

Country Gender Profile: Côte d'Ivoire

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Côte d'Ivoire

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Summary

Summary of Country Gender Profile in Côte d'Ivoire (2013)
General Situation of Women
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the end of the long political crisis in 2011, Côte d'Ivoire is making efforts toward to restoration. However, because of long turmoil of the crisis, statistical data is insufficient, and the development of statistics and a population registration system are pressing issues. In Côte d'Ivoire, there are various ethnic groups, each with a different language, culture and customs. The social status of women varies in each ethnic group. Generally, the social and economic status of women is low, and they have inadequate access to basic social services and less economic power compared to men.
Government Policy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government of Côte d'Ivoire has adopted policies and action plans to promote gender equality. It is important to assure the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of these actions. The strategy for the fight against gender based violence (GBV) was established in 2012, and it is now in the implementation phase of the action plan. A project to develop a database of talented women is ongoing under the initiative of the Presidential Office as a way to evaluate and utilize the capacities and talents of women across the country.
National Machinery
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1976, the Ministry for Condition of Woman (Ministère de la Condition de la Femme) was established. Since then, the ministry has been in charge of promoting gender equality. However, the budget has not been sufficiently allocated. Therefore, the allocation of an adequate budget and the establishment of administrative capacity are required. Gender Groups have not been established in all ministries. Sufficient budget allocation and human resources are challenges for the Gender Groups.
Governance/Security
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the internal conflict, the government of Côte d'Ivoire first addressed the challenges related to governance and security. It is important to take into consideration the female victims of GBV and to include women as a target group of DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration). The access to justice is not assured for both men and women because of poverty and illiteracy, with women having much more limited access. Though victims of GBV must obtain a medical certificate in order to have an access to justice, they often cannot afford the cost to have it issued, which prevents the resolution of GBV by justice.
Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The improvement of girls' enrollment in school is one of the priority issues for the government.

Various measures are needed to improve girls' education. It is important to promote the family's understanding of the importance of girls' education as well as to implement measures against violence towards girls.

- Women's literacy rate is low, which prevents them from participating in social and economic activities. During the internal conflict, the participation of women in literacy-related education was low.

Health

- The maternal death rate is high in Côte d'Ivoire, and improvements in women's health and equitable access to services are primary objectives.
- HIV/AIDS is prevalent in young women and men ages 50 and older. It is expected that the government will assume a leading role in the measures against HIV/AIDS.
- The ratio of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) had been decreasing since 1998. However, this downward trend reversed during the period of internal conflict, and currently, there are even cases of FGM in Abidjan, an area where FGM was not previously practiced.

Agriculture and Fishing

- Women grow crops for self-support while men mostly work on plantations in commercial agriculture.
- The law permits equal access to land, and the government promotes a policy of equal land ownership between men and women. However, it is still difficult for women to acquire land in rural areas. The limited access to land constitutes a serious obstacle for women in engaging in economic activities.

Transport and Infrastructure

- For the purpose of reconstruction following the internal conflict, the government set its sight on the development of a transportation network. However, few women participate in the decision-making process in this sector. On the other hand, transportation is an important issue for women because many women's associations ship the agricultural products that they produce.
- The government of Côte d'Ivoire takes into consideration social issues such as HIV/AIDS. Further activities are expected to address the social issues in this sector.

Economic Activities

- Many women are engaged in agriculture, informal sectors and service sectors.
- Since women do not own property, such as land, they have limited access to credit. Therefore, projects involving micro credit are expected to be beneficial. However, there are few micro credit programs that offer loan conditions favorable to women.

List of Abbreviations

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration
EDSCI	Enquête démographique et de santé et à indicateurs multiples / Demographic and Health Survey
EU	European Union
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBV	Gender based violence
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
IFEF	Institut de formation et d'éducation féminine / Institute for Education and Training of Women
IMF	International Monetary Fund
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MESAPT	Ministry of Employment, Social Action and Professional Training
MJHRPL	Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties
MSFWC	Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman, and Child
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SNLVBG	Stratégie nationale de lutte contre les violences basées sur le genre/ National Strategy for the Fight against the Gender Based Violence
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programs
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCI	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

<p>Exchange Rate</p> <p>1 FCFA(XOF)=0.173JPY</p> <p>(January 2013)</p>
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<p>This study was conducted between December 2012 and March 2013 by Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting, based on a review of secondary data and a field survey in Côte d'Ivoire. This report was produced as a reference material for JICA to implement its projects in the country. The views and recommendations presented here do not necessarily reflect the official views and opinions of JICA.</p>

Map



1. Basic Profiles

1-1 Social Economic Profile

Social Economic Indicators							Source
Social Indicators							
<u>International development indicators</u>	Human Development Index (Value/Rank)		Gender-related development index (Value/Rank)		Gender empowerment measurement(Value)		
	2011	0.400/170	NA		NA		(1)
	2005	0.432/166	0.413/146		NA		(2)
<u>Demographic indicators</u>	Total		% of urban population		Annual population growth rate	Total fertility rate	(3)
	(millions)	female population		female population			
	2011	20.15	49.10	20.90(2010)	NA	2.08	4.348
	2006	18.33	48.84	20.09	NA	1.68	4.777
	Life expectancy		Households number by head of households (HH)				(3)
	Male	Female	Total	Male-headed	Female-headed		
	2011	54.31	56.59	NA	NA	14.4% (1999)(4)	
	2006	51.25	53.03	NA	NA	NA	
<u>Economic indicators</u>							
	GNI/Capita (USD)	Growth rate of real GDP	GDP implicit dilator	Gini index	Aid/GNI		(3)
	2011	1,090	-4.73	159.20	NA	NA	
	2006	900	0.68	134.07	NA	NA	
<u>Public sector expenditure on sectors</u>		Health	Education	Social welfare	Defense	Gender	Others
	2011	5.06%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
		/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP	/GDP
	2011	1.14%	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<u>Industry/GDP</u>		Agriculture	Industry	Service	Others		
	2011	24.32	30.32	45.37	NA		(3)
	2006	22.92	25.88	51.19	NA		
<u>Labor indicators</u>		Total number		Unemployment rate		Minimum wage	
	(thousands)	% female labor force	Total unemploy ment rate	Female unemploy ment rate	Male	Female	(4)
	2010	7,787.5	37.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
	2005	6,988.9	36.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
<u>Employment rate</u>		Agriculture	Non-agriculture				
			Industry	Retail	Education	Social Service	
	Total(Thousands)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
	% of female	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	

Gender Gap Subindexes	Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Economic participation and Opportunity	111	(5)
Labor force participation	96	
Wage equality for similar work (survey)	114	
Estimated earned income (PPP USD)	99	

Approaches to gender issues							
<u>Ratification and signature of international conventions and treaties</u>						Year	
	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women					1995	(6)
	Convention on the Rights of the Child					1991	(6)
	Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa					2011	(6)
<u>Women in decision-making (%)</u>							
	Government	Seats in parliament	10.4	Private sector	Managers	NA	(7)
		Ministerial Position	18		Professional and technical workers	NA	
<u>Policy of Gender</u>						Year	(11)
	Politique Nationale de l'Egalité des chances, l'Equité et le Genre					2009	
<u>Laws of gender</u>						Year	
	Law on suppression of any forms of violence against women, including FGM					1998	(10)
	Solemn Declaration of Côte d'Ivoire on Equality of Chances, Equity and Gender					2007	(11)
<u>Public organization of gender</u>							
	Name of the national machinery: Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child (Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant)						

Gender Gap Subindexes	Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Political Empowerment	104	(5)
Women in parliament	100	
Women in ministerial positions	75	
Years with female head of state (last 50)	58	

1-2 Health Profile

Health Indicators							Ref.	
Prevalence of health services		No. of Hospital beds per 1,000 persons	No. of physicians per 1,000persons				(3)	
	2006							0.4
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000)	2011	Total	81.2	Female	NA	(8)		
	2006		87.4		NA			
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000)	2011	Total	114.9	Female	104.9	(8)		
	2006		126.1		115.2			
Prevalence rate associated with tuberculosis (per 100,000)	NA	Total	NA	Female	NA			
Prevalence and death rates associated with infectious diseases	NA	Total	NA	Female	NA			
% of vaccinated (1 year old) (2011)		BCG	DPT1	Polio	Measles	(8)		
		NA	62%	NA	49%			
Reproductive health		Contraceptive prevalence rate		Rate of births attended by trained personnel		Anemia prevalence among pregnant women	(4)	
	2011	12.9% (2006)		56.8%		NA		
		Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 birth)		Total fertility rate		Average age of first marriage	(4)	
	2011	400 (2010)		4.348		Female:22 (2003) Male:28.0 (2003)		
Nutrition		Children underweight for age (under 5)		Oral re-hydration therapy use rate		Iodine deficiency	(3)	
	2007	29.4%		NA		NA		
	1998	18.2%		NA		NA		
Community health service		Access to safe water			Access to improved sanitation			(8)
		Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	
	2011	80%	NA	NA	24%	NA	NA	
	2006	79%	NA	NA	23%	NA	NA	
HIV/AIDS		HIV prevalence				% of population aged with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS		(3)
		Total	Male	Female				
				Pregnant	Male	Female		
	2011	3%	0.6%	1.4%	NA	NA	NA	
	2006	4.3%	NA%	NA	NA	NA	NA	

