

Mainstreaming Human Rights and Gender Equality

DAC criteria and definition	Integrating human rights and gender equality
<p>Relevance: Extent to which the objectives of a development intervention are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, country-needs, global priorities and partners' and donors' policies</p>	<p>Assessing the HR & GE relevance of an intervention entails examining how the intervention is designed and implemented to align and contribute to HR & GE, as defined by international and regional conventions; and national policies and strategies; and the needs of rights holders and duty bearers both women and men, targeted by an intervention). Results of the intervention should also be relevant to the realization of HR & GE. Some examples of areas to assess include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which the intervention is aligned with international instruments (e.g. CEDAW, CRPD, CRC), standards and principles on HR & GE and contributes to their implementation; • Extent to which the intervention is aligned with and contributes to regional conventions and national policies and strategies on HR & GE; • Extent to which the intervention is informed by substantive and tailored human rights and gender analyses that identify underlying causes and barriers to HR & GE; • Extent to which the intervention is informed by needs and interests of diverse groups of stakeholders through in-depth consultation; • Relevance of stakeholder participation in the intervention.
<p>Effectiveness: Extent to which the development intervention's objectives were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance. Effectiveness assesses the outcome level, intended as an uptake or result of an output</p>	<p>Analysis of an intervention's effectiveness involves assessing the way in which results were defined, monitored and achieved (or not) on HR & GE and that the processes that led to these results were aligned with HR & GE principles (e.g. inclusion, non-discrimination, accountability, etc.). In cases where HR & GE results were not explicitly stated in the planning document or results framework, assessing effectiveness in terms of HR & GE is still possible and necessary as all UN interventions will have some effect on HR & GE and should aim to contribute to their realization. Some issues to consider include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which the Theory of Change and results framework of the intervention integrated HR & GE; • Extent to which a human rights based approach and a gender mainstreaming strategy were incorporated in the design and implementation of the intervention; • Presence of key results on HR & GE.

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<p>Efficiency: Measure of how economically resources/inputs (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted to results. It is most commonly applied to the input-output link in the causal chain of an intervention</p>	<p>The HR & GE dimensions of efficiency require a broader analysis of the benefits and related costs of integrating HR & GE in interventions. A key aspect that needs to be considered is that HR & GE involve long-term and complex change processes that require sustained support. While a direct relationship between resource investment and long term results should be carefully established, the assessment of efficiency should also consider short term process achievements (participation and inclusiveness, etc.) and medium-term results (developing an enabling environment, building capacity, etc.). Some aspects to consider include the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of adequate resources for integrating HR & GE in the intervention as an investment in short-term, medium-term and long-term benefits; • Costs of not providing resources for integrating HR & GE (e.g. enhanced benefits that could have been achieved for modest investment); • Extent to which the allocation of resources to targeted groups takes into account the need to prioritize those most marginalized.
<p>Sustainability: Continuation of benefits from a development intervention after major development assistance has been completed. The probability of continued long-term benefits. The resilience to risk of the net benefit flows over time</p>	<p>To assess the sustainability of results and impacts on HR & GE the extent to which an intervention has advanced key factors that need to be in place for the long-term realization of HR & GE should be studied. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an enabling or adaptable environment for real change on HR & GE; • Institutional change conducive to systematically addressing HR & GE concerns; • Permanent and real attitudinal and behavioral change conducive to HR & GE; • Establishment of accountability and oversight systems between rights holders and duty-bearers; • Capacity development of targeted rights holders (to demand) and duty bearers (to fulfill) rights; • Redistribution of resources, power and workload between women and men.

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<p>Impact: Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by a development intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended</p>	<p>Positive HR & GE impact can be defined as the actual and long-lasting realization and enjoyment of HR & GE by rights holders and capacity of duty-bearers to respect, protect and fulfill HR & GE. Impact can be positive or negative, intended or unintended, primary or secondary. For a number of reasons (e.g. multi-causality, timeframe to observe impact, etc.), the assessment and measurement of impact that can be attributed to an intervention, or to which an intervention has contributed, is a complex endeavor; however, it is essential to do so for learning on what works and what does not in terms of advancing HR & GE. For interventions that are not primarily focused on HR & GE, it may also lead to identifying if interventions are reinforcing existing discrimination and power structures that are contrary to HR & GE. Some aspects that should be considered in such an assessment include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether rights-holders have been able to enjoy their rights and duty bearers have the ability to comply with their obligations, whether there is no change in both groups, or whether both are less able to do so; • Real change in gender relations, e.g. access to and use of resources, decision-making power, division of labor, etc.; • Empowerment of targeted groups and influence outside of the intervention’s targeted group; • Unintended effects on any groups that were not adequately considered in the intervention design (e.g. women belonging to a broader group within which they were not considered as a specific group); • Effective accountability mechanisms operating on HR & GE.