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| **SDG Indicator 5.a.2 Questionnaire on Women’s Legal Rights to Land** |
| **SDG Indicator 5.a.2**: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women’s equal rights to land ownership and/or control |
| **SDG target 5.a:** *Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws*.  |
| **Overall Goal:** To establish and strengthen effective, non-discriminatory legal frameworks that guarantee equal and secure land rights for all, with a specific focus on gender equality. **Rationale:** Achieving genuine equality in women's land and natural resource rights – moving beyond equal rights to own, use, or administer land in legal frameworks – is fundamental for realizing human rights and food security. This requires not only legal reforms but also dedicated efforts in providing financial, legal, and informational support tailored to women's specific needs and contexts. Furthermore, actively fostering women's leadership in land governance and investing in gender-responsive climate-resilient agriculture are crucial pathways to dismantle existing inequalities and ensure women fully benefit from and contribute to sustainable development and agrifood systems.**Objectives**: This questionnaire acts as a tool to support good decision making through enabling critical reflection and discussion among policymakers, legal and statistical experts, civil society organizations, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders. It strategically incorporates legal frameworks (including implementation and enforcement), theoretical underpinnings (like SDG 5.a.2 and their broader relevance), and research (including comparative legal analysis and statistical data).**Outputs:*** The completed questionnaire report will be a crucial tool for national reporting and monitoring of SDG indicator 5.a.2 (under FAO's custodianship), directly supporting international reporting obligations, including to CEDAW.
* Informed by CEDAW and the VGGTs, and aligned with national priorities and long-term visions, the assessment insights will lead to actionable recommendations for legal, policy, and implementation measures.
* The resulting dataset will provide policymakers with a comprehensive, evidence-based understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of their legal frameworks in promoting and enforcing gender equality in land ownership and control, facilitating targeted interventions and cross-country learning.
* The data collection process will also identify existing national capacities for conducting such assessments, enabling FAO to provide tailored and effective capacity development support.