Gender Gap Subindexes				Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Health and survival				1	(5)
Sex ratio at birth (female/male)				1	
Healthy life expectancy				1	

1-3 Education Profile

Education Indicators							Source
Education Systems	Primary	6 years	Secondary	4years 3 years	Tertiary	NA	(12)
Adult literacy rate	Total	56.2%	Male	65.2%	Female	46.6%	(3)
Primary education							(3)
Enrollment (net)	2009	Total	61.4%	Male	67.1%	Female	55.8%
	2003		58.0%		64.3%		51.7%
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA
Drop-out rate	2011	41.4 %	NA	Male	35.1%	Female	47.8%
Secondary education							(3)
Enrollment (gross)	2002	Total	27.1%	Male	34.9%	Female	19.4%
	1999		23.0%		29.9%		16.1%
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA
Drop-out rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA
Tertiary education							(3)
Enrollment (gross)	2009	Total	8.3%	Male	10.9%	Female	5.7%
	2000		6.6%		9.5%		3.7%
Progression rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA
Drop-out rate	NA	Total	NA	Male	NA	Female	NA
Tertiary level enrolment by field of study by gender		Education	Arts	Sociology	Scientific technology	Health	Others
NA		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Gender Gap Subindexes	Rank (135 countries)	Ref.
Educational Attainment	131	(5)
Literacy rate	121	
Enrollment in primary education	130	
Enrollment in secondary education	131	
Enrollment in tertiary education	123	

Reference:

- (1) *Human Development Report*, UNDP, 2011
- (2) *Human Development Report*, UNDP, 2007/2008
- (3) *World Development Indicators*
- (4) *Gender Statistics*, World Bank
- (5) World Economic Forum, *the Gender Gap Report 2012*
- (6) United Nations Web site: <http://treaties.un.org/>
- (7) IPU Web site: <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>
- (8) République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Enquête démographique et de santé et à indicateurs multiples (EDSCI-III) 2011-2012, Rapport préliminaire*, Juillet 2012
- (9) UNICEF, *Country Profile : Côte d'ivoire*, March 2010

- (10) MFAS and UNFPA, *Crisis and Gender Based Violence in Côte d'Ivoire: Outcomes of the Studies and Major Challenges*, 2008
- (11) République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Document de politique nationale sur l'égalité des chances, l'équité et le genre*, août 2007
- (12) UNICEF, *Plan stratégique de l'éducation de la fille en côte d'ivoire*, 2007

2. General Situation of Women and Government Policy on Gender

2-1 General Situation of Women in Côte d'Ivoire

General Situation of Women in Côte d'Ivoire

- 1) Following the end of the long political crisis in 2011, Côte d'Ivoire is making efforts toward restoration. However, because of long turmoil of the crisis, statistical data is insufficient, and the development of statistics and a population registration system are pressing issues.
- 2) In Côte d'Ivoire, there are various ethnic groups, each with a different language, culture and customs. The social status of women varies in each ethnic group. Generally, the social and economic status of women is low, and they have inadequate access to basic social services and less economic power compared to men.

[General Situation]

Côte d'Ivoire is located in West Africa on the Guinea Bay and is home to about 20 million people. In 1960, Côte d'Ivoire gained independence from France, began a course of liberal free economic policy, and invested heavily in infrastructure. Supported mainly by agricultural production of coffee and cacao, Côte d'Ivoire registered annual economic growth of 7% from the 1960s to 1980s. However, from 1980 to 1993, the decline in agricultural products reduced national revenue, and Côte d'Ivoire slide into an economic crisis. From 1989, under the direction of the IMF and World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire undertook structural reform programs. In the political sphere, domestic political turmoil ensued after the death of President Houphouët-Boigny in 1993. A presidential election was held in October 2000 in which President Gbagbo was elected, but the conflict between government and anti-government forces continued and developed into a civil war. Behind this backdrop, the United Nations' political mission MINUCI was set up in the country in 2003. MINUCI was later replaced by the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), which still remains active throughout the country.

In October 2010, a presidential election was held, and former Prime Minister Ouattara was elected President. However, former president Gbagbo also declared the victory, alleging the results of the election to be invalid. Ouattara then announced his inauguration. This unusual situation of a juxtaposition of two presidents led to post-electoral crisis. The conflict finally came to end, and in May 2011, President Ouattara organized his inauguration ceremony, and the new cabinet was subsequently established in March 2012.

In the economic sphere, Côte d'Ivoire is the second largest economy in West Africa behind Nigeria and

has a significant economic impact in the region. Its main export products are cocoa, coffee, wood and petrol.

Côte d'Ivoire's ranked 168th out of 187 countries in the 2013 Human Development Indicators. Since the poverty rate is 48.9% (2008), half of the population lives in poverty¹. Moreover, there are disparities between urban and rural areas; the poverty rate in urban area is 29.5%, while the poverty rate in rural area is 62.5%².

Because of the long conflict, a census has not been recently conducted³. Therefore, data from 1998 is still used. In addition, gender-related disaggregated statistical data is insufficient. Also, the displacement of people because of the conflict has made it difficult to capture the demographic situation of the country. Centers for the registration of certificates were damaged or destroyed during the crisis, which has resulted in population records being lost. Furthermore, even those centers that remain operational have not been computerized⁴, and it is also estimated that many children have not been registered. Thus, it is extremely difficult to grasp the population of the country.

[General situation of women]

The government of Côte d'Ivoire adopted the National Policy for Equalities of Chances, Equity and Gender (Politique Nationale de l'Egalité des chances, l'Equité et le Genre) in 2009 to promote gender equality and subsequently implemented various activities.

However, the environment facing women is harsh. Though the rate of girls' enrollment in primary education is increasing, the disparity between urban and rural areas is large, and few girls enroll and complete higher education. The environment surrounding girls' education is not favorable enough. Therefore, further advocacy activities are needed to make parents understand the importance of girls' education. Moreover, many girls drop-out of school due to gender based violence by teachers and boys, and there is a growing need to establish schools for girls.

¹ The poverty rate is the proportion of the population that lives under the national poverty line. The poverty line of Côte d'Ivoire in 2008 was 241,145 FCFA per adult per year. FCFA is pegged to Euro, and 1 Euro is 655.957FCFA.

Therefore the poverty line is about 367.6 Euro.

² République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Rapport pays de suivi des objectifs du millénaire pour le développement*, version finale, août 2010, p.18

³ A census has started from the beginning of 2013 and is scheduled to finish by the end of the year.

⁴ "état civil" indicates the situation in terms of civil law in the French legal system. The main components are nationality, marital status, parental relationship, family relationship, name, address, capacity and sex. "acte de l'état civil" indicates certificates such as the birth certificate, marriage certificate, and death certificate (Toshio YAMAGUCHI, *Dictionnaire du droit français*, pp.212-213).

[Representation in the decision-making process]

Following the reorganization of the Cabinet in November 2012, there are now 5 female ministers among the 28 ministers⁵. In Parliament, 26 of the 249 members are female (20.4%)⁶, and as of 2010, the proportion of female mayors is 4.6%.

Stereotypes against women, general apolitical attitude among women, low literacy rate, and inadequate education have been pointed out as reasons why women's participation in the decision-making process has not advanced very far⁷.

[Issues originating in religious and traditional custom]

There are various ethnic groups in Côte d'Ivoire, each with a different language, culture and customs, and the social status of women is different in each group. For example, Akan is matrilineal and women hold a high social position, and there are female village chiefs. However, generally, the social and economic position of women in Côte d'Ivoire is low, and their access to social services and economic power is inferior to men.

Following the post electoral crisis in 2002, increasing gender based violence (GBV) has become a serious concern in the country. At the present, GBV has become such a pressing issue for the government that it addresses GBV with support from donors and NGOs.

GBV includes psychological, physical and sexual violence. One of the examples is female genital mutilation (FGM). This practice is said to be a coming-of-age ritual in western and northern regions. However, because of the movement of people during the crisis, this custom has been brought to Abidjan, and the practice of FGM is increasing⁸. The government has clearly stated that this custom has no base in religion and has an adverse effect on health, and it has prohibited the practice of FGM by law. The government also conducts advocacy activities such as a special week against FGM.

There are many factors in FGM, such as the low literacy rate and insufficient knowledge on health and

⁵ Web site of the Côte d'Ivoire government: http://www.gouv.ci/gouvernement_1.php?recordID=13

⁶ IPU Website: <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>

⁷ République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Rapport pays de suivi des objectifs du millénaire pour le développement*, version finale, août 2010, p.37.

⁸ According to UNICEF, there are four reasons for FGM. (i) it is a way to test the courage and the endurance of young girls, (ii) it is a guarantee for the wife's faithfulness, (iii) it is a ritual of purification and social integration in preparation for life as a housewife, (iv) it is a religious requirement. (UNICEF Côte d'Ivoire, *Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation*, February 2007, http://www.unicef.org/wcaro/WCARO_CI_Prog_En_FGM.pdf)

hygiene. According to a study conducted in 2008, educational level is negatively associated with the practice of FGM. More unschooled women (62%) undergo FGM than women with a primary education level (46%) and those who have a higher education level (23%). Among women who attended Koranic School, 72% have undergone FGM. Religious background is also associated with FGM. The practice is high among animists (74%), followed by Muslims (66%), Catholics (40%), and Protestants (32%)⁹.

