



Social Institutions & Gender Index

The Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) measures how discriminatory laws, social norms and practices affect the lives of women and girls around the world. SIGI's unique ranking, dataset and country profiles allow users to compare women's rights and opportunities in 180 countries.

Elements of SIGI 2019

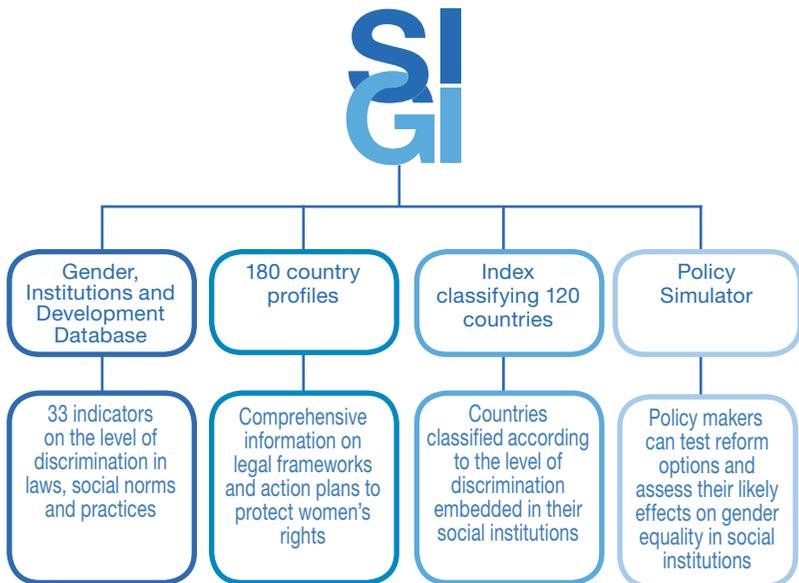


Discriminatory social institutions are the formal and informal laws, social norms and practices that restrict women's and girls' rights, as well as their access to empowerment opportunities and resources.

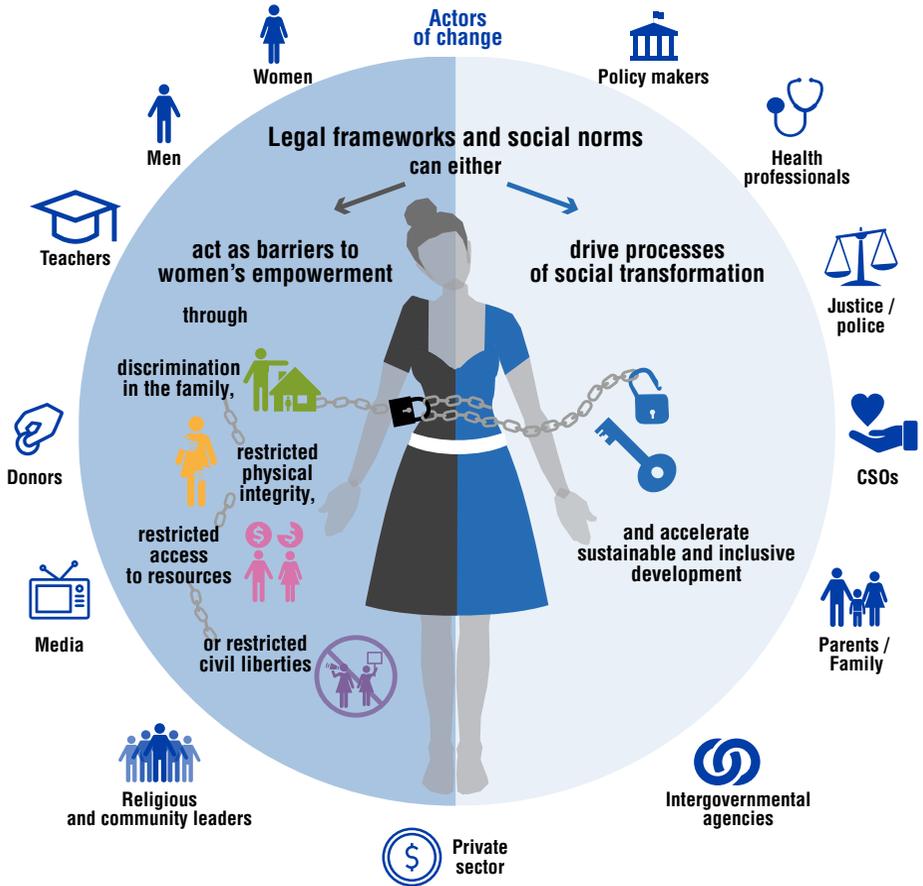
How SIGI helps countries achieve SDG 5

The SIGI is a unique resource to:

- 1. Inform policy makers** and development practitioners on key progress and challenges regarding gender-based discrimination in laws, social norms and practices to create an enabling environment for women and girls.
- 2. Provide analysis and policy recommendations** that help governments maximise the multiple benefits of gender equality for their development strategies.
- 3. Monitor progress** towards gender equality and the efficient implementation of legal reforms. The United Nations uses the SIGI as an official data source to monitor SDG indicator 5.1.1 on “Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex”.



