index for each domain. Cells are coloured from yellow ($r<0.900$), light green ($r=0.900$ to $<0.950$), medium green ($0.950$ to $<0.990$), dark green ($\geq 0.990$).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World region</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attitude to violence</th>
<th>Social Independence</th>
<th>Decision Making</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH ASIA</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9923</td>
<td>0.9534</td>
<td>0.9816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9967</td>
<td>0.9895</td>
<td>0.9938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>India</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9983</td>
<td>0.9938</td>
<td>0.9942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0.9975</td>
<td>0.9817</td>
<td>0.9688</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9872</td>
<td>0.9899</td>
<td>0.9913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9995</td>
<td>0.9971</td>
<td>0.9977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST ASIA &amp; PACIFIC</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9902</td>
<td>0.9772</td>
<td>0.9689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9919</td>
<td>0.9931</td>
<td>0.9929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>0.9752</td>
<td>0.9912</td>
<td>0.9863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9942</td>
<td>0.993</td>
<td>0.9816</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9865</td>
<td>0.9931</td>
<td>0.9643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUROPE &amp; CENTRAL ASIA</td>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9845</td>
<td>0.9823</td>
<td>0.9848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>0.9884</td>
<td>0.9753</td>
<td>0.996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9971</td>
<td>0.9621</td>
<td>0.9917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9994</td>
<td>0.9809</td>
<td>0.9973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0.996</td>
<td>0.9806</td>
<td>0.974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>0.9908</td>
<td>0.9727</td>
<td>0.9592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>0.9668</td>
<td>0.989</td>
<td>0.9733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE EAST &amp; NORTH AFRICA</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9978</td>
<td>0.9942</td>
<td>0.9954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.9981</td>
<td>0.9956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEST &amp; CENTRAL AFRICA</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.9977</td>
<td>0.9568</td>
<td>0.9969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.9991</td>
<td>0.9784</td>
<td>0.9757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.9992</td>
<td>0.9938</td>
<td>0.9965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9933</td>
<td>0.9674</td>
<td>0.9777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Congo DR</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9964</td>
<td>0.990</td>
<td>0.9972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cote d’Ivoire</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.9989</td>
<td>0.9526</td>
<td>0.9958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9973</td>
<td>0.8904</td>
<td>0.9904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9986</td>
<td>0.9857</td>
<td>0.986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9986</td>
<td>0.9906</td>
<td>0.9979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9886</td>
<td>0.9635</td>
<td>0.9951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9989</td>
<td>0.8966</td>
<td>0.9946</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9965</td>
<td>0.9465</td>
<td>0.9944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9991</td>
<td>0.9477</td>
<td>0.9945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9988</td>
<td>0.9938</td>
<td>0.9973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>São Tome &amp; Principe</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0.9954</td>
<td>0.9654</td>
<td>0.9957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>0.9987</td>
<td>0.9773</td>
<td>0.9825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Score Myth</td>
<td>Score Reality</td>
<td>Score SA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9984</td>
<td>0.9248</td>
<td>0.9957</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9983</td>
<td>0.9837</td>
<td>0.9915</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.998</td>
<td>0.927</td>
<td>0.9788</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9995</td>
<td>0.992</td>
<td>0.9937</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comoros</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>0.9949</td>
<td>0.9877</td>
<td>0.9844</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9991</td>
<td>0.9895</td>
<td>0.9976</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9989</td>
<td>0.9963</td>
<td>0.9949</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9976</td>
<td>0.9945</td>
<td>0.9836</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0.9928</td>
<td>0.9906</td>
<td>0.9738</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9961</td>
<td>0.9946</td>
<td>0.9971</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.9955</td>
<td>0.9897</td>
<td>0.983</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9966</td>
<td>0.9208</td>
<td>0.936</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.999</td>
<td>0.9993</td>
<td>0.988</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>0.9889</td>
<td>0.9687</td>
<td>0.9875</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.9979</td>
<td>0.9759</td>
<td>0.997</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9995</td>
<td>0.9824</td>
<td>0.9839</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9992</td>
<td>0.9901</td>
<td>0.9905</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0.999</td>
<td>0.9895</td>
<td>0.9921</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>0.9897</td>
<td>0.9937</td>
<td>0.9672</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0.9408</td>
<td>0.9947</td>
<td>0.9881</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0.9967</td>
<td>0.9706</td>
<td>0.993</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9929</td>
<td>0.9854</td>
<td>0.9687</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.9926</td>
<td>0.9707</td>
<td>0.9228</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0.9641</td>
<td>0.9905</td>
<td>0.9358</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>0.9938</td>
<td>0.9949</td>
<td>0.9894</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>0.9876</td>
<td>0.9671</td>
<td>0.9175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure B1. Scatter plot showing the SWPER domains ranking and the Gender Development Index (GDI) ranking with the Pearson correlation (r) indicated in the bottom right of each plot.

Note: The key to the country ISO codes are provided in Table 1.
Figure B2. Scatter plot showing the SWPER domains ranking and the Gender Inequality Index (GII) ranking with the Pearson correlation (r) indicated in the bottom right of each plot.

Note: The key to the country ISO codes are provided in Table 1.