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Enhancement of Participatory Democracy in Turkey: Monitoring Gender Equality Project Phase II

# Gender Equality in Poverty Eradication, Social Protection and Social Assistance

Mapping and Monitoring Study

**Extended Summary** 

Seçil A. Kaya Bahçe Emel Memiş





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Gender Equality in Poverty Eradication, Social Protection and Social Assistance Mapping and Monitoring Study Extended Summary

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November 2021



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Cover/Interior Design: Hasan Kürşat Akcan

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of Association for Monitoring Gender Equality and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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#### **Acknowledgement**

We are greatly indebted to Prof. Dr. Gülay Toksöz for her guiding contributions and to Prof. Dr. Serpil Sancar for her suggestions for improvement in the process of preparing the present report. We are also thankful to Prof. Dr. Funda Cantek for her efforts and support to make this report coherent. The authors are fully responsible for any mistake in the text.

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## **List of Acronyms**

ALMP	Active Labour Market Policies
ASDEP	Family Social Support Programme
ASF	European Social Fund
ATHGM	General Directorate of Family and Community Services
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ESC	European Social Charter
EU-GEI	European Union Gender Equality Index
MoFLSS	Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services
MoFSP	Ministry of Family and Social Policies
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
UN	United Nations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against
	Women
CEID	Gender Equality Monitoring Association
ÇHGM	General Directorate of Child Services
WB	World Bank
EC-DG	European Commission Directorate General
EC	European Commission
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
EESC	European Economic and Social Committee
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights
ESRP	European Employment and Social Reform Programme
EU	European Union
Eurostat	European Statistics
EWL	The European Women's Lobby
EYHGM	General Directorate of Services for the Disabled and Elderly
GEI	Gender Equality Index
GII	Gender Inequality Index
GHI	General Health Insurance
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HDR	Human Development Report
HPI	Human Poverty Index
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPA	Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
HDI	Human Development Index
İHEB	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
HRD PRO	Human Resources Development Project

IŞKUR       Turkish Employment Agency         KSGM       General Directorate for Women's Status         MPI       Multidimensional Poverty Index         OECD       The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development         BDPA       Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action	
MPI Multidimensional Poverty Index OECD The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	
<b>OECD</b> The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	
<u> </u>	
22171 23,113 2 2011 4114 11414 11414 11414	
SGK Social Security Institution	
SIDA Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	
SIGI Social Institutions and Gender Index	
SILC Income and Living Conditions Survey	
SDG Sustainable Development Goals	
SPF Social Protection Floor	
SpoD Social Policy, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Stud	es
Association	
CSO Civil Society Organizations	
SUY Social Adaptation Assistance	
SWD Staff Working Document	
SYDF Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund	
SYDGM General Directorate of Social Assistance and Solidarity	
SYDV Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations	
SYGM General Directorate of Social Assistance	
TAP Turkish Family Health and Planning	
GGI Global Gender Gap Index	
GEI Gender Inequality Index	
GDI Gender Development Index	
GEM Gender Empowerment Measure	
SIGI Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI)	
TÜİK Turkish Statistical Institute	
TÜKD Turkish Association of University Women	
CBP Community Benefit Programmes	
UIS UNESCO Institute for Statistics	
UN United Nations	
UNDESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs	
UNDP United Nations Development Programme	
UNECE United Nations European Economic Commission	
UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	
UNICEF United Nations International Children's Fund UNWome United Nations Women Entity	
UNWome United Nations Women Entity	
UOE UNESCO OECD EUROSTAT	
WB The World Bank	
<b>EU-WCS</b> European Working Conditions Survey	
WEF The World Economic Forum	
WHO World Health Organization	
YADES Elderly Support Programme	

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#### I. Introduction

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for a good life (UDHR, Art. 25). In international documents on human rights, poverty is defined as the state of being deprived of resources, opportunities and means necessary to enjoy the right to an adequate life. The elimination of poverty became a priority issue for international development agencies and economic development discourse of nations within the last quarter of the past century. All Member States of the United Nations declared the elimination of poverty as the first of the Millennium Goals they jointly set in 2000. "A good standard of living, adequate nutrition, health services, education, decent jobs and protection from disasters are not only development goals but also the rights of all human beings" (UN, 2000). In studies on poverty and policies against it, it is a must to adopt human rights approach to the issue.

The first part df the report gives the historical background of social protection and policies to fight against poverty. Then comes the concepts and norms related to social protection that are covered by the international and national legal documents. This part also defines such concepts as poverty, women in poverty and feminization of poverty that appear in policy documents and reports by international agencies and underlines the importance of addressing the issue of poverty in the context of gender equality and human rights. The report underlines in line with human rights documents that **all have the right to a decent and adequate life** with social protection as a fundamental human right.

#### A. Brief History

Neither social protection nor social security first came into being as public services. To the contrary , both started as the services provided through private initiatives especially in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The history of private social protection is older than even the social security (See, Buğra, 2020). Both political and economic organization of the 19<sup>th</sup> century liberalism left no space for public initiatives. The Poor Law is regarded as the first example of social protection. A kind of social assistance mechanism institutionalized by poor laws was heavily criticized from two respects. Firstly, it is said that making bare subsistence dependent on forced labour introduced a kind of slavery. Further, the need for labour grew as capitalism developed and labour force could not move freely in a labour market tied to workshops and communities as a consequence of forced labour under the dominance of poor laws.

In the absence of social protection prior to the industrial revolution, the social and economic reproduction of labour force essentially took the household to a critical position. The maintenance and physical reproduction of labour force attached a vital importance to the role of women at home and unpaid domestic labour. Moreover, the unpaid care providers role of women as an important dimension that sustained labour force faced erosion in the

face of requirements that the industrial revolution imposed as women, together with their children, were driven first to mines and then to workshops and factories.

In fact, the participation of women and children to working life was necessary to keep short-run costs of production low. On the other side of the picture, however, women had to return home and children had to enrol education institutions in order to lower the long-run costs of the reproduction of labour power. In fact, the need for public policies arose to address these issues. Yet, while conservatives who remained in power until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century argued in favour of traditional community organizations against public policy in the context of social protection, liberals stood against all kinds of social protection spending which would lead to overall increase in public spending. In spite of these, both the pressure coming from the organizations of workers and social reaction triggered by dire pictures in reports reflecting the state of woman and child employment made it necessary to take some steps.

Contrary to the common belief, the first public welfare system in the world did not assume an institutional character in England. Surprisingly, the first social security system became institutionalized in pre-unification Germany through what is called the "Bismarckian way" where contributions came only from the working people (See, Palier and Martin, 2008). This system, however, was valid only for workers lacking social protection dimension.

In the period following the 1<sup>st</sup> World War, both general recession (even total collapse as in 1929) leaving aside some cases of short-term recovery and rising demands of working classes in the period between two wars forced countries to take some steps. In particular, restrictions on female and child labour started to become general norms with the establishment of the International Labour Organization. Though not fully developed yet, we see the adoption of the right to retirement and its implementation in some countries and the emergence of a general health insurance system parallel to the development of national healthcare systems including in England and Germany, which are quite important developments as steps taken towards a general system of social security which also embodied some social protection policies.

In the post-war period, both decisions taken at the national level and the universal norms adopted by member states in international organizations made generalized social security system a norm. Of course, the most important step in this process was the report by William Beveridge in England concerning working life. The Beveridge system institutionalized the social security system financed through public revenues. Contrary to the system of Bismarck, this security system envisages a network of social security and social protection covering not only those who are working but society as a whole. In the course of time, systems synthesizing Bismarck and Beveridge systems have been implemented in both developed and developing countries (For the US see, Beito, 2000).

A great distance is covered particularly in developed countries in the elimination of poverty among women, children and elderly population. Public services for social security and social protection are not seen as cost generating dynamics as the private sector would like to

consider but as a right and adopted as such. This system, however, started to falter in its funding dimension in the 1970s along with general economic and social crisis that eventually led to neo-liberalism. Indeed, neo-liberalism came up with a brand-new design of social security and social protection. With respect to the issues of social security and social protection, neo-liberalism targeted partial implementation of principles upheld in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (i.e. a selective system covering a specific section of the poor under private initiative). In fact, neo-liberalism has its ultimate goal of entirely privatizing public social security system.

One of the important consequences of the neo-liberal period is the break of the tie between social security systems and social protection. Social protection system once served the purpose of protecting women, children and the elderly was gradually cut short for financial reasons. Neo-liberalism created a huge social burden - for women, children, the elderly, the disabled and migrants - while also leading to a complicated system for those implementing social policies (Strier, 2019). Starting from the early 1990s, as social impacts of the new economic programme became too apparent to be ignored; the international organisations started launching poverty mitigation programmes. Also under the impact of discourse on poverty, the content of the concept of social protection is fully altered today. Beyond this, practices that once served the purpose of social protection started to be defined, for the first time, under the heading "social protection" regardless of existing social security systems. In fact, this emerged as a result of the neoliberal understanding of social welfare. From then on "social protection" was designed as a new liberal practice targeting social groups as the real victims of the process of poverty who remain out of economic and social life and cannot be included in market dynamics. In the Keynesian-developmentalist period social protection used to be constructed as rights-based under the influence of both national consensus and international conventions (being a citizen is sufficient to enjoy social protection). In the neo-liberal period, on the other hand, "social protection" named as such has a selective character (with disparities at the national and regional levels). Thus, rightsbased approach is replaced by demand-based approach. Moreover, private initiative again gained upper hand in modern social protection processes.

#### 1. Social Protection in the Context of International Human Rights Law

As required by the international human rights law, States are legally obliged to introduce social protection systems. This obligation is explicitly stated in **Article 22** of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by all countries in 1948 and **Article 9** of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as the right to social security.

