



WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

ABOUT EXEMPLARS IN GLOBAL HEALTH

The Exemplars in Global Health (EGH) program is a global coalition of partners including researchers, academics, experts, funders, country stakeholders, and implementers. Our mission is to identify positive global health outliers, analyze what makes countries successful, and disseminate core lessons so they can be adapted in comparable settings. We aim to help country-level decision makers, global partners, and funders make strategic decisions, allocate resources, and craft evidence-based policies. A small, core team supporting EGH is based at Gates Ventures, the private office of Bill Gates, and closely collaborates with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

RESEARCH PARTNERS

Our consortium of research partners includes researchers from the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids), the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Federal University of Pelotas, and the Milken Institute School of Public Health at George Washington University (GWSPH). We will select an in-country research partner in each Exemplar country.



PUBLIC
HEALTH
FOUNDATION
OF INDIA



SickKids

Milken Institute School
of Public Health
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

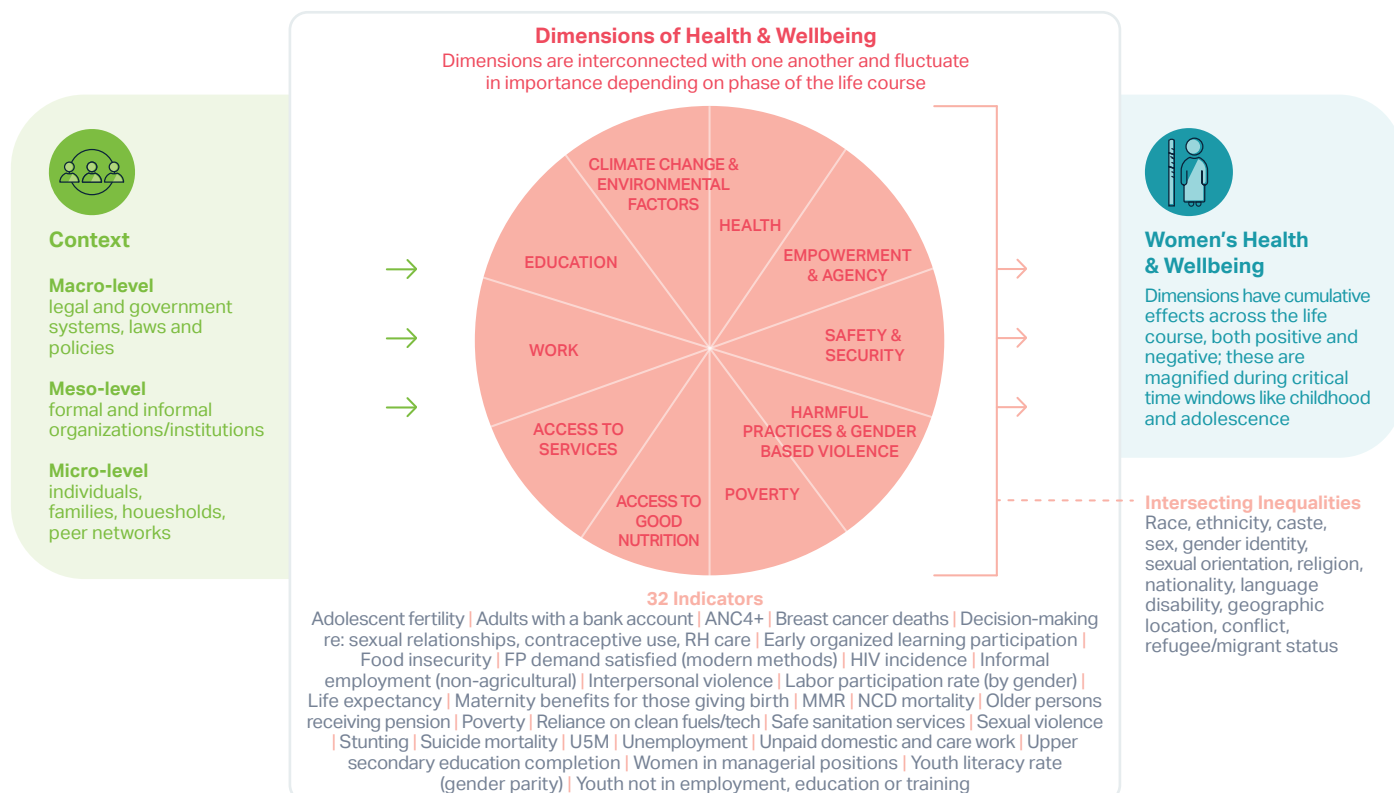
TOPIC OVERVIEW

Women's health and wellbeing (WHW) refers to the physical, mental, and social wellness of women and their overall quality of life, from birth through old age. The adoption of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG3) on health and wellbeing, in conjunction with SDG5 on achieving gender equality, recognizes that securing health as a human right also requires explicitly addressing gender power as a critical determinant of health.

