CITIES FOR WOMEN:

Urban Assessment Framework Through a Gender Lens

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

HOSTED BY: UNOPS

"A woman's place is in the city."

Gerda Wekerle

CITIES ALLIANCE[1]

Cities Alliance is a global partnership for poverty reduction and the promotion of cities in sustainable development. As global populations and urban economies expand, managing cities and providing opportunities for all citizens are both essential for national prosperity, international progress, and stability. To help cities of all sizes achieve these goals, Cities Alliance promotes long-term programmatic approaches that support national and local governments to develop appropriate policy frameworks, strengthen local skills and capacity, undertake strategic city planning and facilitate investment. Successful cities engage meaningfully with their citizens, and they recognize and promote the role of women.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE: CITIES FOR WOMEN PROGRAMME

Cities Alliance envisions a world where all women and girls can live in inclusive and equitable cities and communities. The Cities for Women Global Programme works towards this, aiming to increase women's and girls' engagement in urban development and governance.

Cities Alliance adopts a city-wide approach to women engagement and participation, focusing simultaneously on political participation, urban governance, spatial planning and public spaces, and economic equality. In line with the approach to Cities Development Strategy (CDS) developed and supported by Cities Alliance in cities around the world, the Cities for Women Global Programme helps cities develop urban areas that are more gender sensitive and inclusive, and responsive to everyone's needs, create frameworks of opportunities for the active participation of all, and include results frameworks and indicators to monitor gender equality.

The Cities for Women Global Programme helps cities develop urban areas that are more gender sensitive and inclusive.

Migration centre in Arua, Uganda

Camp in Kyrgyzstan at Uzbek border

Women and Urban Governance

Women experience and use the urban environment in different ways from men; they have different priorities in terms of services and infrastructure.

In its preamble, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development states that the main goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets is to "realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". The New Urban Agenda, in its role of guiding the localization of the SDGs, follows suit by strategically supporting the mainstreaming of gender equality and women's empowerment across all SDGs. Women experience and use the urban environment in different ways from men; they have different priorities in terms of services and infrastructure, for example, regarding transport, housing and public spaces. Such priorities rarely are featured in urban policy or investments.

Even though the opportunities offered by cities represent a platform for emancipation for millions of women across the world, they are still designed around men. In areas where resources of all kinds are more limited, these disparities become especially acute, affecting women's safety, health and income. This is particularly true in parts of the global south, where urban planning struggles to provide basic services – much less promotes gender equality.

The different ways in which women and men participate in and benefit from urban governance are significantly shaped by prevailing constructions of gender, whose norms, expectations and institutional expressions constrain women's access to the social and economic, and thus political, resources of the city. Conventional urban governance does not view women as producers or shapers of the urban realm, even though women are amongst the most active users of urban space and public facilities. Consequently, many previous and existing urban contexts have been, and are being, developed without the meaningful participation, knowledge and interpretation of women across each life stage. Token participation based on an ask-respond model and the mining of generalized data sets from various digital and social media platforms provides a limited and contextually ambiguous civic input towards decision-making processes, often after significant design decisions have been made.

Urban governance processes need to adopt new forms of engagement that can better understand, reflect upon, and implement the needs, expectations, capacities and will of women in all age groups. A gender-sensitive approach to urban governance has two principal objectives: first, to increase women's participation in human settlements development; and, second, to foster gender-awareness and competence amongst both women and men in the political arena and planning practice.

Therefore, Cities Alliance has developed a Cities for Women Framework to help local stakeholders as a first step in gaining an understanding of the current engagement of women in the various dimensions of their environments. It is with this understanding that efforts can be made to formulate policy and engagement techniques to improve women's input in shaping their cities. This framework is also a tool to allow participatory processes, whereby, women can be active participants of the analysis and improvement of their cities. It aims to do the following:

✔ Improve gender-awareness of city policy makers and local stakeholders, valuing women's individual and collective knowledge.

✔ Bring together a range of local actors to assess, analyse and prioritize women's cultural, economic and political participation in urban governance.

✔ Identify obstacles and enablers for women's engagement in urban governance and planning, by comparing current everyday experiences and perceptions.

✔ Identify spatial practices and lived experiences of women in urban spaces.

✔ Promote women's active engagement in city governance and planning.

83%
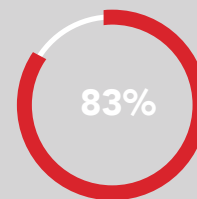
More than 83 per cent of Egyptian women have been sexually harassed on Cairo's streets; according to the United Nations, a rape is reported every 29 minutes in New Delhi;

12%
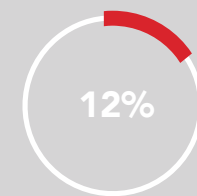
and **only 12 per cent of women in Lima** feel safe in the city. In many contexts, a lack of access to, or poorly designed, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services can increase vulnerability to violence.

72%

For instance, the World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that **72 per cent of the burden of collecting water falls on women.**
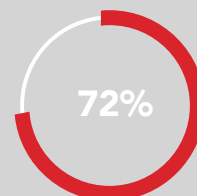
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KEY CONCEPTS

To implement the Cities for Women Framework, it is important to explain several key concepts.

Women's engagement: Women's engagement means listening to, collaborating with, and understanding women in policy-making processes. Using this definition of women engagement one should view women not as recipients of services but as citizens becoming more actively engaged and involved in the processes that affect them. True engagement of women can include different forms of participation. The most intense forms of true engagement to less intense forms are the following: decisions that are initiated and led by women; decisions initiated by women that are supported by decision-makers: decisions that are initiated by decision-makers and shared with women; issues where women are consulted and informed; or issues where women are appointed and informed. Manipulation, decoration and tokenism are not forms of true engagement. Engagement must, therefore, include strategies for communication and decision-making that are responsive to women's expectations and capacities.

Women's empowerment: This is a process through which women gain the ability to make and enact strategic life choices. It also implies the ability to make decisions in a collective manner towards the improvement of people's quality of life. Empowerment is a process of women's self-awareness and reaffirmation of the right to the city.

Right to the city for women: The right to the city is achieved by living in the city and having access to two components of everyday life: the right to use urban space, and the right to create it, These facts demonstrate that women do not yet have the right to the city: the gender pay gap; there are more women in low-paying service sector jobs; high rates of sexual harassment; and women's restricted mobility in the city. For women to play a role in their cities' story requires a paradigm shift in terms of the processes of policymaking and citizen education for the full use of the city's public goods and services.

Gender: This refers to cultural and social perceptions of what is considered by society to be women and men, or girls and boys, as opposed to the biological differences between male and female linked to the term "sex".

Gender equality is achieved when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviors, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favored.

From domestic workers and street vendors to home-based workers and seasonal agriculture workers, women make up a disproportionate percentage of informal workers.

Gender equality: Gender equality is achieved when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured.

Urban gender inequality: Urban inequality describes differences in access to economic opportunities, services and citizenship as an unequal state between one group and another within an urban area. Women feel urban inequality more deeply than men. Along with gender inequality, there are also inequalities amongst women in cities. Opportunities for greater prosperity in cities are only available to some women, while others are marginalized based on race, class, education, sexuality and other factors. Both gender inequalities and inequalities amongst women appear differently in various cities. Adopting a cross-cutting, qualitative and spatial lens for understanding women's experiences across cities is especially relevant today as cities grow, shrink, or are revitalized. It is also relevant to considering the different impacts of various urban environments on women's lives.

