

SIMPLIFIED METHODOLOGY FOR ASSESSING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOCUSING ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NUTRITION APPLICATION TO THE SANOI PROGRAMME

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Rationale for a simplified measurement approach

The European Union (EU) supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its specific policies. These include the Nutrition Action Plan¹ which targets SDG2 and EU Gender Action Plan III (GAP III)² which targets SDG5: "Towards gender equality and empowering all women and girls"³. GAP III seeks to ensure that women and girls, in all their diversity, are empowered to participate fully and assume responsibilities equal to those of men and boys in social, economic and political spheres, and have a voice in decision-making processes at all levels, both public and private. Empowering women and girls is a central theme of GAP III.

The action plan guides the integration of gender issues across all EU programmes, acknowledging that "socially constructed gender norms shape dynamics, roles, time allocation, mobility, access to resources and decision-making, all of which affect dietary habits and the immediate determinants of nutrition and health within households"⁴. Therefore, addressing malnutrition in all its forms is inextricably linked to advancing gender equality.

The SANOI (Food and Nutritional Security in the Indian Ocean) programme, led by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and the EU⁵, places an emphasis on women's empowerment through its initiatives to improve food and nutritional security in the region.

Measuring progress made in empowering women, especially within agricultural and food-related projects, calls for indicators that are sensitive and tailored to local socio-cultural customs. Existing tools, such as the *Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index* (WEAI)⁶ and its variants (A-WEAI, Pro-WEAI), as well as the *Women's Empowerment in Nutrition Index* (WENI)⁷ and its simplified version (A-WENI), have proven to be complex and expensive to implement within the SANOI project's monitoring and evaluation framework. This is largely because they operate independently from the programme's existing monitoring and evaluation processes.

The *Nutrition Research Facility* (NRF), operating under the EU-funded *Knowledge and Research for Nutrition* project, was approached by the SANOI programme steering team to develop a practical indicator to measure women's empowerment. The aim was to create a tool that could be seamlessly integrated into the programme's monitoring and evaluation activities by simply adding targeted questions to household surveys, focus group discussions and semi-structured interviews already in use.

This document outlines the NRF's approach to designing and piloting a simplified indicator for women's empowerment, specifically tailored for the SANOI programme within the framework of the baseline data collection survey to feed all the other indicators.

Ten steps

The NRF's methodology was based on a 10 step process.

Step 1. The process began with the development of a conceptual framework, grounded in a contextualisation of existing knowledge on gender issues. This led to the identification of four key domains central to women's empowerment: decision-making; mobility; participation and leadership; and access to and control over resources.

Step 2. To generate both quantitative and qualitative insights, a set of closed questions was integrated into the household survey to obtain measurable data on women's empowerment. In addition, targeted questions on empowerment were embedded within semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions, enriching the dataset with qualitative elements.

Step 3. Questions for the semi-structured interviews (Table 1), focus group discussions (Table 2) and the household survey (Table 3) were then developed, taking into account the four gender domains identified in the first step. For the household survey, each domain was broken down into several sub-domains, giving rise to a total of 42 closed questions based on existing indicators, but simplified for easier application.

¹ European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships. Action plan on nutrition: eighth progress report: April 2022 - March 2024, Publications Office of the European Union, 2024, <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/f5678737-8499-11ef-a67d-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
² https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-01/join-2020-17-final_en.pdf

³ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/fr/gender-equality/>
⁴ MQSUN-Gender_Topic 15, nov 2020 https://mqsunplus.path.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/FR_MQSUN-Gender-Topic-Guide_15Nov20_final.pdf
⁵ <https://www.commissionoceanindien.org/portfolio-items/securite-alimentaire/>
⁶ <https://www.ifpri.org/project/weai/>
⁷ <https://gender.cgiar.org/tools-methods-manuals/womens-empowerment-nutrition-index-weni>

Table 1: Questions for assessing women's empowerment in Semi-structured Interviews (SSI)

1	Do women in your community have access to all household productive resources? (land, agricultural inputs, materials, financial capital) If not, why not?
2	Who is primarily responsible for making decisions on agricultural investments and the allocation of income for food, education and other expenses?
3	Have there been any changes in recent years in the types of jobs held by women and men and in decision-making within their households?
4	Do women attend training events, demonstrations, learning group meetings or take part in other activities (e.g. voting, serving as a delegate, holding office)? If not, why not?