While reporting on SDG indicators is mandatory, countries decide which indicators to report based on national priorities and capacities. Once a country opts to report on SDG 5.a.2, they are required to continue to report. The dataset provides policymakers with comprehensive insights into how effectively their national legal frameworks promote, enforce, and monitor gender equality in land ownership and control. It highlights gaps and opportunities to strengthen frameworks, offering findings that can be shared between countries to improve gender equality in land rights and challenge entrenched discriminatory social norms. The information collected will also identify countries’ capacities in producing assessments so FAO can provide necessary capacity development.  |
| Information to be collected for monitoring SDG 5.a.2 will include identifying and referencing relevant legal provisions as follows, which address:* The **national legal framework** for women’s land rights.
* **Proxy A-D:** Women’s joint and individual ownership and control over land, through mechanisms like mandatory joint registration or financial incentives.
* **Proxy B:** Compulsory spousal consent for transactions related to marital property or the family residence.
* **Proxy C:** Equal inheritance rights for women and girls in the absence of a will.
* **Proxy E:** Legal protections for women’s land rights under customary law.
* **Proxy F:** Mandatory women’s participation in land management and administration institutions.
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| **Information use and dissemination** |
| FAO will use the information countries will report through this questionnaire to produce national-level SDG Indicator 5.a.2 scores. As part of its quality assurance process, FAO will further contact the country to address any issues with the submitted information. FAO will disseminate these national indicator scores, which are based on the number of measures in the national legal framework that align with the SDG 5a2 methodology, including to UNDESA. This is possible as the sources for conducting the 5a2 legal assessment are publicly available documents. |
| **Reporting information** |
| **Q1. COUNTRY INFORMATION** |
| **Q11** | **Official Name** |  |
| **Q11a** | [**M49 Code**](https://unfao.sharepoint.com/%3Ax%3A/s/ESP-PACT-Team/Ef_TWuDy_ihLjLsnYIGOFyUBZ9OInfPv8Qld2kn-1HXMPg?e=jEgPeM&ovuser=163ac468-abb8-44d0-81fd-d9db15e3af96%2CMuriel.Veldman%40fao.org&clickparams=eyJBcHBOYW1lIjoiVGVhbXMtRGVza3RvcCIsIkFwcFZlcnNpb24iOiI0OS8yNTAxMzEwNjAxMyIsIkhhc0ZlZGVyYXRlZFVzZXIiOmZhbHNlfQ%3D%3D) |  |
| **Q12** | **Responsible Institution for 5.a.2** |  |
| **Q13** | **Focal point (last name, first name, phone, email, institutional address)** |  |
| **Q14** | **Job title** |  |
| **Q15** | **Unit/Division** |  |
| **Q16** | **E-mail address** |  |
| **Q17** | **Telephone no.** |  |
| **Q2. LEGAL EXPERT** |
| **Q21** | **Last name, first name** |  |
| **Q22** | **E-mail address** |  |
| **Q3. QUESTIONNAIRE COMPLETION (To be filled by FAO)** |
| **Q~~3~~1** | **Questionnaire version** |  |
| **Q32** | **Date questionnaire submitted to FAO**  |  |
| **Q4. STRUCTURE OF THIS QUESTIONNAIRE** |
| Two introductory sections (Cover page, Definitions); Six reporting sections (Legal System, Proxy A-D, ProxyB, ProxyC, ProxyE, ProxyF) which include instructions; Two supplementary information sections (Output sheet, Feedback) |
| **We kindly ask you to provide a reply by: YYYY/MM/DD** |
| FAO looks forward to receiving your prompt reply and is available to provide technical support as needed. The frequency of SDG 5.a.2 report submission is every four (4) years, starting from [date/submission of the previous report]. While the reporting cycle is 4 years, FAO encourages countries to submit an updated report if relevant reforms are adopted or are in progress during this periodPlease send back your response to FAO Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division (ESP) (via e-mail at: SDG-5A2-Indicator@fao.org), or via the FAO Representative Office relevant for your country: ….@fao.org. Contact persons: Ms. Clara Park and Ms. Muriel Veldman, Contact details: clara.park@fao.org and muriel.veldman@fao.org |
| Users are kindly asked to read the introductory worksheets: the A1.Cover (this worksheet), the A.3 Definitions worksheet and the Instructions per proxy before filling in the questionnaire. Bolded words indicate terms whose definitions are in the Definitions worksheet.PLEASE DO NOT MODIFY THE FORMAT OR ORDER OF THE CELLS OR ORDER OF THE SHEETS |
| **SDG Indicator 5.a.2 Questionnaire on Women’s Legal Rights to Ownership and/or Control over Land** |
| **General Instructions** |
| **Consultation with the technical teams** | The Principal Focal Point will nominate a national Legal Expert and lead the national consultations and validation process. This typically happens in collaborate with a relevant multi-actor platform or a Technical Working Group (TWG) (either existing or to be established), to collect, analyze and compile the necessary information for completing the SDG Indicator 5.a.2 questionnaire. The platform or TWG may include representatives from relevant institutions in your country, such as the National Statistical Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Land, Justice, Gender Equality and Human Rights, as well as civil society and research institutions with expertise in family and land legislation and programmes. |
| **Filling the questionnaire** | This questionnaire is provided as a Word file. A national legal expert will lead the compilation of all relevant information and complete the questionnaire with input from the appropriate focal points. Please do not change the structure, cell formatting, or add different worksheets, except to add additional boxes for separate instruments. Alternatively, an online version is also available at: .............. |
| **Mandatory, recommended and optional fields** | All reporting countries should respond to the legal system questions **prior to responding to the proxy questions.** **Proxy A-F questions must be answered**, as they form the basis for calculating a country's SDG 5.a.2 score. This applies even if the legal framework does not establish the relevant measure (proxy). In such cases, all relevant provisions should be cited under **'Additional information' (Field 1)** for the corresponding proxy.**'Additional information' (Field 2**) is **optional** but **strongly encouraged** to support progress tracking and quality assurance. Countries are urged to provide details on relevant policies, programs, allocated financial resources, as well as implementation and enforcement measures, such as judicial cases/decisions related to women’s land rights, availability of legal aid (paid or pro-bono) under the law.Countries are encouraged to share **sex disaggregated statistical data** on land ownership or land tenure security (in particular SDG 5.a.1 and 1.4.2), as well as good practices they have adopted to increase women’s land tenure security, even if these aspects not captured by the SDG 5.a.2 survey questions but may provide additional valuable insights.Grey cells must not be modified. **An answer of '0' cannot be recorded without a clear justification based on legal instruments and analysis. Evidence to support your assessment must be provided in all cases.** |
| **Quality assurance process** | For **quality assurance**, any applicable legal instruments and provisions must be provided. FAO is available at any stage of the data collection process to provide clarification on any issues. Additionally, FAO will offer feedback to improve the submitted questionnaire where applicable. Reporting countries will have their indicators reported to UNSD.High quality SDG 5.a.2 reports include:* An assessment of the national legal system consistent with FAO guidelines and definitions (see A.3 Definitions)
* An assessment of all proxies (A-D, B, C, E and F), including filled Additional Information (Field 1 and 2)
* A verifiable reference source (full name of the legal instrument, date of adoption, hyperlink to the instrument, and full text of the provision/article),

