

World Bank Gender Strategy 2024-2030: Consultation draft: Input from the Equality Insights program

Overview

The International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) is an Australian-based organisation resourcing diverse women's rights organisations primarily in Asia and the Pacific, and contributing to global feminist movements to advance our vision of gender equality for all.

Equality Insights is a flagship program of IWDA, to redefine how poverty is understood and measured in order to inspire feminist social change. With strategic funding support from the Australian Government, we have developed a world-leading, alternative measure of global poverty designed to overcome the limitations of existing measures by operating at an individual-level and producing gender-sensitive measurement of multidimensional poverty.

Our submission draws from our substantial expertise at the nexus of *individual-level, gender-sensitive, and multidimensional* poverty measurement. It reflects key learnings from our partnerships and collaborations in both the gender equality and poverty measurement fields, including our engagement with the World Bank Group (WBG) over time.

The *Equality Insights* program at International Women's Development Agency **welcomes** the clear positioning in the Gender Strategy consultation draft that gender equality is an urgent imperative, a fundamental human right, a matter of fairness and justice, a foundation for a peaceful and prosperous world and essential for development.

We welcome the proposal to engage with greater ambition in this context. The *Equality Insights* program **supports** the explicit inclusion of sexual and gender minorities, and that the ambition to accelerate gender equality covers all groups that are marginalized because of gender.

We appreciate the recognition that the intersections of gender with poverty, ethnicity, and disability often heighten vulnerability, and the intention to consider the 'groups where gender intersects with other characteristics' (p.22).

We welcome recognition that achieving gender equality requires widespread, sustained engagement, and financing of evidence-based solutions, and that growing evidence on the wide-ranging negative impacts of gender constraints, and on how to address them, can inspire and inform the way forward. This speaks to the enabling value of gender-sensitive data and evidence, particularly for change-makers.

We support the acknowledgement that 'ignoring the connections between poverty and the differential constraints by gender can undermine the effectiveness of poverty reduction efforts.' (pp. 4-5) We also note the recognition that 'Robust data on the differential development experiences and outcomes of sexual and gender minorities in developing countries are scarce, and this jeopardizes achievement of the SDGs and countries' commitment to "leaving no one behind" in addressing poverty and inequality. (p.22)' The need for further investments in data, evidence, and capacity is welcomed in this regard, as is the emphasis on combining front-end design requirements with increased accountability for results, including through strengthening internal mechanism.

We are concerned about the lack of substantive focus on improving evidence and action on the relationship between gender and poverty, given the World Bank Group's (WBG's) mandate and responsibilities for measuring and ending poverty. Improving measurement of the relationship between gender and poverty to inform action has been an agreed global priority since the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995. To move beyond recognition of 'the differential constraints faced by men, women, and sexual and gender minorities,' we need better understanding of the multidimensional reality of poverty and how this differs by gender, disability, ethnicity, location and other individual characteristics. As part of the Gender Strategy refresh, it is vital that the WBG take the opportunity to address the limitations of

standard poverty measurement from a gender perspective and the reliance on longstanding secondary data that do not have an explicit focus on being gender-sensitive.

We seek greater articulation within the strategy of the limitations of household-level measurement of poverty as a foundational constraint on routine poverty data being able to generate an accurate picture of intersectional vulnerability. Addressing this constraint is consistent with the draft Strategy's recognition that 'further knowledge will enable the WBG to better address the needs of sexual and gender minorities and groups marginalized because of a confluence of gender and other characteristics.' (p.22) Additionally, household-level measurement often does not reflect the perspectives of the functional 'head of household' and most fundamentally, it hides the individual experiences of those within a household. Safely collected individual-level intersectional data is a foundation of adaptive and responsive social protection systems. Household-level measurement is also a limit on greater understanding of the differential impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and disaster response and resilience, which are acknowledged in the draft Strategy.

