

## Gender Equality, Equity and Women’s Empowerment Framework

*A proposed framework to assess and monitor gender equality, equity and women’s empowerment in modern energy cooking services (MECS)*

**Guidance for project developers**



August 2024

Download the full report [here](#)

### **Organisation**

*This material has been funded by UKAid from the UK government; however the views expressed do not necessarily reflect the UK government’s official policies.’*

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The aim of this report is to summarise the gender framework report and provide guidance for project developers who intend to use the framework to assess and monitor gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in MECS-related projects.

The gender report proposes a multi-dimensional framework to assess and monitor gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in the MECS sector (Khalifa 2024). The report identifies gender dimensions in the MECS sector, develops indicators and survey questions to monitor progress made in each domain and sub-domain. Download the full report [here](#)

### What the framework can do

1. Some indicators can be used to understand the local characteristics to provide and tailor context-based MECS solutions and improve the enabling environment (social, political, economic, physical environment) and reshape existing structures and institutions to support and promote gender equality while other indicators can be used to measure progress made on each domain and sub-domain.
2. Applying the gender equality, equity and women's empowerment framework can assist in understanding gender inequalities and identifying opportunities to mitigate negative impacts on end users, employees and entrepreneurs in the MECS value chains.
3. The framework can help in understanding individuals' needs and customizing MECS solutions that fit more with their needs, removing barriers that prevent individuals' (regardless of their gender identity, socioeconomic status or any other factors of discrimination) from engaging and participating in the sector, designing and implementing context-based policies and regulatory frameworks, and tailoring flexible and resilient business models to maximize gender co-benefits and reduce negative impacts.
4. Promoting gender equality and quantifying social impacts such as gender co-benefits, is quite challenging for project developers (Stritzke et al. 2023). However, by using the MECS gender equality framework, they can identify areas of empowerment, adapt projects to local contexts and provide better services to ensure equal access to MECS and MECS-related resources. In order to demonstrate their contribution to SDG 5 and attract funding, project developers can measure gender co-benefits by using the measurable indicators and survey questions that can be applied to small- and large-scale MECS projects and at household and organizational levels.
5. The MECS gender equality framework provides a comprehensive understanding of the gender dimensions in the MECS sector for investors, donors, funders, and impact buyers who are interested in MECS projects that contribute to SDG 5 or high-integrity carbon credits that come with clear evidence of gender impacts and women's empowerment. The framework and the gender impact data can help them to compare projects and make better decisions regarding which projects they will invest in.
6. Gender statistics in the energy and clean cooking sector are limited (UNDESA 2022). Using the MECS gender equality framework, indicators and survey questions and the consistency of data collection at the local and national level can improve the quality of data on gender issues which is needed to inform policy options and enable policy makers to make evidence-based decisions that can improve the overall sustainable development outcomes of MECS interventions.

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## Introduction

According to the SDG7 progress report 2023, over 2.3 billion people, mostly in the global south, lack access to clean cooking (IEA et al. 2023). The poorest communities and women are most affected by this massive challenge, particularly women who are traditionally responsible for cooking and fuel collection (Mari 2020). Using inefficient and polluting cooking fuels disproportionately affect women's and girls' health and safety; from daily exposure to toxic smoke to the burden of fuel collection, carrying heavy loads for long distances and risks of gender violence (Mari 2020; Njenga et al. 2021; WHO 2022; Stritzke et al. 2023). Spending many hours every day on fuel collection limits women's participation in income-generation, education and leisure activities and prevents girls from attending school (Krishnapriya et al. 2021; Njenga et al. 2021; WHO 2022; Stritzke et al. 2023). The lack of access to clean cooking is a complex challenge with multiple negative impacts on sustainable development. Shifting to MECS can bring many benefits for women while achieving SDG7 (Stritzke et al. 2023). MECS can reduce the burden of fuel collection, reduce the risk of sexual violence during firewood collection, save time, and open women's opportunities for education and employment (Stritzke et al. 2023). Furthermore, women's participation and leadership in the MECS sector is key to increase the adoption of MECS (Stritzke et al. 2023).

Understanding the gender dimensions and developing indicators can also help project developers to measure gender co-benefits of MECS projects and demonstrate contributions to SDG 5 (Khalifa 2023). Measuring social impacts is challenging and time-consuming, therefore project developers usually use "time-savings" to measure gender co-benefits, the most common and measurable indicator (Stritzke et al. 2023). Achieving **one** SDG 5 target (Target 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work – Indicator 5.4.1: Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location) out of **nine** sub-targets (Khalifa 2023; Stritzke et al. 2023). Identifying new domains and impact areas of women's engagement and empowerment across MECS value chains and developing new measurable and practical indicators will enable project developers to demonstrate gender co-benefit alongside carbon reductions and other SDGs.

Existing structures of discrimination may also lead to women and disadvantaged groups being excluded not only from the social and economic benefits and impacts of such interventions, but also in decision-making and implementation (Arthur et al. 2022). Therefore, effective integration and understanding of the gender dimensions in the MECS sector and understanding existing structures are crucial to ensure a just transition, equal distribution of resources, and to remove structural barriers that limit individuals' participation and engagement in the sector to accelerate access to MECS.

## The gender equality, equity and women's empowerment framework

The gender framework report identifies the gender dimensions in the MECS sector and presents a holistic framework to monitor progress on gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in the MECS sector at the local and national, as well as in households and organizations. The framework considers multiple gender dimensions: 1) the ability to access MECS, 2) the ability to access resources (co-benefits) related to the MECS sector (such as time and labour, safety and freedom of violence, health and well-being, knowledge, information and technologies, social capital, and financial resources), 3) the ability to exercise agency at the household level and public participation, and the freedom of movement, and 4) the multi-level enabling environment (social, policy, economic, and environmental contexts) to ensure equal access to MECS and MECS-related resources, employment and leadership positions, as well as the ability to participate in the MECS transition. The gender dimensions are organized and structured into four interconnected domains and 13 sub-domains (see Figure 1).

