

# Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in MENA and Arab States Region

## Pillar 3: Freedom from Violence and Discrimination

Virtual Workshop  
15 April 2020



# Agenda



Activity/Task	Time (EDT) A.M.	Time (EEST) P.M.	Duration
Introduction	7:00 – 7:15	2:00 – 2:15	15 minutes
Brief overview of methodology and walkthrough of chapter	7:15 – 7:30	2:15 – 2:30	15 minutes
Overview of Section and Key Questions: VAWG	7:30 – 8:30	2:30 – 3:30	45 minutes
Overview of Section and Key Questions: Rights and Empowerment	8:30 – 9:30	3:00 – 3:30	45 minutes
Overview of Section and Key Questions: Access to Justice	8:30 – 9:00	3:30 – 4:00	45 minutes
Final remarks/next steps	10:00 – 10:15	5:00 – 5:15	30 minutes



# Brief Overview of Scope and Methodology

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## **Countries of Investigation:**

Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Gulf Area Office or GAO (Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates), Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen.

## **Timeframe: 2010 – 2019**

Agreed to provide most up-to-date snapshot available based on desk review documentation and quantitative databases.

## **Desk Review Methodology**

Regional-level documentation (to the extent possible) shared by UNICEF and the Reference Group made up the library for this study.

- First round desk review shared October 2019.
- Second round desk review, following the submission of the gaps analysis and robust outline, shared by reference group January 2020.

Statistical databases and indices as agreed (i.e. priority statistical data sources presented in the inception report)



# Freedom from Violence and Discrimination

Pillar 3 Overview

# Overview of Pillar 3



## Violence Against Women and Girls

Nature and Scope of VAWG in the Region

Laws and Policies Related to VAWG

Sociocultural Norms and Practices Related to VAWG

Services and Programming for VAWG

## Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls

Gender and Development in the Region

Laws and Policies, including National Women's Machinery and National Action Plans

Sociocultural Norms and Practices Related to Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls

Programming for Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls

## Access to justice

Background on Access to Justice for Women and Girls

Presence of Women in the Legal Field

Sociocultural Norms and Practices Related to Access to Justice for Women and Girls

Services and Programming that Support Access to Justice



# Overview of Discussion

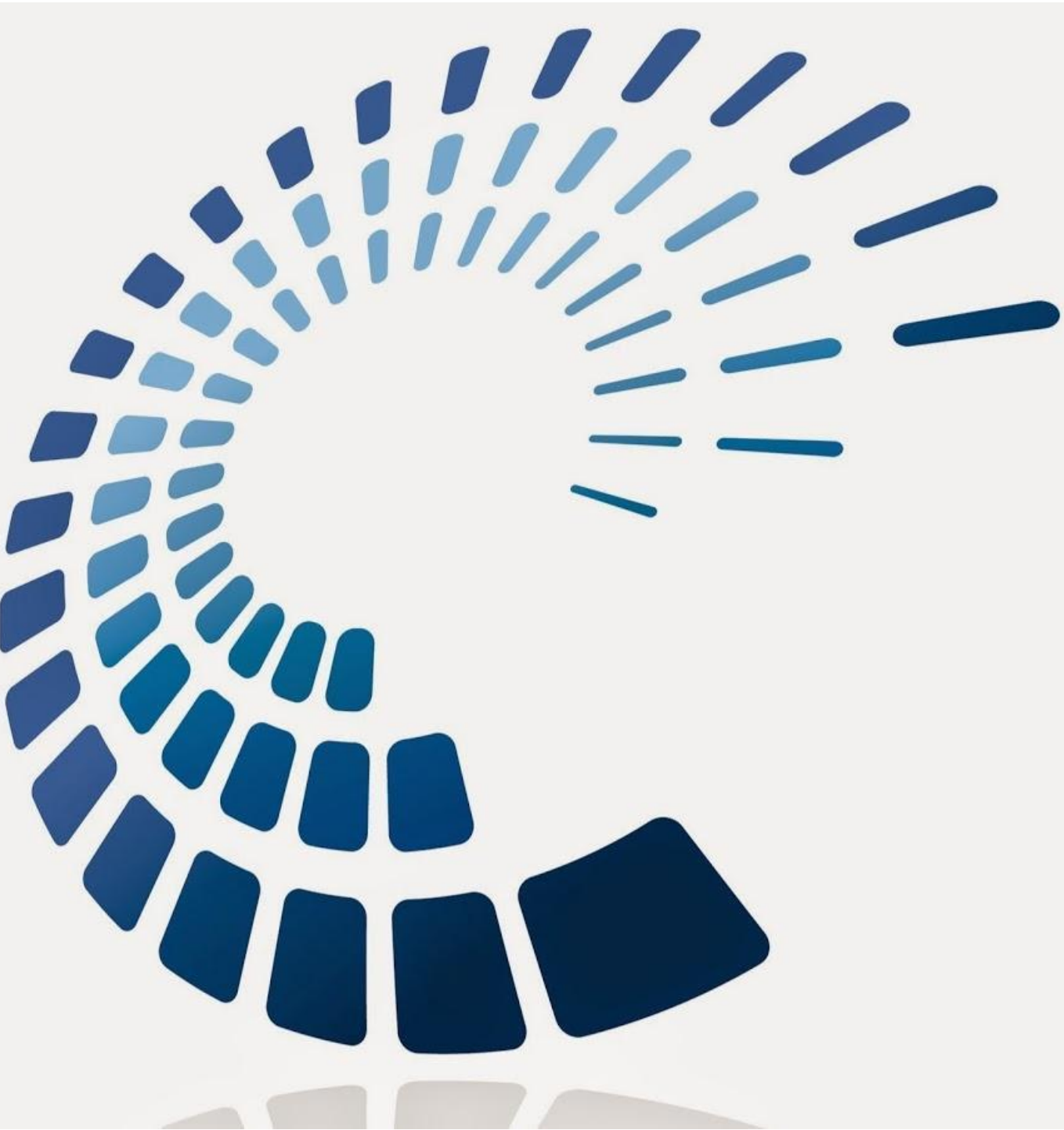
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## Approach