Table 2: Questions to assess women's empowerment in group discussions

1	Do women have access to all the household's productive resources? (land, agricultural inputs, materials, financial capital) If not, why not?
2	Who in the household usually has the most access to or knowledge of agricultural technologies/equipment and financial services? Why is this?
3	Who usually decides how much of the income generated by the wife and husband is spent on household food?
4	How are decisions about the family's medical care usually made?. If a woman wants to go to a basic healthcare centre, does she decide on her own or does she have to ask for permission?
5	How do the women in your community decide how to spend their time? Do they need to consult their husbands? Why is this? Do they receive help with tasks, if so which tasks?
6	Have there been recent changes in household decision-making? Please explain.
7	How do women become involved in a farmers' organisation? Are there women farmers in your fokontany or Commune who are leaders or play a leadership roles? Do these women leaders speak out publicly and are they listened to in the community?
8	If there is physical violence in a household, where can the victim get help?

Table 3: Questions to assess women's empowerment in household surveys - only women are questioned (questions in bold are those retained after simplification of the method, see table 4 and appendices)

	Question	Gender domain	Answers	Score
1	Have you had a paid job in the last 12 months?	Access to resources	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	If so, who usually decides how the money you earn is used?	Decision-making	1. You 2. Together 3. Your husband 4. Another person decides	1 0.75 0.50 0
2	Does your husband have a paid job?	Access to resources	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	If so, who usually decides how the money your husband has earned is used?	Decision-making	1. You 2. Together 3. Your husband 4. Other	1 0.75 0.50 0
3	Are you free to decide to initiate your own income-generating activity (IGA)?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. A little 3. Not at all	1 0.25 0
4	Do you have full control (production, sales, income) of this IGA?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. A little 3. Not at all	1 0.25 0
5	To what extent do you contribute to deciding which crops to plant on the family plot?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.50 0.25 0
6	To what extent are you involved in deciding whether new farming practices should be introduced on the family plot?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.75 0.50 0
7	To what extent are you involved in deciding about production management, storage, sales and pricing, and consumption?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.75 0.50 0
8	To what extent are you involved in deciding which animals should be kept for the household?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.75 0.50 0

9	To what extent do you contribute to decision making about the techniques you use to rear your own animals?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.75 0.50 0
10	To what extent do you contribute to decision making about the sale, price and consumption of your animals?	Decision-making	1. I decide alone 2. I decide with my husband 3. A little 4. Not at all	1 0.75 0.50 0
11	How much of what you earn do you usually keep for yourself?	Access to resources	1. All the income 2. The majority 3. A share 4. None	1 0.75 0.5 0
12	What control do you have over income in cash and in kind from all sources of household income?	Access to resources	1. Full control 2. Majority control 3. Some control 4. No control	1 0.75 0.5 0
13	Have you ever taken out a loan from a financial institution or savings group to develop your activity?	Access to resources	1. Yes 2. Yes, with my husband 3. No	1 0.5 0
14	Who usually controls production, goods and sales in your household?	Access to resources	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
15	Who usually controls the purchase of agricultural inputs for your crops?	Access to resources	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
16	Who usually makes the decisions on major purchases such as land, livestock, furniture, house repairs, etc. for the household?	Access to resources	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
17	Who usually makes the decisions about buying food for the family with the income earned by the household?	Access to resources	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
18	Who usually makes decisions about purchases for everyday household needs: food, water, etc.?	Access to resources	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
19	Who usually makes decisions about medical care for yourself?	Decision-making	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
20	Who usually makes decisions about your children's medical care?	Decision-making	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.5 0.75 0
21	If you have to go to the health centre, do you need to obtain permission from a family member before going for treatment?	Mobility	1. No 2. No, but I tell them 3. Yes, but there's no problem if I don't 4. Yes, otherwise it creates problems	1 0.75 0.5 0
22	Who usually makes decisions about your children's nutrition?	Decision-making	1. Me 2. My husband 3. Together 4. Another person	1 0.50 0.75 0
23	How do you meet the costs of healthcare, nutrition and other services?	Access to resources	1. Use savings 2. Take out a loan 3. Sell products 4. Sell resources	1 0.25 0.75 0
24	I usually get help with household chores from my husband and other family members	Decision-making	1. No 2. Yes 3. Sometimes 4. No idea	0 1 0.5 0.25
25	My husband, my children and I share the agricultural work	Decision-making	1. No 2. Yes 3. Sometimes 4. No idea	0 1 0.75 0.50