Urban indicators: Urban indicators measure or evaluate conditions and characteristics of urban spaces. Examples are accessibility, services or amenities available in an urban area.

Gender sensitive indicators: A gender-sensitive indicator measures gender-related changes in an urban area over time. By identifying the changes in the status and roles of women and men that one wants to achieve and knowing how one will measure them, one can analyse policies or urban interventions to see whether one is contributing to gender equality. Using gender-sensitive indicators can also help to understand how changes in gender relations happen, which enables more effective planning of actions.

Gender audit: A gender audit is conducted to analyse and diagnose if the focus on gender and women's experiences are included within the selected urban context.

For women to play a role in their cities' story requires a paradigm shift in terms of the processes of policymaking

CITIES FOR WOMEN FRAMEWORK

Opportunities for greater prosperity in cities are only available to some women, while others are marginalized based on race, class, education, sexuality, and other factors.

The Cities for Women Framework views women and girls engaging in their cities in six possible phases:

1. **Initial engagement:** In this first phase, women's associations and groups are contacted and asked what elements facilitate or impede their engagement in city development. Individual perceptions are captured, national data collected and current relevant policies identified. Based on the knowledge gathered, the Women Engagement in Cities (WEC)[2] profile's indicators are then refined. Section 4 illustrates the activities of this preparatory phase.

2. **Participatory assessment:** In the next phase, representatives from local institutions and organizations (such as technical teams from the municipality, business representatives and professionals networks, non-governmental organization [NGO]-advocacy groups' representatives, women's associations and groups) collectively assess the level of women's engagement in their cities across four main domains: economic, political-institutional, human and social capital, and spatial. The assessment is conducted by using the WEC profile, including data check list, stakeholders mapping, an individual survey and participatory workshops in combination with other gender-based tools (see Section 7) to assess the spatial dimension of women's engagement.

3. **Co-creation:** In this phase, active women's groups, along with the assessment of the city from a gender perspective conducted in Phase 2, will review policies and planning proposals focusing on women's ideas, capabilities and needs. For example, it is possible to review the City Development Strategy (CDS), the investment plans, local cultural policies or the design of a public space.

4. **Piloting:** This phase involves running pilot projects, testing scenarios and collecting reactions.

5. **Evaluation:** The evaluation phase involves assessing the impact of new projects and programmes and defining planning and policy strategies informed by the evidence of the earlier co-creation and piloting processes. To do this, a quick WEC survey can be conducted after the completion of the piloting phase.

6. **Communication:** The last phase involves communicating progress and strategies through public documentation, publication, and through engagement with local and international stakeholders. A key aspect of the communication phase is public dissemination and advocacy for a gender-sensitive approach to urban governance.
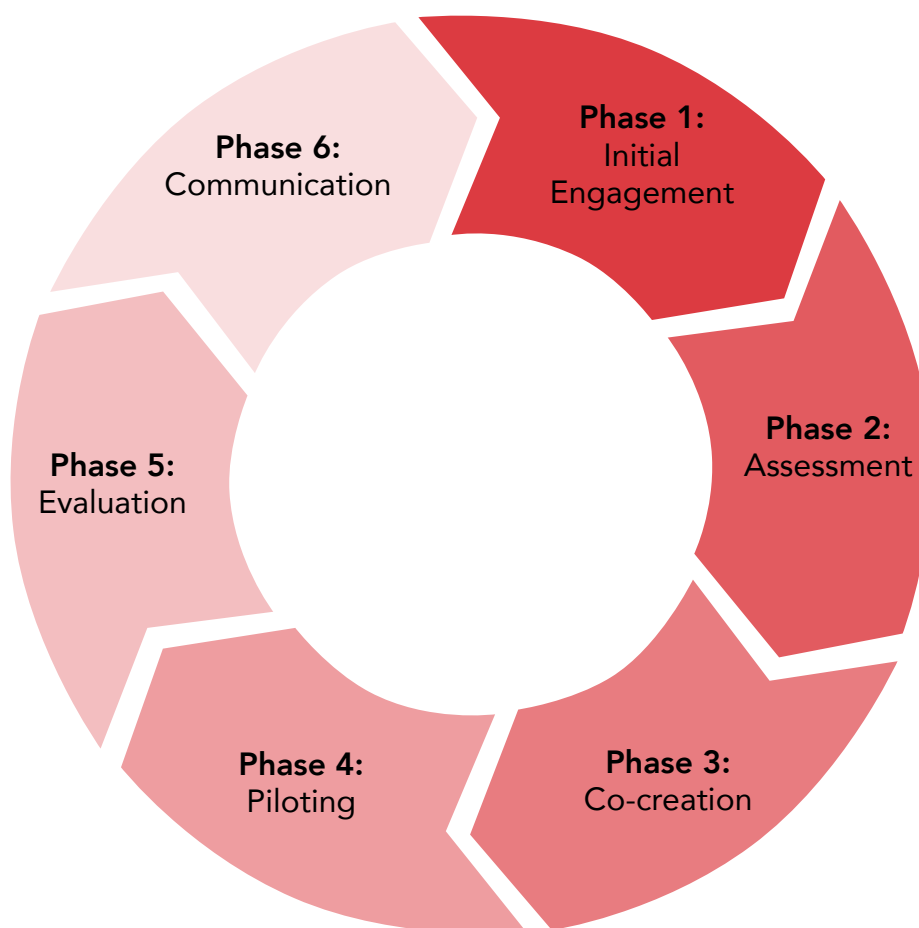
2.   See point 5d in this document.

The diagram below shows these different phases of the Cities for Women Framework. It is important to note, however, that the Framework is cyclical and flexible, meaning the different elements can be sequenced and structured according to the attributes of the stakeholders' urban environment, resources and preferences. The various phases of the framework are linked to associated tools and activities. These activities are designed as part of an integrated set that can be used either as a comprehensive guide or alternatively as singular, stand-alone tools. The Framework can be adapted and adjusted to suit individual city's needs and it is not always necessary to proceed from Phase 1 through each consecutive phase to Phase 6.

CITIES FOR WOMEN FRAMEWORK

Phase 1: Initial Engagement

Phase 2: Assessment

Phase 3: Co-creation

Phase 4: Piloting

Phase 5: Evaluation

Phase 6: Communication

The different ways in which women and men participate in and benefit from urban governance are significantly shaped by prevailing constructions of gender, whose norms, expectations and institutional expressions constrain women's access to the social and economic, and thus political, resources of the city.

Bolivar Park in the neighbourhood of Niquiato in Medellín, Columbia.

Table 1 provides an overview of the recommended process, along with tools that can be used to accomplish this.

Table 1.

PHASE	INITIAL ENGAGEMENT	PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT	CO-CREATION	PILOTING	EVALUATION	COMMUNICATION
Objective	To gather local knowledge, and frame interventions	Collectively assess the level of women's engagement in their cities	Generate innovative and context-based solutions, design action plans to achieve long-term aims	Test and validate the ideas and solutions	Assess the impact of new projects and programmes	Communicate progress and strategies
Activities	- Identify key stakeholders - Conduct dialogues with local policy makers - Contact women's associations and groups and ask what facilitates or impedes their engagement in city development. - Collect national data - Identify relevant policies - In preparation for the workshop in Phase 2, ask participants to complete the WEC profile individually, based on the above activities, refine the Women's Engagement City (WEC)[3] profile's indicators	- WEC Collective Assessment workshop - - Local Women-led ideation workshop - Women's safety audit - Cities for Women Photo Walk - Daily itinerary map - A gender-based community mapping	- Local women-led co-creation workshop - Vision development strategy - Roadmap workshops - Urban Living Lab - Vision Development workshops	- Run pilot projects - Test scenarios - Usability tests - Focus groups on user experiences - Collect reactions	- A WEC survey can be conducted after completing the piloting phase. "I Like, I Wish, What If" workshop	- Public documentation - Publications - Engagement with local and international stakeholders

The following discussion describes key aspects of the first three of these proposed phases in more detail.