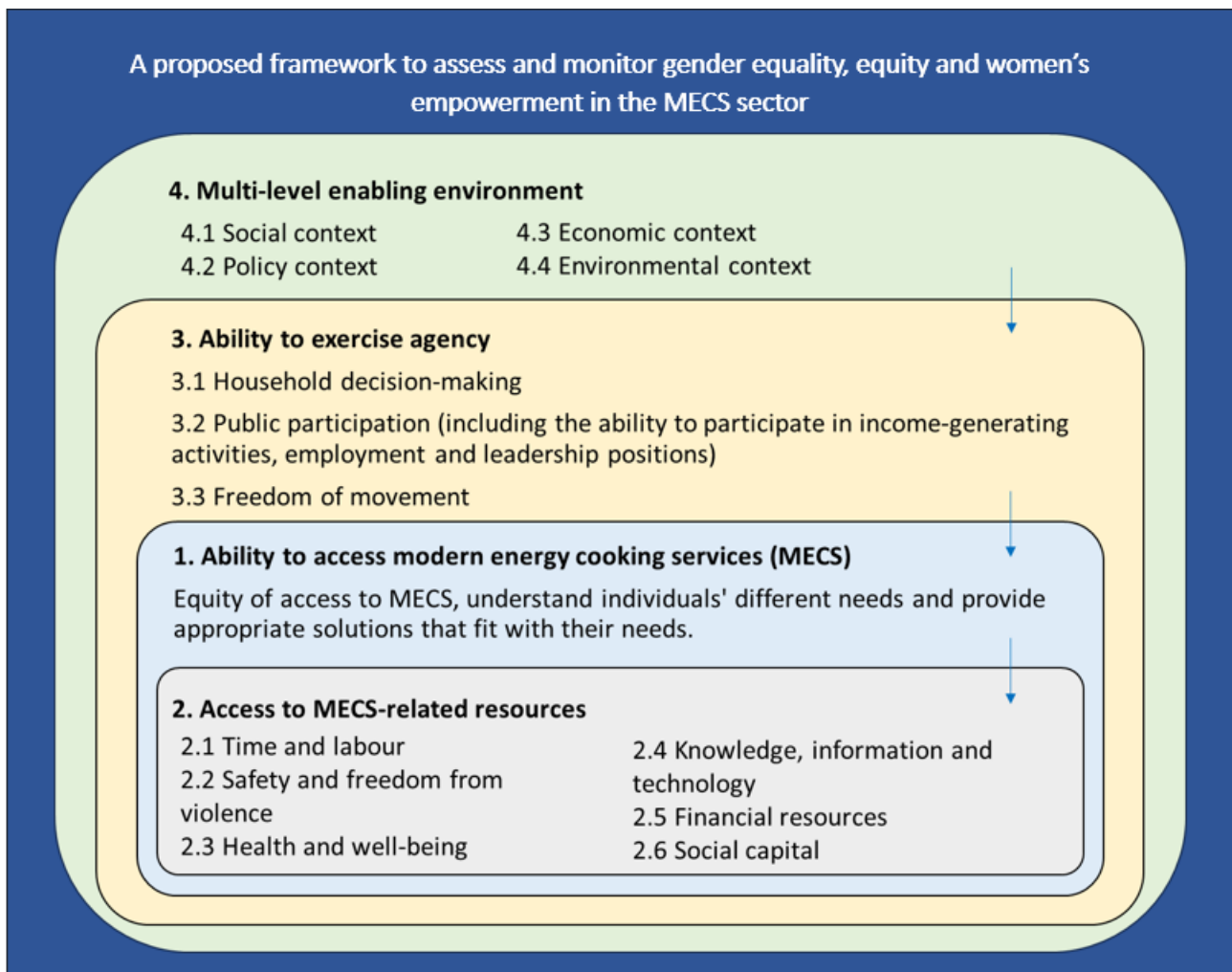


Figure 1: A proposed framework to assess and monitor gender equality, equity and women's empowerment in the MECS sector - adapted from CCA and ICRW Social Measurement Tool and the WASH framework.

The proposed framework is based on the Social Measurement Tool that was developed by the Clean Cooking Alliance (CCA) and the International Centre on the Research for Women (ICRW) to measure how cleaner cookstoves and fuels empower women and create social change (CCA and ICRW 2016). The Social Measurement Tool is the most comprehensive tool that was developed for the clean cooking sector; however it requires further modification to fit with the significant progress and wider impact of the MECS sector. The framework also adapted the conceptual model that was established to monitor and achieve gender equality and equity in the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector (Caruso et al. 2021a; Caruso et al. 2021b). Both sectors, the MECS and WASH provide access to basic services and bring significant social, economic and environmental benefits for communities, specifically for women and girls. The CCA and the ICRW Social measurement Tool and the WASH gender equality framework were tailored and modified to align with SDG 5 and SDG 7 interlinkages (UNDESA 2022) and to fit with the context of the MECS sector. Gender-specific indicators and survey questions were designed to monitor and assess progress made in each domain and sub-domain.

Indicators and survey questions have been developed to assess and monitor progress on each domain and sub-domain at household level and organizational level. Indicators and survey questions were influenced by the CCA and ICRW [Social Measurement Tool](#), Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy ([RISE](#)), Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index ([WEAI](#)), and the national, regional and global [tools and measures](#) that were used to assess gender equality in the WASH sector (Caruso et al. 2021b).

### Indicators and survey questions for household level

- These indicators and surveys can be used to assess and measure the gender impacts of using MECS at the household/end users level. Data must be collected before and after the introduction of MECS to measure progress made on each domain and sub-domain.

### Who can use the household indicators and survey questions?

- Project developers can use household indicators and survey questions to assess and measure the gender impacts of their projects on end users.
- MECS-related organizations who are interested to assess and measure gender impacts on end users.
- Investors or donors can use these indicators to compare between projects and decide which projects they are interested to invest in.

### Indicators and survey questions for organizational level

- These indicators and survey questions can be used to assess and monitor gender equality, equity and women's empowerment within MECS-related projects/organizations (understand the gender impacts on employees, entrepreneurs, etc.). Data must be collected regularly to measure progress made on each domain and sub-domain
- Some of these indicators and surveys can be also used to assess and measure the gender impacts of using MECS at the workplace (for example, employees who use MECS to cook their own meals (mainly lunch) at the workplace or cook for others such as schools, hospitals, canteens, restaurants, etc.). Data must be collected before and after the introduction of MECS to measure progress made on each domain and sub-domain.



### Who can use the organization indicators and survey questions?

- Project developers who are interested in measuring and assessing the gender impacts on employees.
- MECS-related organizations who are interested in assessing and measuring gender impacts on employees or entrepreneurs.
- Investors or donors can use these indicators to compare between projects and decide which projects they are interested to invest in.