⁹ This study was carried out in 8 departments of the country, and among the samples, there were 8,234 women aged 10 to 49 years. MFAS and UNFPA, *Crisis and Gender Based Violence in Côte d'Ivoire : Outcomes of the Studies and Major Challenges*, 2008, pp.61-62.

2-2 Government Policy on Gender

Government Policy on Gender

- 1) The government of Côte d'Ivoire has adopted policies and action plans to promote gender equality. It is important to assure the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of these actions.
- 2) The strategy for the fight against gender based violence was established in 2012, and it is now in the implementation phase of the action plan.
- 3) A project to develop a database of talented women is ongoing under the initiative of the Presidential Office as a way to evaluate and utilize the capacities and talents of women across the country.

[Government policy on gender]

In 2007, the President issued the Solemn Declaration of Côte d'Ivoire on Equality of Chances, Equity and Gender (Déclaration solennelle de la Côte d'Ivoire sur l'égalité des chances, l'équité et le genre), which manifested the intention to introduce a 30% quota for female candidates in elections, which was recommended by the conference in Beijing. In addition, in 2008, the government adopted the Action Plan to Implement the Resolution 1325 of the Security Council on Women, Peace and Security as well as the National Policy for Equalities for Chances, Equity and Gender (Politique Nationale de l'Egalité des Chances, l'Equité et le Genre) in 2009. This policy aims at assuring just and equitable development and permits both men and women equal chances in the development and decision-making processes. The following 4 areas have been given priority for intervention.

Priorities under the National Policy for Equalities for Chances, Equity and Gender

1. Governance and human rights
 - ♦ Establish legal framework favorable to the promotion of gender equality and a change in attitude favorable to equity
 - ♦ Establish a favorable cultural environment to promote gender-based approaches at all levels of intervention as well as to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against vulnerable and marginalized groups
 - ♦ Achieve gender mainstreaming in the decision-making process at the individual, community, sector, and political levels by focusing on the participation of women in making decisions
2. Macro economy and budget
 - ♦ Improve the policy framework to integrate gender mainstreaming in policies, programs, projects

and the development of master plans

- ♦ Take into account the contributions of men and women in all sectors of the national economy
- ♦ Develop a national budget that takes gender into account
- ♦ Stimulate the disadvantaged people in the economic, social and cultural spheres
- ♦ Consider the goal of equality between women and men from the viewpoint of prevention and cross-cutting issues.

3. Reconstruction and basic social service (Health and Education)

- ♦ Ensure the application of international conventions, such as the CEDAW and Resolution 1325 of the Security Council
- ♦ Create the conditions for gender mainstreaming in the efforts to reconstruct the country
- ♦ Ensure a political, social, macroeconomic, infrastructure, and health environment favorable to both genders
- ♦ Develop a sustainable partnership at the local, national, sub-regional and international levels for the promotion of gender equality
- ♦ Improve prevention strategies and conflict resolution
- ♦ Ensure equitable access to health services and care
- ♦ Ensure basic education for all
- ♦ Maintain a learning environment that improves the results of all learners

4. Reinforcement of capacities and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation

- ♦ Define an operational institutional framework for the coordination of gender mainstreaming at the national level

The challenges for the future are to assure the implementation of the 30% quota for elections and the review of the National Gender Policy adopted in 2009.

From 2009, the National Strategy for the Fight against the Gender Based Violence (Stratégie nationale de lutte contre les Violences Basées sur le Genre: SNLVBG) has been established, and implementation began in July 2012. SNLVBG prioritized the prevention and protection of sexual violence over the other various kinds of gender based violence. The following five priority axes were selected for action.

Priority areas for SNLVBG

1. Prevention of GBV
2. Justice and the fight against impunity
3. Security Sector Reform and DDR (Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration)
4. Multisector care for victims of GBV
5. Collect, treat and analyze data on GBV

The Priority Axis 1 plans to prevent GBV through intercommunity activities, campaigns and educational activities for women and children. Axis 2 aims to assure victims of GBV have equal access to justice. This is in response to situations where the assailant is not prosecuted after the conflict. In addition, Axis 2 deals with medical certification of GBV and the reinforcement of the legal framework. Axis 3 includes the implementation of the Security Council Resolution. Axis 4 aims to assure holistic care for victims of GBV from various perspectives, including medical, psychological, social, juridical, judicial, and socio economic. The objective of Axis 5 is to establish a harmonized system of collection, storage, sharing, analysis, and management of data with interested parties. This will facilitate access to information in the course of care for victims of GBV.

Thus, various approaches are planned for GBV. However, the budget has not been secured for all of the planned actions, so it is important to secure the budget needed to implement the strategy.

One of the new projects is setting up a database of talented women (Compendium ivoirien des compétences féminines), which was initiated by the President's office in order to evaluate and utilize the talents and capacities of women through assistance from donors. This database comprises three parts: women in the managerial class, young women, and women in rural areas. For example, a talented midwife can be registered in this database. This database consists not only of women in urban areas but also women in rural areas. Therefore, this database is expected to be a good opportunity to evaluate and appreciate the diversity of women's talents in various sectors.

[Women and the national development plan]

The National Development Plan (Plan national de développement) for 2012-2015 aims to transform Côte d'Ivoire into an emerging nation by 2020. In order to achieve this objective, the plan has 5 strategies. The third strategy includes gender as a component under "gender and equity." This component has 6 expected results.

Strategies of the National Development Plan

1. People can live in harmony in a secure society where good governance is ensured
2. The creation of national wealth is increased and sustained, and the results of the growth are shared equitably
3. The entire population, in particular women, children, and other vulnerable groups, has equal access to quality social services
4. People can live in a healthy environment and in adequate condition of life
5. Repositioning of the Côte d'Ivoire in the regional and international spheres

Expected results of “gender and equity”

1. The responsible institutions for the promotion of gender equality will become more efficient
2. Women's economic stability and rights will be ensured
3. Gender based violence will be reduced
4. The well-being of the family will be guaranteed
5. Access to education will be encouraged for girls
6. Communal and institutional protection of children will be assured.

[Gender related laws and regulations]

The Côte d'Ivoire government has adopted various laws and regulations in order to reduce the inequalities between men and women. In regards to FGM, the law of 1998 prohibits this practice. However, it still persists, so concrete measures are required.

Table: Gender related laws and regulations in Côte d'Ivoire

Laws and regulations	Year enacted	Contents
Law on equality between couples	1983	Equality between couples, and the possibility for women to choose between common property and separation of property
Law on the suppression of all forms of violence against women, including FGM	1998	Imprisonment for 1 to 5 years and payment of a fine (from 360,000 to two million FCFA) for FGM. If the victim dies as a result of the operation, the act is punishable by 5 to 20 years in prison. If the procedure involves a physician, he/she may be prohibited from practicing any medical profession for up to 5 years
Amendment of the Penal Code	1998	Measures against sexual harassment, forced labor, and early marriage
Solemn Declaration of Côte d'Ivoire on Equality of Chances, Equity and Gender	2007	Introduction of a 30% quota for female candidates in elections

Source: From interviews and various materials

2-3 National Machinery

Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille, de la Femme et de l'Enfant

- 1) In 1976, the Ministry for Condition of Woman (Ministère de la Condition de la Femme) was established. Since then, the ministry has been in charge of promoting gender equality. However, the budget has not been sufficiently allocated. Therefore, the allocation of an adequate budget and the establishment of administrative capacity are required.
- 2) Gender Groups have not been established in all ministries. Sufficient budget allocation and human resources are challenges for the Gender Groups.

[Background]

In 1976, the Ministry for Condition of Woman (Ministère de la Condition de la Femme) was established. In 1993, the name was changed to the Ministry for Family and Promotion of Women, and in 2000, the Ministry became the Ministry of Solidarity and Woman. Since the addition of family as a mission of the ministry, the ministry aims at promoting the value of family in the country. In 2011, the mission for “solidarity” was also added as an attribute of the ministry, and its name was changed to Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman, and Child (MSFWC).

[Outline of the National Machinery]

In MSFWC, the department that deals with issues related to gender is the Directorate of Equality and Promotion of Gender (Direction de l'égalité et de la promotion du genre).

