

# Politics and Governance Indicators

Indicator	Rationale for Indicator	Definition Considerations	Possible Data Collection Strategy
<p><b>Number of electoral violence events*</b></p> <p><i>Disaggregated by gender of victim and perpetrator</i></p>	<p>Electoral violence against women can be a sign of strict gender norms that emphasize that women should not participate in politics, and could indicate future violence or conflict. A 2018 UN Report found that physical and online violence against women in politics and during elections – including against female voters, candidates, and electoral and party officials – is widespread, often normalized and is tolerated as a result of deeply ingrained patriarchal stereotypes which favor men in public roles and relegate women to the private and home sphere.<sup>14</sup></p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define “electoral violence events.”</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>This indicator tracks electoral violence against men and women as it is important to compare how these differ.</p> <p>“Electoral violence” is defined as “any random or organized act or threat to intimidate, physically harm, blackmail, or abuse a political stakeholder in seeking to determine, delay, or to otherwise influence an electoral process.”<sup>16</sup></p>	<p>Incident reporting forms can capture incidences of electoral violence disaggregated by gender/number of perpetrators and victims.</p> <p>As in the Nigeria Election Violence Reporting (NEVR) electoral violence tool, establishing a well-publicized community phone line whereby community members can report instances of electoral violence is also a useful data collection method that is worth considering where possible with available resources.</p>
<p><b>Restrictions on NGOs, in particular women’s organizations</b></p>	<p>Restrictions, silencing and active clamping down on NGOs indicates a closing of civic space and curtailments on freedom of expression and assembly which can then fuel conflict and violence. Attempts to limit the work of local NGOs can take many forms but include imposing strict financial controls and bans on certain types of donors; requiring organizations be registered with local authorities or issued with licenses to operate; requiring organizations to apply for permits for all new activities; requiring pre-approval of operational plans; raids of offices and arrests of staff; or strict censorship laws prohibiting organizations from campaigning against or speaking out against government policies, institutions or officials.</p> <p>Women’s organizations promoting women’s rights and gender equality are frequently targeted as their work is seen as going against traditional values, cultures and norms, and supporting western concepts. A 2019 CIVICUS report found that organizations working on gender issues are disproportionately affected by growing restrictions on NGOs and groups advocating on women’s rights are the most commonly involved in civic space incidents.<sup>15</sup></p>	<p><i>Implementors will need to define “restrictions.”</i></p> <p><i>Considerations and suggested definitions to tailor to the local context:</i></p> <p>“Restrictions on NGOs” refers to laws, policies or administrative regulations which aim to “to interfere with the right to freedom of association and to hamper the work of civil society organizations and individuals who participate in them.”<sup>17</sup></p> <p>“Women’s organizations” refers to “civil society organizations with an overt women’s or girls’ rights, gender equality or feminist purpose; women’s rights organizations play a central role in spearheading change in support of gender equality.”<sup>18</sup></p>	<p>This indicator can be tracked by monitoring any proposed new laws or regulations by local authorities. Where possible and relevant, local monitors could also regularly seek confidential feedback from local women’s organizations on whether they are experiences new challenges in holding planned activities or in the ongoing implementation of their programs.</p> <p>In the reporting form, following interviews with local women’s groups, monitors could record if these women thought the environment for their organization was: significantly more restricted; slightly more restricted; the same; slightly less restricted; or significantly less restricted.</p>