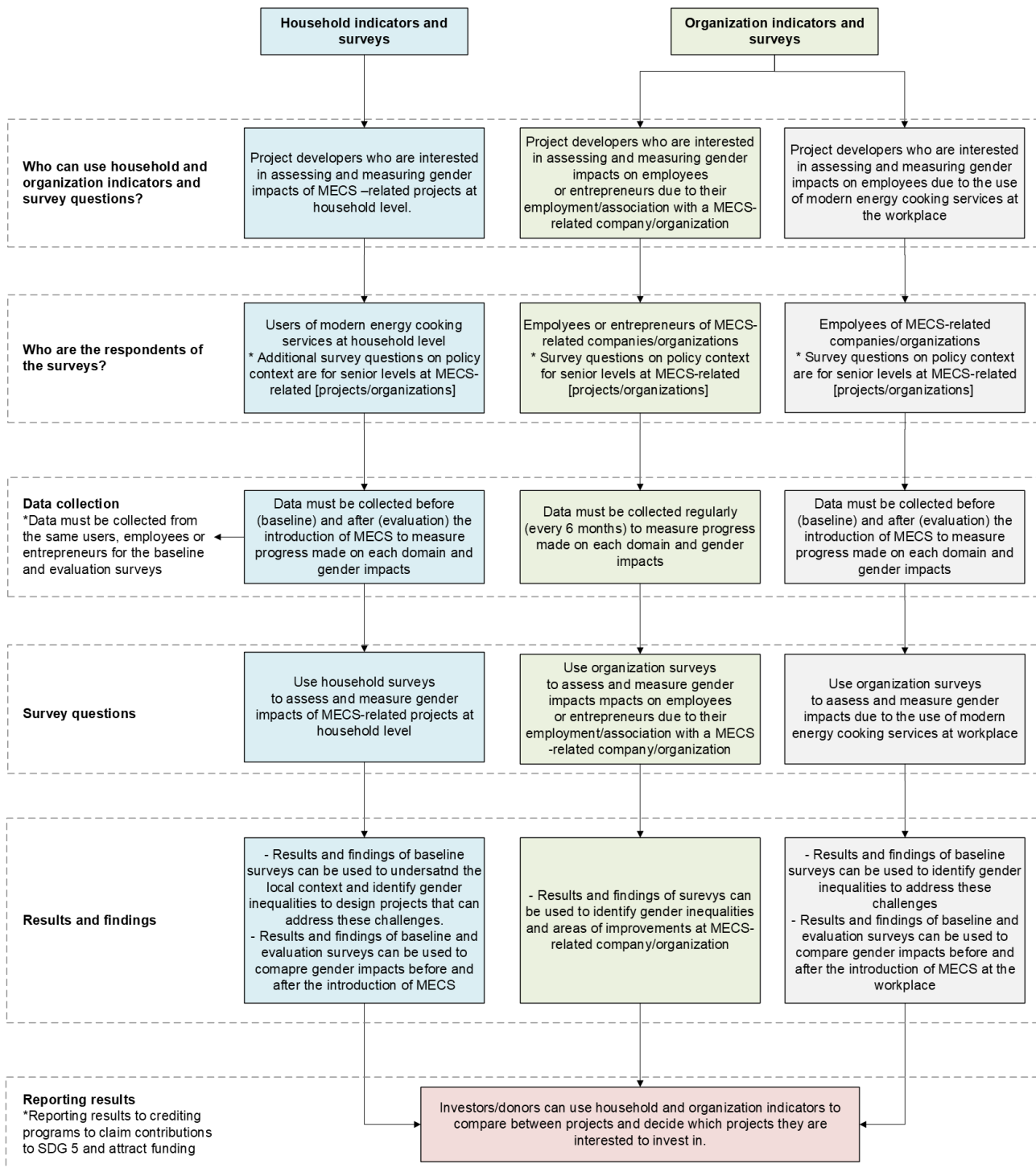


Figure 2: This flowchart shows how to identify which indicators and surveys can be used to assess and measure the gender impacts of a project at household or organizational level.

## Household domains, indicators and survey questions

### Domain 1: Ability to access MECS (household level)

Equity of access to MECS – understand individuals different needs and provide appropriate solutions that fit with their needs. This domain mainly focuses on assessing the availability, accessibility, and affordability of

MECS, as well as repairs and maintenance services to ensure that MECS are designed to meet individuals' needs and provide adequate services at the household.

#### **Household level**

- *Indicator 1.1:* Proportion of household-heads with primary reliance on modern energy cooking services by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.) of household head - (aligned with indicator SDG 7.1.2)

#### **Survey questions cover the following measures to assess domain 1**

1. Physical accessibility to access cooking fuels/MECS (location and distance).
2. Availability of distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities.
3. Affordability to access cooking fuels/MECS, and repairs and maintenance services.
4. Perceived quality of and/or satisfaction with cooking fuels/MECS, and repairs and maintenance services.

**Survey questions for Domain 1: Ability to access modern energy cooking services (MECS)** (household level) ([link](#))

#### **Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS (household level)**

Access to resources related to MECS such as: 1) time and labour, 2) safety and freedom from violence, 3) health and well-being, 4) knowledge, information and technologies, 5) financial resources and physical assets, and 6) social capital. The adoption of MECS can deliver co-benefits (resources) for women, for example, MECS can reduce the burden of fuel collection, reduce the risk of sexual violence during firewood collection, reduce health risks and exposure to air pollution linked to traditional cooking fuels and stoves, improve women's well-being, save time spent on unpaid tasks related to fuel collection, preparation and cooking enhancing women's control over time and labour, unlock opportunities for women to engage in productive economic activities, education and employment, and improve access to knowledge, information and technologies related to MECS. Health includes physical, mental, and social well-being as they affect and are affected by cooking fuels/MECS. Health can be viewed as both an outcome of cooking fuels/MECS, such as illness linked to traditional cooking systems, and as a resource for accessing cooking fuels/MECS, such as the physical ability to walk and access cooking fuels/MECS.

#### **Sub-domain 2.1: Time and labour (household level)**

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' time and labour spent on cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities, as well as satisfaction with and control over the time and labour spent on these tasks at household level.

#### **Household level**

- *Indicator 2.1.1:* Proportion of time spent on cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.)
- *Indicator 2.1.2:* Proportion of end users who reported a reduction in household chores as a result of access to MECS (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.)

#### **Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.1**

1. Time spent on cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities
2. Time spent on repairs and maintenance of cookstoves/EPCs
3. Labour delegation for cooking and cooking fuels/MECS-related chores
4. Control over time and labour spent on cooking and cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities
5. Time spent on activities with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications
6. Labour delegation for household chores with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS: Sub-domain 2.1: Time and labour** (household level) ([link](#))



## Sub-domain 2.2: Safety and freedom of violence (household level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' freedom from gender-based violence and gender-based domestic violence, including physical, sexual, and verbal abuse, as well as harassment linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities at household level.

### Household level

- *Indicator 2.2.1:* Number of cases of gender-based violence and gender-based domestic violence reported to local authorities that are linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection or MECS-related tasks and activities (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.). Data to be collected before and after the introduction of MECS.

### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.2

1. Perception of safety (i.e., feeling safe/fear linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities).
2. Perceived risk of physical/sexual/verbal abuse linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.
3. Experiences of physical/sexual/verbal abuse linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.
4. Ability to report safety concerns, and sexual exploitation linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.2: Safety and freedom of violence (household level)** ([link](#))

## Sub-domain 2.3: Health and well-being (household level)

Health includes physical, mental, and social well-being as they affect and are affected by cooking fuels/MECS. Health can be viewed as both an outcome of cooking fuels/MECS, such as illness linked to traditional cooking systems, and as a resource for accessing cooking fuels/MECS, such as the physical ability to walk and access cooking fuels/MECS.

