

Sixty-fifth meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean

Special Session: Regional consultation prior to the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

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What is the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)?

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), known as CSW, was created by ECOSOC in **1946** and is the **main global intergovernmental body** dedicated to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Leads the follow-up and review in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and follows up on the 2030 Agenda and achievement of the SDGs.

CSW documents the reality of women and advocates for improving their quality of life, promoting equality between women and men and eliminating discrimination against women.

The outcome of the CSW are the "agreed conclusions" that are negotiated among the States as recommendations to move forward on the priority issue.

CSW68 - 2024

The sixty-eighth session of the CSW will take place from March 11 to 22, 2024 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Priority theme: Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing **poverty** and strengthening **institutions** and **financing** with a gender perspective;

Review theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-third session).

ELABORATING ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PRIORITY THEME

1.

Elements that characterize the
Feminization of poverty



Elements that characterize the Feminization of poverty

Implies deprivation of women of the right to a decent standard of living, food security and nutrition, housing, quality healthcare and education.

It is a multidimensional concept that goes beyond income poverty

Women's experiences of poverty are shaped by discriminatory laws, lack of economic opportunity, pervasiveness of biased social norms and stereotypes

All of which characterize and impact their life experiences.

Women's poverty is exacerbated by other dimensions of inequality such as: race, ethnicity, disability, place of residence and immigration status, sexual orientation and gender identity, among others.

The **effects** translate into inequality in access to land and assets, technology, financing, employment, decision-making spaces and time availability, among others.

Elements that characterize the Feminization of poverty

The feminization of poverty cannot be properly understood without looking at time poverty.

The disproportionate amount of unpaid domestic and care work performed by women limits, among other things, their time, access to decent work, quality education and health care.

This situation leads to the exhaustion of their capacities due to long hours of physically demanding -remunerated and unpaid- work and lack of access to basic infrastructure and appropriate services.

Elements that characterize the Feminization of poverty

Climate change, environmental degradation and pollution have a disproportionate impact on women living in poverty.

Households with lower incomes frequently endure higher temperatures, are closer to areas at high risk of flooding, and face displacement due to climate-related disasters.

Women and girls, who are primarily responsible for care and domestic work, have to travel farther for food and water, increasing their time poverty.

Environmental and climate policies that drive the transition to a sustainable, low-carbon economy will have a significant impact on the future of work.

→ It is critical that the transition to a low-carbon economy must empower women.

Recommendations for addressing poverty from a gender perspective

Erradicating feminized poverty and women's poverty requires:

Multidimensional gender
analysis of poverty
including time poverty

Strategies, policy responses
and programmatic
interventions to address
gendered poverty based on
multi-dimensional gender
analysis

Strong social protection
systems that include care
as one of the pillars

ELABORATING ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PRIORITY THEME

2.

**Financing for gender equality and
the eradication of poverty among
women**



Financing for gender equality

The current context, characterized by high inflation, low projected economic growth and a significant increase in the level of indebtedness of the countries, **generates important pressures on public finances and restrictions on fiscal policy.**

However Domestic **public resources** are **the primary source of financing for public goods and services**, allowing to address inequality via redistribution

Financiamiento para la igualdad de género



Iniciativas de Presupuestos con Enfoque de Género (PEG)

The GRB are initiatives aimed at **analyzing** and **transforming** public budgets so that **expenditures** and **revenues** reflect the recognition of differentiated impacts for men and women, generating **changes** in the collection and distribution of public resources to achieve **positive impacts on gender equality**.