The **right to social security** envisages the protection of all including women, men and children from the risks of illness, disability, maternity, work accident, unemployment, old age, death and poverty and social exclusion. Hence, international conventions cover, in relation to social protection, obligations of States to **protect, respect and give effect to.** 

Besides social security systems associated, in general, with formal employment, social protection practices today consist of supportive assistance and services in health;

unemployment, disability and maternity benefits; retirement pensions, conditional cash transfers, minimum income guarantee and opportunities of employment for public benefit. Women's coverage by and enjoyment of social security benefits is limited relative to men due to various reasons including their lower rates of labour force participation, sexist nature of labour markets and their relatively more common presence in informal employment. The basic reason behind gender-based inequalities in the context of social protection is gender inequalities in unpaid care labour Sand resulting inequalities in employment. The 2030 Development Agenda commits to the strengthening of social protection systems to provide a ground for all by improving the quality of services and expanding their coverage. Services mentioned here are for those who remain out of employment for various reasons which is of great importance for women in its gender dimension.

#### 2. Poverty and Feminization of Poverty

Besides the developments in international human rights law in relation to social protection, pioneering studies on the relationship between gender inequalities and poverty overlap with the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985). The higher rates of poverty among women relative to men and the more severe nature of this poverty led to the concept of 'feminization of poverty'.

In traditional and commonly used poverty indicators, **poverty** is defined as remaining below a specific threshold in terms of household income or household spending and it is therefore a **monetary measure**. It is set, for example, a specific proportion (40-60%) of median household income. This is the borderline income/spending level between the poor and others who are not poor.

One important assessment in measuring income poverty is that there are more women than men in the households living under poverty line and that women experience poverty more deeply than men. These two points were conceptualised by Pearce (1978) as **feminization of poverty** and stress is laid on the sexist nature of poverty. The gender perspective in poverty brings along a much wider definition of poverty than that suggested by incomebased approach. The main stress of studies made in the process of transition from the concept of **income poverty** to **human poverty** in measuring poverty is the omission of intra-household inequalities in discussion on poverty. This is quite problematic from the point of rights-based approach. The concept of **capability** by Amartya Sen gains importance at this point. Also with the contribution of feminist criticism, the concept of capability (capabilities) was quite influential in widening the definition of poverty beyond mere income/consumption deficiencies to include meagre opportunities in access to social resources and services, autonomy and human dignity.

## B. International Documents Reviewed in Identifying the Norms and Standards in Social Protection

Criticisms raised by the global women's movement and feminist approach against measures based on one-dimensional monetary measurements of poverty contributed significantly to the inclusion of norms on the poverty of women in international documents. The need for

alternative approaches and adoption of rights-based approach to social protection in the post 2015 Development Agenda eventually led to widening of scopes of initially presented norms and standards in international documents. The norms and standards referred to here are presented in the next part with their associated indicators.

#### 1. UN-United Nations

Including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the first place, all UN conventions have some common fundamental norms to be observed in poverty prevention and social protection: Equality, solidarity, non-discrimination, decent and adequate life, social protection and social security, gender equality, accessibility and inclusiveness. Historically, the Constitution of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the only UN agency having a tripartite structure with representatives of governments, employers and workers, precede all other UN conventions. Hence, firstly the Declaration of Philadelphia – ILO- will be addressed before examining UN conventions. In human rights documents related to social protection, the right to social security, it its narrowest scope, was recognized first by the **Declaration of Philadelphia (1944)** which is regarded as the constitution of ILO and become one of its founding principles.

#### **Declaration of Philadelphia**

Paragraphs f to j in Article 3 in the Declaration of Philadelphia directly sets general **standards** related to **social protection** and **poverty**. These are:

- (f)extension of social security measures to provide a basic income to all in need of such protection and comprehensive medical care;
- (g) adequate protection for the life and health of workers in all occupations;
- (h) provision for child welfare and maternity protection;
- (i) provision of adequate nutrition, housing and facilities for recreation and culture;
- (j) assurance of equality of educational and vocational opportunity.

#### **UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

Under the international human rights law, States are legally obliged to create their social protection systems. Social protection is not a matter of charity or generosity but the responsibility of the state. This obligation is clearly expressed as the right to social security in Article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by all nations in 1948. While listing fundamental human rights, the declaration states many articles that directly or indirectly provide for social protection and social security with their gender dimension as well. Most basically, the second article explicitly guarantees for equality in all areas without any distinction or exception. Family as the smallest unit in social protection and social welfare is recognized as a right for both women and men. In this respect it points to the norms **social protection and social security, gender equality** and **equality in treatment**.

Article 25 in the Declaration states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care. Accordingly, everyone has the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control (Art. 25.1). The same article also states: "Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection" (Art. 25.2). Further, Article 22 states that social security is a right for all without any distinction. The inclusion in the article of dignified and humane life without specifying relevant criteria still provides an objective ground for dignified and humane earning in working life.

#### **UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

The UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was adopted in 1966, Turkey signing it only in 2000. This covenant brings much wider clarification to social and economic rights relative to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It must be said here that Turkey has committed to the implementation of the major part of the covenant despite some reservations. Article 2 in the covenant states that parties undertake to guarantee that all provisions of the covenant can be exercised without any discrimination on the basis of any criterion including gender. This means that the text of the covenant refers to the norms of equality and gender equality at the very beginning. Article 9 says states recognize the right of everyone to social security including social insurance. Article 11 points out to the international coordination of steps to protect society from hunger, which once more brings social protection norm to the agenda. With Article 11 the covenant recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions. Accordingly, States Parties recognize the right of everyone to be free from hunger and take, individually and through international co-operation, the measures, including specific programmes, which are needed.

Article 12 holds States responsible for providing healthy life to all free from epidemics and diseases and again, as in Article 11, refers to social protection norm. The aim is to ensure that all enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. Other obligations of States Parties include the reduction of stillbirth and infant mortality rates, ensuring the healthy development of the child; improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene; prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases; and creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

#### **UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women**

The UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was adopted in 1980 and Turkey acceded to the convention in 1985. Article 1 in the convention gives an objective definition of discrimination against women. Article 3 states that the problem is not merely legislative or institutional one but has its economic, social and cultural dimensions and obliges States Parties to combat all forms of

discrimination against women in these areas as well. Article 4 explicitly defines the norm equality of treatment.

The **CEDAW** provides for social security for women while working and in retirement. The right to work is also recognized in this context. 1(e) under Article 11 provides for social security particularly in retirement while 11(f) recognizes the right to protection of health. 11(f) also includes the safequarding of the function of reproduction. In the context of the right to work which is in direct relationship with poverty prevention and social protection, "States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment in order to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, the same rights, in particular: a) The right to work as an inalienable right of all human beings; b) The right to the same employment opportunities, including the application of the same criteria for selection in matters of employment; c) The right to free choice of profession and employment, the right to promotion, job security and all benefits and conditions of service and the right to receive vocational training and retraining, including apprenticeships, advanced vocational training and recurrent training; d) The right to equal remuneration, including benefits, and to equal treatment in respect of work of equal value, as well as equality of treatment in the evaluation of the quality of work; e) The right to social security, particularly in cases of retirement, unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age and other incapacity to work, as well as the right to paid leave; f) The right to protection of health and to safety in working conditions, including the safeguarding of the function of reproduction."

The relevant article in the convention lists special measures of protection for women. There are provisions designated to prevent discrimination against women in their workplaces as a result of such rights as maternity leave. There are thus explicit references to the norms of **gender equality, equal treatment and non-discrimination.** 

#### **UN Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPA)**

The Beijing Declaration was adopted as the outcome of the 4<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women gathering in Beijing in 1995. The declaration and the conference concentrated on gender equality in all dimensions of social life and strengthening the status of women. In the declaration with its fundamental norms as equality and non-discrimination, member states accepted and committed to the implementation of the Action Plan by reflecting gender-based perspective to all policies and programmes. In the critical area with the heading inequalities in economic structures and policies, in all productive activities and in access to resources, problems were listed for each sub-area.

The first critical sub-area in the declaration is **women** and **poverty**. Among reasons behind the increasing number of women in poverty and identification of poverty with women, attention was drawn to limited access of women, particularly in developing countries, to capital, resources, credit, land, technology, information, technical assistance and training as well as women's unpaid work in households and their exclusion from social security systems. Another area is women and economy. Here it is stated that in many parts of the world women are absent or not adequately represented in economic decision-making mechanisms including those related to financial, monetary, commercial and other economic policies and decisions related to taxation and payment systems. It is also stated that though increasing women's employment mainly takes place in informal and low-paid jobs without

social security and that working women face various practices of discrimination. Women undertake the bulk of unpaid domestic work and care, which is usually not put in quantitative terms and not considered in national accounts, leading to the omission of women's actual contribution to development.

Some strategic objectives are suggested to eliminate inequalities; actions and specific tasks of various actors in attaining these objectives are listed under each strategic objective. The Declaration and Action Plan is quite important in that it goes beyond identifying problems and specifying actions to be taken. Among these, the development of techniques of measurement to quantify women's unpaid household and care work is of vital importance in combating inequalities.

#### **UN Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 24 in** the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child makes specific reference to social protection norm. States Parties are obliged to see the full implementation of this right while pointing out to the following duties: (a) To diminish infant and child mortality; (d) To ensure appropriate pre-natal and post-natal health care for mothers; (e) To ensure that all segments of society, in particular parents and children, are informed, have access to education and are supported in the use of basic knowledge of child health and nutrition, the advantages of breastfeeding, hygiene and environmental sanitation and the prevention of accidents; (f) To develop preventive health care, guidance for parents and family planning education and services. The convention guarantees the right of each child to enjoy the right to social protection. By guaranteeing for State's active participation to costs in child's period of development, it refers to the norms of both accessibility and social protection.