### Household level

- *Indicator 2.3.1:* Reductions in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and carbon monoxide (CO) concentration (can be measured using the Gold Standard methodology [Gold Standard developed a methodology](#)).
- *Indicator 2.3.2:* Number of Averted Mortality and Disability Adjusted Life Years ([ADALYs](#)) – aligned with SDG 3.9.1 indicator. The [Gold Standard developed a methodology](#) that can be used to estimate this indicator i.e. estimate ADALYs by measuring PM<sub>2.5</sub>/CO kitchen concentrations, but the methodology needs to be updated to collect disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.).
- *Indicator 2.3.3:* Proportion of end users who visited medical facilities/dispensary for treatment of respiratory issues etc. such as cough, shortness in breath and pneumonia, or any other respiratory issues or burns and injuries – ([Gold Standard SDG Impact Tool](#)) – related to cooking with traditional fuels, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.3

1. Perceived illness or experience of illness related to cooking with polluting fuels/or any other cooking fuels.
2. Fear of harm from others while collecting traditional cooking fuel or accessing MECS.
3. Fear of injury while collecting or cooking with traditional cooking fuels/MECS.
4. Experience of injury while collecting or cooking with traditional cooking fuels/MECS.
5. Mental well-being related to insecurity of cooking fuels/MECS.
6. Impact of health on ability to access cooking fuels/MECS.
7. Health concerns with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
8. Experience of injury with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.3: Health and well-being (household level)** ([link](#))

#### Sub-domain 2.4: Knowledge, information and technology (household level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the ability to access knowledge, information and technologies related to modern energy cooking services, repairs and maintenance, understanding the environmental, health and gender impacts of traditional cooking fuels, cooking different types of dishes using EPCs/or any other eCookers, etc. Access to knowledge and information is important to make better and informed decisions about cooking fuels/MECS. Identifying sources of knowledge and information and how people are influenced and by whom is also important because it can have a significant impact on their decisions. Additionally, tracking flows of information can help service providers or promoters to raise awareness by using these existing networks that can potentially accelerate access to MECS and reduce gender inequalities of such services (Batchelor 2022).

##### Household level

- *Indicator 2.4.1:* Proportion of end users who have received technical training related to maintaining or repairing cookstoves, EPCs, etc., disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.2:* Proportion of end users who have received financial and job skills training to facilitate income-generation activities related to MECS, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.3:* Proportion of end users who have access to knowledge, information and technologies related to MECS that is publicly available and easily accessible, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.4:* Number of awareness campaigns promoting MECS that target all community members regardless of their gender identity and socio-economic status.

##### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.4

1. Access to knowledge, information and technologies related to advantages and disadvantages of cooking fuels, health, gender and environmental impacts, types of clean cooking fuels, MECS, citizen's rights, etc. (Awareness campaigns)
2. Knowledge related to maintaining or repairing cookstoves, EPCs, etc.
3. Financial and market literacy, and job skills (including technical skills) to facilitate income-generation activities.
4. Transparency in MECS service delivery for consumers including information about services providers, distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities, electricity tariffs, quality, and standards of cookstoves, EPCs, etc.
5. Sources of knowledge and information.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to MECS-related resources, Sub-domain 2.4: Knowledge, information and technologies (household level)** ([link](#))

#### Sub-domain 2.5: Financial resources (household level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' control over economic/financial resources to access MECS to meet their own or household needs and the ability to access financial assistance to access MECS.

##### Household level

- *Indicator 2.5.1:* Total payments made to household-head receiving financial assistance to access MECS, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.5.2:* Percentage of household-head's income spent on MECS, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

- *Indicator 2.5.3:* Proportion of household-head who have access to formal/informal credit from different sources (banks, financial institutions, government, and non-government funds) disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.5**

1. Cost of cooking fuels/MECS.
2. Ownership of physical assets (small consumer durables (radio, cookware, etc.).
3. Access to sufficient funds to access cooking fuels/MECS.
4. Perceived affordability of MECS products and services.
5. Willingness to pay for MECS products or services.
6. Distribution of MECS-related costs within the household.
7. Control over resources for MECS access.
8. Control over resources with possible MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.5:** Financial resources (household level) ([link](#))

**Sub-domain 2.6: Social capital (household level)**

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' participation and involvement in social groups/networks/organizations that support individuals and facilitate accessing cooking fuel or modern energy cooking services. In some cases, social groups can extend their support to facilitate accessing cooking fuels/MECS in local institutions such as schools, hospitals, community centres, churches, mosques, etc.

**Household level**

- *Indicator 2.6.1:* Proportion of end users who are members in a MECS-related community group by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.6**

1. Cooking fuels/MECS-related community groups.
2. Social support to facilitate accessing cooking fuels/MECS needs.
3. Social support for accessing cooking fuels/MECS information.
4. Social support for improving cooking fuels/MECS.
5. Social support to facilitate cooking fuels/MECS-related decision-making and/or leadership.
6. Community groups with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to MECS-related resources, Sub-domain 2.6:** Social capital (household level) ([link](#))

**Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency (household level)**

This domain focuses on assessing 1) the ability to participate in household decision-making, 2) the ability to participate and influence decisions at public level, participate in MECS income-generating activities, employment and leadership positions, etc., and 3) freedom of movement: a) the ability to move freely to access MECS such as distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc., and b) the ability to access resources related to MECS such as participating in public activities, attending meetings and events, training sessions, and participating in income-generating activities, etc.

**Sub-domain 3.1: Household decision-making**

Understanding the intrahousehold dynamics regarding decision-making on aspects that could be directly or indirectly related to MECS is important to assess the level of involvement in decision-making and the ability to exercise agency within the household. As mentioned previously, the 4 domains and sub-domains are interconnected, some of these aspects have been considered in other domains and survey questions.

However, understanding and assessing the level of participation in decision-making and how decisions are made whether sole or joint decisions at household level is key for individuals' (specifically women) ability to access MECS and their ability to participate in MECS transition. This starts from the ability to make decisions

within the household as a first step and then the ability to exercise agency at public level. Identifying sources of knowledge and information and how people are influenced and by whom is also important because it can have a significant impact on their decisions. Therefore, this sub-domain focuses on assessing the ability to participate in household decision-making related to or have implications on cooking fuels/MECS and other factors that can have a significant impact on the level of involvement and decision-making power within households. For example: the ability to contribute to household decision-making on MECS purchases and the use of services, control over decisions regarding repairs and maintenance of cookstoves/EPCs, control over time and labour spent on cooking and cooking fuel/MECS-related tasks and activities, sources and access to information to make informed decisions related to cooking fuel/MECS, the ability to make sole or joint decisions on household large purchases, food purchases (for daily food consumption), types of food being cooked, control over household income and expenditures, control over decisions related to loans and borrowing money/items and how to use money/items borrowed, ownership of assets and control over household assets and resources, control over time use and time spent on household chores and satisfaction with the available time for other activities such as income-generation, education or leisure activities, control over decisions related to visiting important places (such as markets, bazars, family and relatives, community centres, health services, hospitals, public gatherings, etc.), control over decisions related to attending in-person or online training sessions, control over decisions related to joining or being an active member in social, economic or any other community groups, etc.