	With regard to mobility, is the following situation acceptable to you?	Mobility		
26	7.3.1 Does your husband allow you to work or do business alone in your fokontany?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
27	7.3.2 Does your husband allow you to work or do business alone outside your fokontany?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
28	7.3.3 Does your husband allow you to work or do business outside your fokontany with other women?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
29	7.3.4 Does your husband accept that you participate/assist in an event/training session or other activity on your own in your fokontany?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
30	7.3.5 Does your husband accept that you participate/assist in an event/training or other activity on your own outside your fokontany?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
31	7.3.6 Does your husband allow you to participate/attend an event/training session or other event on your own outside your fokontany with other women?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
32	Can you visit relatives/acquaintances/friends alone?	Mobility	1. Never 2. Yes, with permission 3. Yes, I just inform them 4. Not relevant	0 0.5 1 0
	Have you already had the opportunity to express your ideas and/or needs this year to:	Participation and leadership		
33	8.1.1 Fokontany security committees		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
34	8.1.2 Committee meetings, consultation groups and decision making meetings		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
35	8.1.3 Any collective action to request public services		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
36	8.1.4 Approach any official collectively or individually to request action		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
37	8.1.5 Campaign for an election for public office		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
38	8.1.6 Hold an administrative position in the fokontany or beyond		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
39	Are you currently a member of any group (youth club, farmers' organisation, women's association, self-help group, political party, NGO, cooperative, religious group, caste/kinship group)?	Participation and leadership	1. No 2. Yes	0 1
40	Which of the following best describes the circumstances in which you joined the group?	Participation and leadership	1. Your personal decision 2. Advice from your husband 3. Advice from a third party	1 0.75 0.5
41	Do you need your spouse's/other person's permission to hold a position of responsibility within the group/association to which you belong?	Participation and leadership	1. No 2. Yes	0 1
42	In your opinion, are the following behaviours acceptable:	Participation and leadership		
	Coldness and indifference		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
	Verbal abuse		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
	Restrictions on mobility and use of resources		1. No 2. Yes	0 1
	Physical violence in relation to these questions over the past year?		1. No 2. Yes	0 1

Step 4. The sampling methodology was then refined to ensure gender sensitivity. For the household survey, the focus was on couple households with women of childbearing age (15-49). The interviews were conducted directly with the women.

Group discussions were aimed at women of childbearing age, whether single or in a couple, and men aged between 15 and 60 (separate groups of men and women, 8 participants per group). Semi-structured interviews targeted women in leadership positions or those engaged in community affairs.

Step 5. Subsequently, the response options for the closed survey questions were finalised and a scoring system was established to each, as well as a method for calculating the women's empowerment indicator and its classification thresholds. The following choices were made:

- ◆ Response types: each question offered two to four reply options.
- ◆ Scoring: each response was assigned a score between 0 and 1 (0 - 0.25 - 0.5 - 0.75 - 1) reflecting the level of empowerment (0 representing low empowerment and 1 high empowerment).
- ◆ Calculating scores by domain: for each of the four domains, the method of calculating scores was defined as the average of the scores obtained for the questions relating to that domain.
- ◆ Overall empowerment score: this was derived as a mean of the four domain scores, based on the assumption that each domain is of equal importance.
- ◆ Classification thresholds: above 0.8 for a 'desirable' level of empowerment; between 0.6 and 0.8 for an 'acceptable' level of empowerment; and a score below 0.6 for an 'unsustainable' level of empowerment. These thresholds were inspired by the A-WENI and A-WEAI classifications. They were validated by cross-referencing quantitative findings with qualitative data in order to confirm their appropriateness and relevance.

Step 6. The survey questions and corresponding answer choices were translated into the local language. The first version of the manual was used as a guide for the interviewers. It was used as a support to interactively train interviewers in data collection, with particular emphasis on understanding gender issues and on the interviewer's approach to such. During training, potential challenges and cultural sensitivities were identified, enabling these to be taken into account when adapting the questions and the guide. Ethical considerations, such as informed consent to answer the questionnaire, confidentiality, anonymity of responses, respect for rights and the principle of 'do no harm' were addressed during the training.