3. See point 5d in this document.

PHASE 1: INITIAL ENGAGEMENT

Before starting the Women's Engagement in Cities (WEC) profile assessment in Phase 2, a series of preparatory steps can help to frame and steer the process. Phase 1 includes the following.

a. Data Checklist for Desk Review

The National Data Sheet will be completed prior to the WEC workshop, which will take place in the assessment phase (see Appendix 1: Data Sheet for the WEC). National level data will be made available and incorporated into the workshop, as a trigger point for discussion. City data, including quantitative and qualitative information, will be included where available, either before or during the workshop, depending on availability of local data.

A series of inspiring case studies will also be collected if possible to assess the range of different approaches and practices that have been used.

b. Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement

Key stakeholders need to be identified, and dialogues with local policy makers should be organized to see how they perceive women engagement, collect data and discuss current policies in place

c. Individual Survey Prior to the WEC Participatory Assessment

Prior to the workshops in the participatory assessment phase, participants are asked to complete the WEC profile individually, based on their individual perceptions and knowledge. The results can then be compared with the results of the WEC process to underline and discuss disagreement or convergence in the scoring.

The draft survey form will be tested prior to finalization. (See Appendix 2:WEC Draft Participant Survey Form).

The WEC Profile is intended as a way of developing a comprehensive and interpretative description of the gender-responsiveness of a selected urban area.

PHASE 2: WEC PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT

The Women's Engagement in Cities (WEC) Profile is intended as a way of developing a comprehensive and interpretative description of the gender-responsiveness of a selected urban area, be it a village, neighborhood, city, metropolis or town[4].   The WEC Profile uses a systematic series of qualitative questions organized around the four-domain model, with these being preconditions, economic engagement, institutional and political engagement, and human and social capital.

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4.   Based on the Circle of Sustainability tool, see https://www.circlesofsustainability.org/tools/urban-profile-process/.
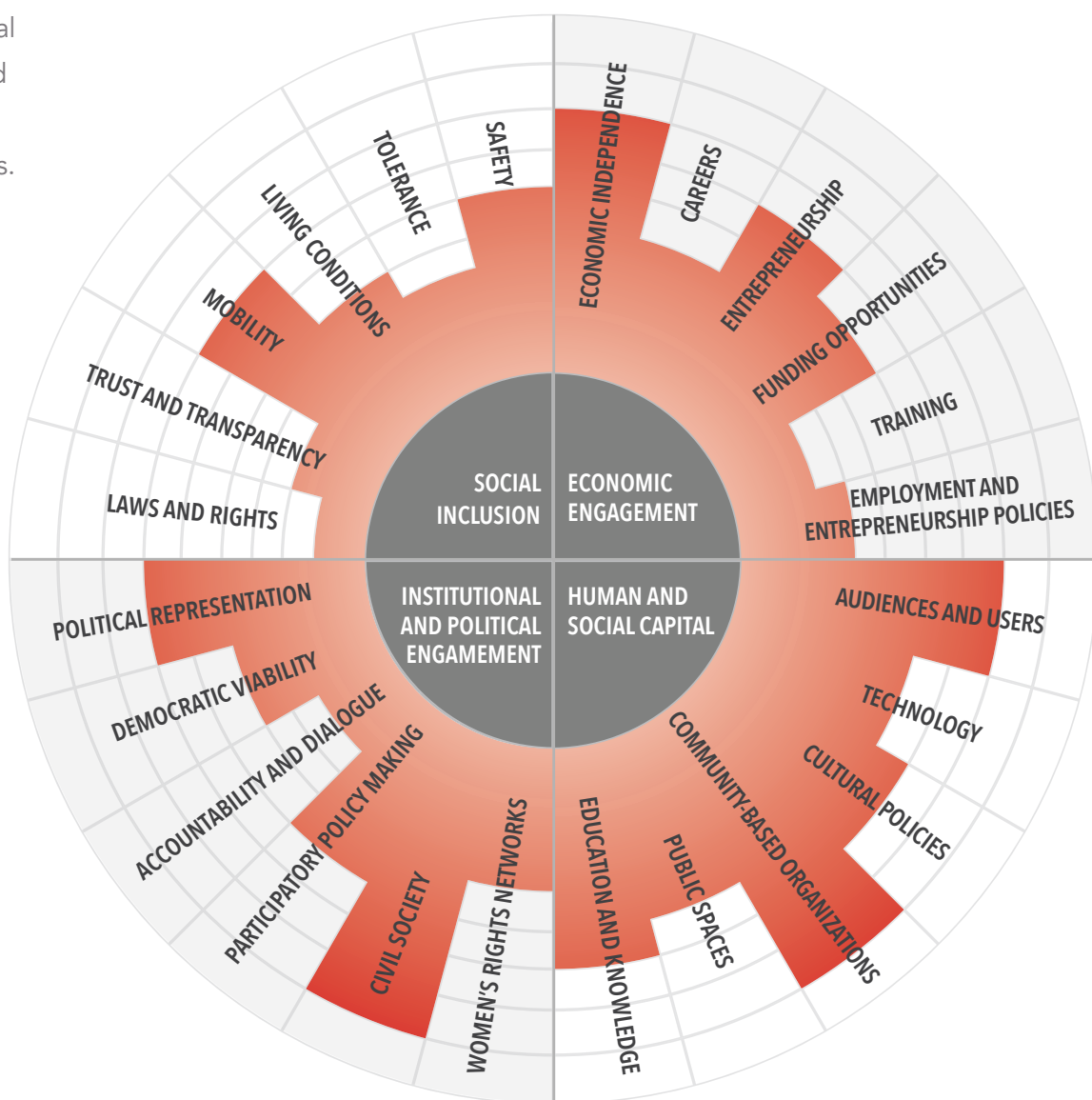
Planning and political decisions need to be informed by lived experiences of all marginalized groups, intersectional analysis and bottom-up perspectives.

By answering these questions, a simple representation of the nature of women's engagement in the city can be developed in a short time and with limited resources. Collaborative workshops are organized over two days in different cities, applying the methodology across as many geographies, economic and political systems as possible. The workshops gather up to thirty representatives from local women's organizations and groups, NGOs focusing on women's rights, business associations, municipalities, local universities, religious groups and community associations.

Participants are asked to evaluate women's participation in their cities, on a scale from 1 (critical) to 9 (full), looking at the preconditions, the economic, political-institutional and human and social capital aspects of their lives. With more time and resources available, the tool can be used to frame a process that is thorough and deep, with the possibility of recording changes and improvements.

Figure 1. Women's Engagement City Four-Domain Model

Each of the domains encompasses several aspects of urban life and participation, as outlined in Figure 1. These can be measured by a set of indicators, which Appendix 3 explores.