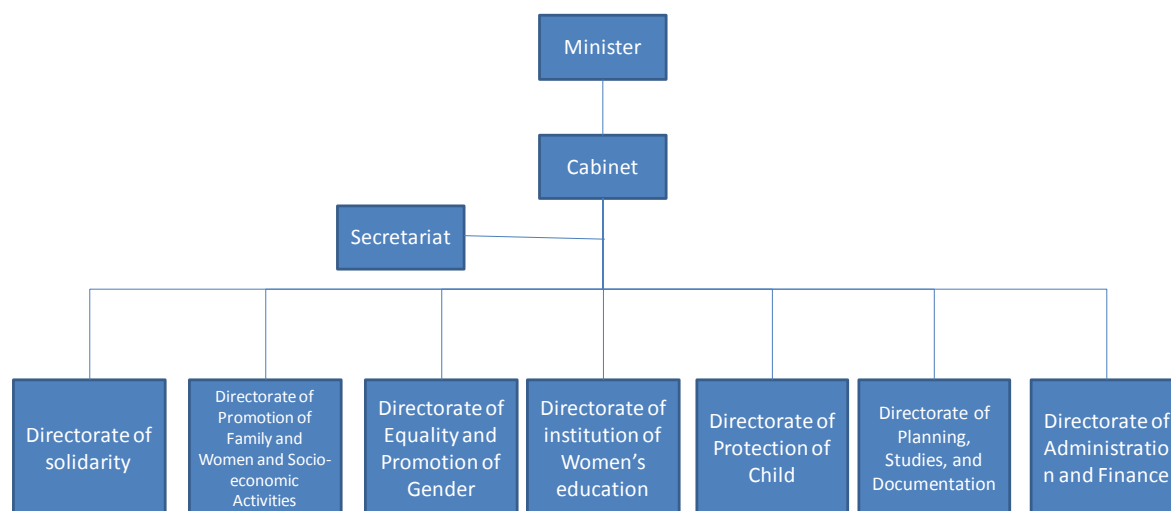
Since 1976, the budget allocated to the ministry for gender-related issues has been less than 1% of the national budget. In view of the challenges in the area of gender, this budget is not sufficient. For instance, many activities are planned for the GBV, but the budget is insufficient to carry them out¹⁰.

¹⁰ From interview with the Ministry of Solidarity, Family, Women, and Child.

Name of National Machinery	Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child (Ministère de la solidarité famille, de la femme et de l'enfant)
Year established	1976
Number of personnel	About 1,200 (Directorate of Equality and Promotion of Gender: about 19 persons)
Budget	16,448,127,389 FCFA (2013)
Objective	Implementation and monitoring of policies for solidarity, family, women and children

Source: Interviews with the MSFWC and other documents

[Organization Chart]



Source: From interviews with the MSFWC and other documents

[Main activities of the Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child]

The ministry initiates gender-based policies, such as the National Policy for Equalities of Chances, Equity and Gender and the National Strategy for the Fight against Gender Based Violence, as well as conducts monitoring of the policies in order to empower women and promote gender equality.

The decision-making organ for the National Strategy for the Fight against Gender Based Violence is the National Committee for the Fight against GBV (Comité national de lutte contre les VBG), which is presided over by the Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child. Its secretariat is the Central Committee for Supervision (Comité Central de Supervision), and its president is the advisor in charge of GBV (Conseiller technique chargé des question de VBG) with assistance from the Directorate of Equality and Promotion of Gender.

In addition, the ministry is also in charge of coordinating with donors in regards to GBV. For humanitarian assistance, a sub-cluster for GBV was reactivated in February 2011 and is presided over by the UNFPA. However, it was reorganized into the National Groupe of Coordination for GBV and presided over by the Directorate of Equality and Promotion of Gender. The government, UN agencies, and international and national NGOs participate in the National Groupe of Coordination for GBV.

The shortfall in the ministry budget makes it difficult to organize missions for women in rural areas¹¹. The Ministry had about 150 family agents (agent de famille) who were engaged in work for women in rural areas. However, because of retirement and budget problems, currently, not enough human resources have been mobilized in rural areas.

[Other ministries]

Through the initiatives of the MSFFC, Gender Groups have been established in several government ministries. The MSFFC monitors to confirm that each Gender Group is functioning. An evaluation was conducted on 3 of the 14 actual Gender Groups (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Health). Overall, the Gender Groups are not fully functional, and in many ministries, no budget has been allocated to the Gender Groups. In addition, the officials are not dedicated members of the Gender Group. Most members have normal responsibilities other than the Gender Group, and there is no additional remuneration for this gender-related work. Furthermore, many members of the Gender Groups do not have decision-making authority, and it is unclear if the discussions and examinations conducted by the Gender Groups are passed along to higher levels and transformed into policy. Thus, it is important to first strengthen the capacity of the Gender Groups. Currently the networking of Gender Groups is being examined as a way to reinforce their administrative capacities¹².

- Ministry of Employment, Social Action and Professional Training (MESAPT) (Ministère de l'Emploi, l'action sociale et la formation professionnelle)

MESAPT promotes women's employment and conducts activities for victims of GBV from the view of social protection. The MESAPT has a Gender Group with dedicated members and its own office.

- Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties (MJHRPL)
(Ministère de la Justice, des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés publiques)

¹¹ From interview with the Ministry of Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child.

¹² From interview with the Ministry of Employment, Social Action and Professional Training.

Concerning the environment in prison system, MJHRPL ensures that prison space is demarcated between men and women in terms of the habitat area. In the prisons, there are three classifications: men, women, and minors. Minors do not live in the same area as adults. However, as there are few girls in prison, they live with adult women.

3. Current Situation of Women by Sector

3-1 Governance/Security

Governance/Security

- 1) After the internal conflict, the government of Côte d'Ivoire first addressed the challenges related to governance and security. It is important to take into consideration the female victims of GBV and to include women as a target group of DDR.
- 2) The access to justice is not assured for both men and women because of poverty and illiteracy, with women having much more limited access. Though victims of GBV must obtain a medical certificate in order to have an access to justice, they often cannot afford the cost to have it issued, which prevents the resolution of GBV by justice.

[Government policies]

The first strategy in the National Development Plan (Plan national de développement) for 2012-2015 is that people can live in harmony in a secure society where good governance is ensured. This strategy includes several components: consolidation of peace and social cohesion; army, gendarmerie, and police for the nation building; reform of justice; rule of law and public liberty; communication; and development of national statistic system. In regards to social cohesion, women's participation in national and local institutions is being promoted. From the standpoint of justice, the protection of vulnerable groups, including women, is expected.

[Security]

In Cote d'Ivoir, DDR (Desarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) has been implemented following the end of the conflict. In the course of DDR, it is important to take into consideration the women who are ex-combatants or supported armed force. Generally, the term DDR tends to refer to male ex-combatants; however, women also handled logistical support and conducted espionage, even though they were not engaged in actual combat. There are no exact statistics, but it is estimated that about 450 female ex-combatants could be targeted under DDR¹³.

Although the conflict has ended, security is a big concern for the country. Small arms are common across the country, and many assaults using these arms still persist. In areas that saw intense combat, sexual violence occurs frequently, and the victims are generally women. When the assailants are

¹³ SNLVBG, p.35.

ex-combatants, the victims are unable to take action because of their fear¹⁴. Consequently, the assailants are not punished and repeat the same offenses.

[Access to justice]

In Côte d'Ivoire, since the cost of judiciary procedures is high, those who do not have economic power, including both men and women, do not have access to the courts. However, since women are vulnerable and have a low literacy rate, they have much greater difficulty in accessing justice than men.

The protection of victims is a big concern as well. Many victims do not know about their rights, so few resort to legal procedures. Also, few lawyers exist, and they tend to be based in Abidjan, not in rural areas. In the case of GBV, the judicial proceedings mandate special care for the victims. For example, the trial should take place behind closed doors, and the victims should not be at the same room as the assailant. Nevertheless, trials are not closed, and during the testimony, the assailant is allowed to be in the same room as the victim.

In addition, the victims of GBV need a medical certificate as evidence of the violence they suffered. However, it costs 50,000 FCFA, an extremely high amount, to have this certificate issued. It is impossible for a victim of GBV to go to a medical facility to have this expensive medical certificate issued, and moreover, bringing the case before the court is also expensive¹⁵.

Due to the limited access to justice, the assailants of GBV are not brought to justice, which substantiates the idea that acts of violence are not punished. This phenomenon trivializes the violence and creates a vicious cycle of impunity and violence.

In this regard, the juridical clinics run by the Association of Female Jurist of Côte d'Ivoire (Association des Femmes juristes de Côte d'Ivoire) with assistance from donors are noteworthy example. These juridical clinics provide necessary information and support to victims of GVB.

¹⁴ From interview with the Ministry and Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties.

¹⁵ From interviews with donors.

3-2 Education

Education

- 1) The improvement of girls' enrollment in school is one of the priority issues for the government. Various measures are needed to improve girls' education. It is important to promote the family's understanding of the importance of girls' education as well as to implement measures against violence towards girls.
- 2) Women's literacy rate is low, which prevents them from participating in social and economic activities. During the internal conflict, the participation of women in literacy-related education was low.

[Government policy]

In 1991, the World Bank supported the establishment of a national education plan that included girls' education as sub-component. The government adopted the Strategic Plan for Girls' Education in Côte d'Ivoire (Plan stratégique de l'éducation de la fille en Côte d'Ivoire) and prioritized the improvement of girls' enrollment. The enrollment of CP1 and CP2, the ratio of boys to girls, has begun to equalize in 2013, and the government plans to implement further measures to improve the enrollment rate of girls¹⁶.

In order to improve girls' enrollment, various obstacles must be addressed. One of the obstacles is that each household assigns girls to fetching water, gathering fire wood, and looking after their siblings. The government encourages primary schools to equip a nursery and announced a policy to establish preschools adjoining primary schools for children aged 3 to 5 years old.