#### **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities adopted in 2006 includes references specifically related to the problems of women with disabilities. The convention guarantees equal and full enjoyment of rights recognized by international conventions by women with disabilities. The convention guarantees the right of persons with disabilities to enjoy education and healthcare services and commits to the elimination of all barriers to their enjoyment of the right to work and employment. The convention also includes articles that explicitly confirms to the rights to adequate standard of living and social protection. International Labour Organization (ILO) Conventions and Recommendations

Evaluating approaches to social protection by international organizations under three main headings we see that the first one is social security systems that was made mandatory starting from the establishment of ILO and particularly after the II World War These social security systems represent an approach that covers working people in the labour market. Second generation approaches seek, through various social protection programmes, to bring social security arrangements together under the umbrella of a single social security system so as to cover all workers in different employment statuses. The third generation approach represents systems that recognize access to social security as a human right and widen its scope as a universal scheme.

Among significant developments contributing to transition from the concept of social security in its narrowest sense to that which is rights-based, inclusive and universal we see the Social Protection Floor Initiative (ILO, 2009-2012) launched under ILO leadership and 31 conventions and 23 recommendations that made social security flourish as a universal human right with norms and standards they brought. The fundamental norms found in ILO instruments include **equality, equality of treatment**, **social protection**, **accessibility**, **adaptability**, **acceptability** and **human dignity**.

It must also be noted that the Governing Body of ILO endorsed eight of these 31 conventions as update social security instruments in 2002. It is indeed the most important international convention that defines nine areas of social security, sets minimum standards for each and lays down principles for the sustainability of relevant programmes. Standards relate to assistance in such cases as illness, unemployment, old age, work accidents, occupational diseases, temporary incapability, maternity and disability. Parties to the convention have accepted at least three areas.

The Convention no. 3 on Maternity Protection underlines that working women must be granted paid leave for six weeks before delivery and health expenses in this period must be covered by a social security system. This was an important step ahead in social security for working women who are poor. The Maternity Protection Convention 103 brings modifications to the earlier convention bearing the same name while preserving all rights mentioned in it. In addition to 6 months of paid leave during the prenatal period, the new convention grants 6 more weeks of paid leave after birth. It is of course a serious advancement for working women.

According to the Income Security Recommendation no. 67, at least minimum income and social protection must be provided to dependent and non-working household members of a working person in case the latter becomes incapable to work. Here, there are provisions directly relevant to women living in poor households. This recommendation upholds the norms decent and adequate life, justice and fairness and adequacy.

The Social Policy (Non-Metropolitan Territories) Convention no.82 introduces the condition for member states to take initiatives to include peoples living in non-metropolitan backward areas in social security and social protection schemes. This convention provides, in particular, the necessary legal ground for improving the economic and social status of poor women in rural areas. According to the convention, however, the steps taken to this end must have standards that are acceptable by communities where services are to be extended.

The Equal Remuneration Convention no. 100 taking effect in 1951 was signed by Turkey in 1967. By guaranteeing equal pay for equal work, this convention has its explicit reference to gender equality norm. Article 3 in the convention states that wage differentials must be based on objective appraisal whereas gender difference is not of that nature. The Equal

Remuneration Recommendation no. 90 envisages the prevention of gender-based differentials in pay.

The ILO Social Security (Minimum Conditions) Convention no.102 was adopted in 1952 and signed by Turkey in 1974. The convention sets minimum conditions for national social security systems. The convention implicitly recognizes gender equality and explicitly covers such situations as maternity. Here we see that social assistance and social welfare benefits are tried to be designed in a way to protect women. As distinct from earlier ones, this is the first convention that cover policies and steps for non-working, survivor and unemployed women. The inclusion of women who are not in wage employment in social security and social protection frameworks marks a difference in ILO's orientations and is also the outcome of strong winds of social welfare blowing in the world of global capitalism. The convention lists the basic elements of social security and protection: medical care, sickness benefit, unemployment benefit, old-age benefit, employment injury benefit, family benefit and maternity benefit. Interesting to note is that labour market related dynamics are covered with their full dimensions.

The Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention no. 111 is again based upon the norms of gender equality, equal treatment and non-discrimination. While defining discrimination, article 1 in the convention explicitly mentions gender in addition to race, religion and language.

The Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention no. 117 adopted in 1962 not ratified by Turkey) basically sets the main objectives and boundaries of the social policy to be implemented by States. As Article 14 prohibits all forms of discrimination in relation to wages and social security it specifically mentions gender as a prohibited ground for discrimination. While Article 14 (2) sets raising the wages of lower-paid workers as an objective, it also underlines gender equality as an item to be observed as other equalities. Paragraph 4 under this article envisages safeguarding of motherhood and necessary steps to ensure that this status is not used for dismissing women workers.

The Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention no. 118 was adopted in 1962 and signed by Turkey in 1973. Article 2 in the convention lists social security items one by one while article 3 confirms the right of all citizens without distinction to social security in States Parties to the convention.

The Recommendation no.123 on Employment (women with family responsibilities) states that having family responsibilities while in employment, this situation of women cannot be used to disfavour them in the process of employment.

The Minimum Age Convention no. 138 seeks to guarantee for measures to eliminate child labour in particular while underlining that minimum age for employment should be raised up to that age when individuals reach their mental and physical maturity.

According to the ILO Recommendation no. 169 (supplementary provisions) steps must be taken to facilitate the employment of groups facing difficulties in finding jobs and in maintaining their employment when they have jobs and to consider their demands.

## 2. European Parliament and Council of Europe Documents and Directives

This section is about the European Union institutions with their decisions, strategies or recommendations on the relationship between gender equality and poverty. There are many institutions within the legal and administrative structure of the EU. This section addresses the European Commission (as the executive force), European Parliament and the European Council as the major institutions. One of the most important instruments binding EU institutions is the **European Social Charter (ESC)** which was issued in 1961 and revised in 1996. It must be noted here that revisions made in 1996 reflect the dominance of market logic compared to the original and fundamental text dated 1961.

In the first part of the ESC social rights of all workers are listed in the context of gender equality. The right of everyone to earn his or her living on a feely chosen profession is recognized. Also stated is the right of each worker to enjoy a wage rate and fair, safe and healthy working conditions. In line with gender equality, all workers must enjoy equal rights and equal treatment. The right of each old-aged person to social protection is recognized. The second part defines fair working conditions in the context of the right to work. For example, the need to reduce weekly working hours by member states in time is underlined, the right to paid leave is confirmed and annual paid leave of at least four weeks is granted. The right to a fair wage is substantiated and there is commitment to a wage guaranteeing an adequate life for the worker and his or her family. It is explicitly stated that there must be equal pay for a woman and man doing work of equal value. The rights of working women experiencing motherhood must be protection ad also special protection must be accorded. It is stated in the charter that States undertake to provide either by paid leave, by adequate social security benefits or by benefits from public funds for employed women to take leave before and after childbirth up to a total of at least fourteen weeks. The charter also recognizes the right to social security in this section. Besides medical and social support, it also guarantees social welfare and social protection benefits. In the context of gender equality, the Charter makes it compulsory to ensure equal treatment and equal opportunities at workplaces. The following are listed under this heading: access to employment, protection from dismissal, vocational training; conditions related to employment work and wages, career making and promotion at work. Workers with family responsibilities must be accorded equal treatment and opportunities as others who do not have these responsibilities.

The **Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European** 2016 makes gender equality a norm with respect to employment, wages, opportunities and treatment at workplace with its Article 23. The article also makes it compulsory for states to take measures providing for specific advantages in favour of the underrepresented sex. Article 34 in the Charter is directly related to social protection and social support. The first paragraph of this article

explicitly states that social security benefits and social services providing protection in cases such as maternity, industrial accidents, old age and illness in accordance with EU conventions. Paragraph 3 underlines that social and housing assistance will be provided to those who lack sufficient resources in order to protect them from social exclusion and poverty.

#### **Directives and Decisions**

Taking a look at what the texts by the European Parliament and European Council bring in relation to women in poverty we first see their **Directive 2006/54/EC** which is about equal opportunities and equal treatment to women and men in employment and in workplaces. Here it is first reminded that gender equality is a norm according to articles 2 and 3 of the Treaty of the European Union. Article 7 in the Directive obliges employers to take measures to combat all forms of discrimination on grounds of sex and, in particular, to take preventive measures against harassment and sexual harassment in the workplace and in vocational training. While Article 8 establishes equal pay for equal work as a rule, Article 11 envisages flexible working time arrangements for both men and women to enable them to perform their family commitments. The directive then summarizes fundamental principles derived from the suggestions of various European institutions and founding treaties followed by the general provisions of the Directive. Here, elements listed as principles are given more concrete content. In some cases, the provision broadens the content of the principle. For example, it is stated that provisions related to cases leading to absence from work (illness, maternity, work accident, etc.) must be made applicable not only to wage workers but also to own-account workers, unemployed persons and retirees.

This means transition from social security for wage earners to the principle of social protection for all EU citizens. The Directive **2010/41/EU of the European Parliament and the Council** is the most important document confirming that social security and social protection cannot be limited to wage earners only. The directive underlines that own-account workers, both men and women, must have equal opportunities and enjoy equal treatment.

The European Parliament and European Council Regulation no. 1296/2013 which is directly related to this directive provides for micro-credit mechanism as an important instrument of social inclusion. **In Article 10** it is stated that one of the most important objectives of the **Europe 2020** is the prevention of poverty and social exclusion which can be attained only by observing gender equality. This regulation is interesting in that it envisages micro-credit mechanism as one of the market-oriented steps of the neo-liberal welfare and social protection programme.

Again by the Parliament and the Council, the **Regulation No. 1304/2013** mandates the European Social Fund (ESF) to take necessary financial and economic steps to ensure the social inclusion of disadvantaged groups, population in poverty and elderly women. The regulation goes further and underlines that the ESF should be used, specifically, to ensure the economic independence of women and to regain women who have suffered male

violence. The 7<sup>th</sup> provision in the Regulation says the ESF should be used for ensuring women's participation to employment and their promotion in employment and career and thus for preventing the feminization of poverty.