As part of the ‘Additional information’ :* the mention of relevant policies (strategic objectives and associated indicators), as well as
* gender responsive budgeting or gender responsive or gender transformative programming.
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| **SDG Indicator 5.a.2 Questionnaire on Women’s Legal Rights to Ownership and/or Control over Land** |
| **Lexicon: Working definitions of key terms** |
| Please refer to and cite the relevant definitions from the referenced legal instruments  |
| **Customary legal systems** | Systems of governance at the local or community level, established independently of the state, and deriving their legitimacy from the values, traditions and practices of specific cultural, ethnic, or community groups, such as customary or indigenous communities. These frameworks may be recognized by national law.  |
| **Family residence** | The place where a family primarily lives, which serves as their main residence. It may or may not constitute joint matrimonial property but is often referred to as the family home or matrimonial home. This residence is where the family members have established their household and is the place they consider their primary dwelling, regardless of its status as joint property. |
| **Inheritance** | Property received from an ancestor under the laws of intestacy or by bequest or devise. (Heir: Someone who, under the laws of intestacy, is entitled to receive an intestate descendent’ s property. In common-law jurisdictions, a person who inherits real or personal property, whether by will or by intestate succession) |
| **Intestate** | Of, relating to, or involving (a property owned by) a person who has died without a valid will. |
| **Joint registration** | The process of recording the names of both spouses or partners in a de facto union in the land registry as the co-owners of the land. Joint registration signifies shared tenure over the land, typically in the form of joint tenancy/occupancy or tenancy in common. Based on this registration, joint titles, certificates, or other forms of documentation may be issued as evidence of shared ownership It may be referred to as joint titling.  |
| **Land**  | All immovable property including but not limited to residential land, agricultural land, and any other land used for personal or familial purposes along with natural resources attached to the land, such as trees and water, if applicable under local law. This also includes any structures built on such land to serve permanent, long-term purposes, such as the family residence or farm. Legal frameworks commonly use the terms ‘immovable property’ or ‘real property’ when referring to land. Unlike its statistical counterpart [SDG 5.a.1](https://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals-data-portal/data/indicators/5a1-women-ownership-of-agricultural-land/en), SDG 5.a.2 is not restricted to agricultural lands or populations, but rather includes all forms of land use and ownership across various sectors and contexts |
| **Land Ownership** | A legally recognized right to acquire, use and transfer land. In private property systems, this is a right akin to freehold tenure. In systems where land is owned by the state, the term “land ownership” refers to possession of the rights most akin to ownership in a private property system – for instance, long-term leases, occupancy, tenancy or use rights granted by the state that are transferrable and are granted to users for several decades (for instance 99 years). According to the [SDG 5.a.1 methodology](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-05-0a-01.pdf), land ownership encompasses rights that can be officially registered and documented, including the right to sell and bequeath the land.  |
| **Legal framework** | Laws, mechanisms, and policies/plans to ‘promote, enforce and monitor’ gender equality in land tenure and land governance. It includes the laws governing marriage and family, inheritance, and customary and religious laws, if legally recognized, as well as relevant land and housing legislation. Legal frameworks that “promote” are those that establish women’s equal rights with men and enshrine non-discrimination based on sex in land tenure and land governance. Legal frameworks that “enforce and monitor’ are directed to the realization of equality and non-discrimination and implementation of laws, such as policies/plans, the establishment of enforcement and monitoring mechanisms, and the allocation of financial resources. |
| **Marital property regime** | Property jointly owned by spouses following their marriage. The content and nature of this property depend on the marital property regime that applies to the marriage. This property may be referred to using terms such as matrimonial property, the community, joint or common property or estate, reflecting the shared ownership between the spouses. In some legal systems, provisions on the effect of marriage on property are also extended to cohabiting couples, applying similar rules to jointly owned property and the rights of partners in such unions to joint property accumulated in the course of the relationship. In legal systems where land is state-owned, jointly owned property may also be referred to as jointly occupied or co-occupied property. |
| **Personal laws** | A set of codified rules and norms that apply to a group of people sharing a common religious faith, typically governing personal matters such as family relations, marriage, and inheritance. The term is often used interchangeably with ‘religious laws’. |
| **Regime (legal-)** | A system of rules, regulations, or principles that govern a specific area of law, such as property ownership in marriage (e.g., community-property regime) or inheritance.  |
| **Spouses** | Two individuals who are legally recognized as married under the applicable national marriage laws. This includes couples married under civil, religious, or customary law, provided such marriages are legally recognized. In contexts where polygamy is legal, the definition extends to second and subsequent wives, in accordance with the legal limits on the number of wives permitted. |
| **Unmarried couples** | Two people who live together in a relationship that resembles marriage but are not legally married. This can include couples married under customary or religious laws that are not legally recognized, or relationships recognized by the state but not considered marriages, such as civil partnerships or registered de facto relationships. The term, with members referred to as ‘partners’, may be referred to as ‘de facto unions’, ‘consensual unions’ or ‘irregular unions’. |