[Primary/Secondary/Tertiary education]

As of 2011, there were 12,482 primary schools in Côte d'Ivoire (Public: 10,755, Private: 1,539), and the number of students was 2,920,791. The proportion of girls has been increasing, with the ratio rising from 44.7% in 2010 to 45.7% in 2011. On the other hand, the ratio of female teachers remains low at 24.4% as of 2011 (24.1% (2010))¹⁷.

The completion rate for elementary school in 2008 was 52% for boys and 39% for girls, which is lower than the 63% average for the rest of Africa¹⁸.

¹⁶ From interview with the Ministry of Education.

¹⁷ From documents provided by the Ministry of Education.

¹⁸ République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Rapport pays de suivi des objectifs du millénaire pour le développement*, août 2010, p.31.

The following table shows the net school enrollment rate in primary education in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries.

Table: Net school enrollment in primary education in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries

Country	Total (%)	Girls (%)	Boys (%)	Year
Côte d'Ivoire	61.48	55.82	67.11	2009
Ghana	82.06	81.14	82.93	2012
Nigeria	57.55	54.85	60.15	2010
Senegal	75.66	78.05	73.32	2011

Source: World Development Indicators

As of 2011, there were 1,206 secondary schools (Public: 307, Private: 899) with a total of 1,146,835 students. Compared to primary education, the ratio of girls in secondary education is low, and they account for only 39.31% of all students. The proportion of female teachers is also low at 13.3%¹⁹.

The government has set a policy to increase the number of junior high schools and high schools. Presently, schools are usually located in urban areas, so many girls must leave home to attend school. This situation hinders girls in rural areas from attending school. In cases where girls leave home to go to school, there are occasions where they get pregnant and drop out of school. In these cases, the parents would never want their other girls to go to secondary school. Given this situation, the government has laid out a policy to promote the establishment of girls' high schools with dormitories in order to prevent pregnancy during school and to assure a favorable environment in which girls can study and live. Also, at least one high school for girls is planned to be built in each region. In regards to junior high schools, the government recognizes that they should be built near residential areas, and around 40 junior high schools are to be constructed across the country²⁰.

The following table shows the enrollment rate in secondary education (gross) and the proportion of female teachers of Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries.

¹⁹ From documents provided by the Ministry of Education.

²⁰ From interview with the Ministry of Education.

Table: Secondary school enrollment and the proportion of Female teachers

	Secondary School Enrollment (% , gross)			% of Female Teachers	Year
	Total	Girl	Boy		
Côte d'Ivoire	27.14	19.36	34.91	NA	2002
Ghana	59.20	56.07	62.18	24.51	2012
Nigeria	44.05	41.21	46.78	45.59	2010
Senegal	42.08	40.26	43.87	17.86	2011

Source: World Development Indicators

The institutions for tertiary education in the country include three public universities, two regional education institutions (Unités régionales d'enseignement), three public grandes ecoles²¹, 35 private universities and 143 private grandes ecoles. Of these institutions, 80% are concentrated in Abidjan.

The ratio of girls in tertiary education per 100 boys was 30.2 in 1993. It rose to 56 in 2008, but the ratio of girls still remains very low. In addition, there are few girls who major in technical and scientific fields.

Table: Gross enrollment in tertiary education in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries

	Total	Girl	Boy	Year
Côte d'Ivoire	8.28	5.69	10.86	2009
Ghana	12.14	9.24	14.92	2011
Nigeria	10.26	8.51	11.95	2005
Senegal	7.92	5.91	9.92	2010

Source : World Development Indicators

[Professional education]

There are more private institutions for professional training, and they are mainly situated in Abidjan. In 2007, 48,624 students were enrolled, of which 23,600 were girls (Public: 40.86%, Private: 52.27%)²². Literacy education and revenue generating activities for women are provided by the Institution for women's training and education (Institut de formation et d'éducation féminine).

²¹ Higher education institutions in the French educational system.

²² *Stratégie de Relance du Développement et de Réduction de la Pauvreté*, janvier 2009.

[Literacy education]

In Côte d'Ivoire, the National Action Plan for Literacy and Non formal Education (Plan d'action national d'alphabétisation et de l'éducation non formelle) for 2012-2015 has been established.

According to the statistics from the World Bank, the literacy rate for women is much lower than the rate for men, with 65.2% of men being literate but only 46.6% of women being so. This low literacy rate constitutes an obstacle for women in every aspect of life, including learning about health and hygiene, professional training, participation in economic activities, and access to justice. To counter this, literacy education is being conducted in Institute for Education and Training of Women (Institut de formation et d'éducation féminine: IFEF). In 2001, the 4,979 women participated in IFEF, but during the conflict, some IFEF were closed, resulting in a decrease in the number of participants. With the end of the conflict, more women are again starting to participate, but with only 2,178 women participating as of 2010, participation has not yet returned to the previous level. During the conflict, the access to literacy education was limited, and the impact of the conflict on literacy is a concern.

The following table shows the adult literacy rates in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries.

Table: Adult literacy rates in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries

	Total	Women	Men	Year
Côte d'Ivoire	56.17	46.61	65.17	2010
Ghana	67.27	61.22	73.17	2010
Nigeria	61.34	50.41	72.15	2010
Senegal	49.70	38.67	61.81	2009

Source: World Development Indicators

3-3 Health

Health

- 1) The maternal death rate is high in Côte d'Ivoire, and improvements in women's health and equitable access to services are primary objectives.
- 2) HIV/AIDS is prevalent in young women and men ages 50 and older . It is expected that the government will assume a leading role in the measures against HIV/AIDS.
- 3) The ratio of FGM had been decreasing since 1998. However, this downward trend reversed during the period of internal conflict, and currently, there are even cases of FGM in Abidjan, an area where FGM was not previously practiced.

[Government policy]

The government of Côte d'Ivoire aims at making the country a place where “no woman dies when giving birth and every person is born healthy and lives healthy sexual and reproductive lives.” Therefore, the mission of the government is to assure people the right to health and equal access to all services. Specifically, matters related to women's health have been included in the National Policy of Reproductive Health (Politique nationale de la santé de la reproduction) ²³.

In order to address the prevalence of HIV/AIDS, the government holds a National Council for the Fight against HIV/AIDS (Conseil National de Lutte contre VIH/SIDA), which was last held in September 2009.

[Health]

Maternal death occurs at a rate of 400 per 100,000 births²⁴. The reason for this high rate is that there are not enough obstetric services and prevention and care for complications during pregnancy are insufficient. Moreover, delivery, postnatal care and nutritional care are also inadequate. At the community level, there is insufficient understanding on maternal and child health, and the risk symptoms of pregnant women are left out, which contributes to the high maternal death rate.

The low literacy rate for women hinders them from learning the necessary knowledge and making decisions. Early marriage, FGM, early pregnancy, and closely-spaced births are also factors that have

²³ From interview with the Ministry of Health.

²⁴ World Development Indicators, 2010. It aims to reduce the mortality rate to 149 per 100,000 births.

detrimental effects on pregnant women²⁵. There are also challenges related to infrastructure. There are not enough health facilities, equipment is inadequate, and access to the health facilities is difficult. In addition, due to cultural prejudices and taboo, confidence in health and medical services is low, which also keep pregnant women away from health services.

Table: Maternal mortality ratio in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries

	Maternal mortality ratio	Number of maternal deaths	Year
Côte d'Ivoire	400	2,700	2010
Ghana	350	2,700	2010
Nigeria	630	40,000	2010
Senegal	370	1,700	2010

Source: World Development Indicators

[Nutrition]

Children, pregnant women, HIV carriers, and orphans are considered to be vulnerable groups. It is important to pay sufficient attention to nutrition before becoming pregnant as it is too late after becoming pregnant. In regards to women, 33% are obese, 12% are underweight, and 59% lack sufficient iron. Most cases of obesity are found in urban areas.

Against this backdrop, the Ministry of Agriculture supports female cooperatives and distributes food and seeds in the regions that face malnutrition. In addition, the government plans to support mothers with HIV as breastfeeding can pass the HIV virus to the child.

[Water and sanitation]

Currently, an organization of groups for water pumping composed mainly of women is being organized in Côte d'Ivoire. This group is called the village committees for the management of manual pumps (comités villageois de gestion des pompes à motoricité humaine), and it is planned to establish these committees across the country. The ceremony for the establishment of the group was held on October 24, 2011. However, due to the fact that some pumps need repair and certain water sources are contaminated, further budget allocation is required and the full establishment of the group has not been achieved. The committees deal with the management of water points (manual pumps) and mainly comprise women. It is recommended to include a man on the committee for the purpose of maintaining the pumps²⁶.

²⁵ From the documents provided by the Ministry of Health.

²⁶ From interview with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Economy.

In regards to sanitation, it is necessary to promote the construction of toilets segregated by gender as consideration for girls. However, some schools are not equipped with toilets or the toilets are unisex. The installation of toilets segregated by gender contributes a reduction of gender based violence against girls, which will have a positive impact on girls' education as well.

[Reproductive health]

According to preliminary Demographic and Health Survey (EDSCI-III)²⁷, the national total fertility rate²⁸ is 5. In rural areas, the rate is 6.3, and in urban areas, it is 3.7. In addition, more girls between the ages of 15 to 19 give birth in rural areas than in urban areas.