The EU institutions bring a widening scope not only at policy level but also at theoretical and conceptual base in the process of ensuring gender equality and combating poverty among women. For example, the Parliament and Council **Decision no. 1672/2006/EC** stresses that gender mainstreaming must be applied to all practices of the community. Not all decisions of the Parliament and the Council have the nature of drawing main policy lines; as can be seen in examples given above, specific regulations are for more specific steps. For example, the Parliament and Council **Regulation no. 223/2014** is about European aid to the most deprived. **Paragraph 7 under Article** 5 obliges the Commission and Member States to operate by taking gender dimension into account at stages of preparation and implementation in in using the fund.

The European Parliament Resolution **On Poverty: A Gender Perspective** adopted in May 2016 (2015/2228 (INI)) shows how seriously the EU institutions take the relationship between women and poverty. The resolution starts with references to both international conventions and texts of EU institution that contain important decisions in this regard. There is also an interesting remark stating that poverty and insecurity are both on the rise as a result of austerity policies suggested by the commission and adopted by member states. It is also stated that the poverty among women in particular affects not only women but also children and their future and that children growing up in single (woman) parent families under poverty line experience serious gaps in education and face the risk of remaining out of social security schemes. In this context, member states are expected to develop policies striking a fine balance between working and family life, increase both the availability and quality of basic public services, to boost social investments for women, and to design their austerity policies more carefully.

Meanwhile, the European Economic and Social Committee is an organ whose opinion is sought on gender equality and poverty especially by the Parliament. Important here is the opinion concerning the action plan titled "Gender Equality in European Labour Markets" submitted to the Parliament in 2018 (EESC 2018/02567). It is found that taxation-aid systems in effect in labour markets has its dissuasive effects on the person who enters labour market as the second from the family (it is aptly underlined that this "second person" is mostly a woman) and the Parliament is called upon to take this into account. It is further stated that the risk of poverty is quite high particularly for women who work on their own account.

## II. Norms, Standards, Criteria and Good Practices

#### A. Norms

The **principle of equality and non-discrimination** included together with gender equality perspective in human rights documents in the field of poverty prevention and social protection is one of the fundamental elements in human rights law. Equality first guarantees equality of all before the law which means that laws are to be formulated in general terms applicable to all and enforced equally. Equality also provides equal right to protection for all from arbitrary and discriminatory treatment. Historically, the principle of equality envisaging the enjoyment human rights and fundamental freedoms by all without any discrimination on the basis of race, sex, language or religion constitutes the essence of the Charter of the United Nations (1945). In addition, the CEDAW obliges States Parties to combat systematic and structural discrimination. In its General Recommendation no. 25 related to temporary special measures on the basis of Article 4 (1) adopted in January 2004, expresses the three aspects of equality that the Convention aims at as follows: 1. Ensuring full equality of women before the law and their protection in both public and private spheres; 2. Improving the de facto position of women, and 3. Elimination of stereotypes related to gender relations.

The norms equality, gender equality and non-discrimination requires States to meet the standards of accessibility, adaptability, acceptability and adequacy for all right holders in their social protection programmes. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights defines these norms and standards as follows: Accessibility means social protection programmes must be open to access by all without any distinction on the basis of age, disability, ethnic origin, geographical location or some other characteristics and it must be made easy to benefit from such programmes. Adaptability underlines that social protection programmes must be designed as fine-tuned to respond to differing needs. Acceptability denotes sensitivity of social protection to race, gender, class, ethnic origin, disability or other forms of discrimination. The right to decent and adequate standard of **living** is closely related to the right to work. Population living under poverty line is deprived of sufficient and reliable means of subsistence. Unemployment, underemployment, employment without social security, employment in precarious jobs, and working conditions in low-paid jobs are all closely related to poverty. One of the important norms based on the right to decent and adequate life in international conventions mentioned above is decent work and employment. Any strategy to realize the right to work in the context of poverty mitigation must target improving the quantity and quality of work for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://socialprotection-humanrights.org/framework/principles/standards-of-accessibility-adaptability-and-acceptability/

poor. This, in turn, requires reducing unemployment among the poor and increase wages and earnings.

#### B. Standards

In international documents, there are standards developed on the basis of norms relating to the prevention of poverty and social assistance. These standards allow monitoring on the loyalty of States Parties to their commitments and are also used in designing policies, identifying targets and strategies in poverty prevention and social assistance. In the next part of this report you will find standards derived from international agreements and conventions that will be referred to in evaluating the state of social assistance in Turkey. The standards are summarized below:

- 1. Expecting mother is considered as on leave for 6 weeks prior to delivery and another 6 weeks after and she receives assistance as pregnancy care in this period.
- 2. Care assistance to dependent spouses and children of parents who are unable to work due to their illness.
- 3. Healthcare services must be delivered either through social security and social protection schemes or through public health services system.
- 4. Whether through social security/protection schemes or public health services, healthcare must be provided to all members of society without any distinction.
- 5. If a person's income is below subsistence level social security/health insurance contributions must be covered by authorities.
- 6. Income loss incurred upon the death or incapacity of the breadwinning member of the family must be remedied by the public authority.
- 7. In cases of remaining out of employment temporarily or permanently as a result of any work accident, social security/protection measures covering the person concerned, his/her spouse and children must be in place to prevent any income loss.
- 8. Social security/social protection services must cover all citizens without any distinction.

#### Millennium Development Goals

- B1. Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger,
- B2. Promoting gender equality and empowering women,

#### 2030 Development Goals

- C1. Reducing at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- C2. Implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- C3. Ensuring that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

C4. Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

#### **UN Conference on Women Beijing Declaration**

- F1. Reviewing, adopting and maintaining macroeconomic policies and development strategies addressing the needs of women in poverty
- F2. Reviewing legislation and administrative practices to ensure women's equal rights and their access to resources
- F3. Ensuring women's access to means of saving and credit mechanism-institutions
- F4. Developing gender-sensitive methods in measuring poverty and conducting studies to understand and bring solutions to the feminization of poverty.

#### **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**

- -Full employment
- Eliminating gender inequality in access to employment and income generating activities
- Eliminating gender inequality in wages
- Leaving nobody facing chronic hunger
- Eliminating gender inequality in access to food
- Ensuring that each citizen has a dwelling,
- Ensuring that dwellings have their access to basic services, safe drinking water, electricity, sanitation and other infrastructure facilities
- Ensuring that all have access to quality and affordable healthcare services
- Elimination of preventable child deaths,
- Elimination of preventable maternal deaths,
- Ensuring access to safe and effective methods of contraception for all women and men at reproductive ages
- Elimination of gender inequality in access to health services
- Ensuring access to universal primary education for all children
- Elimination of gender inequality in primary and secondary education,
- Ensuring full and equal participation to the conduct of public affairs through parliaments, regional and local elections, referendums and similar decision-making processes.

#### 1. Council of Europe Standards

Following are the texts that the Council of Europe Standards are derived from:

#### **Europe 2020 Strategy**

To be more specific, the Council set targets to be reached until 2020 in five areas including employment, innovation, education, social inclusion and climate/energy. Each member adopted its own national targets in these areas. state. In Europe 2020, the concept of being under the risk of poverty or social exclusion (AROPE) is defined by at least one of three conditions: 1. Being under the risk of poverty, 2. State of facing material deprivation or 3. Living in households that are unemployed/insufficient access to employment. It is stated that the intersectionality of poverty or social exclusion can be measured and monitored through a combination indicators covering three dimensions including income poverty, non-income poverty and poverty related to labour market (EIGE, 2016).

#### **European Commission**

Almost enjoying an executive power, the European Commission covers the most important space in the administrative structure of the EU. The Commission has had it sign important decisions and strategy documents in the fields of both social policy and gender equality and it has undoubtedly a determining role in both fields in the EU. Given this, a closer look was taken to the strategy document **A Union of Equality: Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025**. This strategy with specific focus on women with children who have to work is clearly in line with **social protection, dignified life, justice and fairness, adequacy** and **accessibility** also with some clear references to the standards 18, B2 and C4.

The Convention **European Pillar of Social Rights** declared jointly by the European Commission, European Parliament and the European Council after the meeting held in Goteborg in 2017 provides a ground for the commission in its many decisions and recommendations concerning the issues of women and poverty. The European Pillar of Social Rights points out to **equality, gender equality, equality of treatment, justice and fairness, dignified and humane life, accessibility** and **adaptability** norms and is in compliance with the standards A2, B1, B2, C4, F1 and F2. Also reviewed are the Personnel Reports and other strategy documents of the commission.

#### C. Good Practices

Examples to good practice include steps related to women in poverty taken by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Multidimensional Approach to Poverty and Monitoring Toolkit, Social Protection Web Platform, European Women's Lobby, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, Women's Labour and Employment Initiative (KEİG) and Human Development Foundation (İGV). Further information about examples can be found in the main report.

## III. Current Situation Analysis in Turkey: Normative-Political Structure

In Turkey, all legislation and other legal arrangements including the Constitution in the first place have provisions complying with the norms equality, non-discrimination, justice and fairness. Further, there were initiatives to bring all domestic legislation in alignment with the EU acquis upon the start of accession negotiations with the EU. The main features of development in legislation in this process are examined under this heading. Also, legislative amendments relating to poverty prevention and social protection given effect or presented to the parliament are addressed by referring to academic studies in this field.

Under article 5 of the Constitution of Turkey, the fundamental aims and duties of the State include ensuring the welfare, peace, and happiness of the individual and society; removing political, economic, and social obstacles which restrict the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual in a manner incompatible with the principles of justice; and providing conditions required for the development of the individual's material and spiritual existence.