Figure 1. Women's Engagement City Four-Domain Model

SOCIAL INCLUSION — ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT — INSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT — HUMAN AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

SAFETY, TOLERANCE, LIVING CONDITIONS, MOBILITY, TRUST AND TRANSPARENCY, LAWS AND RIGHTS, ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, CAREERS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES, TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP POLICIES, AUDIENCES AND USERS, TECHNOLOGY, CULTURAL POLICIES, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS, PUBLIC SPACES, EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE, WOMEN'S RIGHTS NETWORKS, CIVIL SOCIETY, PARTICIPATORY POLICY MAKING, ACCOUNTABILITY AND DIALOGUE, DEMOCRATIC VIABILITY, POLITICAL REPRESENTATION

SCALE: 1 CRITICAL   2 BAD   3 HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY   4 UNSATISFACTORY   5 ALMOST SATISFACTORY   6 SATISFACTORY   7 MORE THAN SATISFACTORY   8 HIGHLY SATISFACTORY   9 FULL

Girls in Jinja, Uganda

WEC Workshops

It is recommended that two workshops be held in Phase 2: the first workshop sets the context and identifies the key challenge; and the second workshop is led by local women and looks at ideas and solutions.

WORKSHOP 1: Collective Assessment Workshop

AGENDA OUTLINE

The objective of the first WEC workshop is to *generate a shared identification and prioritization of the most pressing challenges faced by women and girls by using the WEC profile.*

The workshop will consist of two main sessions, as outlined here:

First Day: Session 1

- **Introduction:** WEC profile and objectives.

- Presentation of the individual responses to the WEC profile, including the mean response, the standard deviation and some examples of comments. Quantitative data will be also distributed.

- Group discussion on preconditions and economic engagement.

- Plenary presentation and discussion.

Second Day: Session 2

- Group discussion on human and social capital, institutional and political engagement.

- Plenary presentation and discussion.

- Conclusions: main strengths, policy gaps and critical areas of urban governance.

WORKSHOP 2: Local Women-led Ideation Workshop

The second workshop will be a facilitated one-day ideation workshop to explore the issues in all directions and identify initial ideas and possible solutions. Ideation is the early stage of the co-creation process and it involves a mixed group of stakeholders who collaborate and contribute to find and create ways to address the needs.

AGENDA OUTLINE

Introduction

- Concepts of WEC, co-creation process and objectives.

Session 1: 'The Big City Picture'

Objective: *Collaborative aassessment and analysis of women's cultural, economic, and political participation in the city.*

Session 2: The results of the WEC profile are presented including some examples of comments.

- Facilitator collects reactions from the participants and clusters these by theme.
- Facilitated group discussion to prioritise a set of challenges for co-creation.

Session 3: 'Focusing the Lens'

Objective: *Generate a shared identification of existing initiatives and policies aimed at increasing the engagement of women and girls in urban governance*

- Presentation of case studies of co-created and community-based approaches and projects that improved women's participation in and experience of the city.
- Participant whole group discussion of local experiences.
- Establishing the parameters and feasibility guidelines for co-created projects and initiatives through group discussion. These parameters and guidelines will take into account the local context– resources, political will, and needs.

## Session 4: "Co-ideation of Solutions"

Objective: *Generate diverse ideas for localized solutions*

- Small group work (one challenge per group) to create a local intervention/solution within the parameters identified.
- Gallery session, where solutions are presented.

Silent critique where all participants use coloured stickers to indicate which project they consider the most significant and why, or to add comments and suggestions.

Session 5: "Debrief"

- Whole group discussion on the ideas generated: What stood out? What seems most challenging? What could be achieved? What conflicts emerged between competing ideas?
- Next steps and feedback on the session.
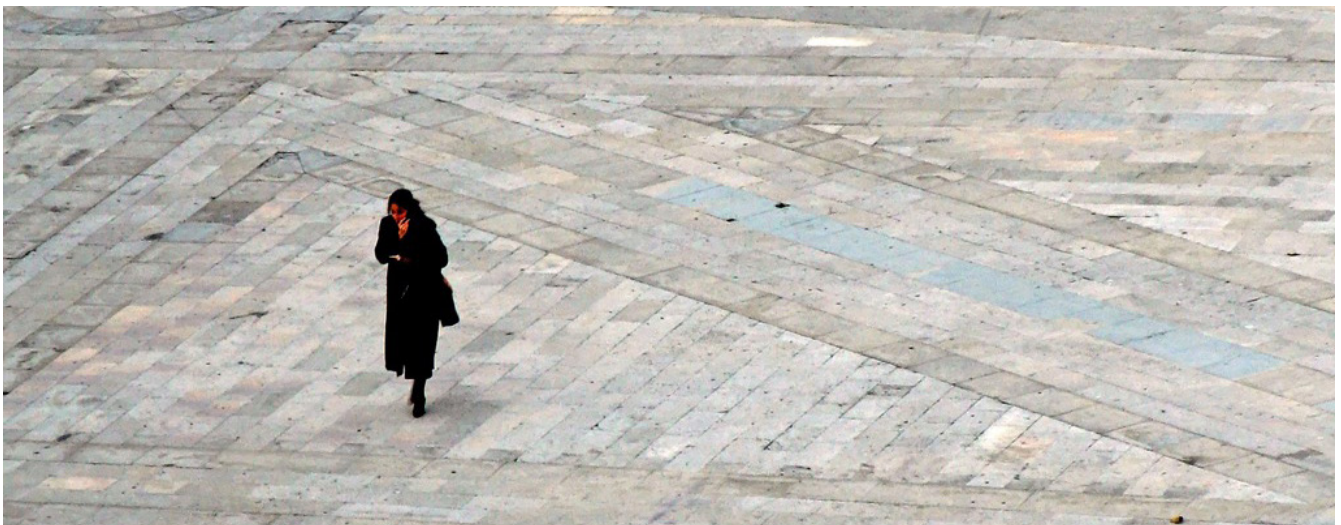
Observing and analyzing city space from a gender perspective

Urban planning is not gender neutral. Traditionally public space, where public activities -such as paid work, leisure or political life- take place, has been linked to men. At the same time, the domestic space has been identified with women who are typically responsible for reproductive and care activities The last decade has seen a proliferation of initiatives by and for women aimed at questioning this division, recognizing that women have always participated in the productive work (both formal and informal labor) and that reproductive responsibilities take place in both the private and public spaces. Urban planning with a gender perspective serves at representing the complexities of realities and needs that coexist in our cities. Women are making urban spaces inclusive by developing a series of urban diagnoses and interventions: gender audits of everyday life, city walks to reclaim urban space, and "let's occupy" actions to reclaim places where women typically experience vulnerability.

In the next section, some of these community-based activities are presented, as a means of assessing how cities are used by women and girls, and to identify priorities for intervention in urban spaces.

a. Gender-based Community Mapping
Total time: One day

Methodology

A gender-based community map helps local people understand how women use urban spaces and what are the implications of gender by engaging in a project that highlights their sense of boundary space. It is also a chance for them to mark places of importance that teams may not be aware of, for example, sacred sites or group or clan boundaries. It is a useful exercise that develops communication, increases knowledge of local environments and can be used as the first step towards creating a CDS or for the initial analysis of a social baseline study.

Step 1: Collaborative workshops are organized over a day, gathering up to 30 female community members.

Step 2: Divide participants into groups and distribute a large map of the neighbourhood. Ask the groups

to respond to some of the following questions by drawing on the map:

- What neighbourhood spaces do you use?
- Why do you choose certain streets to walk?
- Where do you meet friends?
- Where do you choose to rest?
- Where do you go shopping?
- Is there a certain space that you do not use because you do not like it?
- Where do you feel unsafe? Why?
- Do you feel more or less safe at different times of the day (such as morning, afternoon, evening, or night), or on different days of the week (such as weekdays versus weekends)?
- Where do you go with your children?
- What places have a special meaning to you (such as a good memory or a historical place)?
- Where are the closest facilities and services (such as health services, cultural or religious facilities, public transport, sport facilities or educational facilities)?