We stress with the utmost importance that the WBG Gender Strategy is a critical juncture in which to explicitly acknowledge the World Bank's role as the custodian agency for poverty measurement and to integrate gender more fully into the WBG's core poverty measurement work and address recognised limitations in primary data collection of gender-disaggregated, intersectional and within-household poverty data. The current exposure draft falls short of acknowledging the inter-relationship between the Bank's focus on promoting gender equality and its obligations and responsibilities as the custodian agency for poverty measurement with the attendant requirement of improving data on gendered poverty.

An opportunity to strengthen understanding of differential constraints and accelerate action on gender inequality and poverty

The draft strategy explicitly recognises the relationship between greater gender equality and reductions in poverty, and differential constraints based on gender, including within households, which influence the effectiveness of poverty reduction efforts. Insight into intersectional vulnerability is currently hampered by the way that poverty itself is measured. The WBG has acknowledged the limitations of household-level measurement of poverty, most explicitly in the 2018 Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report.

There is evidence from studies in several countries that resources are not shared equally within poor households.... We need more comprehensive data to deepen our understanding of how poverty affects individuals and to assess how social programs can be better tailored to meet their needs. The initial findings of this approach suggest that current assistance programs risk missing many poor people who are hidden in non-poor households. (p.6-7)

...

The common approach [to determine how many children, women, and men are poor] assigns all individuals within a household to the same poverty status as the household. However, this masks the potential differences in poverty among household members. Ignoring these decreases the effectiveness of common approaches to targeting poverty reduction interventions and the take-up of these interventions because they do not address the needs and constraints of the poorest individuals... The accumulated evidence of numerous studies and data sources suggests that women and children are often disproportionately affected by poverty. (p.125)
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/30418/9781464813306.pdf>

The 2018 Report followed Bank leadership in convening a two-day workshop with key thinkers and institutions working on individual-level measurement poverty in early 2017 to explore insights and promising approaches. The new Gender Strategy, with its strengthened ambition and recognition of the relationship between gender equality and poverty reduction, is a critical juncture to build on this leadership by outlining an approach, timeframe and pathway for utilising the strengths and insights made possible by individual-level gender-sensitive poverty measurement, which should be multidimensional by design. The World Bank has undertaken analysis to work around current limitations, given 'the absence of individual-level data.' Addressing the foundational constraint will enable expanded insights, ongoingly.

Specific recommendations to strengthen consistency of approach and evidence to support ambition

Improving evidence and understanding of the relationship between gender and poverty directly supports the ambition and focus of the draft Gender Strategy. The directions and objectives in the consultation draft of the Gender Strategy either presuppose, or would benefit from, individual-level, gender-sensitive, multidimensional poverty data. Measuring poverty in a way that captures differential constraints by gender, including within households, and its intersection with other individual characteristics, is a key step if routine poverty data is to provide evidence of gender differences across contexts.

The Gender Strategy is an opportunity to address documented limitations in gender-disaggregated, intersectional and within-household poverty data, which constrain the visibility of, and action on, gender inequality and poverty. This would progress issues identified in the 2018 Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report, and complement work to make more of existing data, by addressing foundational constraints on gender data and evidence, consistent with the intent ‘to engage with greater ambition.’

We urge the following action in finalising the Gender Strategy:

- Specific acknowledgment of the World Bank’s role as the custodian agency of poverty measurement.
- Integrate an explicit focus on advancing measurement of gendered poverty that:
 - builds from relevant statements in the consultation draft;
 - concretely commits to a program of work that advances calls in the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action agreed at the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women to better understand the relationship between gender and poverty, and addresses limitations identified in the 2018 Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report;
 - Spearheads efforts across relevant actors to move towards individual-level, gender-sensitive measurement of multidimensional poverty at scale, applying the Bank’s learning-testing-adapting-scaling approach.
- Recognise the role of feminist organisations and movements in expanding scope for gender-specific policy actions and contributing to collective action by engaging intentionally and in an ongoing way.
- Establish an ongoing multistakeholder consultation and accountability mechanism that supports the Strategy’s focus on action and outcomes.
- Expand the focus countries of the East Asia and Pacific Gender Innovation Lab to include Pacific Island Countries, to recognise their unique gender equality contexts and gender data challenges.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING COMMENTARY