#### A. Legislation

#### 1. Legislation Related to Gender Equality

Under this heading you can find documents of national laws and legislation. It is evaluated to what extent gender equality perspective is adopted in legislative steps and amendments relating to social protection and prevention of poverty. This account includes the social welfare concept in the Republican period, the establishment of the General Directorate for the Status of Women, the transition from women to family, and the Law on the Organization of the office of Presidency dated 2018 with specific reference to its Article 30 on the establishment of the Social Policies Board together with strategic documents and plans of the board.

Firstly, the **Constitutional Article 10** adopts the principle of gender equality while substantiating the principle of equality before the law. The amendment made in this article in 2004 and 2010 openly states that positive discrimination for women cannot be regarded as in contraction with the underlying principles of the article. The **Constitutional Article 49** provides for the right to work. Upon amendments made in 2001, the state was given the duty of providing social protection and social security for both working and non-working population. **Article 50** defines groups that must be given special protection in working life. It must be considered, however, that this article may lead to gender discrimination in some sectors. The **Article 60** in **the Constitution** guarantees the right to social security for all without any distinction. It must be stressed here that the legislation covers both dimensions in relation to women's poverty: non-discrimination and special social protection measures

for women. Hence, the first and the second dimension will be addressed successively while examining the rest of the legislation.

The **Labour Code no. 4857** explicitly seeks to prohibit gender discrimination at workplaces. It upholds the principle of equal pay to equal work while preventing any loss of rights in employment when pregnant.

The Law of Establishment of the **Human Rights and Equality Institution of Turkey** (Law no. 6701, established in 2016) has its articles on discrimination and other indirectly related to women in poverty. Article 3 gives an explicit definition of the principle of equality and prohibits discrimination. Since this article prohibits all forms of discrimination it also provides a legal ground for preventing gender discrimination in regard to the principle of equal pay for equal work and benefitting from assistance to the poor. Article 6 in the same law substantiates the principle of non-discrimination in relation to employment and free-lance professions. Article 7 is about situations where there can be excuses for discrimination.

#### 2. Legislation and Institutions Related to Social Protection

Following stresses on equality dimension, legal measures and legislation related to social protection will be addressed with its dimension relating to both working and non-working population. Firstly, there is social protection measures and institutions for women as laid down by the Labour Code as the most important dimension of social protection from the point of working population.

The establishment of Social Security and Insurance systems in Turkey dates back to the **Labour Code no. 3001 dated 1936.** This legislation foresees a gradual establishment of a social security system for working people. However, steps that were to be introduced gradually could not be taken until after World War II. The first legislation related to branches of social security is the Law no. 4772 dated 27.06.1945 on Security for Work Accidents, Occupational Diseases and Maternity. Parallel to this law, the Law no. 4792 on Workers Security Institution was enacted on 16.07.1945. Upon entering into force of this law in 1946, numerous funds established until 1945 were brought together. Following the enactment of the Law no. 4792, other laws followed: Law on Security for Work Accidents, Occupational Diseases and Maternity (no 4772, 1945), Old-Age Security Law (no.5417, 1950), Illness and Maternity Law (no.5502, 1951) and Law on Disability, Old-Age and Death Benefits (no. 6900, 1957).

The real transformation, however, came with the Constitution of 1961. This constitution took some radical steps in enlarging the social rights of bot working and non-working population. Article 10 in the Constitution gave a social and economic content to fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals. It was an important step in defining the problem of freedom with reference to social and economic rights as well. The stress on equality is further strengthened in Article 12. Article 43 clearly introduces a provision on social protection for workers. To go on, Article 44 provides for the right of workers to paid

leave, Article 45 for fairness in wages, Article 48 for the right to social security, and Article 49 for the right to healthcare services. The Retirement Fund Agency for civil servants had been established earlier with the **Retirement Fund Law no. 5434** that took effect in 1950. In the same year with the new constitution, the **Social Security Law no. 506** was enacted in 1961. Then, the social Security Agency was established in 1965 to cover wage earners. The Bağ-Kur for those in free occupations and professions was established in 1971. In 2006, these three agencies and the general health insurance system were merged under "Social Security Institution" (SGK) upon the Law no. 5506. This meant the final form of social security system in Turkey. The new system sought to bring together under common norms a two-headed system for contributing and non-contributing citizens. In other words, both those who pay their contributions while in employment and others not in employment are brought together in the same social security and health insurance system.

The **Law no. 5506 on Social Security and General Health Insurance** in fact flexes the demarcation line between working and non-working with respect to the enjoyment of social rights. For example, Article 3 which has been revised many times covers spouses and children of persons employed as well as other non-working groups.

Another important document in this context is the **Labour Code no. 4857**. The code is basically about work contracts of employees and their rights at their workplaces, but it also contains provisions related to the social protection of workers. The **Labour Code** also provides for leaves and breaks applicable in cases of maternity.

The Regulation on Employment Conditions of Expecting or Nursing Women, Nursing Rooms and Childcare Facilities taking effect in 2013 means a serious step ahead against poverty though indirectly. It is an important step in terms of ensuring the re-employment of women who remained out due to pregnancy or childcare responsibilities. It appears that all circumstances related to maternity are considered.

Now comes legislation on social protection for non-working citizens. The first important step taken in this regard is the 1055 Decree no. 8972 on Hospitals. This step obviously represents a significant achievement given the absence of a generalized social security and social protection system. Article 4 in the decree defines groups that are to be admitted to hospital without any change. It includes pregnant women, persons with transmittable diseases, those who are identified as in poverty and retirees of incapability. In relation to healthcare services, it is important that the Hospitals Instruction of 1955 identifies patients who are to be admitted to hospitals with or without charge. With this instruction there was transition in public hospitals to a system in which citizens who can afford are asked to make a payment for services. In 1955, with the Law on Revolving Fund in Hospitals and Rehabilitation Institutions under the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance public hospitals are transformed into revolving fund institutions charging for their services. Another point worth mentioning in a study by the Ministry of Health in 1965 is related to the operation of revolving fund which had been introduced in 1955 and then regulated by the Law no. 209 on Health Institutions and Other Facilities Attached to the Ministry of Health. This new act introduced cost-sharing in examination and curative services for citizens who could afford

and transfer of funds transfer of some funds from the state budget to services for poorer citizens. (Yalçınkaya, 2017).

The rationale behind the establishment of the **Social Services Institute (1959)** mentions the need to give priority children, persons with disabilities and the elderly in need of protection in the implementation of social service programmes while also incorporating the principle of equality. Also stressed is the importance of ensuring cooperation and coordination between public and volunteer organizations active in social services and making most efficient utilization of available resources.

The Law on Pensions to Deprived and Needy Turkish Citizens over Age 65 (1976) include provisions on monthly pensions to citizens over age 65 identified as in need by the Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations. The law excludes the following: Persons with the right to receive pensions from any social security scheme; persons who are employed in jobs where social security inclusion is mandatory; those who receive alimony or eligible for alimony; and others who are paid under the provisions of the Law no. 2828 on Social Services dated 24/5/1983.

The Law no 3294 dated 1986 on the **Promotion of Social Assistance and Solidarity** clearly specify who is eligible for state support and under which conditions this assistance can be given. **Article 3** declares the establishment of Social Assistance and Solidarity Fund in the Central Bank. This is one of the institutions that can be actively used in helping women in poverty.

Another important protection for women is provided by the **Turkish Civil Code** no. 4721. According to this law, the judiciary imposes alimony to be paid by the other party to divorced and non-working women and children left to their guardianship.

Of course, the poverty of women brings along higher risk of exposure to violence on the part of women in poverty. Indeed, there is direct correlation between poverty and exposure to violence. Women's labour force participation is low in Turkey and a large part of women do not have their economic independence; this leads to enduring violence in many cases while violence against women takes more reckless forms. When a woman victim of violence has no economic independence, her breaking apart from her family as a result of acts of violence mostly means impoverishment. Furthermore, facing and suffering violence, the economic performance of the woman concerned falls and she loses self-respect amidst market dynamics. Hence, legislative arrangements geared to preventing violence against women have their important share in combating women's poverty as well.

Here, there is need to take a look at the Law no. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women (2012). Article 3 in the law is about protection measures to be provided by the local authority to the victim of the act of violence. It will be seen in this legislation that there is a detailed list of protective measures for the victim especially if she is working and in need. The Regulation on Women's Guesthouses and

**their Management** dated 2013 envisages protection services particularly to women in poverty facing violence in the process of preventing violence against women.

#### B. Policies

This part will address the projects and programmes of public agencies and various civil society organizations focusing on poverty and social assistance. More specifically, projects and programmes developed and implemented by the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS), Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR) and the Social Security Institution (SGK) will be examined from a gender perspective in the context of strategies and steps in combating poverty among women.

Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services

The vision of the MoFLSS is stated as follows: "Delivering social services to strengthen the individual and family within the framework of social values; adopting measures to increase employment, regulate and supervise working life in order to contribute to socioeconomic development; and maintaining the effectiveness of the social security system." The central unit of the ministry consists of General Directorates, Departments and various units attached to these departments. The General Directorates of the ministry are as follows: General Directorate of Labour, General Directorate of Foreign Relations, General Directorate of Work Safety and Health, General Directorate of Personnel, General Directorate of Information Technologies, General Directorate of Child Services, General Directorate of Services for the Disabled and Elderly, General Directorate of Legal Services, General Directorate for Women's Status, General Directorate of International Labour Force, General Directorate of Social Assistance and General Directorate of Survivors of Martyrs. The SSK and the İŞKUR are agencies with which the Ministry is in close touch.