We will first present a brief overview of the report's findings, including areas where there are gaps in information, or where additional sources or feedback are required.

Then, we will focus specifically on areas where the data provided for the report is particularly lacking and inquire if any participants will be able to provide additional resources or data that can help fill those gaps.

If data is not available, we may discuss how best to address the issue.



# Section One: Violence Against Women and Girls



# Overview of Section: Violence Against Women and Girls



- Scope of the problem: While data is inconsistent across countries, there is fairly good representation of different types of VAWG for specific countries. Reviewers are welcome to add additional information as is available, especially more recent evidence that focuses on sub-groups of women and girls (bearing in mind page constraints for the report). **Question about whether to include impact on women and girls in this section?**
- Data regarding Law and Policies related to VAWG is also relatively available. **However, it would be helpful if reviewers would ensure this information is the most up-to-date available.**
- Information on Sociocultural Norms and Practices tends to focus on specific countries and practices rather than a regional snapshot. **Reviewers are encouraged to consider ways norms could be better aggregated across the region/sub-regions.**
- Data regarding Services/Programming is available for some settings, particularly related the Syria conflict. However, it is challenging to know what level of detail to include recognizing the scope of the report. **Input from reviewers about any issues to prioritize in this section are welcome.** (New report on shelters in the region is noted and will be included in next draft.)



# Overview of Section: Rights and Empowerment of Women and Girls

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- Overview: Gender and Development is a new section to replace “risks and protective factors”, as the data better aligned with this framing and many of the risks and protective factors are covered elsewhere. **Anything for reviewers to add to this section?**
- Laws and Policies has a new separate sub-section on women’s machinery linked to the gender action-planning. **It would be helpful if reviewers would ensure this information is up-to-date. It would also be good to get more information about whether women’s machinery and action plans are actually showing results.**
- Sociocultural norms and practices includes interesting new information from UNDP report. **However, it would be good to capture what some of the risks are for specific women and/or girls who speak out about rights and empowerment. Also, originally this section was split out household and community/national level, but these distinctions are not readily available in the literature.**
- Information on Programming for rights and empowerment is quite weak. A lot of empowerment work in the region is through VAWG services. **Can we identify other good practices so as not to overlap with VAWG section?**

# Overview of Section: Access to Justice



- This section, in general, is smaller than the other two because there is a quite a lot of overlap since each chapter covers its own issues related to laws and policies. Also, there is a lack of information about women accessing justice generally, as well as around specific issues and specific populations.
- Given the above, the section on Laws and Policies was replaced with a section on “Presence of Women in the Legal Field.” **Is there more information to be included in this section related to laws and policies related specifically to access to justice? Is there more information about women’s presence in informal justice mechanisms?**
- Sociocultural Norms and Practices provides a summary overview. **Is more detail needed? Where to get additional information on the rural/urban divide; or access to justice in humanitarian and conflict settings? Anything more on legal literacy? Any positive examples of accessing justice?**
- Data regarding Services/Programming to support access to justice is also limited, particularly aggregated at the regional level given wide variations. **Any additional information on human rights/women’s rights institutions promoting access to justice and alignment of justice mechanisms with normative frameworks? Anything more on programmes addressing procedural obstacles? Or on initiatives monitoring access to justice, both formal and informal?**

# Next Steps

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## Reviewers to provide...

- Written feedback on Pillar 3
- Additional documentation to help fill gaps within Pillar 3

**Deadline:** End of day 22 April 2020

**Send to:** [sjalal@unicef.org](mailto:sjalal@unicef.org) (Shoubo Jalal)

**An email with instructions will be sent following workshop to all attendees.**



THANK YOU