Tool to ensure efficiency in the use of resources to address gender equality as well as promote transparency

ONU Mujeres (2022). Presupuestos con enfoque de género. Una hoja de ruta para su implementación desde las experiencias de América Latina. América Latina y el Caribe

Agenda 2030 a framework for commitment to Financing for Gender Equality

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



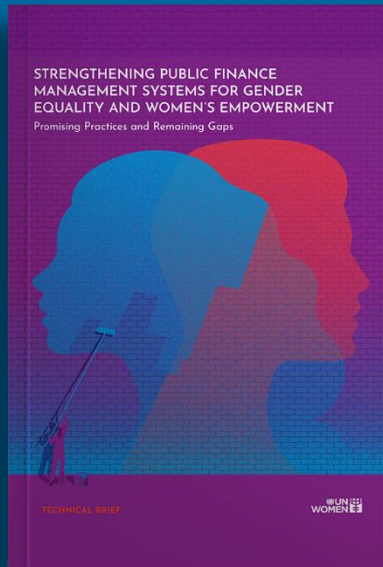
Indicator 5.c.1 measures the “Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment”

The measures include three criteria:

- 1 Addressing gender equality through **programs, policies and resource allocations**
- 2 **Mechanisms and tools** in place to track resource allocations to gender equality
- 3 **Availability of information** about budget allocations for gender equality (**transparency**)

Indicator 5.c.1

Progress in the Region



In 2021, only 10 countries in the LAC reported progress in the indicator

Global Report

WORLD



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Country response from 2018 to 2021 (14)

[Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Panama]

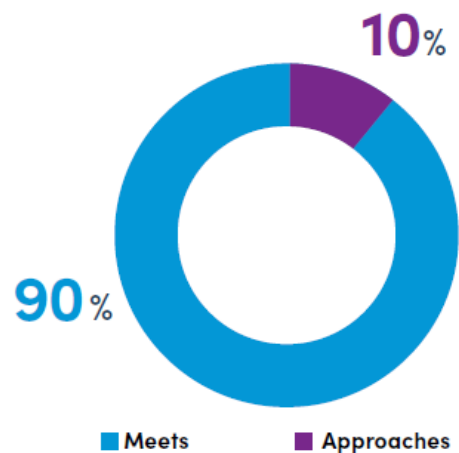
Source: UN Women (2023). Strengthening public finance management systems for gender equality and women's empowerment: Promising practices and remaining gaps. Nueva York.

Indicator 5.c.1 Progress in the Region

Criterion 1.

Addressing gender equality through **programs, policies and resource allocations**

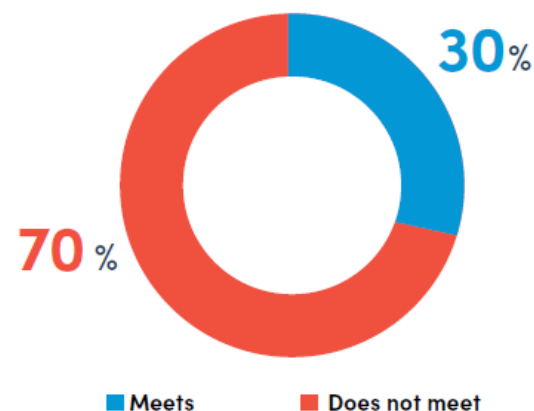
Figure 3. Proportion of LAC countries meeting criterion 1 of indicator 5.c.1: Policies, resources and implementation by 2021



Criterion 2.

Mechanisms and tools for tracking resource allocations for gender equality

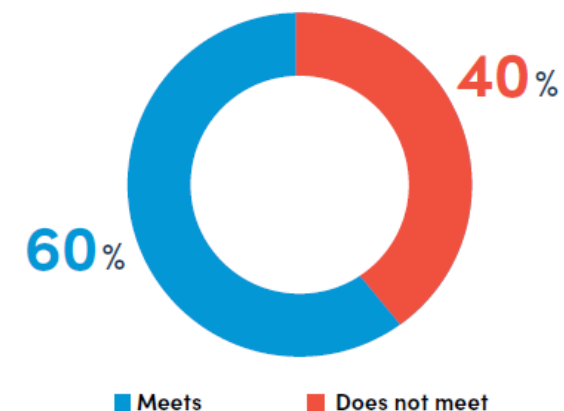
Figure 6. Proportion of LAC countries complying with criterion 2 of indicator 5.c.1 - Monitoring of Funding Allocations



Criterion 3.