The following table identifies specific aspects of the draft Gender Strategy that require or would be supported and reinforced by expanding individual-level gender-sensitive measurement of poverty, to inform and accelerate action on gender inequality and poverty.

| P | Draft Gender Strategy language | Implications and opportunity |
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| i | <p>OVERVIEW</p> <p>‘Gender equality is an urgent imperative. The world is experiencing an unprecedented set of crises with disproportionately negative impacts on women, girls, sexual and gender minorities, and marginalized groups...</p> <p>At stake is the fundamental human right of gender equality for all people, a matter of fairness and justice. It is a foundation for a peaceful and prosperous world and essential for development. Studies consistently show that removing gender barriers unlocks economic productivity, reduces poverty, deepens social cohesion, and enhances well-being for current and future generations.’</p> | <p>Given the urgency of achieving gender equality in the context of the interconnected crises with disproportionately negative impacts by gender, measuring poverty in a way that cannot be readily disaggregated and hides its gendered dimensions is a foundational constraint on the WBG’s ability to realise its strategy.</p> <p>Evidence-based action on gendered poverty requires evidence of gendered poverty. Expanding individual-level measurement of gender-sensitive, multidimensional poverty will help to reveal gender barriers that sustain poverty and inequality.</p> |
| i | <p>‘Yet achieving gender equality is uniquely challenging and complex. It calls for changes spanning country laws and policies, public and private sector activities, and personal lives. Accomplishing such changes requires a sustained and broad-based commitment, and financing for evidence-based solutions. This is especially difficult in the current global environment of sluggish growth and rising poverty, as governments face hard choices under fiscal and debt constraints. Growing evidence on the wide-ranging negative impacts of gender constraints, and on how to address them, can inspire and inform the way forward.</p> <p>... the new strategy proposes to engage with greater ambition—approaching gender equality for all as essential for global development—and to engage differently.’</p> | <p>Given gender inequality remains ubiquitous, achieving gender equality requires greater ambition, broad-based, widespread, sustained engagement, financing of evidence-based solutions, and engaging differently.</p> <p>Sustained, broad-based solutions require more detailed and specific evidence of the costs of gender constraints and how to address them. It also requires engaging with the ecosystem of change-makers inside and outside government to inspire and inform action.</p> <p>For gender equality to be treated as essential, it must be integrated in frameworks, including measurement frameworks, to generate evidence, guide action and assess progress.</p> |
| ii | <p>‘...reaffirms the WBG commitment to non-discrimination, inclusion, and equality of opportunity, encompassing sexual and gender minorities...</p> <p>...acknowledges ...the vulnerabilities arising from the intersection of gender with poverty, ethnicity, disability, and other characteristics.’</p> | <p>Applying these directions and priorities consistently and comprehensively, including to the WBG’s approach to measuring poverty would strengthen the Strategy’s ability to address gender equality as an urgent imperative. It is more difficult to routinely address ‘the vulnerabilities arising from the intersection of gender with poverty, ethnicity, disability, and other characteristics’ without disaggregated data that makes these visible.</p> |
| ii | <p>‘[T]he strategy identifies innovating, financing, and acting collectively as drivers of change toward gender equality. <i>Innovating</i> refers to promoting solutions (based on data and evidence, digital tools, and analyses informed by behavioral insights) as well as learning from and refining solutions initiated locally. <i>Financing</i> involves securing and allocating resources effectively in and through the public and private sectors. <i>Acting collectively</i> recognizes that realizing gender equality requires concerted engagement by public and private sector actors, civil society, and international agencies.’</p> | <p>Prioritising and progressing individual-level, gender-sensitive measurement of poverty would contribute to advancing the focus on innovating, financing, and acting collectively as drivers of change. Having routine poverty data give visibility to disparities by gender, age, disability and intersections of these where they exist will enable evidence-based demands for action on inequalities and poverty and provide a basis for strengthening engagement of private sector actors, civil society, and international agencies.</p> |