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| R. NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM |
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| **Instructions** |
| To ensure accurate reporting on Proxy AD, B, C, E, and F, **please first complete the mandatory questions regarding the national "Legal System"**. Your responses will guide your reporting on the proxies as follows: * Countries with **mixed legal systems**, **common law systems** or characterised by **federalism** require additional steps to collect the relevant information. Mixed systems involve multiple legal traditions (e.g., statutory, customary, and case law). In common law systems, judicial decisions also shape land rights, requiring review of court cases in addition to statutes. Federal systems have varying laws at national, regional, and local levels, which may require coordination across different jurisdictions.
* As SDG 5.a.2 focusses on the registration of land rights (**proxy A-D, E**) and land transactions (proxy B), it is important to determine if this applies, under what conditions, and for which types of land, including agricultural and urban lands or lands of customary communities. Furthermore, it is important to identify the types of land and personal rights recognized for different groups of women, particularly in relation to the registration and management of these rights.
* Your country’s (**default) matrimonial property regime** must be assessed because **proxy A and B** assume that some form of joint or common property between spouses exists within marriage. This section clarifies which types of marriages or unions are recognized and whether different protections apply to each.
* Additionally, the results of **proxies AD-B-C** will be influenced by the **existence of customary or religious laws**, with the methodology requiring an assessment of the scope of relevant provisions. Any limitations on certain groups or types of land may affect the validity of the proxies.
* Relevant provisions from the Constitution, as the supreme law of the country, must be cited.
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| R. NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM |
| R1. GENERAL |
| R11 | Type of legal system |  | 1=Civil Law; 2=Common Law; 3=Mixed System |
| R12 | Are any land matters (including inheritance and family matters) legislated at the sub-national level (i.e. province/state/county)? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| R13 | Has the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) been ratified, and if yes, when and how? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Date of ratification |
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| Reservations YES/NO, if yes, which? |
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| R14 | Constitutional **non-discrimination, gender equality** or equality before the law principles exist |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R15 | Constitutional **right to property, right to inheritance** exist |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R2. KEY ASPECTS (Land) |
| R21 | Is all **land ownership** vested in the State? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |   |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R22 | Equal right to land **ownership** or **secure rights to land** are recognised and can be registered  |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R23 | The legal systemrecognizes **customary law or customary tenure** in land or family matters  | 1 | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R24 | Is joint registration **possible** for land that is jointly owned or held by spouses?  |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R25 | Does the legal framework provide for specific status and regimes for **agricultural lands**? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R26 | Does the legal framework provide for specific status and regimes for **urban lands**  |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R27 | There is a **default** matrimonial property regime | 1 | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R27b | **Community of property in marriage** is the default rule or presumed |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R27c | The husband is legally considered to be the sole **head of the household** |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R27d | The **scope of application** of the **matrimonial property regime or inheritance** regime is limited for certain groups |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R28 | **De facto unions** are recognized and the rights of partners to matrimonial property or inheritance are formally protected |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| R28b | **Polygamy** is recognized, with formal protections for second and subsequent wives, including ownership and inheritance rights |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on the legal framework |

