



# Measuring Success – Handbook

## Part I: Quantitative Indicators - #ms10 Women in Decision-making

## #ms10: Women in Decision-making – Adult women being able to influence decision-making

Indicator Statements		
Indicator (in short)	Indicator	Number [actual value] (Share [%]) of adult women being able to influence decision-making
	Unit of indicator	Number [actual value] of adult women (check definition of adult person in local context)
Project-level indicator statements	Baseline statement	<i>Result:</i> The number of adult women who feel they could influence decision-making at community level “somewhat/moderately” or “a lot” was x out of a total of N targeted women. (Sampling size = n women)
	Endline statement	<i>Result:</i> During the project period, out of a total of N targeted women, the number of women who influenced decision-making at community level changed from x women (baseline) to y women (endline). (Sampling size = n women)

### Background

**Why do we use this indicator?** The goal of WHH’s strategy is to achieve zero hunger wherever we work by 2030.

WHH is committed to advancing **women’s opportunities as agents of change** through meaningful participation in politics and civil society: When women are discriminated against in the political arena, when their experiences, talents, and perspectives are shut out of decisions, then prospects for inclusive socio-economic development are curtailed. Furthermore, women’s political participation has been correlated with positive nutritional outcomes. WHH therefore considers **empowering women** to be a crucial requirement for lasting positive change.



The **Women in decision-making indicator** is useful to assess the **status of women’s decision-making power and the success of related interventions.**

**What does this indicator assess?** The **indicator** assesses the **extent to which women are able to influence decisions on a community level.** It is important for decisions to be made by a community-based group or committee formed by either the community itself or local authorities. This indicator also serves as a proxy for women’s political empowerment.

**For which projects should this indicator be used?** The indicator is suitable for **projects that aim to increase women’s participation in decision-making at the community level.**

Typical intervention types for which this indicator is suitable are:

- **Inclusive governance**
- **Social cohesion**
- **Gender equity/equality**
- **Citizen participation** or inclusion/empowerment of disadvantaged groups.

**Who should be interviewed?** The **research unit** of the population (N) and the sample (n) for this indicator is **adult women** (as defined in national legislation). The population size is composed of the number of women who are supposed to benefit directly from the project intervention.



Questions should be addressed to **adult women only**. Please check definition of “adult woman” in your country/ cultural context and use this definition for data collection.

**When should the data be collected?** The indicator requires a baseline and comparison value(s) to yield meaningful information on project outcomes. **At minimum**, data should be collected as part of both a **baseline** and an **endline** survey.

Data for the #ms Women in Decision-making indicator can be collected at **any time of the year**.

### Preparing data collection

Extensive survey skills are required for this indicator. Prior to data collection, enumerators should be trained in basic data collection skills. This training should also address the following issues:

- Enumerators should be aware of possible local governance structures and sensitive to gender-related barriers to women’s political participation.
- Reasons for non-participation in decision-making may be a sensitive topic. Enumerators must be prepared for this and ensure confidentiality.
- Enumerator teams should consist of or at least include female members.

### Indicator calculation

The #ms Women in Decision-making indicator assesses how many **project participants** are **able to influence decision-making** through participation at the community level.

Calculating the indicator requires data for only one question (Q6.8) to be summarized: “To what extent do you feel you have been able to influence the group’s (community) decisions in the last twelve months?”

The number of women replying with “A lot” or “Somewhat/Moderately” are summarized as women who can influence decision-making.

To **extrapolate**<sup>1</sup> the result from the survey to the (target) population:

1. Calculate the proportion of sampled adult women able to influence decision-making out of the total number of sampled adult women; then
2. multiply the result by the total number of adult women within the (target) population (see below).

$$\frac{\text{Number of sampled adult women able to influence decision-making}}{\text{Total number of sampled adult women}} \times \text{Total number of households in the (target) population}$$



**Please note:** While **reporting on this indicator in ProMIS is done in absolute numbers** (number of adult women who feel they could influence decision-making at community level within the target population), the **global analysis at HO level is done in percentages** (share of adult women who feel they could influence decision-making at community level out of all targeted adult women in the project/program). We do this because relative analysis gives a much better picture of the status quo in a particular target group and also allows for better comparability between projects/programs with different target group sizes.