In regards to the use of contraceptives, among women from ages of 15 to 49, only 18% use any birth-control measures. In addition, cooperation from men is essential in family planning. However, this requires men to use contraceptives, and it is difficult for women to ask them to change their behavior.

[HIV/AIDS]

According to EDSCI-III, national prevalence rate of HIV is 3.7%, with 4.6% of women and 2.7% of men having HIV²⁹. Thus, the prevalence among women is higher than in men, although it has dropped by 1 point compared to the prevalence rate in 2005. Also, there is a disparity between urban and rural areas. The prevalence rate of HIV in women in urban areas is 4.3%, which is higher than the 3.1% in rural areas. The prevalence rate among younger women is high and is increasingly becoming a concern: the prevalence rate is 6.8% in women aged 30-34 and 5.6% in women aged 25-29. Concerning the prevalence rate in men, the rate increases in proportion to age, and the prevalence rate in men aged 50 or more is 9%³⁰. In Côte d'Ivoire, it is often the case where older men have a sexual relationship with young girls, which puts girls at high risk of infection.

The prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS has not been sufficient. There are many reasons for this, including inadequate equipment in health centers, poor quality of service, human resource shortages, and a lack of motivation among health workers (including the issue of salaries).

²⁷ République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Enquête Démographique et de Santé et à Indicateurs Multiples 2011-2012*, Rapport Préliminaire, juillet 2012.

²⁸ See 6.Definitions.

²⁹ One of the reasons for the high prevalence rate in women is that women have more opportunities to receive HIV tests (including during prenatal checkups).

³⁰ Institut National de la Statistique, *Enquête démographique et de santé et à indicateurs multiples EDSCI-III, Côte d'Ivoire 2011-2012*, Rapport préliminaire sur la prévalence du VIH, p.6.

Although the government recommends 3 prenatal checkups, few pregnant women actually receive 3 checkups. For example, some women do not have enough money for transportation, and other women cannot obtain permission from their husbands for the prenatal checkups.

Since 2008, as a further measure against HIV, new bill on the prevention, protection and control of HIV has been drafted, and it is expected that the bill will be adopted in the near future³¹.

At present, about 90% of the budget for HIV/AIDS is said to be made up of assistance from donors. If the donors stop providing assistance, the fight against HIV/AIDS will be seriously impeded.

Table: Prevalence of HIV in Côte d'Ivoire and other African countries

	Total (% of population ages 15-49)	Women (%, ages15-24)	Men (%, ages15-24)	Year
Côte d'Ivoire	3.0	1.4	0.6	2010
Ghana	1.5	0.9	0.4	2010
Nigeria	3.7	2.9	1.1	2010
Senegal	0.7	0.5	0.3	2010

Source: World Development Indicators

[FGM]

According to the EDSCI-III survey conducted from 2011 to 2012, about 38% of women aged 15-49 have undergone FGM. The rate of FGM in 1998 was 45%, and although the rate dropped to 36.4% in 2006³², the current trend is towards an increase. It is said that the recent increase of FGM is due to the movement of people caused by the internal conflict as well as regional trends. In the north and north-western regions, more than 79% women have undergone FGM. In the western region, the rate is 54%, and in central northern region it is 50%. It is noteworthy that 34.3% of women have undergone FGM in Abidjan. The woman's level of education is related to the rate of FGM. 51% women with no education have undergone FGM, while 27% of women with a primary education and 16.3% of women with a secondary education or higher have undergone FGM.

FGM is prohibited by law, and the government advocates activities against FGM. However, the monitoring of the law has not been thoroughly conducted, and thus, the effects have not been sufficient.

³¹ From interview with UNAIDS.

³² MICS 2006.

3-4 Agriculture and Fishing

Agriculture and Fishing

- Women grow crops for self-support while men mostly work on plantations in commercial agriculture.
- The law permits equal access to land, and the government promotes a policy of equal land ownership between men and women. However, it is still difficult for women to acquire land in rural areas. The limited access to land constitutes a serious obstacle for women in engaging in economic activities.

[Agriculture]

Agricultural products make up a large portion of the country's exports and food products. Generally, women grow crops for self-support, such as cassava, maize, bananas and other vegetables. On the other hand, men grow crops to convert into money, such as cacao, palm, and rubber, as they own sufficient land. Women do not own any land or resources, and they do not have money to buy the equipment needed to process the agricultural products. Furthermore, without any collateral and a low literacy rate, they have difficulty in obtaining small loan.

[Access to land]

The law on landownership of 1998 permits equal access to land for both men and women. In reality, women can only acquire land in urban areas. In rural areas, local customs do not generally allow women to own land. Furthermore, women have difficulty in borrowing land for long term. In addition, the law of succession permits equal rights for both sexes, as customarily, women are regarded as having no inherent rights.

The government of Côte d'Ivoire has laid out a policy to promote land ownership by women and conducted advocacy activities. As a result, some women now own land in rural areas³³.

While women engage in self-sufficient food production, they cannot engage in large-scale agriculture such as plantations. Since women do not own any land, when the operators of plantations wish to buy land, women are usually not involved in the acquisition process. Moreover, they cannot object, even if the acquisition is prejudicial to them.³⁴

³³ From interview with the Ministry of Agriculture.

³⁴ From interview with the Réseau des Femmes Africaines pour la Gestion Communautaire des Forêts.

Food production by women and their revenue generating activities

Certain projects take advantage the fact that women are in charge of food production in the family for income generating activities and the children's schooling.

In such projects, the agricultural products produced and sold by women are used for school meals.

Women benefit from the sale of their products, which contributes their economic autonomy, and at the same time, the products contribute to the provision of school meals and support the creation of a favorable learning environment for children.

[Fishing]

Fishing is generally considered the domain of men. Women are mainly involved in processing and are often employed in factories. There they can earn valuable money that enables them to finance micro-enterprises based on fishing.

3-5 Transport and Infrastructure

Transport and Infrastructure

- 1) For the purpose of reconstruction following the internal conflict, the government set its sight on the development of a transportation network. However, few women participate in the decision-making process in this sector. On the other hand, transportation is an important issue for women because many women's associations ship the agricultural products that they produce.
- 2) The government of Côte d'Ivoire takes into consideration social issues such as HIV/AIDS. Further activities are expected to address the social issues in this sector.

[Government policy]

Currently in the middle of reconstruction after the years of conflict, the government of Côte d'Ivoire is trying to modernize the country's transportation network and infrastructure. There are many issues, including the modernization of the airport, development of parking in cities, development of public transportation, and expansion of maritime transportation and railways. Furthermore, there is huge demand for road maintenance and improvement as many roads were damaged or not properly maintained during the internal conflict³⁵.

[Transportation and infrastructure]

The employment rate of women in the transportation sector is said to be less than 5%. This low figure is partly due to the fact that the training provided to women has not been sufficient. In addition, it is difficult for women to balance work and family, and there are also strong stereotypes against women in this sector.

However, women use the transportation to sell their agricultural products. In fact, women engage in not only the production of food but also in the sale of their products. Women voluntarily organize their own groups, borrow trucks, arrange to ship their products to cities, including Abidjan and Bouake, and sell their products in the cities. In addition, in transportation by canal, women borrow boats to ship and sell their products. There are cases where the lack of infrastructure prevents women from selling their agricultural products. Therefore, the situation of food production by women and their shipping network should be taken into consideration when planning infrastructure development³⁶.

³⁵ From interview with the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Infrastructure.

³⁶ From interviews with the Ministry of Transportation and MSFWC.

[Measures for social issues]

The increase of cross border movement resulting from the construction of an economic corridor could spread HIV infections. The government cares about the issue of HIV in the transportation sector. In fact, an HIV group (Cellure VIH) has been established within the Ministry of Transportation, and advocacy campaigns on HIV/AIDS are being planned for the highway bus sector. However, detailed statistics on HIV/AIDS have not yet been collected. Therefore, further activities are needed for the collection of statistics. It is also important to collect disaggregated data when collecting data³⁷.

³⁷ From interviews with the Ministry of Transport.

3-6 Economic Activities

Economic Activities

- 1) Many women are engaged in agriculture, informal sectors and service sectors.
- 2) Since women do not own property, such as land, they have limited access to credit. Therefore, projects involving micro credit are expected to be beneficial. However, there are few micro credit programs that offer loan conditions favorable to women.

[Employment]

In the private sector, many women work in agriculture, informal sectors, and service sectors. Younger women tend to work as secretaries. Thus, the government plans to increase the number of women in management-level positions and conduct advocacy activities promoting women's employment in industrial rather than service sectors³⁸.

In the public sector, the proportion of women according to rank is: 18.6% for entry level positions (6,908 female), 27.6% for middle management positions (16,870 female), 37.3% for management positions (7,840 female), and 36.1% for executive level positions (1,875 female). However, only 12.2% of women make up the highest positions in the public sector, which is outside of these rankings³⁹.

[Access to credit]

With limited access to land and no resources, women face difficulties in accessing credit. Many micro credit institutions start out offering loan conditions favorable to women, but when the micro-credit operations become successful, they enact much stricter conditions. Thus, there are few micro credit programs that maintain loan conditions favorable for women, and this is one of major concerns in regards to women's access to credit⁴⁰.