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| ii | <p>‘The WBG will approach the drivers of change in line with its comparative advantage. It will help clients test, adapt, and expand solutions, and achieve results at scale by addressing structural limitations and integrating gender analysis in macroeconomic and public finance policies, sector strategies and private sector practices.’</p> | <p>Transforming foundational barriers to evidence that are integral in the World Bank’s own approach to poverty measurement, aligns with the focus on acting where the WBG has comparative advantage and addressing structural limitations. As the custodian agency for poverty measurement, the World Bank is uniquely positioned to lead change.</p> |
| ii | <p>‘[T]he strategy fosters accountability for gender outcomes. Building on the current accountability in project design (gender tag/flag), the WBG will stress gender outcomes in project implementation and in country engagement. Country Partnership Frameworks will elevate gender outcomes in synergy with other development priorities and engage more actors in the gender space.’</p> | <p>Accountability for gender outcomes, front-end integration at design, and focus on outcomes require and are supported by individual-level gender-sensitive measurement of poverty and inequality, by providing data to enable and inform gender-responsive action, and to assess who is benefiting from development, to what extent – generally, and in relation to specific investments and programmes.</p> |
| 4-5 | <p>I THE HISTORIC AND ONGOING URGENT CHALLENGE</p> <p>‘In households, gender equality improves choices, leading to better child development outcomes, which in turn reduces the intergenerational transmission of poverty.¹ Conversely, ignoring the connections between poverty and the differential constraints faced by men, women, and sexual and gender minorities can undermine the effectiveness of poverty reduction efforts.’</p> | <p>Acknowledgement of the relationship between within-household gender equality and reductions in poverty, if reflected in the WBG’s approach to poverty measurement, would support intentional focus on addressing within-household disparities. Ignoring the connections between poverty and differential constraints by gender is acknowledged as affecting the effectiveness of poverty reduction and would be strengthened by individual-level gender-sensitive measurement of poverty.</p> |
| 7 | <p>II CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK</p> <p>‘The framework portrays gender outcomes as the product of key Drivers of Change [see above] mediated through the Policy Arena and factors beyond it. The WBG’s engagement is one of many interacting factors shaping gender outcomes. As such, the Drivers of Change and the Policy Arena are best understood as means to assess the WBG’s additionality and extend partnerships and stakeholder engagement.’</p> <p>‘Advancing gender equality requires understanding and influencing the Policy Arena.’</p> | <p>Gender outcomes are shaped by formal and informal institutions, actors, and power relations.</p> <p>The World Bank has significant formal and informal power to influence measurement standards and approaches, towards individual-level, gender sensitive measurement of poverty as a norm.</p> <p>Gender data is an important resource for influencing the Policy Arena towards accelerating gender equality.</p> |
| 12 | <p>III. SHAPING THE WORLD BANK GROUP 2024–2030 GENDER STRATEGY</p> <p>‘The strategy aims to accelerate gender equality for all with an emphasis on three aspirational strategic objectives: (i) end gender-based violence and elevate human capital; (ii) expand and enable economic opportunities; and (iii) engage women as leaders.’</p> <p>The first strategic objective, <i>Foundational wellbeing</i>: End Gender-based Violence and Elevate Human Capital is framed as ‘foundational wellbeing at the individual level for every person regardless of gender.’</p> | <p>Assessing progress on the first strategic objective would benefit from individual-level, gender-sensitive data about multidimensional poverty and inequality, to illuminate who is benefiting from economic opportunities, asset ownership, and voice and agency.</p> |
| | <p>The second strategic objective, <i>Economic participation</i>: Expand and Enable Economic Opportunities emphasises ‘the interconnected outcomes of equal access to more and better jobs, and the ability to use economic assets and “enabling services” such as care and digital platforms, which expand economic choices especially for women.’</p> | <p>Integrated measurement of paid and unpaid work, working while caring/dual labour burden, and individual-level measurement of assets, which Equality Insights provides, can support holistic understanding of the</p> |