Below is a calculation-matrix template for the #ms Women in Decision-making calculation, where each row has been filled in for one respondent ([Link to the corresponding Excel matrix on WHH Intranet](#)).

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<sup>1</sup> Extrapolation is a process in which measured characteristics of a sample lead to estimates of unknown characteristics of the target population from which the sample was drawn.

**Calculation matrix template ([Link to the corresponding Excel matrix on WHH Intranet](#)).**

**Step 1:** Assess whether the respondent participates in any meetings of groups or bodies in the community

Yes
No
Yes
Yes
Yes

**Step 2:** Assess to what extent the woman feels she has been able to influence the group's (community) decisions in the last 12 months (only if answer in step 1 is "Yes")

Yes	A lot
No	
Yes	Rather little
Yes	Somewhat/moderately
Yes	Somewhat/moderately

**Step 3:** Convert answers into numbers and calculate the indicator

Answer	Answer	Number	
Yes	A lot	1	Women replying "a lot" or "somewhat/moderately" are summed up
No		0	
Yes	Rather little	0	
Yes	Somewhat/moderately	1	
Yes	Somewhat/moderately	1	

<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>
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### 3. Questionnaire for #ms Indicators - #ms10 Women in Decision-making

This section contains the #ms questionnaire for all eleven indicators and is consistent with the Akvo Flow #ms template.

This section includes not only the questions and answers but also comments for enumerators (which can be used in training) and specifications for the person designing/adapting the project-level template.

Question ID	Question and Answer		Remarks for Different Users of #Measuring Success	
	Questions	Answers	Enumerators	Designer of Project-Specific Questionnaires
0.1	<b>0.1: Before starting the interview</b>			
0.1.1	WHH project ID	Project ID		This question is currently formatted as free text. You may change it to a multiple-choice format if necessary (e.g., when one survey covers two or more project IDs).
0.1.2	Date of interview	Date		

0.1.3	Consent to interview: I would like to ask you to provide your objective responses regarding your situation. Your participation is voluntary, and your information will be kept confidential. I have informed you about what type of data will be collected, for which purposes it will be used, with whom the data may be shared, and that you have the right to access your data and to ask for correction or deletion. Do you agree to the collection and processing of your data?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If "yes", proceed with questions</li> <li>- If "no", do not proceed with any further questions</li> </ul>		
<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2: Interviewee information</b>			
0.2.1	Household location	Remark: Answer categories must be project-specific:		Free text question can be replaced by a cascading question if you wish
0.2.2	Geographical coordinates	Geo-coordinates		
0.2.3	Who is head of the household?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Father</li> <li>- Mother</li> <li>- Grandmother</li> <li>- Grandfather</li> <li>- Child/Youth</li> <li>- Other</li> </ul>		