³⁸ From interview with the Ministry of Employment, Social Action and Professional Training.

³⁹ République de Côte d'Ivoire, *Rapport pays de suivi des objectifs du millénaire pour le développement*, version finale, août 2010, p.36.

⁴⁰ From interviews with donors.

Examples of access to credit

There are examples of micro financing projects and financing projects conducted by NGOs. Care International conducted a program for voluntary savings and loans. This project involved the formation of small groups of around 25 to 30 women and provided support for their participation in social activities. This project has ended, but the groups formed during the project still remain active. These women's groups could serve as an entry point for other projects, such as projects concerning HIV/AIDS.

Save the Children conducts a project to support women infected with HIV from a financial management standpoint. In the project, training is provided to groups of 20 to 30 women in regards to basic financial management, such as saving.

[Child labor]

In Côte d'Ivoire, about 65% of children aged 5 to 14 engage in work, including domestic housework. Girls tend to work more than boys, with 74.4% of girls engaged in some type of labor and only 61.5% of boys⁴¹. This is believed to be related to the low rate of girls' enrollment in school compared to boys. In addition, a greater proportion of children in rural areas engage in labor (74%) compared to children in urban areas (59%).

In regards to the types of labor, excluding domestic housework, children work in cocoa and coffee plantations, and their work at mining sites is also a concern. In 2009, the government conducted a program to reduce poverty in areas of in cacao cultivation that involved the construction of primary schools and conducted advocacy activities regarding child labor. A national committee for the fight against child labor has also been established, and the rate of child labor in harmful environments is decreasing⁴². In order to reduce child labor, the importance of collaborations with the private sector has also been pointed out.

⁴¹ Institut National de la Statistique, *Enquête démographique et de santé et à indicateurs multiples EDSCI-III, Côte d'Ivoire 2011-2012*, Rapport préliminaire sur la prévalence du VIH, p.34.

⁴² United States Department of State, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2011*, pp.36-38.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/186399.pdf>

4. Gender Issues and Their Importance When Planning Future Intervention in the Country

[The impact of the internal conflict and the importance of preliminary analysis]

Currently, Côte d'Ivoire is in the process of restoration and peacebuilding. The impact of the internal conflict must be taken into consideration in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of assistance. During the years of political turmoil, plantations continued their business, and with the end of the conflict, foreign investments are starting to recover. On the other hand, weak basic social services undermine the lives of people in the country. Furthermore, the long crisis had a psychological impact on the people. Therefore, special attention should be paid so that vulnerable groups are not left behind in post-conflict economic growth.

The impact of the conflict in area of gender has been evidenced by a surge in gender based violence. For instance, the movement of people from the northern and western regions has brought an increase in FGM to Abidjan. Sexual violence towards women and its physical and psychological effects need to be addressed. In addition, access to justice is still limited for victims of sexual violence. These are huge challenges for Côte d'Ivoire. Assistance in the fight against gender based violence will contribute to gender equality as well as peace.

Moreover, it should be noted that exact population of Côte d'Ivoire remains unknown for various reasons: inadequate statistical data, no census has not been conducted until the start of the new census at the beginning of 2013, the registries for certificates have been destroyed, and many people have been born without the registration of the birth.

Therefore, in order to plan projects in Côte d'Ivoire, it is fundamental to conduct gender analysis taking into consideration the above mentioned impacts of the internal conflict. Based on this preliminary analysis, the appropriate indicators required to assess the gender situation need to be determined. At the same time, it should be noted that statistical data is not enough, so that the project must ask its counterpart to collect disaggregated data.

[Promotion of women's social and economic empowerment]

The government, donors, and NGOs conduct various revenue generating activities to promote women's economic autonomy. It is important to continue these revenue generating activities in order to maintain the progress made in the empowerment and social participation of women. At the same time, however,

the planning of assistance to promote women's economic autonomy demands careful attention initially. Some revenue generating activities only target women while excluding men, which could create friction between men and women. In order to avoid this, ample examinations and surveys should be conducted during the preliminary analysis stage. Furthermore, it will be beneficial to plan projects that involve both men and women from the perspective of the promotion of the whole community. It is also useful to assure access to justice, which supports women's economic independence from the viewpoint of the legal system.

[Capacity building for gender mainstreaming]

The government of Côte d'Ivoire plans and implements activities that address the gender-related issues facing the country. On the other hand, in the course of the surveys, some government officials believe that gender is fully taken into consideration if women are merely not treated discriminatorily. However, in view of the current status of women in regards to their limited access to resources and the delay in their participation in the decision-making process, the promotion of women's empowerment requires more than formal, non-discriminatory treatment. The Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman and Child has action plans to promote gender equality and fight GBV. Nevertheless, the ministry suffers serious budget shortfalls and a lack of human resources, which prevents the overall implementation of the action plans. Further assistance is needed to support the ministry, not only through financing for projects but also other forms of assistance, including technical cooperation, the dispatch of advisors for gender mainstreaming policy, coordination between other ministries and donors, and the improvement of the ministry's infrastructure.

Improving the capacity of the Gender Groups that have been established in each ministry is also important. At the present, the budget allocation to the gender groups is not sufficient, and the visibility of the groups needs to be increased. To achieve gender mainstreaming in sectorial policy, it is necessary to strengthen the network between the Gender Groups and the Ministry of Solidarity, Family, Female and Child in order to reinforce their capacity. In this respect, when planning JICA projects and interventions, it is useful to have discussions and exchange opinions with the Gender Groups in the concerned ministries in order to grasp the gender situation in each sector.

[Coordination with other donors]

Since the question of gender is cross-cutting, gender issues derive from various causes. For instance, the reason for the low enrollment of girls in school is partly due to problems involving resources and infrastructure: there are not enough schools or teachers. At the same time, there are also other factors,

such as rampant gender based violence at schools, the requirement of girls to stay at home and perform household chores, and a culture that prioritizes boys.

In addition, it should be noted that the social status of women varies depending on the region and ethnic group. In the planning and implementation of projects, cooperation village chiefs and religious leaders is essential. Consequently, cooperation and collaboration with local NGOs based on the local situation is beneficial to the implementation of the project.

To examine the issues from various points of view, the exchange of information and opinions, as well as cooperation with organizations such as UN agencies and NGOs that have implemented a number of projects, is important. The United Nations and the government, with the participation of NGOs, organize a gender thematic group where discussion is held on gender-related issues faced in the country. The flow of the discussions should be followed in order to understand the current gender situation.

5. Programmes and Projects Related to Gender by International Organisation and Other Organizations

Table: Projects and programs by donors and agencies related to gender issues

Title	Executing agencies	Counterpart	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
International organization						
Multisector programme post conflict	UNFPA	-	2008-2013	-	Health for pregnant women, GBV	Rehabilitation of obstetrics, equipment, revenue generating activities for victims of GBV
UN Action against Sexual violence (UN ACTION)	UNFPA and other agencies	-	2013	-	GBV	Measures against sexual violence
Schools for Husband	UNFPA	-	2012	-	Gender, GBV	Training for men on Gender
Social inclusion in Western Region	UNFPA Others	-	2013	-	Social service, employment	Social service and access to employment in Western region
Poverty reduction in Bas Sassandra(Southern west)	UNFPA Others	-	2010	-	Food security, social service, employment	Assistance for women's association to support social inclusion
Access of Young to Sexual and Reproductive Health & Gender	UNFPA	-	2011	631,430USD**	Reproductive health	Access of Young to Sexual and Reproductive Health & Gender
Support to election	UNDP	-	-	-	Election	Support female candidates
Support for the network of Women's associations	UNDP	-	-	-	Gender	Support for women's association
Database of competent female	UNDP and other donors	Presidential Office	-	-	Capacity development of women	Develop database of competent women in the country
Support of diversification	UNDP	-	2011	532,369 USD*	Public sector	Development of revenue generating activities for vulnerable people
School meal	UNDP	UNDP	2011	122,366	Decentrali	Food production by

Title	Executing agencies	Counterpart	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
				USD*	zation	women's group organized for school meals
Girls basic education	UNICEF	-	2011	8,899USD*	Primary education	Girls basic education
PMTCT - ARVs for pregnant women	UNICEF	-	2011	11,233 USD*	HIV/AIDS	PMTCT - ARVs for pregnant women
Prevent and address violence including gender-based violence	UNICEF	-	2011	74,878 USD*	Emergency/distress relief	Prevent and address violence including gender-based violence, exploitation and abuse of children and women in humanitarian action
Rights of female victims of sexual violence	EU	UN Women	2011	339,039 USD*	Human rights	Improve lives of girls and women and protection of their rights
Bilateral donors						
Strengthening the capacities of young women in Abidjan coming from conflict areas	Spain	National NGO	2011	27,529 USD*	Gender	Equal opportunities for both sex and training
Improving gender equality and social-economic, health conditions in Bingerville through a training program for women	Spain	National NGO	2011	105,117 USD*	Education	training women in microenterprise development, agricultural technology course, training in health and disease prevention workshops and awareness campaign on human rights
Peace building and development through health care, training and empowerment working for gender equality	Spain	National NGO	2011	31,980 USD*	Gender	Health care, training, empowerment of women
Social-economic improvement and employment of women	Italy	Government	2011	9,1001 USD*	Democracy	To improve social and economic conditions of women and to organize their full employment
A new hope for Bingerville women	Italy	Public sector	2011	124,555 USD*	Governance	A new hope for Bingerville women
Project to	Italy	-	2011	111,235	Governance	Improve the living

Title	Executing agencies	Counterpart	Period	Budget	Fields	Contents
improve the living conditions of women				USD*	ce	conditions of women in Côte d'Ivoire and immigrants in Italy
NGOs and others						
Support to the women with HIV	Save the Children		2012	726,999 EUR	HIV/AIDS, nutrition	Nutrition for Child, Pregnant women, HIV/AIDS infected people(including women)

(*) Disbursement in 2011(USD Current)

(**)The total amount of disbursements in 2011 of projects according to CRS.