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| | | constraints facing women and targeted action to address related barriers. |
| 14 | 'Social protection programs help build and protect human capital. Cash-plus approaches with psychosocial components can tackle multiple gender gaps and promote women's agency and bargaining power at the household level. ⁵² Adaptive social protection delivery systems that leverage digital technologies can recognize specific vulnerabilities facing women, girls, and sexual and gender minorities and thus better help all people cope with crises, shocks, transitions, and aging.' | This focus underlines the value of individual-level insights, measurement that is inclusive regarding age, and multidimensional measurement. |
| 15 | The focus on economic participation emphasises 'the interconnected outcomes of equal access to more and better jobs, and the ability to use economic assets and "enabling services" such as care and digital platforms, which expand economic choices especially for women.... Equality in access to assets, such as property rights, housing, finance, technology, and markets, enhance women-owned businesses' capacity, capital, community, and access to contracts.' | Integrated measurement of paid and unpaid work, working while caring/dual labour burden, and individual-level measurement of assets can support assessment of priorities, and progress. |
| 17 | Investment in enabling services deliver multiple gains. 'Public and private sector investments in care services, safe and universally accessible transportation, water, energy, roads, digital infrastructure, and legal and justice services are essential. Without these enabling services, women cannot take advantage of economic opportunities because much of their time is devoted to household responsibilities such as [sic] and collecting water or firewood.' | Underlines the importance of holistic gender-sensitive measurement that includes access to and use of relevant infrastructure including water and energy, to reveal and address practical barriers and enablers. |
| 18 | Affordable and accessible care, plus 'recognizing, reducing, and redistributing unpaid care work are essential to boost caregivers'— especially women's— economic participation, child development outcomes, family welfare, and business productivity.' | Integrated measurement of paid and unpaid work, and working while caring/dual labour burden, at the individual level as provided by Equality Insights, can inform focus and assessment of progress. |
| 18 | 'Women's participation and leadership in communities has been shown to promote social and environmental sustainability in community decisions and investments, which may enhance resilience and prevent or reduce fragility... Within households, women's decisions about investments in human capital and livelihoods often generate positive impacts, as growing evidence from cash transfer programs illustrates.' | The importance of women's voice and decision-making within households is reflected in the within-household sampling used by Equality Insights, the inclusion of Voice as a dimension of measurement, and indicators of influence over decision-making in the household. |
| 18 - 19 | 'At the national and subnational levels, bringing women into decision-making is easier in sectors with high shares of women's employment, such as education and health, but is key also in male-dominated sectors such as energy, in national and subnational public administration, political leadership, and high-level representation. The WBG can expand partnerships ... to promote women's leadership and address gender biases.' | Individual-level, gender-sensitive multidimensional poverty data can play a role in evaluating impacts of such initiatives on lived realities, and informing practical strategies to act on barriers faced by women in particular sectors. |
| 19 | 'Engaging women as leaders—together with integrating gender analysis into climate analytics... and investments and scaling climate finance in gender-sensitive ways— enhances the design and implementation of climate actions. For example, it helps ensure that interventions to strengthen people's resilience and adaptive capacity and support net zero transitions in energy, agriculture, food systems, water and land use, urban planning, transport, and manufacturing benefit women, men, sexual and gender minorities, and other marginalized groups.' | Multidimensional data is required to inform and support assessment of disaggregated benefit. |