SIGI's approach



Every day, how women and men believe and behave are influenced by what is around them – their families, communities, societies. Nothing is more important than what their communities expect from them, both privately and publicly.

Sometimes, these influences are positive and enhance gender equality; but more often they are negative, and women end up being treated differently and often less than men.

The SIGI gives policy makers the facts and analysis they need to understand and act on these positive and negative influences so that women and men have the same opportunities.



DISCRIMINATION IN THE FAMILY

Progress to date*

Challenges ahead

Child marriage



15 additional countries delayed the legal age of marriage.

In 2018, **16%** of girls aged 15-19 were married before turning 18, compared to 19% in 2012: at this rate, the world would need **100** years to eradicate girl-child marriage.

Household responsibilities



In **149** countries, women and men enjoy equal guardianship rights over their children during marriage.

40 countries recognise the husband solely as head of household, and **27** countries require women by law to obey their husbands, with **16** countries exposing women to legal consequences if they disobey their husbands.

Divorce



In **140** countries, women and men have the same rights to be legal guardians of their children after divorce.

38 countries discriminate against women's rights to initiate divorce.

Inheritance



2 additional countries have eliminated discriminatory legal provisions related to women's inheritance rights.

29 countries discriminate against women's and girls' inheritance rights.

*Positive change since the release of the last edition of the SIGI in 2014.



RESTRICTED PHYSICAL INTEGRITY

Progress to date*

Challenges ahead

Violence against women



14 additional countries enacted legislation to criminalise intimate partner violence.

31% of women have suffered intimate partner violence in their lifetime, and 27% of women declare that it can be tolerated.

Female genital mutilation



3 additional countries criminalised female genital mutilation (FGM).

39% of women have suffered FGM in 29 countries, and **23%** believe the practice should continue.

Missing women



Government interventions and shifting social norms have led to a slight decline in the missing women phenomenon in **4** of the 5 countries where the problem is most acute.

In **8** countries, systematic under-valuation of women and girls has led to a deficit in the number of women alive today.

Reproductive autonomy



2 additional countries removed restrictions on women's reproductive autonomy.

In **119** countries, women still face legal restrictions in the case of an unwanted pregnancy.

*Positive change since the release of the last edition of the SIGI in 2014.



RESTRICTED ACCESS TO PRODUCTIVE AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Progress to date*

Secure access to land assets



89 countries provide for compulsory joint titling of land to couples, and **27** countries implement legal literacy programmes to enable women to understand their land and property rights.

Challenges ahead

16 countries do not guarantee women's access to their land rights, and 15% of agricultural landholders around the world are women.

Secure access to non-land assets



4 countries have made legal reforms to remove restrictions on women's right to own and control property.

34 countries entitle husbands solely to administer and dispose of marital property.

Secure access to formal financial services



107 countries promote gender-sensitive measures to expand women's access to formal financial services.

3 countries require women to have the approval of a male head of household or guardian to open a bank account.

Workplace rights



Paid maternity leave is guaranteed in all but **2** countries, and **91** countries mandate paid paternity leave.

88 countries proscribe women from entering certain professions, and **24** countries require women to have the permission of their husbands or legal guardians to choose a profession or work.

*Positive change since the release of the last edition of the SIGI in 2014.



RESTRICTED CIVIL LIBERTIES

Progress to date*

Challenges ahead

Citizenship rights



3 additional countries allowed women to transfer their nationality to a foreign spouse in the same way as men.

Women's rights to pass on their nationality are still restricted in **49** countries.

Political voice



10 additional countries introduced special measures to promote gender-balanced political representation.

47% of the world's population still believes that men make better political leaders than women.

Freedom of movement



2 countries removed discriminatory requirements regarding passport and ID applications.

In **125** countries, women are more likely than men to feel unsafe walking alone at night in the area where they live.

Access to justice



In **132** countries, women have the same legal rights as men to sue, provide testimony and hold office in the judiciary.

In **85** countries, women are more likely than men to express mistrust in the justice system.

*Positive change since the release of the last edition of the SIGI in 2014.

To learn more about the SIGI

Social Institutions and Gender Index

www.genderindex.org

Gender, Institutions and Development Database

oe.cd/ds/GIDDB2019

SIGI Policy Simulator

oe.cd/sigisim

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