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| R29 | Briefly describe the land tenure system in place and recent or ongoing reforms  |
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| R30 | Please provide any complementary data or explanations regarding matrimonial property, and kindly highlight any recent or ongoing reforms |
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| R31 | Please provide any complementary data or explanations regarding inheritance, and kindly highlight any recent or ongoing reforms |
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| R32 | Other additional information, including relevant policies, strategies and plans, as they relate to SDG 5.a.2 proxies (citing briefly: date of adoption-subject to ongoing debates, relevant strategies-targets-indicators) |
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| PROXY A-D: Women’s Joint and individual Ownership and Control over Land is encouraged |
| **Instructions** |
| Proxy A and D assess if there are any legal and policy measures in place that encourage women's joint or individual **land ownership** and **secure land tenure rights**. Under proxy A, **joint registration** is considered encouraged if the law automatically treats both spouses as joint or co-owners of property from the moment the marriage begins**.** Legal protection requires an assessment of the matrimonial property regime (see R27 and R27b ‘ Legal System’ sheet), which must include a community property framework, and the requirement (or financial incentives) that such property be registered in both spouses' names.Both Proxy A and D require evidence of **financial resource allocation, gender-responsive budgets, or programs** that provide subsidies, loans, or other financial and technical support specifically for women to register, purchase or improve land, regardless of type (e.g., urban or rural). This includes waivers or reductions of registration fees, taxes, and other related costs. The context may be a government land consolidation, redistribution, agrarian reform, land formalisation or housing programme. |
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| PROXY A: Joint Registration of Marital Property (Land Jointly Owned or Held by Spouses or in Common) |



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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy A |
| **Instructions** |
| If the default matrimonial property regime is not full or partial community between the spouses, please report "0" (zero) for A1 and A2 if that category cannot exist in your country. If the default marital property regime is community property (as per R27b) or if certain assets are presumed to be common property, please respond to A.1 and A.2. For the proxy to be satisfied these protections must apply universally, without exceptions based on customary or religious laws.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer for each of the following questions. |

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| A1 | Is joint registration **compulsory** for land that is jointly owned by spouses?  |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| A2 | Are there **financial incentives** to joint registration of jointly owned land for spouses? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on Proxy A (Joint registration) |

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| A3 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate Proxy A or provide complementary information. |
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| A4 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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AND/OR

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| PROXY D: Allocations of Financial Resources to Increase Women's Individual Ownership and Control Over Land in Practice |
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| **Instructions** |
| Proxy D requires evidence of **financial resource allocation, gender-responsive budgets, and programs** that provide subsidies, loans, or other financial and technical support specifically for women to register, purchase or improve land, regardless of type (e.g., urban or rural). This includes waivers or reductions of registration fees, taxes, and other related costs. is proxy examines legislation aimed at increasing women’s individual ownership or control over land (both rural and urban) by allocating a specific budget, fund, and/or incentives. This typically occurs within the context of land reform, land formalization, land allocation, agrarian reform, housing programs, or initiatives focused on climate change, land degradation, biodiversity, and women's economic empowerment.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer. |

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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy D |

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| D1 | Are there allocations of financial resources to increase women’s individual ownership and control over land? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

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| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 3 : Additional information on Proxy D |

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| D2 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate Proxy D or provide complementary data or explanations. |
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| D3 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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| PROXY B: Compulsory Spousal Consent for Transaction relating to Marital Property or the Family Residence |



