

Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

The following table summarizes the different versions of the WEAI.

| | WEAI* | A-WEAI | Pro-WEAI | Ad hoc WEAI adaptations |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Background and description | This is the first, original version of the WEAI. It was piloted in 2011 in Uganda, Bangladesh, and Guatemala and was formally launched in 2012. It was included in the 19 Feed the Future Baseline surveys. | Stands for “Abbreviated WEAI”. It was developed to shorten the time to implement the WEAI interviews by roughly 30% and to address challenges that had arisen during the baseline surveys of the original WEAI. It was piloted in Uganda and Bangladesh in 2014 and formally launched in 2015. | <u>Under development</u> . Stands for “Project WEAI”. Intended to be applicable to various types of agriculture and food security projects, depending upon their focus (i.e. nutrition, livestock, etc.). Uses the A-WEAI as a starting point and adds specialized project-relevant modules, designed and tested by the WEAI team. Indicators still to be validated; cut-offs and weights to be adjusted. | Independent adaptations of the WEAI that aim to measure empowerment using the WEAI as a starting point. These tools adapt various aspects of the WEAI methodology to the specific context and thus capture domains and indicators beyond the original WEAI. Ad hoc adaptations are conducted and piloted by organizations independently, and should be clearly designated as adaptations of WEAI, not WEAI itself. |
| Domains covered | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production 2. Resources 3. Income 4. Leadership 5. Time | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production 2. Resources 3. Income 4. Leadership 5. Time | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Production 2. Resources 3. Income 4. Leadership 5. Time <p>Additional domains may be included using add-on modules</p> | Any combination of domains |

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| Indicators covered and associated weights | 1. Input in productive decisions 1/10 2. Autonomy in production 1/10 3. Asset ownership 1/15 4. Rights over assets 1/15 5. Access to and decisions over credit 1/5 6. Control over use of income 1/10 7. Group membership 1/10 8. Speaking up in public 1/10 9. Workload 1/10 10. Satisfaction with leisure 1/10 | 1. Input in productive decisions 1/5 2. Asset ownership 2/15 3. Access to and decisions over credit 1/15 4. Control over use of income 1/5 5. Group membership 1/5 6. Workload 1/5 | A-WEAI indicators will be the starting point for Pro-WEAI, plus additional indicators to be developed. Note that all indicators, cutoffs and weights will be tested and validated | Any combination of indicators, and any weighting scheme can be chosen, as determined by the organization |
| Survey instrument** | Standardized set of modules | Standardized set of modules | Standardized modules with choice of standardized project-relevant add-on modules | Any modifications to standardized modules |
| Pros | Most comprehensive of the versions Fully comparable to original baselines | Shorter administration time compared with the original WEAI (reduced by 30%) Does not include some of the more problematic modules from original baselines When compared to the original WEAI using the second pilot data, the top two constraints contributing to women’s and men’s disempowerment remained the same | Within a specified methodology, to be determined by IFPRI, users can determine what indicators to use based on their project objectives and context Some standardized components will be comparable across all projects using pro-WEAI Specialized project-relevant modules are comparable within clusters of projects working on similar issues | Users can determine what WEAI indicators to use and what new indicators to add Organizations can choose to frame questions differently from how they are asked in standardized modules Organizations can include domains and indicators that are not included in standardized modules |

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| Cons | Length (takes 30-45 minutes to administer per respondent) Includes modules that were problematic in the field (group membership, time allocation, autonomy in production) | Measures fewer indicators of empowerment; dropping four indicators Only comparable to original baselines if analysis is restricted to 6 indicators When compared to the original WEAI using the second pilot data, one of the top three indicators contributing to women's and men's disempowerment changed | Not comparable to original baselines Potentially longer administration time compared with A-WEAI | Not comparable to original baselines; not comparable to other ad hoc adaptations that other organizations may make |
| Comparable to WEAI FTF baseline surveys | Yes | Yes, subject to recalculation of baseline to restrict to 6 indicators | No | No |
| Can weights, cutoffs, aggregation methods be modified? | No, but can do sensitivity analyses | No, but can do sensitivity analyses | Yes, but within a specified methodology, to be determined by IFPRI in GAAP2 | Yes |
| Can this be called WEAI? | Yes | Yes, A-WEAI | Yes, Pro-WEAI | No. Though organizations can note it was "inspired/influenced by WEAI" |

**This includes the original WEAI (also referred to as WEAI 1.0) as well as a slightly-modified version of the original referred to as the WEAI 1.1. The WEAI 1.1 was developed in 2013 after the FTF baselines and reflects minor changes to wording and response codes to clarify issues that arose in the field. It also replaces the original autonomy questions with vignettes. The WEAI 1.1 includes all the same domains and indicators as the original WEAI and uses exactly the same cutoffs and weights.*

***Standardized modules provided from IFPRI: <http://www.ifpri.org/topic/weai-resource-center>*