Each question can be responded to by using different colors, icons or key words to mark different characteristics. The map will reflect different perceptions and daily experiences of female community members. Alternatively, the project team can invite women they meet in the area to respond to the questions and participate actively in the development of the community map.

Step 3: Compare and discuss maps noting similarities and differences. Engage the different groups in this comparison and discussion.

Step 4: Based on this process, present critical elements, perceptions, and key information to the community and/or to local government and local leaders, for incorporation into policies and urban transformation programmes.

b. "Cities for Women" Photo Walk

Total time: Varies, depending on the size of the area

Methodology

The photo walk helps to register, through photographs, the elements and situations that are considered important for describing daily surroundings. The photographs will help to explain through the women's eyes, the images they have of their neighbourhood and city.

Step 1: Set an easy and central meeting point to begin the walk. Invite 20 female community members, including representatives of local organizations, local governments, and businesses.

Step 2: Distribute a walking route map and a series of questions:

- Which place do you like the most?
- Which place do you like the least?
- Which place for you is the most representative of the neighborhood?
- Is it safe and easy to move around the neighborhood?
- Are there areas you would avoid if you were on your own or in small groups? If so, why?
- What are the main advantages of this neighbourhood?
- What do you think are the main challenges in this neighborhood?

Step 3: The participants are divided in smaller groups and walk around the area, taking photos of the spaces, objects and activities they consider significant for responding to the questions and explaining women's life in the city. Alternatively, the project team can guide the group.

Step 4: Pictures are collected, and the emerging themes are then discussed collectively.

Source: Adapted by Cities Alliance (2020) from "Women Working. Urban assessment guide from a Gender Perspective. Col.lectiu Punt 6. Barcelona." 2017

c. Daily Itinerary Map

Total time: Half a day

The map of women's daily itinerary helps to recognize, describe and evaluate women's daily tasks in a neighbourhood and to identify favourable and unfavourable characteristics of the area where activities are carried out.

Step 1: Gather a group of 20 to 30 women living in an area. Ask them to individually list the tasks they accomplish outside their houses on a daily basis (such as buying food, accompanying children, or meeting a friend), the time needed to complete them, the people with whom the women carry out activities (alone, with children, or with friends), the mode of transport they use to travel, and the space where these activities take place (such as market, square or a street corner).

Step 2: After completing the list, each participant is asked to describe the favourable aspects (such as a tree that offers shade or a calm and pedestrian-friendly street) or unfavourable aspects (such as the lack of public transport or the lack of lighting of a public space) of the urban environment that affect her daily routine.

Step 3: Participants draw the information on an individual map. They need to locate their house and their daily itinerary and spaces they use. They can use different colours to identify the modes of transport and the favourable or unfavourable issues.

Step 4: Participants are divided into small groups and each group presents their daily itinerary map. The group then chooses and agrees on three favourable aspects and three unfavourable aspects of their daily itinerary maps that affect women's daily activities in the urban area.

Step 5: Each group presents and motivates their choices to the rest of the participants. Participants debate and describe possible solutions to the themes that groups have prioritized. The ideas can be collected through a brainstorming session.

If participants have problems writing fluently, facilitators should take notes.

Source: "Women Working. Urban assessment guide from a Gender Perspective. Col.lectiu Punt 6. Barcelona.".

d. Women Safety Audit

Total time: One day

Methodology

The women's safety audit process can be used to look at the physical environment with the goal of enhancing personal safety and can be used as an opportunity to discuss the problem of violence against women. Based on this, physical environments can be designed to be safer. Although changes in the physical design alone will not end sexual assault and harassment of women, they may reduce the risk and increase women's access to public spaces.

Using a checklist, a group of women users of a specific urban or community space walks around that space, noting factors that make those users feel unsafe or safe in that space. The original Women's Safety Audit Checklist included seven categories: lighting, sightlines (seeing what is ahead and around), social visibility, movement predictors, overall design, signage, and maintenance. The women then formulate and prioritize recommendations and organize to bring about the recommended changes, notably by entering a dialogue process with the local government and other key actors (for example, private landowners or police) to work towards implementation of the recommendations.

Step 1: Organize the safety audit, choosing the sites to be audited, developing a safety audit checklist (see the example of a list below), and recruiting participants.

Step 2: Using the safety audit checklist, the group walks through an area to identify where and why they feel uncomfortable, and what other aspects of the area help them to feel safe.

Step 3: Debrief, discussing what participants observed during their walk, writing down findings, and developing recommendations for changes that would make the area feel safer.

Step 4: Share the results of the safety audit with community members, decision-makers, and municipal staff to inform policies and projects.

Step 5: Review people's experience of the process, the effectiveness of the actions taken to improve safety, and what else should be done.

The following sample checklist shows issues that can be identified in a safety audit.

Sample Safety Audit Checklist

LIGHTING
- Is the lighting bright enough, even and in good repair?
- Are walkways, directional signs or maps sufficiently illuminated?
- Do trees or bushes obscure the lighting?

SIGNAGE
- Do signs tell where someone is or how to get to emergency services?

SIGHTLINES
- Are there places someone could hide in?
- Does the design of the space, corner, and residual areas prevent the visibility of the complete spaces?
- Can you see where to get emergency services?

SOCIAL VISIBILTY
- Does a direct visual relationship exist between housing and public spaces?
- Are there different uses that favour continual activity on the ground floor during day and night hours?
- Are projects and activities promoted within the neighbourhood to create relationship and cultural cooperation exchanges?
- Are there many people around the area?
- Do the surrounding land uses encourage people to be there?
- Are there spaces with social conflicts that cannot be freely used?

MOVEMENT PREDICTORS
- Are there clear and visible alternative routes?
- How easy would it be for an attacker to predict your movements?
- How easy would it be to get away if you were threatened?

MAINTENANCE
- What is the level of maintenance in the area?
- Does the area feel cared for?

OVERALL DESIGN
- Is it easy to find your way around the area?
- What are your general impressions?

Source: Adapted by Cities Alliance (2020) from Victoria Status of Women Action Group, Downtown Safety Audit, 1993.

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CITIES FOR WOMEN:

Urban Assessment Framework Through a Gender Lens

TOOLKIT

Cities Alliance
Cities Without Slums

HOSTED BY: UNOPS

Appendix 1:
Data Sheet for WEC

City: _____

Date: _____

Notes: The National Data Sheet will be completed prior to the Women's Engagement in Cities (WEC) Workshop. National level data will be made available and incorporated into the workshop, as a trigger point for discussion. City data quantitative and qualitative information will be included where available, either before or during the workshop, depending on availability of local data.

A: National Data Sheet

DOMAIN	INDICATOR	UNIT	SOURCE	2009 DATA[5]	2019 DATA	COMMENTS
1. Social Inclusion	Gender Inequality Index	Score	HDR			
	Population vulnerable to multi-dimensional poverty	%	HDR			
	Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births)	Ratio	HDR			
	Single-person households by sex					
	Median age at first marriage for women and men	Ratio				
	Old-age pension (female to male ratio) recipient	Ratio	HDR			
	Violence against women ever experienced	%	HDR			
	Adolescent fertility rate	%				
	SDG 5.1.1: Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	%	SDG Database			

5.   If data are unavailable for these years, use different data from different years – providing some data points to demonstrate trends over time, if possible.