0.2.4	Name & surname of interviewee	<p>Name / surname</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Interviewee is Head of Household</p>	<p>Before starting the interview, make sure that relevant persons are present, mainly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For #ms01 MAHFP and #ms02 FCS: the person (adult) who is responsible for food preparation in the household.</li> <li>- For #ms03 MDD-W: a woman aged 15-49</li> <li>- For #ms04 Drinking water: the person (adult) who is responsible for handling the household's drinking water</li> <li>- For #ms05 Sanitation: the person (adult) who is responsible for maintaining the sanitation facility used by household members</li> <li>- For #ms06 Income: the head of the household or a person responsible for or aware of the care and organization of the household</li> <li>- For #ms07 Skills: a training graduate</li> <li>- For #ms08 Agriculture and #ms09 Climate Resilience: the person (adult) who is responsible for the usage of the promoted measure and who received input and/or trainings from WHH/partners/the project.</li> <li>- For #ms10 Women in decision-making: an adult woman</li> <li>- For #ms11 Participants' satisfaction: a project participant</li> </ul>	
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0.2.5	What is the sex of the interviewee?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Female</li> <li>- Male</li> <li>- Other</li> <li>- Don't know / No answer</li> </ul>		
0.2.6	Age of the interviewee?	Figure		Allow only numeric values up to 99
<b>0.3: Choice of Indicators</b>				
0.3.1	On <b>which indicators</b> will you collect data in this household?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- #ms01: Food Access (MAHFP)</li> <li>- #ms02: Food Consumption Score</li> <li>- #ms03: Nutrition Diversity (MDD-W)</li> <li>- #m04: Drinking Water</li> <li>- #ms05: Sanitation</li> <li>- #ms06: Income</li> <li>- #ms07: Skills</li> <li>- #ms08: Agriculture</li> <li>- #ms09: Climate Resilience</li> <li>- #ms10: Women in Decision-making</li> <li>- #ms11: Participants' Satisfaction</li> </ul>		

10	Women in Decision-Making			
10.1	Verification of interview partner: ENUMERATOR: Verify that the person being interviewed is an adult woman.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes</li> <li>- No</li> </ul>	This indicator relates to issues with male members of the household. Since this is the last section in the interview, it is recommended to ask other people to leave and only interview the woman who is "really" being interviewed for this indicator.	
10.2	Do you ever <b>participate in any meetings of groups or bodies</b> in your community (e.g., the village assembly or a self-help group)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes</li> <li>- No</li> <li>- Don't know / No answer</li> </ul>		
10.3	Do you participate in any of these meetings of groups or bodies <b>as a member</b> ?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes</li> <li>- No</li> <li>- Don't know / No answer</li> </ul>		Only answer if you responded YES in question Q10.2
10.4	<b>Why are you NOT a member</b> of these organizations/ bodies?	Explain reasons	Note each point clearly, describing it in a full sentence.	Only answer if you selected NO in question Q10.3
10.5	Are you in the <b>leadership committee</b> of any of these organizations/bodies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes</li> <li>- No</li> <li>- Don't know / No answer</li> </ul>		Only answer if you responded YES in question Q10.2
10.6	In general, during meetings, <b>how actively</b> do you participate?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contribute to debates and discussions</li> <li>- Suggest and advocate for inclusion of ideas</li> <li>- Never Speak</li> <li>- Don't know/ No answer</li> </ul>		Only answer if you responded YES in question Q10.2

10.7	<b>To what extent</b> do you feel you have been <b>able to influence</b> the group's decisions in the last twelve months?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A lot</li> <li>- Somewhat/ Moderately</li> <li>- Rather little</li> <li>- Not at all</li> <li>- Don't know/ No answer</li> </ul>		Only answer if you responded YES in question Q10.2
10.8	What are the <b>reasons why you feel you have not or only little been able to influence</b> the decisions of this organization/body?	Explain reasons	Note each point clearly, describing it in a full sentence.	Only answer, if selected "Rather Little" or "Not at all" in question Q10.7
10.9	Type of Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Baseline survey</li> <li>- Endline survey</li> <li>- Midterm or other survey</li> </ul>		
10.10	Is your decision-making power <b>better, the same, or worse than it was in the year 2xxx</b> [year of baseline survey of project]?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Much better</li> <li>- A bit better</li> <li>- The same</li> <li>- A bit worse</li> <li>- Much worse</li> </ul>	Enumerators need to know in which year the project's baseline survey was carried out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This is an optional question for endline surveys: You should take it out if this survey is NOT an endline survey</li> <li>- This question is supposed to support you for your project planning: You may take it out if the question is found not to be useful for planning purposes</li> </ul>