Step 7. The questionnaires were then tested under field conditions on a small scale. This phase made it possible to assess the duration of the surveys, the flow of questions and the articulation between gender-related questions and other thematic areas of the programme. Field observations also provided insights into the interviewers' performance and helped identify risks of misunderstanding or misinterpretation. Following these tests, adjustments were made to the overall data collection process and the wording of the questions. The revised gender questionnaire in the household survey was found to take approximately 30 minutes.

Step 8. A simple, clear and easy-to-use data entry mask was then created on a tablet using KOBO software. The questionnaires incorporated predefined data validation formats and conditional display logic for dependent questions, to minimise data entry errors.

Step 9. This was the field survey phase to gather the basic data. Mixed-gender teams (one male and one female interviewer), supervised by field supervisors, were mobilised to gather responses. Household surveys were coded directly on the tablets. Questionnaires on women's empowerment were only administered to women, and only by the female interviewer. Data from semi-structured interviews and group discussions were recorded, transcribed into the local language and then translated into French. All the data were checked and validated by the supervisors. In total, baseline data collection involved interviews with women from 1,280 households (644 in the intervention zone and 636 in the control zone); 42 women participated in semi-structured interviews on gender issues; and 184 people participated in group discussions, including 88 women. (Sampling plan: fokontany in the intervention group were randomly selected from those benefiting from the SANOI programme - fokontany for the control group were close to those benefiting from the intervention - the households within each group were selected according to a systematic random design).

Step 10. Drawing on the baseline survey data, statistical analyses were conducted to simplify the women's empowerment measurement method. The objective was to reduce the number of questions, while maintaining a level of reliability comparable to the original 42 question format. An initial statistical assessment identified the contribution of each question to the overall empowerment score. The least decisive questions were removed, while some were regrouped or reworded, leading to a final selection of 25 questions (table 4). The 25 questions selected are shown in bold in Table 3.

Table 4: Simplification of the measurement of the women's empowerment score by reducing the number of questions per domain

Domains	Initial method for measuring women's empowerment with 42 questions	Simplified method for measuring women's empowerment with 25 questions (see table 3)
Access to and control of resources	11	8
Decision-making	14	7
Mobility	8	4
Participation and leadership	9	6
Total	42	25

Simplification of the method to reduce the number of questions and survey duration

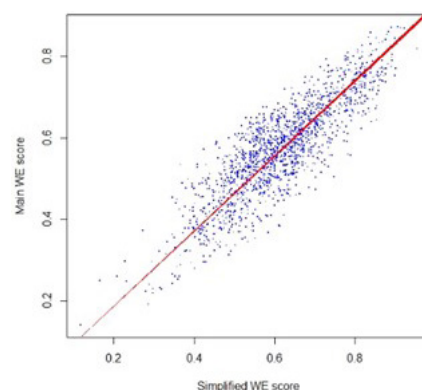
Comparative statistical tests, notably Cronbach's alpha test*, were carried out to compare the reliability of the results obtained with the two versions of the method (initial, with 42 questions, versus simplified with 25 questions). The reduction from 42 to 25 questions proved to be statistically valid. The tests carried out on the overall score and on the score for each of the four areas of women's empowerment gave alpha values of between 0.76 and 0.97, indicating a robust level of reliability and consistency between the two methods (table 5).

Table 5: Measurement of correlations between the results obtained using the initial approach for measuring women's empowerment and those obtained using the simplified approach reduced to 25 questions

Correlation/association measurement	Correlation coefficient	p-value*
Women's empowerment: initial global score vs. simplified global score	0.86	***
Access to resources: initial score vs. simplified score	0.85	***
Decision-making: initial score vs. simplified score	0.76	***
Mobility: initial score vs. simplified score	0.84	***
Participation and leadership: initial score vs. simplified score	0.97	***

A scatter diagram of the global empowerment scores obtained with the simplified method compared with the initial method was generated (Figure 1). The regression line has a slope of 0.924, demonstrating a remarkably strong correlation between the results of the two methods. The "acceptable" autonomisation threshold, defined at 0.6 for the initial method, was 0.649 with the simplified method.