DOMAIN	INDICATOR	UNIT	SOURCE	2009 DATA[5]	2019 DATA	COMMENTS
1. Social Inclusion (continued)	SDG 5.a.2: Level of guarantees of the national legal framework of women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (1=lowest, 6=highest)	Rating	SDG Database			
	SDG 9.c.1: Proportion of population covered by at least a 3G / 4G network	%	SDG Database			
2. Economic Engagement	SDG 5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions	%	SDG Database			
	SDG 16.5.1: Prevalence rate of bribery incidence proportion by sex	%	SDG Database			
	Labour force participation rate (male/female)	Value	HDR			
	Estimated gross national income per capita (male/female)	%	HDR			
	Informal employment in non-agricultural employment (male/female)	Rating	HDR			
	Multidimensional gender social norms index gender social norms index	%	HDR			
	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic chores and care work (male/female)	%	HDR			
	Women with access to an account with financial institution or a money service provider		HDR			
	Availability of government-provided childcare					
3. Institutional and Political Engagement	SDG 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	(a) (b)	SDG Database			
	Proportion of women that voted during a) local b) national elections	(a) (b)				
	Number of women elected to mayoral positions in relation to the total number of elected mayoral positions					
	Percentage of women in the national legislative body					
	Retention rates of female versus male officeholders					

DOMAIN	INDICATOR	UNIT	SOURCE	2009 DATA[5]	2019 DATA	COMMENTS
3. Institutional and Political Engagement (continued)	Ratio of elected men versus elected women					
	Percentage of voters' support for gender quotas or other measures to promote women in politics (possibly sex- disaggregated)					
4. Human and Social Capital	Literacy gap between men and women	Ratio				
	Male and female enrolment rates in a) primary, b) secondary and c) tertiary education	(a) (b) (c)				
	Percent of women who have exposure to media (television, radio and newspaper) compared to men	%				
	Number of women with migratory experience compared to men	%				
	Percentage of female and male students receiving direct support (for example, stipends, scholarships, conditional cash transfers, or nutritional supplements)					
	Scores on literacy and numeracy tests and other national assessments, by sex					
	Repetition and dropout rates for primary and secondary schooling by sex					

B: City-level Data Sheet

DOMAIN	MEAN RATING FROM SURVEY	QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT AND COMMENTS
1. Social Inclusion		
2. Economic Engagement		
3. Institutional and Political Engagement		
4. Human and Social Capital		

Appendix 2:

WEC Draft Participant Survey

SOCIAL INCLUSION

1. How do you assess the safety for women in this city overall?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Physical security / Sexual and gender-based violence, physical security of women and girls / Economic safety / Access to land, housing and property rights

Comments:

2. How do you assess tolerance towards women in this city overall?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Ethnic tolerance / Political & religious tolerance / Sexual tolerance

Comments:

3. How do you assess the living conditions for women in this city overall?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Cost of living / Risk of poverty / Housing conditions / Cost of a basic meal

Comments:

4. How do you assess the efficiency of the city mobility system for women?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Cycling and walkability infrastructure / Public transport infrastructure / Public transport schedules / Prices of tickets / Car ownership / Average trip length to access education and employment

Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

SOCIAL INCLUSION

5. How do you assess women trust or confidence towards public authorities?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Public trust in government / Corruption level / Justice / Transparency and access to public authorities
Comments:

6. How do you assess equality in law for women?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Gender equality reforms / Religious laws with gender implications / Sexual and reproductive health rights / Gender-based violence legislation / Access to justice
Comments:

ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT

7. How do you assess the ability of women to be financially independent or make a living in this city?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Poverty / Difference between wages (women compared to men) / Ability of women to open bank accounts / Asset control by men and women / Housing subsidies for single women / Pensions /Child-care grants
Comments:

8. How do you assess the quality of the job market for women in this city?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Employment policies / Integration in the workforce at various education levels / Integration in the workforce by field of study – science, arts , and so on / Job satisfaction of employed or satisfaction being self-employed / Number of women and men in wage employment in non-agricultural sector / Percentage of women in employment / Percentage of women in senior or management positions
Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT

9. How do you assess the city as a place for women to have their own business?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Percentage of women to men owning a business / Ability of women to register a business / Incentives (tax breaks, subsidies) / Rental price of commercial space / Business incubators

Comments:

10. How do you assess funding opportunities for women?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Micro-credit / Cooperative banks / Length of time for credits to be approved / Conditions to get funding, conditions once funding received

Comments:

11. How do you assess training opportunities/ the training system for women?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Apprenticeships or vocational/Business skills training / Stipends, scholarships, or other financial support for technical and vocational education / Mentoring and other support activities

Comments:

12. How do you assess women's employment and entrepreneurship policies in this city?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Employment policies / Incentives and support activities enabling women to enrol in training institutions / Childcare places

Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

INSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

13. How do you assess the direct involvement of women in political decision-making processes in this city?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7 ○ 8 ○ 9

Considerations: Legal quotas to promote women's political participation / Female elected officials, civil servants, party leaders / Female leaders in other organizations (that is, trade unions or NGOs)
Comments:

14. How do you assess democratic participation of women in this urban area?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7 ○ 8 ○ 9

Considerations: Participation in local elections / Public debates and demonstrations / Political discussion on the media / Women involvement in political parties, unions, and so on
Comments:

15. How do you assess the openness of governance structures to women and their needs and ideas?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7 ○ 8 ○ 9

Considerations: Approachability of government to suggestions, petitions, women only meetings / Regular consultation of women's groups and associations regarding local government decisions
Comments:

16. How do you assess public policy or citizen engagement mechanisms aimed at enhancing women's participation in this city?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7 ○ 8 ○ 9

Considerations: Participatory and gender-based budgeting / Projects or activities financed that were indicated as priority by women / Laws or policies supporting women's rights
Comments:

17. How do you assess civil society organization in this city?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3 ○ 4 ○ 5 ○ 6 ○ 7 ○ 8 ○ 9

Considerations: Women's rights or women-led organizations / Volunteering activities and opportunities / Family or social resistance to women's political and civic participation
Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

INSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

18. How do you assess opportunities for women in different age groups to get involved in informal or unstructured networks to influence political processes?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Women's access to media and information and communications technology (ICT)
Comments:

HUMAN AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

19. How do you assess women's interest in culture?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Cinema, theatres, art exhibitions and other stage arts, streets festivals, traditional celebrations / Women's attendance at cultural events, traditional, religious events / Participation of women in cultural production / Participation of women in decision-making in cultural sector
Comments:

20. How would you assess the availability of technology for women in this city?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Access to internet / Cost of internet / Restrictions to access to internet / Number of registered mobile phone users / Cost of cell phone usage
Comments:

21. How do you assess cultural policies directed towards women?

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Considerations: Municipal budget for cultural policies / Leadership and mentoring initiatives for female creators and culture professionals / Dedicated funds to support women-led cultural activities
Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

HUMAN AND SOCIAL CAPITAL

22. How do you assess the cultural offering provided by community-based organizations?

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Considerations: Sense of belonging and identification with the city or a specific neighbourhood / Advocacy campaigns that tackle gender stereotypes and discrimination in all aspects of cultural life / Geographic spread / Visibility

Comments:

23. How do you assess (public) spaces that can be used by women to meet and connect?

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Considerations: Availability of public/green spaces / Flexible design of public space to favour different uses and activities / Spaces for meetings, talking, playing and their proximity to housing / Women's centres, community gardens and so on

Comments:

24. How do you assess current education opportunities for women in this city?

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |

Considerations: Access to quality public and private schools / Equal educational opportunities (schools, universities, vocational training etc) for men and women / Public libraries

Comments:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

OPEN QUESTIONS – YOUR IDEAS:

25. In your opinion, what are the three most challenging problems for women's participation in your city?

26. In your opinion, what are the three most important changes that are needed for women in your city?

27. Thinking back over the past two years, do you consider the position of women in your city has improved or not? Why do you think this?