#### **General Directorate of Labour**

The mission of the General Directorate of Labour is stated as "Increasing the contribution of growth to employment by regulating and supervising working life and solving structural problems in the labour market; increasing the rate of participation to employment and labour force; building qualified human resources; adopting measures to widen the coverage of social security and providing safe working environments for all by developing a culture of wark safety and health." Sone of the duties and responsibilities of the General Directorate are as follows: Reorganization of working life in line with international conventions ratified by Turkey and EU alignment process also by taking the opinions of social partners; ensuring coordination in efforts to identify the position of the general directorate in regard to ILO conventions ratified or to be ratified by Turkey and EU legislation; development of policies and strategies to prevent discrimination and encourage equal treatment in working life; monitoring the implementation of these policies and strategies and developing projects; examining practices in member states in the context of EU alignment; and performing secretarial services for the National Coordination Board on

Women's employment. Some of the projects implemented by the General Directorate to strengthen women in working life are as follows:

- Project on the Promotion of Gender Equality in Working Life, 2010-2012
- Project on Supporting Employment Policies Sensitive to Gender Equality, 2019-2022
- Project on Supporting Decent Jobs Approach with Focus on Gender Equality, 2020-2022
- Project Grandmother for Supporting Women's Employment, Nisan 2017-Mart 2018

#### **General Directorate of Social Assistance (SYGM)**

The mission of the General Directorate of Social Assistance is defined as follows: "Developing strategies in combating poverty; combining all social assistance given on the basis of need at a single centre by objectively identifying social assistance beneficiaries; empowering impoverished and needy citizens through regular social assistance to improve income distribution; and eventually enabling social assistance beneficiaries capable to work to subsist on their own labour." The following are among the duties of the General Directorate:

- Coordinating relevant activities in developing policies and strategies to be implemented at national level for combating poverty and extending social assistance, implementing strategies and policies that are adopted, monitoring and evaluating implementation,
- Adopting necessary administrative and financial measures to achieve the objectives and ensure the enforcement of the Law n. 3294 dated 29/5/1986 on the Promotion of Social Assistance and Solidarity,
- Collecting the revenues of the Fund for Social Assistance and Solidarity in time and ensuring the appropriate use of these funds responding to needs,
- Investigating, examining and overseeing the spending and working of foundations established in line with the provisions of the Law no. 3294; adopting measures to correct mistakes; and identifying working procedures of foundations and criteria for social assistance programmes,
- Giving effect to payments to persons who are deemed as eligible under the relevant legislation to various forms of assistance including monthly allowance, pensions, benefits and so on; entering these payments and assistance in database by relevant units and in cooperation with other institutions; and ensuring that all forms of social assistance and payment made by other public agencies are followed up in the same database,
- Conducting studies and research in other issues relevant to poverty mitigation efforts and the mission of the General Directorate, developing and implementing projects,
- Keeping track of and evaluating international developments and practices in the field of poverty mitigation and implementing those models that are considered as appropriate for Turkey,
- Using Social assistance Information System in its operations,
- Engaging in work to establish a culture of social assistance and solidarity;
   coordinating and supporting campaigns of assistance involving large sections of

population; identifying procedures to be followed in income tests which is to be taken as basis in identifying eligibility for benefits and general health insurance; and implementing these tests in cooperation with Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations.

Social assistance programmes delivered by the General Directorate of Social Assistance can be examined under some headings. These programmes include the following: family-food assistance; housing assistance; social housing project; heating fuel assistance; assistance to widowed women; assistance to families of soldiers in need; maternity assistance; assistance to orphans; assistance to children of soldiers in need; and electricity consumption support. Assistance to education includes provision of education materials, conditional education assistance, free lunch, free textbooks, student bussing and accommodation, free transportation of students with disabilities and building dormitories. Assistance in healthcare takes the forms of conditional health assistance, assistance to respond to the needs of the disabled, general health insurance contributions and cost-sharing, assistance for chronic illnesses, assistance in cases of multiple birth, and covering electricity bills and provision of permanent power to persons dependent to devices for their chronic illnesses. Assistance to the elderly and disabled persons: Old-age benefits, disability benefits, assistance to persons under age 18 with disabilities, silicosis assistance and home-based care. Special assistance is delivered in programmes such as soup kitchens, support in cases of disaster (emergency aid), assistance in cases of harm caused by terrorist activities, social adaptation assistance (SAA) for foreigners and conditional education assistance again for foreigners (CEA). Project support and employment assistance consists of support in income generating projects, project on social support in rural areas, projects on training for employment, social service projects, job orientation assistance and assistance to job startups.

Besides, there are also project support programmes taken up by the General Directorate: There is business start-up support extended to poor individuals or households for their income generating projects to enable them to earn income by launching new enterprises or maintaining existing ones. The Rural Social Support Project for persons and families in social deprivation is for encouraging their participation to production including support in marketing of their products. No new project is phased in since 2010. The projects on Training for Employment envisage short-term courses for women and unemployed young persons to build technical and social skills to help them find better jobs. These projects are no more supported since 2010 since they fall in the domain of the İŞKUR. Social Service Projects are for reducing the risk of exclusion for disadvantaged groups, contributing to social justice, and enlarging the coverage of low-cost social services available to children working/living in streets, the disabled and the elderly, unprotected women and men, unemployed youth and the poor. Family Support Centres are units active in initiatives to help psychosocial, sociocultural, occupational and personal development of women covered by the Law no. 3294 on the Promotion of Social Assistance and Solidarity and to ensure their social integration. Social Solidarity Centres carry out activities to support psychosocial, sociocultural, occupational, artistic and personal development and to ensure the social integration of people in locations mostly inhabited by Roma citizens. The Old-Age and Disability Care programme covers house cleaning, personal care, and meeting the basic needs of these persons. Of these projects, those related to training for employment, social service projects, family support centres and social solidarity centres directly target women in poverty. The disability and elderly care programmes are indirectly related to women since they mitigate the burden of care which is mostly on women while income generating projects and rural support programmes also have the same function since they create opportunities of income generation for women as well.

#### **General Directorate of Family and Community Services (ATHGM)**

#### Family Education Programme (AEP)

The programme consisting of training modules seeks to deliver training to all individuals over age 18 in the fields of family training and communication, law, economics, health and media. This programme taking family as its basis has no gender equality perspective; to the contrary, training modules contain elements consolidating traditional gender-based division of work. For example, training materials suggest working women to make good time planning and ask the support of their husbands when they feel stress, accepting that household work is under the responsibility of women. The family budget management module that particularly targets lower income groups associates budget management with control of spending rather than income module; examples given impose a special role to women where she is responsible for family spending. The programme has direct references to the acceptability norm and standards C3 and F2.

#### Pre-marital Education Programme

As a sub-component of the Family Education Programme, the premarital education programme actually points out to standards set by the former.

#### Family and Divorce Counselling

Counselling in issues of family and divorce is delivered by social service centres which aims to help couples in the process of divorce in their adaptation to post-marital life in economic, cultural and psychological terms. Here, there is no specific reference to unique problem that women may face; still the following statement implies support to women after divorce:

"Families applying after divorce are offered child-focused counselling services on problems associated with post-marital single parenthood and arrangements of relations with the child. These counselling services also cover issues related to the new status in community, adaptation to a new dwelling and life, and coping up with possible economic problems."

#### Family Social Support Programme

The Family Social Support Programme (ASDEP) is a checking and social support programme operating on the basis of a household-focused concept of service delivery. Under this programme, some 3,000 ASDEP workers in 81 provinces visit households, assess their status and characteristics and refer them to appropriate institutions and assistance and support programmes. "Ensuring the development and implementation of programmes for raising the social and economic status of women" is one of the main objectives of social

service centres that work in coordination with ASDEP. In this regard, the ASDEP points out to equality, gender equality and social protection/social assistance norms.

#### **Psychosocial Support Programmes**

The psychosocial support programmes are for psychosocial support in cases of disasters and emergencies. This heading covers the identification of needs, psychosocial intervention, referral and orientation, creation of an information centre, social mobilization, social projects, trainings and support to working people. This programme with the explicit objective of remedying economic collapse that may emerge in cases of disaster and emergency is designed, according to its policy text, in a way to observe equality and social equality. Firstly it is aimed to meet the most basic needs of affected individuals and households; than it is envisaged to regain affected individuals and households to society in economic and social terms. In this process, it is also envisaged to bring in a process of rehabilitation in conformity with cultural and religious values. The norm pointed out here are equality, gender equality, equality of treatment, non-discrimination, adequacy and acceptability.

#### **General Directorate of Services for the Disabled and Elderly (EYHGM)**

#### **Elderly Support Programme**

The programme shortly known as YADES implemented since 2016 has the objective of developing projects for elderly people in need of care in coordination with the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services, EYHGM and Municipalities. The basic objective is stated as follows in article 1 of the Regulation: "...Laying down principles and procedures for the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the Elderly Support Programme YADES-2019 envisaging the protection of and support to people over age 65 residing in Turkey; delivery of care services to those in need of biopsychosocial care in their usual living environments and/or in day-care centres."

Though this programme has no specific stress on the themes of women and poverty, projects concerned provide serious opportunities for the care of elderly women whose husbands are not alive. Moreover, this care covers not only rest homes but home-based care as well. Considering that elderly care largely depends on women's labour in the absence of this kind of care programmes, it also mitigates the burden of women in their households. Types of projects to be supported are listed as follows:

"The following are activities and services having priority in the project in this context:

- a) Support to home-based care and services for the elderly: In cases where household members as well as neighbours or relatives remain as a limited source for elderly care, social, physical and psychological support services are extended to help the elderly to sustain their life at home, improve their living environments and their daily life activities,
- b) Psychosocial support services: Psychosocial support needed by the elderly person and their caregivers or others living with that person,
- c) Technical support at home: Purchase, maintenance and repair of electrical household appliances, plumbing and small repairs including procurement of space parts and making

referrals when necessary,

- ç) Setting up mobile teams: Ensuring outreach to the residence and service location of the elderly person; mobility by providing personnel and equipment necessary for the delivery of medical services; access to relevant institutions and services by persons in need of homebased medical support.,
- d) Establishing a coordination centre: Under municipality or one of its units, responding to and recording of calls and direct applications made; organizing service delivery responding to needs and demands; Ensuring necessary referrals and coordination."