This does not include general public financial assistant and finance for common funds.

Source: OECD- CRS data base and interviews

6. Gender Information Source

6-1 List of Organization Related to Gender

Name of organization	Areas of specialization	Activity	Contact
Government organization			
Ministry for Solidarity, Family, Woman, and Child	Gender	Promotion of women's position, promotion of gender equality	Cité Administrative Tour E, 16eme étage BP V 200 Abidjan
Ministry for Employment, Social Action and Professional Training	Employment, professional training	Employment of women, professional training	-
Ministry of Education	Education	Promotion of girl's education	BPV 120 Abidjan
Ministry of Health	Health	Maternal Health, HIV/AIDS, nutrition etc.	Cité Administrative TourC, Abidjan
Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Public Liberties	Justice and human rights	Judicial issues	01 BP 251 Abidjan 01
International organization			
UNFPA	Reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, Gender based violence etc.	Reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, Gender based violence etc.	11 Plateaux Vallons Angles Rue J 38/J79 01 BP 1747 Abidjan
UNICEF	Children and their mothers	Education, Health/Hygiene etc.	18, rue Pierre et Marie Curie, Zone 4C, 04 BP 443, Abidjan 04
UN Women	Support for women	Coordination for assistance by UN agencies, projects	2 plateaux Route du 12 ^{ème} Arrondissement, Rue J47
UN AIDS	HIV/AIDS	Coordination of assistance to HIV/AIDS	01 BP 1747 Abidjan
OCHA	Coordination of humanitarian assistance	Humanitarian activities	Cocody Danda Nord Villa 13 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
UNOCI	Peace Keeping Mission	Gender, access to justice	Ancien Hôtel Sebrotko Boulevard de la Paix Attécoubé 19, Abidjan
NGOs			
Care International	Humanitarian and development assistance	Revenue generating activities, assistance to community	Lot 189, llot 19 05 BP 3141 Abidjan
Handicap International	Development, emergency assistance	Assistance to handicapped people, emergency assistance	Marcory, zone 4 Rue du 7 Décembre lot 33 immeuble chamsédine
Save the Children	Support to Children and their mothers	HIV/AIDS, education	Cocody 7eme Tranche 16 BP 123 Abidjan 16

6-2 List of Reports and References Related to Gender

Title	Author	Publisher/Source	Year
Analyses des violences basées sur le genre dans le département d'Abidjan ; Résultats de l'enquête quantitative	MFAAS, UNICEF, UNFPA	UNFPA	2007
Acte de la conférence sur les Violences basées sur le genre : harmoniser les approches de lutte pour une meilleure adaptation au changement	MFFAS et UNFPA	UNFPA	2008
Actes du symposium, Dynamiques familiales : défis et perspectives	UNFPA	UNFPA	2008
Crisis and Gender Based Violence in Côte d'Ivoire : Outcomes of the Studies and Major Challenges	MFAS and UNFPA	UNFPA	2008
Plan National d'Action pour la Mise en œuvre de la Résolution 1325 du Conseil de Sécurité (2008-2012)	Ministère de la Famille, de la Femme et des Affaires Sociales	Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	-
Document de la Stratégie Nationale de Lutte Contre les Violences Basées sur le Genre	Ministère de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	2012
Document de Politique Nationale sur l'égalité des chances, l'équité et le genre	Ministère de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	2007
Audit Participatif de genre des Ministères chargés de : Economie et Finances, Education Nationale, Santé et Lutte contre le SIDA	Ministère de la Famille, de la Femme et de l'Enfant	Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Famille de la Femme et de l'Enfant	2012
Enquête démographique	Institut National de la Statistique	Institut National de la Statistique	2012

Plan stratégique de l'éducation de la fille en Côte d'Ivoire	UNICEF	Ministère de l'Education Nationale	2007
Rapport de mise en œuvre de la stratégie de réduction de la pauvreté, Rapport d'avancement annuel, Rapport du FMI No. 12/183	IMF	IMF	2012
Rapport sur la situation des établissements pénitentiaires en Côte d'Ivoire	ONUCI/UNOCI	ONUCI/UNOCI	-
Analyse Genre du Programme de Coopération, Côte d'Ivoire-UNICEF (2003-2007)	UNICEF	UNICEF	2007

7. Definitions

<Technical Terms>

Terms	Definition
Gender	Gender means social and cultural differences between men and women. Sexual differences in biological terms basically cannot be changed, but gender differences which mean social disparity in roles and relationships between men and women vary depending on time and place and they can change, since they are defined by people's way of thinking and sense of values. The word "gender" is used in phrases such as gender equality, gender role, gender analysis and gender balance, etc.
Gender mainstreaming	This is a strategy to involve women's participation in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs on any political, economic and social occasion just as men's are involved, so that both men and women can gain equal benefit .form the activities The ultimate goal for gender mainstreaming is to achieve gender equality.
Reproductive health /rights	This means healthcare and rights that are related to gender and reproduction. The aim is to allow people to enjoy safe and satisfying sexual lives and the freedom to decide whether to have children or not and when and how many
National machinery	This is a national-level administrative entity in charge of issues related to women to promote gender equality. It develops and implements women-related policies and promotes implementation of measures with gender equality in mind in government ministries.
Women's empowerment	Empowerment means paving the way for women who have been eliminated from decision-making and disempowered because of gender discrimination. Opportunities for them to participate in decision-making are provided so that they can achieve self-empowerment and be aware of gender issues and, hence, transfer such awareness into action. The word is also used in the phrase, "economic empowerment of women."
Affirmative action	Prioritized positive measure to promptly correct the difference, in the case that discriminated groups are placed in extremely unequal conditions to other groups, due to the discrimination accumulated in the past.
access / control	Access means availability of resources or services for performance of economic activities, such as land, labor and wages. Control means the right to make decisions on how to manage resources or services or the right to own them.
Reproductive activities	This means activities to bear and raise children, or in other words, activities to "reproduce the next generation." It includes activities of families to maintain their daily lives such as laundry and cooking and

Terms	Definition
	to reproduce labor power.
Informal sector	Part of economy consisting of small competitive individual or family firms listed in the labor indicators. According to the definition of ILO, those engaged in this sector have simple technology, insufficient amount of capital, unidentified business location, minimum number of employees (or none of them), lack of legality and registration, and no capability of bookkeeping.
Microfinance	This is a small-scale financing system for low-income people and small businesses to increase the income of the poor through provision of opportunities to enjoy financial services such as petty loans, savings and insurance. It is often targeted at female farmers in rural areas as typified by the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh .
Non-formal education	This refers to educational activities developed to provide lifelong learning opportunities, literacy education and life-skills education in addition to formal school education. Normally, it targets people, whether adults or children, who have not received any school education or insufficient education (in quality). Typically, the content, scale, target and implementation methods vary
Millennium development goal	The MDGs are composed of 8 goals. These goals were established by incorporating the UN Millennium Declaration and international development goals adopted at major international meetings and summits held in 1990s into a larger common framework. The Millennium Declaration was adopted at the UN Millennium Summit held in September 2000 to present a clear vision of the role of the United Nations in the 21st century on the themes of peace and safety, development and poverty, the environment, human rights, good governance and special needs of African countries.

<Indicators>

Terms	Definition
Gini index	Aggregate numerical measures of income inequality ranging from 0 to 100. A Gini index of zero represents absolute equality, while an index of 100 implies absolute inequality.
Total fertility rate	The number of children that would be born to each women if she were to live to the end of her child-bearing years and bear children at each age in accordance with prevailing age-specific fertility rates in a given year / period, for a given country, territory or geographical area.
Infant mortality rate	The probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying before reaching the age of one, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of that period. It is a probability of death expressed as rate per 1000 live births.
Under-five mortality rate	The probability of a child born in a specific year or period dying

	before reaching the age of five. It is a probability of death expressed as rate per 1000 live births.
Rate of births attended by trained personnel	The percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel. A skilled birth attendant is an accredited health professional, such as a midwife, doctor or nurse, who has been educated and trained to proficiency in the skills needed to manage normal (uncomplicated) pregnancies, childbirth and the immediate postnatal period, and in the identification, management and referral of complications in women and newborns. Traditional birth attendants, trained or not, are excluded from the category of skilled attendant at delivery
Children under weight for age	The rate of newborn children of which the birth weight is less than 2,500 grams
Oral re-hydration therapy use rate	The rate of using oral rehydration salt or substitute solution for infants having diarrhea.