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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy B |
| **Instructions** |
| This proxy assesses whether there is a legal requirement for spousal **consent** to ensure that both spouses agree to a **land transaction**, thereby protecting the rights to or interests in the land of both parties. It may apply either to **land owned by both spouses**, equally or in specific shares, or, depending on the marital property regime, to the **family home**, even if it is owned by only one spouse. The protection should apply to land transactions, including **sales** and **mortgages**, and potentially to other transactions such as liens and gifts. Importantly, these protections should apply universally, without exceptions based on customary or religious laws.For the proxy to be satisfied these protections must apply universally, without exceptions based on customary or religious laws.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| B1 | Is spousal **consent compulsory** in **transactions** concerning **land** that is **jointly owned** by the spouses or the **family residence**? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on Proxy B |

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| B2 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate proxy B, or provide complementary data or explanations. |
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| B3 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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| PROXY C: Equal Rights in **Intestate Successions** |



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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy C |
| **Instructions** |
| Proxy C ensures that, in the case of intestacy (absence of a will), inheritance rights for spouses and children are equal, regardless of gender. The spouse should be included as a first-order heir, alongside or before other relatives, or should have an explicit and automatic lifetime use right to the family residence. The shares for siblings (brothers and sisters) should also be equal, just like the shares granted to the widow or widower. The provisions may be **gender-neutral,** referring only to descendants and the surviving spouse, rather than explicitly mentioning sons and daughters or widowers and widows. Provisions must be extended to second and subsequent wives in case **polygamy** is legal, and may be extended to partners in **de facto unions**. For the proxy to be satisfied these protections must apply universally, without exceptions based on customary or religious laws.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer for each of the following questions. |

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| C1 | Are sons and daughters entitled to **equal** **inheritance** rights and shares in the case of **intestate successions**? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| C2 | Do **surviving spouses** have a first rank inheritance right to the estate of their deceased spouses in **intestate successions** regardless of sex or a lifetime **use** of the **family residence**? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on Proxy C |

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| C3 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate SDG 5.a.2, or provide complementary data or explanations. |
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| C4 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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| PROXY E: Protection of Women's Land Rights under **Customary Law** |



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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy E |
| **Instructions** |
| Proxy E requires the **recognition of customary land tenure, laws, and institutions** in the Constitution or land legislation (Step 1 of the analysis/Legal System, Question **R.29**). If customary law is not relevant or not formally recognized in the legal system, please answer 'NO' and proceed to Proxy F, unless you have additional information not yet included in the 'Additional Information' section of the Legal System sheet.The instrument must **prioritize gender equality or non-discrimination** over customary laws in case of conflict, or **explicitly protect women’s rights** to land. This protection must be included in the **same instrument** that recognizes customary land tenure or customary law, ensuring that the **recognition is limited**. The protection can range from general principles to specific safeguards in land registration, administration, management, and dispute resolution.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer. |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| E1 | Does the formal law explicitly require that **customary law and institutions** adhere to gender equality or non-discrimination norms for land, family property, and inheritance matters? |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on Proxy E |

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| E2 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate Proxy E , or provide complementary data or explanations. |
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| E3 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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| PROXY F: Women's Participation in Land Management and Administration Institutions |



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| STEP 1: Relevant provisions for assessing Proxy F |
| **Instructions** |
| Proxy F applied when there are provisions mandating a specific **quota** or numerical target for the **representation** of **women** in **land administration or management** bodies or in all government bodies, including those tasked with land administration and management. Any form of **compulsory** participation of women should be documented, as there is no minimum requirement. If provisions are identified that require compulsory **consultation** of women, these should be documented as "Additional Information". In most cases **primary legislation** will be sufficient to respond to the question, but it may be necessary to assess and cite **secondary legislation or policies**.**Each legal instrument** should be listed **in a separate box**, with **additional boxes added as needed t**o support the answer. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F1 | Are there **quotas** to ensure women's representation in land management and administration?  |  | (1=Yes, 0=No) |
| Relevant instruments and provisions |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **a. Full name of instrument, including year of adoption** |  |
| **b. Hyperlink** |  |
| **c. Relevant Title/Section** |  |
| **d. Full text of provision** |  |

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| STEP 2 : Additional information on Proxy F |

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| F2 | Clarify any exceptions or provisions that either nearly meet or invalidate Proxy F, or provide complementary data or explanations. |
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| F3 | Please cite relevant policies, programs, and implementation measures |
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| **Optional:** Are there any good practices aimed at enhancing women’s land rights that your country has adopted (whether in law, policies, plans or programmes) which are not captured by the SDG 5a2 questions which you would like to highlight? These may include legal safeguards in divorce, legal aid and access to justice, awareness raising and capacity building initiatives. |
|  |