The paragraph (b) in the project description is of particular importance. While Turkey gets closer to western norms in family structure (i.e. average family size now below 4 and approaching to the OECD average, gradual disappearance of extended family, and nuclear family gaining dominance in family sociology) there are still quite a high number of extended families and elderly care in these families mostly fall upon the shoulders of women. This trend is even more salient in rural families and rural families moving to urban centres who are under the line of poverty. Consequently, the burden of women in these households becomes heavier and increase their economic, moral and physical vulnerability. What is mentioned in paragraphs "c" and "ç" has its importance particularly for old-aged and poor women who have lost their husbands and not able to provide these services with their economic and physical capacity.

Given these, the YADES programme clearly uses the norms of equality, gender equality, social protection, decent and humane life, justice, fairness and accessibility. Meanwhile, implemented since 2016, the programme uses standards 18, B1, C2, C4 and A2.

# 1. General Directorate of Child Services (ÇHGM)

With this programme, the ÇHGM aims to deliver economic and psychosocial support to children in households living under poverty line and persons in this status. The main text of the programme defines the overall objective as follows:

"For persons and families in poverty not able to provide for their basic needs and face difficulty even in maintaining the minimum, it covers economic support to the extent available resources allow and social services in the form of psychosocial support that ensures care while beneficiaries live with their children."

Here, the qualification "to the extent available resources allow" is notable. Nevertheless, it is clear that the programme will help mitigate both economic and parental burden of women especially in poor households. As such, the programme is in line with social protection, justice and fairness, humane and decent life and accessibility norms. It also confirms to standards 18, B1 and C3.

#### 2. General Directorate for Women's Status (KSGM)

The General Directorate for Women's Status was established in 2004 upon the law no. 5251 to conduct work on the protection and promotion of human rights of women, strengthen

the position of women in social, economic, cultural and political life and to ensure their equal enjoyment of rights, opportunities and means. Its duties are as follows:

- Supporting all activities and initiatives targeting the elimination of all forms of
  discrimination against women, promoting women's human rights, making women
  active in economic, social and cultural areas, and uplifting their level of education;
  developing strategies, plans and programmes in this regard and contributing to the
  formulation of fundamental policies.
- Conducting work to ensure women's reach to equal rights and opportunities by following new legislation and administrative arrangements relating to its mission.
- Conducting work for the prevention of all forms of violence, harassment and abuse against women; supporting solutions to women's problems deriving from family and social life.
- Informing the public to ensure that legal rights of women are fully and equally exercised and equality of women and men is conceived as a social development issue
- Engaging in activities geared to women's advancement in all areas and increasing their participation decision-making mechanisms in the fields health, education, culture, employment and social security.
- Establishing information systems, libraries and/or documentation centres in relevant issues; compiling statistics; releasing or commissioning visual and printed materials and publications; conducting training activities; organizing congresses, seminars, meetings sand similar events in the country and abroad.
- Engaging in cooperation and ensuring coordination with public institutions and agencies, universities, local governments, civil society organizations and the private sector in issues related to its mission.
- Contributing to service improvement and development of new service models and public policies by transferring information obtained from studies, research and international initiatives to implementing institutions and agencies.
- Within the framework of the law no. 1173 dated 5.5.1969, joining relevant organizations as a member, participating to related activities and work, conducting activities in line with obligations undertaken as a result of international conventions and resolutions, preparing reports required and ensuring necessary legislative arrangements.
- Following the activities of international organizations active in issues related to its mission and informing relevant institutions about decision taken.
- Conducting and commissioning scientific studies in the country and abroad is issues related to its mission, developing and supporting relevant projects, ensuring heir implementation and launching joint projects with international organizations.

In this context, the General Directorate developed national action plans and carried out various activities including meetings, trainings and projects. There are national action plans, training activities and projects carried out by the General Directorate.

The Women's Empowerment Strategy Document and Action Plan (WESAP 2018-2023) launched in 2018 considers strengthening the economic, social and political status of women as an important dimension of sustainable development. This action plan is also considered as supplementary to the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women 2016-2019. The action plan aims to strengthen the status of women in five major areas: Economy, health, education, decision-making mechanisms and the media. As such, it defines 5 main goals, 21 objectives, 21 strategies and 126 activities. The action plan presents a list of duties for public agencies, health institutions, universities and professional chambers and assigns the ministry the task of monitoring and checking whether these duties are actually performed.

Six targets are identified under the action plan. Three of these are of importance in the context of combat against poverty among women:

Target 1: The rate of female literacy will be brought up to 100% (This target seeks, in particular, to strengthen the human capital of women in poverty and make them better prepared for labour markets).

Target 4: Lifelong learning programmes will be extended to help women better adapt to social and economic life.

Target 5: Processes of teaching and learning will be made more sensitive to groups of women in need of special policies.

These 3 targets in education is particularly geared to enhancing women's will and endowment in participating to labour force and working life. Six targets are also supplemented by six strategies in the field of education. The sub-headings of strategies in education are given as a list. The fields of strategic activity stressed below envisage both direct and indirect steps in the issue of women and poverty:

- 1.1. Up to date field scanning to identify illiterate women and women who are not functionally literate.
- 1.2. Participation of illiterate women to literacy courses; advancement to upper levels and completion of courses by women presently attending literacy courses.
- 2.2. Surveys to identify problems faced by girls who are under temporary protection or applied for international protection in access and attendance to formal education."

The first two of these targets seek to prepare women for prospective economic circumstances by improving their human capital. While the last one targets the empowerment of women in a specific situation (migrant) economically it again tries to introduce a measure against a specific manifestation of poverty among women. These targets and strategies are in line with the norms social protection, equality of treatment, gender equality, accessibility, and decent and adequate life and also with standards B1, B2 and F1. The second strategy in the field of health is of direct interest to women in poverty.

Strategy 2: Improving in both qualitative and quantitative terms services for women in the delivery of health services.

The following strategic activities are also directly related to female poverty:

- 1.3. Surveys to identify healthcare service needs of groups of women in need of special policies/services.
- 2.4. Necessary arrangements including "mobile health services" will be made to extend services in age 15-49 monitoring, prenatal care, delivery in health institutions, postnatal care and cancer screening to women living in hard-to-reach rural areas, seasonal agricultural workers, women under temporary and international protection or who have applied for this status and refugee women.
- 3.3. There will be awareness building activities like panel discussions/seminars on safety and health at work for employees and employers where there is high rates of women employed along with materials such as posters and brochures to be used in these activities.
- 3.4. Materials (posters, brochures, etc.) in Turkish-Arabic-Persian will be disseminated by Temporary Sheltering Centres, Family Health Centres, Migrant Health Centres and Social Service Centres to inform persons having or applying for international and temporary protection status in reproductive health and preventive/protective health services.

The strategic activity 2.4 in particular is directly related to women in poverty. Targets are clearly specified especially for women in rural areas. The strategic targets 1.3 and 3.4 are related to poor women in special situations or under protection. 3.3 is related to work health. These strategic targets are in line with social protection, equality and gender equality, accessibility, adaptability and decent and adequate life norms as well as with standards I8, B2, F1 and F2 standards.

The economy-related targets and strategies envisaged by the Action Plan are directly related to female poverty. For example, 4 out of 6 core targets directly serve to the econ6omic empowerment of women:

- Target 1: Increasing women's employment in sectors mentioned in the context of sector strategies envisaged by the National Employment Strategy (2014-2023) document.
- Target 3: Combating informal employment.
- Target 5: Promoting accessible and quality child, elderly and disability care services.
- Target 6: Increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and women working on their own account by supporting women's entrepreneurship.

Six fundamental strategies defined in relation to these targets also serve to the same objectives:

- Strategy 1: Corrections in labour market legislation to strengthen the position of women.
- Strategy 2: Developing programmes to build information and skills in women to promote

quality employment for women.

Strategy 3: Strengthening economic and social policies for preventing women's informal employment including unpaid family labour.

Strategy 6: Enhancing efforts in ensuring economic participation of women in need of special policies.

The Action Plan makes explicit references to equality, gender equality, social security, social protection, equality of treatment and justice and fairness norms in the field of economy and in the context of both main objectives and strategies. It is also explicitly stated that the standards I8, B1, B2, C3, F1, F2 and F3 will be used. Some of the strategic activities defined in the context of strategic objectives mentioned are directly related to the issue of women and poverty. For example, the strategic activity mentioned below target updating of an earlier circular according to the needs of the day.

"1.1. The Prime Ministerial Circular 2010/14 on "Enhancing Women's Employment and Ensuring Equal Opportunities" will be updated."

Strategic activities 1.4 and 1.5 directly addresses an important part of women in poverty.

- 1.4 There will be legislative arrangements facilitating women's social security coverage including the sector of agriculture in the first place.
- 1.5 There will be initiatives to modify legislation concerning the obligation of private sector employees to launch and maintain childcare facilities.
- 1.4 targets enlarging social security network in sectors like agriculture where working poor women can be found commonly. Norms involved are gender equality, justice and fairness, decent and adequate life and accessibility. Also observed are the standards I8, C2, F1 and F2.

Meanwhile the strategic activity 1.5 is directly for reducing household and social burden of poor women working in the private sector. The standards A2 and C4 are pointed out. The strategic activity 3.1 envisages gender-sensitive budgeting implying that social assistance and protection mechanisms should not be targeting men only.

#### "3.1. Gender-sensitive budgeting will be introduced."

These mark the norms gender equality, equality in treatment, non-discrimination and acceptability. Further the standard F2 is explicitly used.

Activity 3.3 again commits to improve public policies in child, elderly and disability care in order to mitigate women's care responsibilities.