While many dimensions of physical and mental health have well-established metrics for tracking and measurement, "wellbeing" is not consistently or universally defined. EGH research aims to improve conceptualization of women's health and wellbeing holistically and across the life course and recognizes the various intersecting socioeconomic inequalities that can result in different gendered experiences and disadvantages and advantages for different groups. Our conceptual framework defines women's health and wellbeing across ten dimensions: health, empowerment and agency, safety and security, harmful practices and gender-based violence, poverty, access to good nutrition, access to services, work, education, and climate change and environmental factors.

This conceptual framework enables EGH to identify countries that have outperformed their peers across dimensions and can serve as Exemplars for other countries to emulate. Within each Exemplar country, we will aim to understand how specific countries made progress in improving women's health and wellbeing and distill key lessons that can be used to inform funding streams, policies, and programs.

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

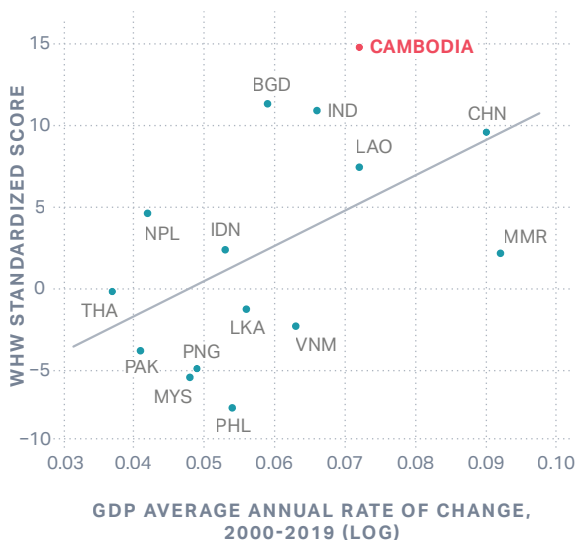




INDICATOR SELECTION

In order to operationalize the conceptual framework, multiple indicators were selected in each dimension based on a rigorous analysis that filtered out indicators with low data quality, lack of data across multiple countries, and high correlation with one another. In total there are 32 indicators representing a range of life course stages.

SOUTH/ SOUTHEAST ASIA & THE PACIFIC



COUNTRY SELECTION

We identified positive outliers by assessing countries' progress across indicators. We then conducted additional analyses and applied regional filters to select two Exemplar countries, Cambodia and Ethiopia.

Indicator performance

Average annual rate of change (AARC) between 2000 and 2019 was calculated for all 32 WHW indicators. Then, estimates for each indicator in each country were standardized relative to the mean within its region and summed to determine the composite score for a country, referred to as the WHW Standardized Score. This was used to identify positive outliers that perform well relative to countries in the same region when controlling for GDP AARC over the same period of time.

Additional analyses

Analyses were performed to ensure positive outlier countries (1) demonstrate strong performance across a breadth of dimensions and life course stages, (2) do not have stark sex disparities in outcomes, (3) perform in line with or above current regional averages for a majority of indicators, and (4) have strong potential for impact within country and transferability of lessons learned to other contexts.

Regional representation

For phase I of project, one country was selected from each of two key regions: (1) South / Southeast Asia and the Pacific and (2) Sub-Saharan Africa.

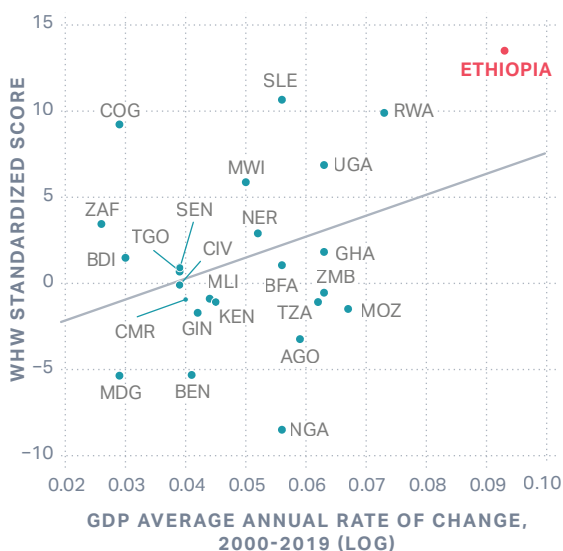


CAMBODIA



ETHIOPIA

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Research for every Exemplars in Global Health topic is guided by a Technical Advisory Group (TAG), consisting of a diverse range of topic-specific experts.

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