#### **Household level**

- *Indicator 3.1.1:* Proportion of end users who make the decisions for new cooking equipment or fuels (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc).

#### **Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 3.1**

1. General household decision-making related to cooking fuels/MECS.
2. Control over decisions related to cooking fuels/MECS purchases.
3. Control over decisions regarding repairs and maintenance of cookstoves/EPCs.
4. Control over time and labour spent on cooking and cooking fuel/MECS-related tasks and activities.
5. Control over household income and expenditures, may have cooking fuels/MECS implications (sole or joint decision-making over income and expenditures).
6. Sources and access to information that is important for making informed decisions related to cooking fuels/MECS.
7. Control over time use and time spent on household chores and satisfaction with the available time for other activities such as income-generation, education or leisure activities.
8. Control over household assets and resources.
9. Control over decisions related to large purchases (sole or joint decision-making over large purchases).
10. Control over decisions related to food purchases (food for daily consumption or other household needs).
11. Control over decisions related to the types of food being cooked (sole or joint decisions related to cooking specific types of dishes).
12. Control over decisions related to visiting markets, bazars, family and relatives, community centres, health service, public gatherings, etc. (can go out alone with or without permission, alone with or without restrictions, alone with family members, children, etc., pay your own transportation costs, or can go out alone but you must wear certain clothes).
13. Control over decisions related to attending in-person or online training sessions.
14. Control over decisions related to borrowing money or items from relatives, friends, NGOs, banks, financial institutions, formal or informal lenders.
15. Control over decisions on how to use money or items borrowed from relatives, friends, NGOs, banks, financial institutions, formal or informal lenders.

**Survey questions for Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency, Sub-domain 3.2:** Household decision-making (household level) ([link](#))

### Sub-domain 3.2: Public participation (household level)

Public participation refers to individuals' ability to participate in cooking fuels/MECS-related public activities, including the ability to participate and influence decisions at a public level and participating in committees. Cooking with traditional fuels may also restrict women's public participation due to the amount of time spent on firewood collection, preparation, and cooking.

#### Household level

- *Indicator 3.2.1:* Proportion of consumers' (or end users') memberships with position and responsibility in local or community-based committees related to cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.2:* Proportion of consumers (or end users') members with positions who participate in decision-making meetings in local or community-based committees related to cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.3:* Number of gender-specific decisions adopted resulting from contributions made by members in local or community-based committees related to cooking fuels/MECS.
- *Indicator 3.2.4:* Proportion of consumers (or end users) who received financial and technical training related to cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.5:* Annual budget allocated and spent on technical and financial training related to cooking fuels/MECS.

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 3.2

1. Opportunities for participation in cooking fuels/MECS-related groups.
2. Representation in cooking fuels/MECS-related groups.
3. Leadership in cooking fuels/MECS-related groups.
4. Voice/influence in cooking fuels/MECS-related groups.
5. Participation in cooking fuels/MECS-related community activities/meetings.
6. Leadership in cooking fuels/MECS-related community activities/meetings.
7. Voice/influence in cooking fuels/MECS-related community activities/meetings.
8. Impact of cooking with traditional fuels (including fuel collection and preparation) or the use of MECS on individuals' ability to participate in public life such as work, school, social activities, etc.
9. Representation in groups with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
10. Participation in community activities/meetings with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
11. Voice in community activities/meetings with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency, Sub-domain 3.2: Public participation (household level)** ([link](#))

### Sub-domain 3.3: Freedom of movement (household level)

- Restrictions on freedom of movement can affect individuals' ability to access MECS such as distribution centres, markets, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc., and the ability to access resources related to MECS such as participating in public activities, attending meetings, events and training sessions.
- It's important to assess individuals' freedom of movement at household level because project developers will then be able to tailor solutions that fit with the social context. For example, in a community where women's movement is restricted delivery options can be provided. Project developers can also provide online training sessions for end users to ensure women's engagement and participation.

#### Household level

- *Indicator 3.3.1:* Proportion of consumers/end users who can move freely to access MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.3.2:* Proportion of consumers/end users who can move freely to participate in MECS-related public activities, meetings and events, training sessions, and participate in income-generating activities

disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

### **Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 3.3**

1. Ability to access MECS: the ability to move freely to access MECS such as distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc.
2. Ability to access resources related to MECS and participate in public activities, attend meetings, events and training sessions.

**Survey questions for Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency, Sub-domain 3.3: Freedom of movement** (household level) ([link](#))

## **Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment (household level)**

This domain focuses on understanding and assessing the contextual factors (such as social, policy, economic, and environmental contexts) at multiple levels (household, community, regional or national) that can facilitate or hinder individuals' ability to access MECS and MECS-related resources, as well as their participation and engagement in the MECS sector.

### **Sub-domain 4.1: Social context (household level)**

This sub-domain focuses on understanding and assessing the impacts/power of relationships, interactions, and inter-group dynamics and social rules (including social inclusion, social cohesion, social norms, and community solidarity) that can support or hinder individuals' ability to access MECS and MECS-related resources, as well as their participation and engagement in the MECS sector as agents of change. These elements must be considered in assessing the enabling environment to improve individuals' access to MECS and promote gender equality in the MECS sector.

\*No indicators have been developed for the social context; however, the survey questions can assist in understanding the social context to develop context-based solutions.

### **Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.1**

1. Social harmony.
2. Shared goals.
3. Group solidarity.
4. Social inclusion.
5. Cultural beliefs.
6. Norms (cooking fuels/MECS-related practices and cooking preferences, labour, decision-making, and community participation).
7. Identifiers of social position.
8. Social harmony with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
9. Group solidarity with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
10. Attitudes toward women.
11. Norms and attitudes around group participation.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.1: Social context** (household level) ([link](#))

### **Sub-domain 4.2: Policy context (household level)**

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the legal structures, including laws and policies, budgets, and local leadership that can influence the realization of individuals' rights to access MECS and MECS-related resources, and ensure individuals' participation and engagement in the MECS sector as agents of change.

#### **Household level**

\*Some of these indicators can be used to assess the policy context (national, sub-national and sectoral) and others can be used to assess and improve policies of MECS-related projects to address gender inequalities.