Availability of **public information** on allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment

Figure 14. Proportion of LAC countries that meet criterion 3. Availability of information



Recommendations to strengthen financing for gender equality in LAC

2.

Generate **guidelines, tools and instruments** on the analysis of gender gaps in budgetary programs.

4.

Regularly and **transparently monitor budget execution.**

6.

Expand and strengthen measures to **assess the impact** of gender budget allocations.

1.

Include in **normative frameworks** requirements to institutionalize Gender Responsive Budgeting.

3.

Generate **gender analysis** in the budget systematically and periodically in key phases (approval, quarterly account or annual closing).

5.

Produce **periodic monitoring reports and publish** them in real time.

7.

Promote **capacity building processes for public officials** and partnerships with civil society and academia.

ELABORATING ON KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PRIORITY THEME

3.

**Transforming and strengthening
institutions to achieve gender
equality and eradicate poverty
among women**

Transforming and strengthening institutions for achieving gender equality

Public institutions play a crucial role in promoting gender equality and addressing poverty among women.

They establish and enforce **laws and policies** to eliminate structural barriers to gender equality

They control budgets and **allocate resources** for policies and programmes including those contributing to gender equality and women's empowerment

promote transparency and access to information, preventing corrupt practices that constrain women's access to public services and introduce accountability mechanisms to engage women and girls in decisions that affect their lives.

Transforming and strengthening institutions for achieving gender equality

The importance of having machineries for the advancement of women as part of public institutions

They are key actors in the institutional framework of the States to promote in a precise and decisive manner the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

The mainstreaming of the gender perspective in all government branches and levels requires machineries with a clear mandate as a coordinating body with the various actors involved.

In their inter-sectoral and inter-institutional coordinating role, these machineries promote coherence to ensure that gender equality is a substantial part of all public policies, laws and budgets.

Its dialogue with feminist and women's organizations is key to ensuring that states initiatives are aligned with their demands and proposals.

Transforming and strengthening institutions for achieving gender equality

Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women in Latin America and the Caribbean



Transforming and strengthening institutions for achieving gender equality

Beyond hierarchy: Factors that accompany substantive change.

Ensure that MAW has a specific mandate and functions formally established at the highest level.

MAW actions with a national strategy that addresses the country's main needs for achieving gender equality.

Ensure that the MAW has the necessary resources to be able to implement its mandate and fulfill its specific functions in an optimal manner.

Endorse and ensure that MAW has political support at the highest level.

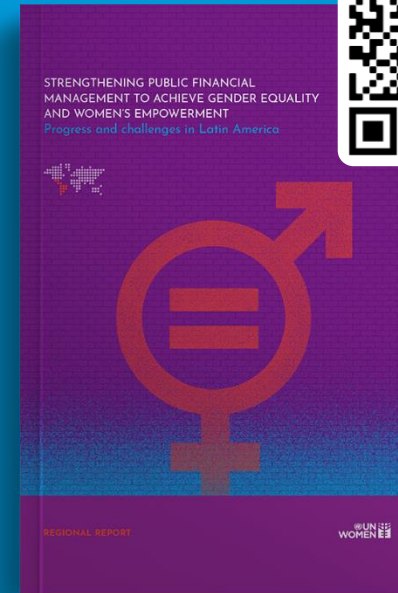
Promote other instances within the different branches and levels of government that, under the coordinating role of the MAW, promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

It is critical to address the ways in which **systems, institutions and financing must be transformed and strengthened to eradicate poverty and achieve gender equality.**

CSW68 is an opportunity for the Latin America and the Caribbean States to contribute to this transformation in line with the Regional Gender Agenda.

MORE INFORMATION:



REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN