

March & April
2024

DATA FOR IMPACT

D4I Monitor



2017 Jonathan Torgovnik/Getty Images/Images of Empowerment

Celebrating International Women's Day through Gender Integration across Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL)

Gender equality is critical to achieving global public health goals. That's why D4I prioritizes gender integration throughout project activities to ensure high-quality data are available to assess the gender and health outcomes of programs and to guide decision making at all levels. D4I supports the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) integration of gender equality, by incorporating gender into all MERL activities. USAID recently launched a new resource supporting the integration of gender equality into development programming worldwide: [GenderLinks](#). This site features technical guidance, a resource library, in-depth learnings, and much more.

This year's [International Women's Day](#) (IWD) theme, "Invest in women: Accelerate progress," resonates with D4I's mission. While the world has made considerable progress in creating societies where women and girls have a voice and access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, millions remain excluded. The pursuit of gender equality is more vital than ever. In commemoration of IWD on March 8, 2024, this D4I newsletter is highlighting resources, tools, and approaches for effective gender integration.

EVENTS

Upcoming Webinars

Localization in MERL Webinar Series



[Panel Discussion: Shifting Power and the Need to Better Understand Locally Led Capacity Strengthening Efforts](#)

March 27, 9am EDT/16:00 UTC+3

Register Now

Other D4I Webinars

- Observe World Social Work Day on March 19 with Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity (APCCA) and D4I. Join the APCCA's Learning [Session on Strengthening the Social Service Workforce: Findings from a Cross-Country Assessment](#), from 8:30-10am EST.
- Did you miss our recent localization in MERL webinar? Watch the webinar recording to learn more about [Using Sentinel Indicators and Network Analysis to Assess Health Program Sustainability in Nigeria](#).

RESOURCES



Updated Integrate Gender Webpage

How can we apply a gender lens to determine data needs, articulate study questions, design and implement studies, visualize data, encourage data use, and assess and strengthen local capacity?

The resources on our updated [Integrate Gender page](#) and videos on the [Integrate Gender YouTube Playlist](#) offer insights into using a gender lens to ensure that the needs, realities, and participation of women and men, boys and girls, and gender non-conforming or LGBTQIA+ persons are considered by all parties involved.

Reproductive Empowerment Scale

To strengthen the measurement of reproductive empowerment among women in sub-Saharan Africa, D4I developed and validated a multidimensional scale that can be



incorporated into survey instruments. The [Reproductive Empowerment Scale](#) consists of five short subscales that measure women's: (1) communication with healthcare providers, (2) communication with partners, (3) reproductive health (RH) decision making, (4) social support for RH, and (5) social norms related to women's RH and fertility. Read this brief in [English](#) or [French](#) or watch this [webinar](#) to find out more.



Gender Integration Guidance

Looking for guidance on integrating gender in monitoring, evaluation, and research? D4I's [Standard Operating Procedure \(SOP\) for Integrating Gender](#) includes definitions of key terms, details on why gender must be integrated into activities, guidance on language use, example scenarios, and prompts to aid researchers in considering gender integration at every stage of the process.



Family Planning (FP) and Reproductive Health (RH) Indicators Database

Did you know that you can find a comprehensive listing of the most widely used indicators for evaluating FP/RH programs in low- and middle-income country contexts all in one place? Check out the [FP and RH Indicators Database!](#)

In the database, you can explore the [technical area on gender](#). All indicators for this area include definitions, data requirements, data source(s), purpose, issues, and—if relevant—gender implications. The gender indicators in this database include the following technical areas:

- [Female Genital Cutting](#)
- [Male Engagement in Reproductive Health Programs](#)
- [Sexual and Gender-Based Violence](#)
- [Women and Girls' Status and Empowerment](#)



Gender M&E Course

Interested in learning what gender M&E is and why it's important to health and gender programming? [This eLearning course](#) was developed for program managers working on gender-focused programs, gender advisors, and individuals working in gender affairs, ministries of gender, or other government departments focusing on gender who seek to strengthen their understanding of M&E. It is also applicable to M&E officers who seek to integrate a gender perspective into their M&E efforts.



A Provider Self-Assessment Tool to Measure Gender Competency for Family Planning Services

How can FP providers ensure that their clients reach their RH goals despite barriers they may face because of their gender? The [Gender Competency Self-Assessment Tool for Family Planning Providers](#) provides a method for measuring the knowledge, attitudes, and skills of individual providers in six domains of gender competency. By completing this self-assessment, providers can determine their current level of gender competency, and thereby

identify areas of strength and weakness in each domain. Explore the tool, [read this blog](#), and watch the webinars below for more information.

- [A Tool to Measure the Gender Competency of Family Planning Providers: Insights from Provider Experience in Ghana](#) (December 2023)
- [Development of a Tool to Assess the Gender Competency of Family Planning Providers](#) (February 2022)



D4I's Tools for Gender-integration in MERL

For more gender integration resources, explore the publications, webinars, tools, courses, videos, and toolkits in this [FPinsight collection](#).

NEWS & UPDATES

New Blog Posts



Harvesting groundnuts in Zimbabwe. © 2013 David Brazier/International Water Management Institute (IWMI) Photo Courtesy of John McConnico/United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

- [Every Child Everywhere: Assessing USAID's Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy](#), by Caitlin Showalter
- [Better Data Means Better Policy to Support Persons with Disabilities in Moldova](#), by Meg Langley and Camelia Gheorghe

NEW PUBLICATIONS



- [Family Planning Needs across the Life Cycle in Bangladesh: System Considerations for the DGFP and DGH](#)



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



This email was produced with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of the Data for Impact (D4I) associate award 7200AA18LA00008, which is implemented by the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in partnership with Palladium International, LLC; ICF Macro, Inc.; John Snow, Inc.; and Tulane University. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States government.

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