Figure 1: Scatter plot between the global empowerment scores obtained by the initial method vs. the simplified method



Analysis of the relationship between various aspects of women's empowerment and other factors influencing nutritional status, revealed several statistically significant associations:

- ♦ Women whose empowerment scores exceed the acceptability threshold are **less likely to experience poverty**, whether measured by the poverty probability index or the multidimensional poverty index.
- ♦ Women with an empowerment score above the acceptability threshold are **more likely to enjoy greater dietary diversity for themselves and their households**, as measured by the women's minimum dietary diversity index or the minimum acceptable diet index for children under two. Empowering women contributes to the reduction of all forms of household malnutrition, including anaemia in women of childbearing age and stunted growth in children.
- ♦ Additionally, women with empowerment scores above the acceptability threshold tend to achieve **higher agroecological performance scores** compared to those below the threshold.

Table 6: Comparison of indicator averages between independent and non-independent women using the initial and simplified methods

Indicators / women's empowerment scale	Averages ± standard errors : Non-autonomous		Averages ± standard errors : Autonomous		t-tests †	
	Initial method	Simplified method	Initial method	Simplified method	Initial method	Simplified method
Agro-ecological scores	32.33 ± 0.35	32.97 ± 0.34	35.83 ± 0.39	35.17 ± 0.41	t=6.7, df=1403, p<0.0001 (***)	t=4.1, df=1249, p<0.0001 (***)
Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	0.62 ± 0.0039	0.62 ± 0.0039	0.60 ± 0.0044	0.60 ± 0.0043	t=3.1, df=1493, p=0.0081 (***)	t=3.1, df=1493, p=0.0018 (***)
Probability of poverty index	67.39 ± 0.8961	66.45 ± 0.8986	57.37 ± 1.1130	58.10 ± 1.129	t=7.0, df=1435, p<0.0001 (***)	t=5.8, df=1375, p<0.0001 (***)
Dietary diversity score	3.23 ± 0.443	3.24 ± 0.431	3.68 ± 0.0545	3.68 ± 0.0568	t=-6.4, df=1443, p<0.0001 (***)	t=-6.2, df=1331, p<0.0001 (***)
Minimum acceptable diet for children under 2 years of age	0.24 ± 0.0167	0.28 ± 0.0176	0.44 ± 0.0249	0.38 ± 0.0245	t=-4.7, df=567, p<0.0001 (***)	t=6.2, df=568, p=0.0157 (**)

† Significant levels : NS not significant, p-values less than 0.1 (*), less than 0.05 (**), less than 0.01 (***)

* Cronbach's alpha is a statistic used in psychometrics to measure the internal consistency or reliability of answers to questions asked in a test (answers to questions on the same subject must be correlated).

Applying the female threshold value of 0.649 using the simplified method produced results regarding associations with nutritional status factors comparable to those obtained with the initial method (table 6).

A 25-question survey is sufficient to reliably measure women's empowerment

The analyses suggest that future surveys could use the method developed, based solely on the 25 questions, without any significant loss of reliability. This simplification could reduce the time required to administer the questionnaires, if necessary (the 25 questions take around thirty minutes).

Building on these insights, the initial SANOI questionnaire was revised, with a reformulation of the questions, response methods, scores and breakdown of questions by gender area. The proposed new questionnaire contains 25 questions divided into four gender-related areas: decision-making; mobility and task-sharing; participation and leadership; and access to and control over resources (appendix), though it was not used in this study.

In conclusion, this case study demonstrates that it is possible to integrate questions relating to women's empowerment into the existing monitoring and evaluation framework, enabling this dimension to be taken into account when assessing the impact of the programme. This can be achieved without significantly increasing the complexity, time and budget allocated to programme monitoring and evaluation. Such a methodology can be readily adapted and replicated in other programmes.

However, some limitations should be noted

1. The empowerment questionnaire, developed specifically for the SANOI programme, was not compared with other established empowerment indicators, such as the A-WEAI, collected from the same households.
2. The simplified 25-question version has not yet been tested in this, or any other study to date. The longer 42-question questionnaire was used for the baseline survey of the SANOI programme, and reused for the endline survey, in order to obtain comparable data and assess the potential effects of the programme.
3. The questions in the present study were tailored to the context of the SANOI programme and Madagascar, where the survey took place. The simplified 25-question questionnaire could serve as a basis and source of inspiration for other programmes, but this may require the questions to be reformulated and adapted to the geographical, socio-economic and programme context.
4. As part of the household survey, questions on women's empowerment were only asked of women in the households surveyed. We could also consider questioning men, to compare the results and analyse gender bias.