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| 19 - 20 | <p>IV. IMPLEMENTING THE GENDER STRATEGY</p> <p>‘...the WBG has built capacity and supported clients in generating gender data and evidence and to improving the design and implementation of policies and programs to close specific gender gaps. The WBG Gender Data Portal provides the latest comprehensive gender statistics and serves as a global public good.... [T]he WBG has informed every Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with a Country Gender Assessment, established Regional Gender Action Plans to provide strategic direction and accountability for implementation, and developed institutional Gender Strategy Implementation Plans (GSIP) for IFC and MIGA. In many countries, the WBG has complemented CPFs with Country Gender Action Plans.’</p> | <p>The draft Strategy acknowledges the importance of gender data and evidence to inform design and implementation of policies and programs. While making available gender statistics that exist via the Gender Data Portal supports gender-informed action, it can also function to imply adequacy of existing gender data, and plans informed by that data, in the absence of explicit recognition of acknowledged data limitations and acting to address them.</p> |
| 20 | <p>‘The WBG uses evidence to learn so that successful approaches can be replicated and brought to scale. The regional Gender Innovation Labs have exemplified this iterative process... This learning-testing-adapting-scaling approach has contributed to an increase in multisector operations that seek to empower women...’</p> | <p>The Australian Government’s sustained investment in the <i>Equality Insights</i> program has demonstrated the feasibility and value of individual-level, gender-sensitive measurement of poverty. The WBG can leverage this by applying a learning-testing-adapting-scaling approach to progress its work on individual-level poverty measurement. Doing some of this work in Pacific Island Countries would extend the scope and relevance of the East Asia and Pacific Gender Innovation Lab to small, resource contexts and align with the Australian Government’s geographic focus.</p> |
| 20 | <p>‘The results-oriented gender tag and gender flag rely on gender analysis to inform interventions and results indicators to narrow gender gaps.¹ The use of the tag and flag and associated corporate targets, training, and support mechanisms has boosted incentives and capacity to identify entry points for action in operations and investments across the WBG portfolio.’</p> | <p>The adequacy of available data to inform gender analysis is assumed, although gender data gaps are an issue in many contexts, and gaps in poverty data are acknowledged by the WBG. Addressing the ‘by design’ gap in disaggregated gender-sensitive poverty data would provide a more robust basis for gender analysis.</p> |
| 22 | <p>‘The ambition to accelerate gender equality covers all groups that are marginalized because of gender. The WBG can tailor actions to the diverse needs of sexual and gender minorities, in alignment with principles of non-discrimination, inclusion, and equal opportunity. The WBG will also consider groups where gender intersects with other characteristics.... Further knowledge will enable the WBG to better address the needs of sexual and gender minorities and groups marginalized because of a confluence of gender and other characteristics.’</p> | <p>The explicit reference to sexual and gender minorities and tailoring actions to their diverse needs is important in itself, and underlines the relevance of individual-level, intersectional and multidimensional data on poverty and inequality that can reveal differential barriers, including those experienced by sexual and gender minorities.</p> |
| 22 | <p>‘The new emphasis on ending GBV, expanding “enabling services,” and engaging women as leaders, as well as including all groups marginalized because of gender, calls for further investments in data, evidence, and capacity. While gender data and knowledge require further investments overall, the needs are especially urgent in the newer areas of engagement. There is a dearth of evidence on issues fundamental to expanding quality care services to empower women, promoting women’s leadership, and realizing its positive impact in addressing both global and local challenges. Robust data on the differential development experiences and outcomes of sexual and gender minorities in developing countries are scarce, and</p> | <p>Having identified the need for further investment in gender data overall, and particularly to address the scarcity of insights on the differential situation of sexual and gender minorities, the Strategy needs to outline action, including expanding routine availability of individual-level, gender-sensitive data on poverty and inequality that is essential to support achievement of the SDGs in a way that leaves no one behind.</p> |

¹ ‘To be tagged/flagged, a WBG operation must use diagnostics to identify a gender gap, propose specific actions to narrow the gap, and track progress on the proposed action.’