- *Indicator 4.2.1:* Public financial resources spent in ensuring access to MECS US\$ per capita – disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.2:* Percentage of national, sub-national and sectoral budget allocations for integrating gender equality in the MECS policy frameworks (if MECS policy already exists)
- *Indicator 4.2.3:* Percentage of consumers who have access to mechanisms for redressal of complaints (such as technical, billing, repairs); effectiveness and promptness of redressals; and processes for contribution to decision-making and feedback regarding MECS service delivery disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.4:* Reports of discrimination in access to cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.5:* Evidence of cooking fuels/MECS-related policies in the MECS sector or other sectors that recognise the special and differentiated MECS-related needs of individuals' regardless their gender and social identity.
- *Indicator 4.2.6:* Evidence of state ratification, commitments and implementation of actions, related to ensure that cooking fuels/MECS are made accessible to all the population especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and women.
- *Indicator 4.2.7:* Evidence for coordination between (a) national ministries that are involved in the MECS sector, (b) public/private utilities and commissions for MECS-related services, with the national ministry/agency for individuals' welfare, and actions taken to improve MECS for consumers as a result of this coordination.
- *Indicator 4.2.8:* Number and percentage of regional, national, sub-national and sectoral cooking fuels/MECS-related policy frameworks that are gender sensitive/responsive/transformational and status of implementation (such as planning phase, early implementation, and full implementation).
- *Indicator 4.2.9:* Number of programmes and projects that collect and analyse gender-disaggregated data on economic and livelihoods data of local populations when planning for national, sub-national and sectoral cooking fuels/MECS programmes and projects.
- *Indicator 4.2.10:* Number and percentage of national, sub-national and sectoral MECS projects that integrate quantitative and qualitative gender-specific outcomes, results and impact indicators in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems; accountability mechanisms; and status of achievement/non-achievement of these outcomes and results with reasons.
- *Indicator 4.2.11:* Number and type of gender sensitization, awareness-raising events, campaigns, or communication materials promoted through media and made available to the community; by public/private agencies – (awareness campaigns related to the MECS sector/services).
- *Indicator 4.2.12:* Proportion of consumers/end users who are satisfied with the quality of content and method of communication used in gender sensitization, awareness-raising events, campaigns, or communication materials promoted through media and made available to the community; by public/private agencies - (awareness campaigns related to the MECS sector/services), disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.2**

1. Laws and policies for MECS-related rights.
2. Budgeting and resource allocation targeted for promoting gender equality in the MECS sector.
3. Capacity building for embedding gender equality in the MECS sector.
4. Availability and responsiveness of local leaders.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.2:** Policy context (household level). Survey questions for end users (households) and additional questions for senior levels at MECS-related organizations ([link](#))

### Sub-domain 4.3: Economic context (household level)

The economic context – including both physical marketplaces and market systems – can be an enabling environment in which individuals can access MECS goods and services that they need, as well as participate for economic benefit. Ownership of mobile phones with access to internet is also important because it can facilitate access to MECS and assist in data collection process that is required to improve the quality of services and measure gender impacts.

#### Household level

- *Indicator 4.3.1:* Proportion of consumers/end users who have access to adequate and affordable MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.3.2:* Proportion of consumers/end users who have access to credits/subsidies/funds from different sources (banks, financial institutions, government and non-government funds) that could be used to access MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.3.3:* Proportion of households who have access to credits/subsidies/funds from different sources (banks, financial institutions, government and non-government funds) that could be used to access MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.3.4:* Annual budget allocated and spent on cooking fuels/MECS- related technical and financial training for household members.

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.3

1. Availability, affordability, and the ability to access MECS.
2. Access to credits/subsidies/funds that could be used to access MECS.
3. Ownership of mobile phones with internet connections.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.3: Economic context (household level)** ([link](#))

### Sub-domain 4.4: Environmental context (household level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the physical environment context in which individuals move and operate. It can either be enabling, offering individuals safe and accessible conditions, or it can be a barrier, preventing them from accessing MECS and MECS-related resources, including public participation such as attending events, meetings and training sessions related to the MECS sector.

#### Household level

- *Indicator 4.4.1:* Proportion of consumers/end users who could access MECS and MECS-related resources without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.4.2:* Proportion of consumers/end users who could access MECS-related meetings, events, training sessions, etc. without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.4.3:* Proportion of consumers/end users who could access MECS repairs and maintenance facilities without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.4

1. Physical accessibility to MECS and MECS-related resources.
2. Physical accessibility to repairs and maintenance facilities.
3. Physical accessibility to MECS-related meetings, events, training sessions, etc.
4. Aspects of the natural environment.
5. Climatic and seasonal factors.



**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.4: Environmental context (household level) [\(link\)](#)**

## Organization domains, indicators and survey questions

### Domain 1: Ability to access MECS (organizational level)

Equity of access to MECS – understand individuals different needs and provide appropriate solutions that fit with their needs. This domain mainly focuses on assessing the availability, accessibility, and affordability of MECS, as well as repairs and maintenance services to ensure that MECS are designed to meet individuals' needs and provide adequate services at organizational level.

#### Organizational level

- *Indicator 1.2:* Proportion of employees (paid/unpaid) who have access to modern energy cooking services at the workplace by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.). This indicator considers employees who use MECS to cook their own meals (mainly lunch) or cook for others (e.g., schools, hospitals, canteens, restaurants, etc.).

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess domain 1

1. Physical accessibility to access cooking fuels/MECS (location and distance).
2. Availability of distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities.
3. Affordability to access cooking fuels/MECS, and repairs and maintenance services.
4. Perceived quality of and/or satisfaction with cooking fuels/MECS, and repairs and maintenance services.

#### Survey questions for Domain 1: Ability to access modern energy cooking services (MECS) at organizational level [\(link\)](#)

### Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS (organizational level)

Access to resources related to MECS such as: 1) time and labour, 2) safety and freedom from violence, 3) health and well-being, 4) knowledge, information and technologies, and 5) financial resources. Access to MECS can deliver co-benefits (resources) for women, for example, MECS can reduce the burden of fuel collection, reduce the risk of sexual violence during firewood collection, reduce health risks and exposure to air pollution linked to traditional cooking fuels and stoves, improve women's well-being, save time spent on paid/unpaid tasks related to fuel collection, preparation and cooking enhancing women's control over time and labour, unlock opportunities for women to engage in productive economic activities and employment, and improve access to knowledge, information and technologies related to MECS. Health includes physical, mental, and social well-being as they affect and are affected by cooking fuels/MECS. Health can be viewed as both an outcome of cooking fuels/MECS, such as illness linked to traditional cooking systems, and as a resource for accessing cooking fuels/MECS, such as the physical ability to walk and access cooking fuels/MECS.

#### Sub-domain 2.1: Time and labour (organizational level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' time and labour spent on - paid or unpaid - cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities, as well as satisfaction with and control over the time and labour spent on these tasks at workplace.

#### Organizational level

- *Indicator 2.1.3:* Proportion of time spent on - paid and unpaid - cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities at the workplace (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.)
- *Indicator 2.1.4:* Proportion of employees who reported a reduction in workload as a result of access to MECS (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.)