28. Any other comments?

Appendix 3:

WEC Profile

The following is a set of indicators that one can use to measure the various aspects of urban life and participation.

Social Inclusion

1 Safety

How does one assess safety issues for women in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Physical security: reported cases of sexual and gender-based violence; physical security of women and girls; availability and accessibility of dedicated police and counselling services for domestic abuse and rape.
- Economic safety: access to land and property rights, women's rights to purchase and maintain assets such as land and/or housing compared to men.
- Health safety: maternal mortality rate.

2 Tolerance

How does one assess tolerance towards women in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Ethnic tolerance
- Political/religious tolerance
- Sexual tolerance.

3 Living conditions

How does one assess the living conditions for women in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Cost of living
- Risk of poverty
- Housing adequacy conditions (compliance with

the right to housing conditions such as habitability or proximity with services. Interior distribution: Are the spaces of the house dedicated to domestic chores related to other spaces of the house?)

- Cost of a basic meal.

4 Mobility and accessibility

How do you assess the efficiency and accessibility of the city's transport system?

This assessment can include the following:

- Cycling infrastructure
- Public transport infrastructure
- Public transport schedules
- Price of tickets
- Car ownership
- Average trip length to access education and employment.

5 Trust and transparency

How does one assess women's trust or confidence in public authorities?

This assessment can include the following:

- Public trust in government
- Transparency and accessibility of public authorities (for example: does website provide the name and contact information of the public authority official in charge of a certain area of interest?)
- Existing mechanisms for accessing justice / government accountability.

6 Laws and rights

How is equality in law for women assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Gender equality reforms
- Religious laws with gender implications
- Sexual and reproductive health rights
- Gender-based violence legislation
- Access to justice

Economic engagement

Economic engagement refers to participation in the urban formal and informal economy, not specifically directed at influencing the political system or decision-making processes.

1 Economic independence [quantity]

Economic independence refers to basic economic independence, that is, the ability to survive independently.

How is the ability of women to be financially independent or to make a living in this city assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Poverty (percentage women on low incomes – below the national average)
- Percentage of women in employment, earning a wage or self-employed
- Women's share of employment in the informal economy
- Difference between wages of women compared to men for the same job
- Access to finance: ability of women to open bank accounts
- Assets control: (for example, do wives and husbands have same ability to control assets during marriage?)
- Level of income
- Housing subsidies for single women
- Pensions
- Child-care grants.

2 Careers [quantity and quality]

Careers refers to both having a job and having job satisfaction, with that job fulfilling expectations.

How is the quality of the job market for women in this city assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Number of women and men in wage employment in non-agricultural sector
- Percentage of women in employment
- Percentage of women in senior or management positions
- Employment policies
- Integration of women in the workforce at various education levels
- Integration of women in the workforce by field of study – science, arts and so on
- Job satisfaction or satisfaction with being self-employed.

3 Entrepreneurship [quantity, quality and price]

How is the city as a place for women to have their own business assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Percentage of women compared to men owning a business
- Ability of women to register a business
- Incentives (such tax breaks or subsidies)
- Rental price of commercial space
- Business incubators.

4 Funding opportunities [quantity, quality and price]

Funding opportunities focuses on women being able to access funding to start or manage their own business.

How are opportunities for women assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Number of women receiving micro-credits
- Number of cooperative banks
- Average length of time for credits to be approved
- Conditions to get funding and the conditions once funding received.

5 Training [quantity, quality and price]

Training specifically focuses on training to bridge the gap between traditional education and job market requirements.

How are the training opportunities or the training system for women assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Numbers of women undergoing apprenticeships or vocational or business skills training offered in the municipality
- Unemployment rate by level of education and study field
- Numbers of women and men receiving entrepreneurship training as part of their formal education
- Number and percentage of male and female students receiving stipends, scholarships, or other financial support for technical and vocational education
- Evidence of mentoring and other support activities aimed at assisting women's transition to employment in non-traditional, high income and growth sectors of the economy.

6 Employment and entrepreneurship policies [quantity, quality]

How are women's employment and entrepreneurship policies assessed in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Employment policies
- Incentives and support activities enabling women to enroll in training institutions (such as affirmative action policies, review of entry qualifications or selection procedures)
- Policies, legislation and practices that support informal workers (access to public services and public spaces, progressive taxation, or easy registration of the business)
- Childcare places (number of facilities, cost and ease of access).

Institutional and political engagement

Institutional and political engagement all have a political objective or are directed towards the political system.

Institutionalized ways to participate (from within or from outside)

1 Decision making (participation from within) [quantity]

Decision making is participation from within the government authorities.

How is the direct involvement of women in political decision-making processes assessed in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Presence of legal quotas to promote women's political participation
- Female elected officials
- Female civil servants
- Female party leaders
- Female leaders in other organizations (such as trade unions or NGOs).

2 Democratic vitality (participation from outside) [quantity]

How is the women's democratic participation in this urban area assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Participation in local elections by women and men
- Public debates and demonstrations by women and men
- Political discussion in the media by women and men
- Political discussion on social networks by women and men
- Political online platforms usage (such as, change. org) by women and men
- Women's involvement in political parties, unions, and so on.

3 Consultation and permeability (participation from outside) [quantity and quality]

How is the permeability of governance structures to women and their needs and ideas assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Gender-segregated meetings to give voice to the experiences of women about their urban experience
- Governmental systematized ways to collect information about women's needs and issues (such as sex-disaggregated data collection, annual reports or surveys)
- Is the government accessible (that is, approachable or open to suggestions and petitions) when a need is detected?
- Are proposals about public spaces, public facilities, mobility or transport, or housing defined through participatory processes (such as civil society consultation forums)?
- Regular consultation of women's groups and associations regarding local government decisions affecting women in public debates or ad-hoc events.

4 Participatory policies

How are citizen engagement mechanisms or public policy aimed at enhancing women's participation assessed in this city?

This assessment can include the following:

- Participatory or gender budgeting
- Proportion of projects or activities financed that were prioritized by women in comparison to those prioritized by men
- Laws or policies supporting women's rights.

Less Institutionalized or Non-institutionalized Ways to Participate

1 Civil Society [quantity and quality]

How are civil society organizations in this city assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Number of women's rights or women-led organizations
- Effectiveness of women-led organizations
- Numbers and visibility of volunteering activities and opportunities
- Family or social resistance to women's political and civic participation
- Civil society organizations that target women
- Would you characterize civil society as generally reactive (towards a certain project or event) or proactive (initiates and often anticipates important policy concerns)?

2 Women's rights networks [quantity]

Women's rights networks can influence actions in support of or against certain policy proposals, capital projects and so on.

How does one assess opportunities for women in different age groups to get involved in informal or unstructured networks to influence political processes?

This assessment can include the following:

- Women's access to media and information and communications technology (ICT)
- Do women rely more on virtual or on physical networks?
- Are women's networks based predominantly in a specific geographic area (for example, the one affected by an issue), or are they widespread across communities and social and economic differences?