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| | this jeopardizes achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and countries' commitment to "leaving no one behind" in addressing poverty and inequality.' | |
| 22 - 23 | 'The WBG will better integrate gender analysis in its core diagnostics... Integrating gender data and gender analysis in policies, systems and practices will facilitate addressing structural barriers to gender equality as well as enhance performance in both the public and private sector.' | Commitment to better integrate gender analysis including in Poverty Assessments is welcome and provides an entry point to strengthen individual-level gender-sensitive data on poverty and inequality and inform action on differential structural barriers. |
| 23 | "The WBG will help clients in the public and private sector to generate and use gender data and knowledge to develop innovative solutions... [and] will continue building client capacity to collect and analyze gender data, including sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) data, where civil society organizations are key partners.' | Establishing individual-level, gender-sensitive measurement of multidimensional poverty as a standard option would support increased availability of differential insights by gender, including SOGI, consistent with acknowledging the vulnerabilities arising from the intersection of gender with poverty. |
| 23 | 'Understanding and addressing behavioral barriers to gender equality – including the social, psychological, and economic factors that affect what people think and do – can improve outcomes for projects, sustainably and at scale... Building capacity to integrate behavioral science and a social norms lens in institutional and policy reforms and programs will help address gender inequalities more holistically and sustainably.' | Individual-level, gender-sensitive, multidimensional data would support the ability of the WBG and other stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of this approach for improving the life circumstances of particular groups. |
| 23 - 24 | 'On financing, the WBG will help secure resources to achieve gender outcomes at scale in three ways. First, as an integral part of the WBG country portfolio, development policy operations (DPOs) increasingly address binding constraints for gender equality through national policies, programs, and systems. Where the policy environment is conducive, there is scope to expand gender-specific policy actions in DPOs.' | Addressing gender as integral to country policy engagement would be strengthened by disaggregated data on multidimensional poverty and inequality, to inform dialogue on gender-responsive policies, programs and systems. In finalising, the Strategy would also be strengthened by a more politically informed approach that recognises the role of feminist organisations and movements in expanding space for gender-specific policy actions. |
| 24 - 25 | 'The WBG will expand partnerships and stakeholder engagements to mobilize collective action. Widening the engagement with partners and stakeholders will help form coalitions of government champions and private sector, civil society, and development partners to advocate for reforms... Widening engagement with CSOs can enhance transparency and accountability for gender outcomes ... ' | More intentional, ongoing engagement with CSOs including feminist organisations towards mobilising collective action would be supported by individual-level, gender-sensitive data about poverty and inequality, to inform assessment of priorities and the extent to which reform is contributing to improved outcomes for particular groups. |
| 25 - 26 | 'The WBG will complement the project level focus with an emphasis on strategic country engagement to enhance gender outcomes.... A shift in focus from individual operations to strategic country engagement requires integrating gender analysis to inform policies and investments, prioritizing entry points where the WBG has a comparative advantage and leveraging all WBG instruments, including as one WBG, to enhance outcomes.' | The focus on coherence, whole-of-WBG approaches and strategic country engagement on gender equality would be supported by integration of gender in poverty measurement and expanded availability of individual-level gender-sensitive data on multidimensional poverty and inequality. Data that reveals differential outcomes by gender can support more gender-responsive priorities, policies and resources. |
| 26 | 'Gender outcome orientation in country engagement will rely on a greater use of gender analysis. Building on the investments in gender data and evidence, the WBG will integrate gender analysis in global, regional, sectoral, and country analytics; policy dialogue; and the design and implementation of programs and investments. Assisting policymakers and other public and private sector stakeholders to quantify the potential gains from | This focus underlines the importance of strengthening the inclusiveness of data that the WBG itself oversees, so that routine poverty data supports gender analysis and provides insights into specific gender barriers and the extent of potential gains from addressing these. |

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| | addressing specific gender barriers, including SOGI-based barriers, can marshal action...' | |
| 27 | 'The WBG Gender Strategy results framework will be developed through consultations with internal and external stakeholders to capture the impact of WBG support.' | Engagement with CSOs including feminist organisations is vital, so that directions regarding broader collaboration and collective action are reflected in shaping monitoring, evaluation and learning. |