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| **Optional:** Are there any official government statistical data on the number or share of landowners or those with secure land rights (disaggregated by land type and sex, including individual and joint ownership) among those with rights to land or the total population? If yes, please cite figures, source and link to the source.: |
|  |

**RESULTS SECTION**

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| --- | --- |
| **SDG 5.a.2 Proxies** | **Present (1), Not present (0)** |
| **Proxy A: Joint registration** |  |
| **Proxy D: Financial allocations** |  |
| **Proxy B: Spousal consent** |  |
| **Proxy C: Equal inheritance** |  |
| **Proxy E: Safeguards within the framework of customary law** |  |
| **Proxy F: Quotas for land administration or management** |  |

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| **Total number of proxies present in the national legal framework** |
| **x out of 5 or 6 applicable proxies**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Results (Proxy E is applicable)** | **Results (Proxy E is not applicable)** | **Evidence of the level of legal guarantees of women’s rights to land ownership or control** | **Score** |
| 0 of 6  | 0 of 5  | None  | 0 |
| 1 of 6  | 1 of 5  | Very low | 1 |
| 2 of 6  | 2 of 5  | Low | 2 |
| 3 of 6  | 3 of 5  | Medium | 3 |
| 4 of 6  | 4 of 5  | High | 4 |
| 5 or 6 of 6  | 5 of 5  | Very high  | 5 |

**The SDG 5.a.2 score, calculated from binary 'Yes/No' responses (1/0) to a questionnaire evaluating national legal frameworks against CEDAW and other human rights standards, provides an indicative assessment of women's land rights in national laws and policies.** * **The proxies carry equal weight.**
* **The legal system questions are not influencing the 'score' but provide guidance for conducting the legal assessment.**
* **Country classification is based on the total number of proxies, either five or six depending on proxy E's inclusion.**
* **The maximum score is capped at 5 for all countries, even with positive proxy E.**

**The SDG 5.a.2 score, built upon proxies that illuminate critical aspects of women's land rights, must be interpreted and contextualized at both national and subnational levels. The assessment acknowledges that proxy effectiveness is contingent on specific legal, social, and cultural conditions, necessitating a case-by-case evaluation that details the specific contexts and conditions that make these types of measures crucial. This interpretation must also incorporate complementary data from indicators such as SDG 5.a.1, 1.4.2, and 5.1.1 (and others under SDG goals 1, 2, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 16), and the perspectives of all relevant stakeholders, especially women themselves, to provide a comprehensive and accurate understanding of the actual situation, challenges, and solutions.****Global results (84 reporting countries) and sub-Saharan African findings (25 reporting countries, with Namibia being the only other reporting country in Southern Africa to date) are analyzed in:** [**https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2025.100852**](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2025.100852) |

**FEEDBACK SECTION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. The questionnaire was initially addressed to the right person | Strongly agree/Agree/Partially agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree |
| **Explanation:** |  |
|  |
|  |
| 2. The questionnaire is logically structured and contains clear instructions for its completion | Strongly agree/Agree/Partially agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree |  |
| **Explanation:** |  |
|  |
|  |
| 3. All definitions are clearly and correctly provided | Strongly agree/Agree/Partially agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree |  |
| **Explanation:** |  |
|  |
|  |
| 4. All questions, categories and/or commodities are relevant | Strongly agree/Agree/Partially agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree |  |
| **Explanation:** |  |
|  |
|  |
| 5. No important questions, categories and/or commodities are missing | Strongly agree/Agree/Partially agree/Disagree/Strongly disagree |  |
| **Explanation:** |  |
|  |
|  |
| 6. The time and effort required to fill the questionnaire was reasonable given the questionnaire objectives |  |  |
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| 7. Please specify approximately how long it took to complete the questionnaire |  |  |
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| 8. How many people in your organization were involved in the questionnaire completion? |  |  |
|  |
|  |
| 9. How many organizations/ministries were involved in the questionnaire completion? |  |  |
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| 10. Please indicate any section or part that you found difficult to complete and why |  |  |
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| Additional suggestions: |  |  |
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