Human and Cultural Capital

Human and Cultural Capital refers to participation in the life of the city, not specifically directed at influencing the political system or decision-making processes.

1 Audiences and users [quantity]

The area of audiences and users focuses on demand that can be high but that is not being met by current offerings in the city.

How is the interest of women in culture assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Demand or interest for cinema, theatres, art exhibitions and other stage arts
- Demand or interest for streets festivals, traditional celebrations
- Women's attendance at cultural, traditional or religious events
- Gender stereotypes in the cultural sector
- Participation of women in cultural production
- Participation of women in decision making in cultural sector (such as performers or cultural managers).

2 Technology

How is the availability of technology for women in this city assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Access to internet (that is, broadband coverage)
- Cost of internet as percentage of income
- Average internet speed
- Number of registered mobile phone users
- Cost of cell phone usage
- Restricted access to internet (for example, government interference and surveillance).

3 Cultural policies [quantity and quality]

Cultural policies are policies that are coordinated, initiated and financed through public money, focusing particularly on how activities and initiatives are promoted.

How are cultural policies directed towards women assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Municipal budget for cultural policies and projects (hierarchy of priorities – museums, concert halls, or ad hoc events)
- Leadership and mentoring initiatives for female creators and culture professionals
- Efficiency of gender-responsive policies in culture (dedicated programmes for education in arts and culture subjects, dedicated funds to support women-led cultural activities, partnerships between public authorities, organizations active in the field of women's rights)
- General openness and frameworks in place to encourage cultural expression in all its aspects, including street art and urban interventions (such as bureaucracy for organizing events and producing installations or restrictions).

4 Community-based organizations [quantity and quality]

Community-based organizations refer to what is offered by third sector organizations, community organizations, and grassroot organizations.

How are cultural offerings provided by community-based organizations assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Number of registered women's organizations, community organizations or NGOs
- The sense of belonging and identification with the city or a specific neighbourhood
- Presence of advocacy campaigns that tackle gender stereotypes and discrimination in all aspects of cultural life
- Geographic spread (consider if there is a certain concentration of such organizations in generally well-off neighbourhoods or in poorer areas)
- Visibility includes these questions: Are the organizations visible at a city scale or do they tend to be very localized? Is there an exchange of experiences and ideas on common topics?

5 Public spaces [quantity, quality and price]

How are public spaces that can be used by women to meet and connect assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Availability of public or green spaces (that is, green space per capita)
- Do public spaces have flexible design to favour different uses and activities?
- Are there "prohibited spaces" (underground passages, unmaintained spaces, or social conflicts)?
- Are there spaces for meeting, talking, or playing close to housing (that is, the proximity)?
- Are there other spaces – such as abandoned spaces, corners, or access to retails – which are used as relationship spaces by women?
- Is social diversity exemplified (including women)

in naming streets, monuments, and public buildings or facilities?

- Is there artwork in the streets that promotes the values of equality and inclusion?
- Are there restrictive regulations?
- Are there other places for women, third places, such as women's centres, community gardens and so on?

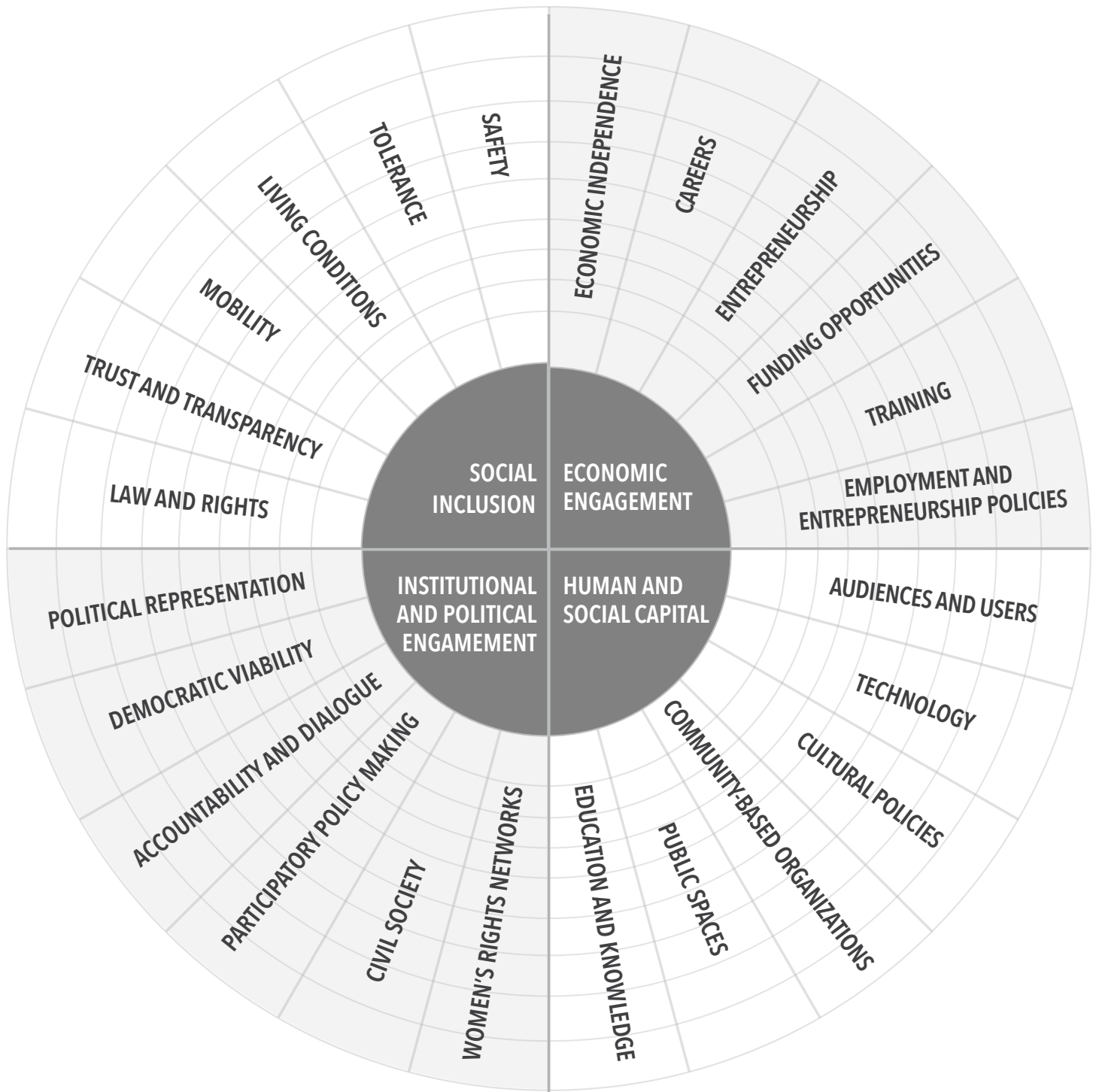### 6 Education and knowledge [quantity, quality and price]

How are current education opportunities for women in this city assessed?

This assessment can include the following:

- Public and private schools
- Number of public libraries per capita
- Cost of education
- Number and percentage of girls to boys graduating from secondary school
- Number and percentage of women and men graduating from university
- Number and percentage of women participating in training courses offered in the municipality
- Insertion on job market and so on.

WOMEN'S ENGAGEMENT CITY FOUR-DOMAIN MODEL:

SCALE:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
CRITICAL	BAD	HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY	ALMOST SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	MORE THAN SATISFACTORY	HIGHLY SATISFACTORY	FULL

SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
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