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.1

1. Time spent on cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities
2. Time spent on repairs and maintenance of cookstoves/EPCs
3. Labour delegation for cooking and cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks

4. Control over time and labour spent on cooking and cooking fuels/MECS-related tasks and activities
5. Time spent on activities with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS: Sub-domain 2.1: Time and labour (organization level) ([link](#))**

### Sub-domain 2.2: Safety and freedom of violence (organizational level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing individuals' freedom from gender-based violence including physical, sexual, and verbal abuse, as well as harassment linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.

#### Organizational level

- *Indicator 2.2.2:* Number of cases of gender-based violence reported to local authorities that are linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection or MECS-related tasks and activities (disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.). Data to be collected before and after the introduction of MECS.

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.2

1. Perception of safety (i.e., feeling safe/fear linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities).
2. Perceived risk of physical/sexual/verbal abuse linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.
3. Experiences of physical/sexual/verbal abuse linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.
4. Ability to report safety concerns, and sexual exploitation linked to cooking, cooking fuel collection, or MECS-related tasks and activities.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.2: Safety and freedom of violence (organizational level) ([link](#))**

### Sub-domain 2.3: Health and well-being (organization level)

Health includes physical, mental, and social well-being as they affect and are affected by cooking fuels/MECS. Health can be viewed as both an outcome of cooking fuels/MECS, such as illness linked to traditional cooking systems, and as a resource for accessing cooking fuels/MECS, such as the physical ability to walk and access cooking fuels/MECS.

#### Organizational level

- *Indicator 2.3.1:* Reductions in PM<sub>2.5</sub> and carbon monoxide (CO) concentration (can be measured using the Gold Standard methodology [Gold Standard developed a methodology](#)).
- *Indicator 2.3.2:* Number of Averted Mortality and Disability Adjusted Life Years ([ADALYs](#)) – aligned with SDG 3.9.1 indicator. The [Gold Standard developed a methodology](#) that can be used to estimate this indicator i.e. estimate ADALYs by measuring PM<sub>2.5</sub>/CO kitchen concentrations, but the methodology needs to be updated to collect disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.).
- *Indicator 2.3.4:* Proportion of employees who visited medical facilities/dispensary for treatment of respiratory issues etc. such as cough, shortness in breath and pneumonia, or any other respiratory issues or burns and injuries - related to cooking with traditional fuels at their workplace, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

#### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.3

1. Perceived illness or experience of illness related to cooking with polluting fuels/or any other cooking fuels.
2. Fear of harm from others while collecting traditional cooking fuel or accessing MECS.
3. Fear of injury while collecting or cooking with traditional cooking fuels/MECS.
4. Experience of injury while collecting or cooking with traditional cooking fuels/MECS.
5. Mental well-being related to insecurity of cooking fuels/MECS.

6. Impact of health on ability to access cooking fuels/MECS.
7. Health concerns with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
8. Experience of injury with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.3: Health and well-being (organizational level) ([link](#))**

#### Sub-domain 2.4: Knowledge, information and technology (organization level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the ability to access knowledge, information and technologies related to modern energy cooking services, repairs and maintenance, understanding the environmental, health and gender impacts of traditional cooking fuels, cooking different types of dishes using EPCs/or any other eCookers, etc.

##### Organizational level

- *Indicator 2.4.5:* Proportion of employees who have received technical training related to maintaining or repairing cookstoves, EPCs, etc. disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.6:* Proportion of entrepreneurs who have received financial and job skills training to facilitate income-generation activities related to MECS, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.7:* Proportion of employees who have access to knowledge, information and technologies related to MECS that is publicly available and easily accessible, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.4.8:* Number of awareness campaigns promoting MECS that target all employees regardless of their gender identity and socio-economic status.

##### Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.4

1. Access to knowledge, information and technologies related to advantages and disadvantages of cooking fuels, health, gender and environmental impacts, types of clean cooking fuels, MECS, citizen's rights, etc.
2. Knowledge related to maintaining or repairing cookstoves, EPCs, etc.
3. Financial and market literacy, and job skills to facilitate income-generation activities (for entrepreneurs).

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to MECS-related resources, Sub-domain 2.4: Knowledge, information and technologies (organizational level) ([link](#))**

#### Sub-domain 2.5: Financial resources (organizational level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the ability to access financial resources due to the employment in MECS-related company/organization and the ability to access financial resources to invest in MECS and earn income (entrepreneurs).

##### Organizational level

- *Indicator 2.5.4:* Total payments made to assist entrepreneurs in setting up/managing a large or small-scale MECS-related business, industry or enterprise, disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.5.5:* Proportion of entrepreneurs having a sustainable income from MECS by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 2.5.6:* Proportion of employees in MECS-related employment by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

- *Indicator 2.5.7:* Average monthly/annual income of employees in MECS-related employment by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 2.5**

1. Access to financial assistance including loans and subsidies to invest in MECS.
2. Earning an income from MECS.

**Survey questions for Domain 2: Access to resources related to MECS, Sub-domain 2.5:** Financial resources (organizational level) ([link](#))

**Sub-domain 2.6: Social capital (N/A)**

**Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency at organizational level**

This domain focuses on assessing the ability to participate and influence decisions at public level, participate in MECS income-generating activities, employment and leadership positions, etc., and freedom of movement: a) the ability to move freely to access MECS such as distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc., and b) the ability to access resources related to MECS such as participating in public activities, attending meetings and events, training sessions, and participating in income-generating activities, etc.

**Sub-domain 3.1: Household decision-making – (N/A)**

**Sub-domain 3.2: Public participation (organizational level)**

Public participation refers to individuals' ability to participate in cooking fuels/MECS-related public activities, including participating and influencing decisions at a public level, participating in committees, employment and leadership positions, and participating in cooking fuels/MECS-related income-generating activities.

**Organizational level**

- *Indicator 3.2.6:* Proportion of employees/members with position and responsibility in formal and informal institutions, or other decision-making structures for managing cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.7:* Proportion of employees/members who participate in decision-making meetings in formal and informal institutions, or other decision-making structures for managing cooking fuels/MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.8:* Number of gender-specific decisions adopted resulting from contributions made by employees or members in formal and informal institutions, or other decision-making structures for managing cooking fuels/MECS.
- *Indicator 3.2.9:* Proportion of employees in cooking fuels/MECS-related employment public or private sector disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.10:* Proportion of employees in job skills training related to cooking fuels/MECS, including training for technical and managerial roles disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 3.2.11:* Annual budget allocated and spent on technical, financial, leadership and managerial training for employees in cooking fuels/MECS-related employment public or private sector.
- *Indicator 3.2.12:* Percentage of suppliers/partners that are women led businesses and/or have a gender-balanced workforce.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 3.2**

1. Participation in cooking fuels/MECS-related employment and leadership positions.
2. Participation in high-level cooking fuels/MECS sector positions or governance.
3. Participation in cooking fuels/MECS-related income-generating activities.
4. Representation in groups with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.