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For further information:

<https://www.nutrition-research-facility-studies.eu/women-empowerment-in-nutrition>



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Contact: nrf@agrinatura-eu.eu



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Appendix

Selection, reformulation and reorganisation of the 25 questions of the simplified household survey method for assessing women's empowerment

Decision-making			Score
1	Are you free to decide to initiate an income-generating activity (IGA) of your own?	1. Yes, I make my own decisions 2. I decide with my husband on equal terms 3. I decide, but I have to respect my husband's conditions 4. I decide with the help of a third party 5. Not at all (I have no rights)	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
2	Who makes the decisions about managing your IGA (production, sales, income)?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
3	To what extent do you play a part in deciding which crops to plant on the household plot or the plot controlled by your husband?	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
4	Over the last 12 months, to what extent have you contributed to decision-making, production management, storage, sales and pricing and consumption?	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
5	To what extent are you involved in deciding which types of animals should be kept for your household?.	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
6	Over the last 12 months, to what extent have you contributed to decision making about the sale, price or consumption of your animals?	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
7	Over the past 12 months, to what extent have you contributed to decisions on whether to adopt new practices and/or techniques for your farming and livestock activities?	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
8	Who usually makes decisions about medical care for you and your children?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
9	Over the last 12 months, what contribution have you made to decisions about the quantity of crops and livestock (cereals, roots, tubers, chicken, etc.) to be kept for household consumption?	1. I contribute fully to our decision 2. I decide with my husband 3. My husband consults me for all decisions 4. I am partially involved in certain decisions 5. My husband decides everything	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
Mobility and task-sharing			
10	Do you usually receive help with household chores from your husband, children and other family members?	1. Yes, there is a fair sharing of tasks in my household 2. Yes, but only if I ask 3. Tasks are sometimes shared equally 4. Tasks are rarely shared equally 5. No, the tasks are not shared equally and I have to do everything on my own	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
11	Do you usually receive help in your roles and responsibilities for your productive tasks: work in the fields and your IGAs?	1. Yes, there is a fair sharing of tasks in my household 2. Yes, but only if I ask 3. Tasks are sometimes shared equally 4. Tasks are rarely shared equally 5. No, the tasks are not shared equally and I have to do everything on my own	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
12	Does your husband allow you to move freely in and/or out of your fokontany independently of the reason (work, attending an event, training or other)?	1. Yes 2. Yes, but with permission 3. Yes, but with conditions and permission 4. Sometimes 5. No	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
13	If you have to go to the healthcare centre, do you need to obtain permission from a family member before going for treatment?	1. I can go without permission 2. I can go, but I have to inform 3. I can go with my husband's permission 4. I can go if assisted by another person 5. I can't go	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0

Participation and leadership			
14	Are you currently a member of any group (youth club, farmers' organisation, women's association, self-help group, political party, NGO, cooperative, religious group, caste/kinship group)?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
15	Have you ever held a position of responsibility within the group/association to which you belong?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
16	To the best of your knowledge, which of the following behaviours would you consider to be gender-based violence?		
	a. Coldness or being ignored	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	b. Verbal abuse	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	c. Mobility restrictions	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	d. Physical violence	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
	e. Economic violence	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
Access to and control of resources			
17	Have you had a paid job in the last 12 months?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
18	Who usually controls the money you earn?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
19	Has your husband been earning money from a job over the last 12 months?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
20	Who usually decides how the money your husband/wife earns will be used?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
21	Do you have your own crop growing area?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
22	Do you have free access to your household's agricultural equipment?	1. Yes 2. No	1 0
23	Who controls decisions on the management and purchase of high nutritional value food and water requirements for your household?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
24	Who controls decisions about the production of nutritious food (agricultural and animal products) for your household's consumption?	1. Myself 2. I do, but I consult my husband (or a third party) for their opinion. 3. My husband (or a third party) but he consults me for my opinion 4. The two of us, with the help of a third party 5. My husband	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0
25	How do you manage the costs associated with your family's healthcare services?	1. Use savings 2. Sell products 3. Sell resources 4. Take out a loan 5. Do nothing	1 0.75 0.5 0.25 0