5. Voice/influence in cooking fuels/MECS-related institutions.

**Survey questions for Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency, Sub-domain 3.2:** Public participation (organizational level) ([link](#))

**Sub-domain 3.3: Freedom of movement (organizational level)**

- Restrictions on freedom of movement can affect individuals' ability to access MECS such as distribution centres, markets, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc., and the ability to access resources related to MECS such as participating in public activities, attending meetings and events, training sessions, and participating in income-generating activities, etc.

**Organizational level**

- *Indicator 3.3.3:* Proportion of employees who can move freely to access MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc. This indicator considers employees who use MECS to cook their own meals (mainly lunch) or cook for others (e.g., schools, hospitals, canteens, restaurants, etc.).
- *Indicator 3.3.4:* Proportion of employees or members of formal and informal institutions who can move freely to participate in MECS-related public activities, meetings and events, training sessions, and participate in income-generating activities disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 3.3**

1. Ability to access MECS: the ability to move freely to access MECS such as distribution centres, repairs and maintenance facilities, etc.
2. Ability to access resources related to MECS and participate in public activities, meetings and events, training sessions, and participate in income-generating activities.

**Survey questions for Domain 3: Ability to exercise agency, Sub-domain 3.3:** Freedom of movement (organizational level) ([link](#))

**Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment (organizational level)**

This domain focuses on understanding and assessing the contextual factors (such as social, policy, economic, and environmental contexts) at multiple levels that can facilitate or hinder individuals' ability to access MECS and MECS-related resources, as well as their participation and engagement in the MECS sector.

**Sub-domain 4.1: Social context (organizational level)**

This sub-domain focuses on understanding and assessing the impacts/power of relationships, interactions, and inter-group dynamics and social rules (including social inclusion, social cohesion, social norms, and community solidarity) that can support or hinder individuals' ability to access MECS and MECS-related resources, as well as their participation and engagement in the MECS sector as agents of change. These elements must be considered in assessing the enabling environment to improve individuals' access to MECS and promote gender equality in the MECS sector. No indicators have been developed for the social context; however, the survey questions can assist in understanding the social context to develop context-based solutions.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.1**

1. Social harmony.
2. Shared goals.
3. Group solidarity.
4. Social inclusion.
5. Cultural beliefs.
6. Norms (cooking fuels/MECS-related practices and cooking preferences, labour, decision-making, and community participation).

7. Identifiers of social position.
8. Social harmony with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
9. Group solidarity with possible cooking fuels/MECS implications.
10. Attitudes toward women.
11. Norms and attitudes around group participation.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.1: Social context** (organizational level) ([link](#))

#### Sub-domain 4.2: Policy context (organizational level)

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the legal structures, including laws and policies, budgets, and local leadership that can influence the realization of individuals' rights to access MECS and MECS-related resources, and ensure individuals' participation and engagement in the MECS sector as agents of change.

##### **Organizational level**

\*Some of these indicators can be used to assess the policy context (national, sub-national and sectoral) and others can be used to assess and improve policies of MECS-related companies/organizations to address gender inequalities.

- *Indicator 4.2.13:* Proportion of employees in MECS-related employment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.14:* Proportion of employees in MECS-related employment who are aware of basic issues related to gender equality and equity in the MECS sector disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.15:* Existence of measures for improving gender equity and redressal mechanisms in human resources (HR) policies of (a) national ministries that are involved in the MECS sector, and (b) public/private institutions of MECS-related services; evidence of implementation of these measures, and perception of staff regarding these measures. (perception of staff - disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.2.16:* Existence and evidence of implementation of policy that allows for flexible working hours and flexible maternal and parental leave.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.2**

1. Laws and policies for MECS-related rights.
2. Budgeting and resource allocation targeted for promoting gender equality in the MECS sector.
3. Capacity building for embedding gender equality in the MECS sector.
4. Governance structures for diverse participation in the MECS sector.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.2: Policy context** (organizational level) – Survey questions for senior levels at MECS-related organizations ([link](#))

#### Sub-domain 4.3: Economic context (organizational level)

The economic context – including both physical marketplaces and market systems – can be an enabling environment in which individuals can access MECS goods and services that they need, as well as participate for economic benefit.

##### **Organizational level**

- *Indicator 4.3.5:* Proportion of employees in MECS-related employment, such as in a utility company or a selected ministry, private company, etc., disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

- *Indicator 4.3.6:* Proportion of entrepreneurs having a sustainable income from the provision of MECS disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.3.7:* Proportion of employees in job skills training-related to the MECS sector including training for technical and managerial roles disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.3.8:* Annual budget allocated and spent on technical, leadership and managerial training for employees in cooking fuels/MECS-related employment public or private sector - US\$ per capita
- *Indicator 4.3.9:* Proportion of entrepreneurs who have access to loans/funds from different sources (banks, financial institutions, government and non-government funds) for investing in MECS-related industries and enterprises disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.3**

1. MECS-related employment and job market.
2. Access to loans/funds that could be used to invest in the MECS sector.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.3:** Economic context (organizational level) ([link](#))

**Sub-domain 4.4: Environmental context (organizational level)**

This sub-domain focuses on assessing the physical environment context in which individuals move and operate. It can either be enabling, offering individuals safe and accessible conditions, or it can be a barrier, preventing them from accessing MECS and MECS-related resources, including public participation such as attending events, meetings and training sessions related to the MECS sector.

**Organizational level**

*These indicators can be used for employees who use MECS solutions to prepare their own meals or cook for other people (such as schools, hospitals, canteens, restaurants, etc)*

- *Indicator 4.4.4:* Proportion of employees who can access MECS and MECS-related resources without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.4.5:* Proportion of employees/entrepreneurs who could access MECS-related meetings, events, training sessions, etc. without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.
- *Indicator 4.4.6:* Proportion of employees who could access MECS repairs and maintenance facilities without being restricted by the physical environment disaggregated data by sex, gender identity, age, ethnicity, disability, physical ability, the level of education and literacy, geographical location, occupation, income, etc.

**Survey questions cover the following measures to assess sub-domain 4.4**

1. Physical accessibility to MECS and MECS-related resources.
2. Physical accessibility to repairs and maintenance facilities.
3. Physical accessibility to MECS-related employment, suppliers, distributions centres, etc.
4. Physical accessibility to MECS-related meetings, events, training sessions, etc. (for household or organization).
5. Aspects of the natural environment.
6. Climatic and seasonal factors.

**Survey questions for Domain 4: Multi-level enabling environment, Sub-domain 4.4:** Environmental context (organizational level) ([link](#))



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