"3.3. There will be initiatives to diversify support and incentives relater to child, elderly and disability care in order to mitigate women's burden in these areas."

This means direct speaking out of standards C4 and A2. As for activity 3.5, it directly refers to standard F4 and targets public data network particularly related to labour market to be made gender-sensitive.

"3.5. A system will be developed for the collection and dissemination of comprehensive labour market data as disaggregated by gender."

Again, activity 3.9 envisages analysis and modelling for women domestic workers whose weight in general female poverty is increasing. There is explicit reference to standard F4 again.

- "3.9. An analysis will be made together with the development of a model for women in domestic services."
- "3.10. Awareness building activities to promote formal employment for women including in agriculture in the first place."

The majority of working poor women is in agriculture in Turkey. Almost all these women work informally. Hence the strategic activity 3.10 is directly related to this large mass of these poor women. "However, it is difficult to say that the activity presents a strong action plan since the main objective here is to build awareness." The activity will therefore remain insufficient with respect to its outcomes. The activity envisaged is in line with the standard F4.

According to a recent approach to poverty mitigation, an initiative to marketize home-based production of women and their unpaid outdoor economic activities will both work against their economic exclusion and state of poverty. The two strategic activities envisaged in the action plan reflects this perspective.

- 5.6. A system will be developed to facilitate the access of women entrepreneurs to state support schemes..
- 5.7. Regional Development Agencies will give priority to programmes and projects supporting women's entrepreneurship.

While these two strategic activities imply gender equality, decent and adequate life, accessibility, acceptability and adaptability, there is also reference to standards F3 and F4.

The most important components of female poverty in Turkey women seasonal agricultural workers and unpaid family labour of women in agriculture. The following two activities are directly related to these two groups.

- 6.1. Vocational and technical skill building programmes will be developed for women in seasonal migratory agricultural works.
- 6.2. Efforts to empower rural women will be prioritized.

Both strategic activities are built upon the expectation of enhanced human capital transformed into income through the training of women in the category mentioned. It is clear that training and preparation processes will improve the access of this category of women to market dynamics. The strategic activity 6.4 deals with the problem of disability as an important component of poverty.

6.4. A state-supported employment model will be developed for the employment of women with disabilities and helping them to cope up with difficulties of working life.

Here there is explicit mention of norms relating to gender equality, social protection, equality in treatment, non-discrimination and decent and adequate life. Also, B2 and I8 standards are used .

The strategic activity 6.5 is clearly related to improve access to market dynamics regarded as a radical solution to the problem of poverty.

6.5. Services will be developed to improve the access of women in need to labour markets.

Here there is explicit use of standards B2 and F1.

Here are some of the projects implemented by the General Directorate for Women's Status: The aim of the "Engineer Girls of Turkey Project" is to contribute to inclusive and sustainable growth by developing a model for promoting quality employment of women. The target population of the project is female students attending their highs school and university education. The project is expected to bring about a support programme to encourage female students to engineering sciences and development of institutional models for the adoption, implementation and advocacy of gender-sensitive approaches. The project is in conformity with equality, the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality, non-discrimination and accessibility norms and also with standards B2 and F2.

The project "Mom's Business and My Future" envisaged the establishment of creches in Organized Industrial Zones (OSB) and it targeted such facilities in 10 OSBs until the end of 2019. As a result, there are creches now active in OSBs of Adıyaman, Afyonkarahisar, Balıkesir and Malatya. The project is in line with the right to a decent and adequate life, norms of gender equality, non-discrimination and accessibility, and standards B2, C4 and F1.

The objective of the Project on Improving Women's Access to Economic Opportunities is to encourage women's labour force participation and their entrepreneurship and to develop policies and solutions to problems in this regard The project is in line with the right to a decent and adequate life, norms of gender equality and accessibility, and standards B1, B2, C3, F1 and F2.

Under the Project on Developing Materials for Citizens Living Abroad, a booklet on women's rights, family law and law on foreigners was prepared for women living in Belgium, Netherlands and France. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards F2 and F4.

The Project on Increasing the Effectiveness of National Policies in Combating Violence against Women and the project Training of Trainers for Personnel in the Field of Domestic Violence are for improving the vision of personnel and professionals in their service areas and informing them about different practices. These two projects are in line with gender

equality and accessibility norms, the right to a decent and adequate life and the standard 18.

Under the Project Technical Assistance for the Assessment Countrywide Dissemination of Electronic Tagging and Support System, a report was prepared on countries where electronic tagging is used in combating violence against women and different models were suggested for Turkey. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards F2 and I8.

The project "Career Planning Centres for Convicted Women" aims at making career plans for women in penitentiaries and ensuring their employment after completing their terms. The project confirms to the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards B2, C2 and I8.

As a part of the Project Empowerment of Women Victims of Violence Procurement of Electronic and Other Equipment, some materials and equipment was purchased to ensure the protection of victims of violence and their children and quick access to services needed. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards B2 and I8.

The Women's Guesthouses Project in Combating Violence against Women /Project against Domestic Violence (2009) sought to contribute to efforts in protecting women's human rights. The project organized trainings in violence against women and gender equality for personnel in units extending services to women and developed good practices to be adopted by these units. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards B2 and I8.

The Grandmother Project to Support Women's Employment extended support to grandmothers in taking care of their 0-3 years old grandchildren to prevent mothers' withdrawal from labour market because of their childcare responsibilities and to help transfer of culture from older to new generations. The project is in line with gender equality, accessibility and acceptability norms and standards B2, C4 and I8.

The Project on Women's Representation in the Media seeks to expose the effects of ways women are represented in the media on women and social-cultural structure of society. The project is in compliance with gender equality and acceptability norms.

The Women Master Painters Project seeks to contribute to women's employment by building vocational skills and information in various sectors. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, accessibility and acceptability norms and standards B2, C4 and I8.

The Impact Analysis Work on the Law no. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women was launched to evaluate the effects of this law from the eyes of victims, perpetrators and law enforcers. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality and accessibility norms and standards B2 and I8.

The Programme for Combating Gender-based Violence and Humanitarian Assistance was developed to build awareness in gender-based violence among Syrians in Turkey and to enhance the capacity of public workers extending support to Syrian refugees in interventions to cases of gender-based violence including the dimension of technical support to Turkey. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality, accessibility and acceptability norms and standards B2 and I8.

The Project on Developing Database/System in Violence against Women envisages collection of data on cases of violence and creation of a database for monitoring cases of violence against women to design a model for Turkey. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality, accessibility and acceptability norms and standards B2 and I8.

The Women Farmers Training Cooperation Protocol seeks training of rural women engaged in agriculture in issues of agriculture, gender equality, violence against women and individual rights and freedoms and promoting inter-agency cooperation. The project is in line with the right to decent and adequate life, gender equality, accessibility and acceptability norms and standards B2, C4 and I8.

The project "Young Ideas Strong Women" has the objective of supporting innovative ideas of youth aged 18-30 by using technology and developing suggestions for the solution of problems faced by women. The project is in line with gender equality, accessibility and acceptability norms and standard B2.

Besides these projects, the KSGM delivered trainings to health workers, police and personnel of the Ministry of Justice under the project on combating domestic violence. Training activities also covered the army, district education and adult education directors and social workers in women's guesthouses, community centres and family counselling centres at province and district levels.

# **Human Resources Development Authority (İKG PRO)**

The Human Resources Development Authority is a programme entity under the European Union and Financial Assistance Department of the MoFLSS. Its main function is to implement projects that target human resources development in Turkey with the support of EU funds.

The authority is mainly responsible for the management of Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) projects. Targets that this authority sets in relation to female poverty in the context of IPA must be examined on the basis of fundamental IPA documents

#### **EU Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) projects**

Let's first take a look at the Sectoral Operation Programme included in the IPA 2014-2020. The programme first gives a comprehensive profile of Turkey relative to the EU with respect to labour markets, socioeconomic situation and human resources. It then stresses strengths

and weaknesses of Turkey in relative terms in the areas of Employment, Education and Lifelong Learning and Social Inclusion and Policy. For example, it is clearly stated that low rates of labour force participation on the part of women and absence of mechanisms to eliminate this problem is a weakness. Also underlined is insufficient institutional capacity for child, elderly and disability care which could otherwise reduce the domestic care burden of women. While listing basic measures included in the National Employment Strategy, the programme mentions to main objectives directly related to women: Bringing the rate of informally employed women under 30% and the rate of the poor in working women under 5% until 2023. The commitments of the model in alignment with the European Social Model include the objective of improving the employability of women (along with the elderly and disabled). The same list also includes the objective of widening the scope of social protection an ensuring access to employment, training and health services for all without any distinction.

The framework or alignment process specifies steps to be taken in such fields as education and health together with activities that these steps entail. Under the activity related to employment it is stated that women will be saved from having to work in informal and indecent jobs. The second fundamental step in employment activities is improving and encouraging employability. The target group here includes women and elderly and disabled persons. Interventions defined in line with this objective include the facilitation of access to services for child, elderly and disability care. Another intervention area was related to steps to be taken to build awareness against prejudices obstructing the employment of women, the disabled and youth. If taken, all these steps will both improve the employability of women and reduce their domestic care burden. In this respect, the Sectoral Operation Programme is in compliance with the norms equality, gender equality, decent and adequate life and accessibility as well as with standards I1, I8, B1, C2 and C4. Further, "combating discrimination, exclusion and poverty" is specifically stated as an objective under Action III (Social Policy and inclusion).

#### 3. İŞKUR

As an essential actor in the labour market, the İŞKUR wages a struggle against poverty directly in some cases and indirectly in others with its projects and programmes on employment and the unemployed in particular. With its rather wide-scope programmes and projects, the İŞKUR specifically targets mitigating poverty among women by increasing their labour force participation and facilitating their employment. First, let's take a look at projects in which the İŞKUR is involved as a stakeholder.

#### **More and Better Jobs for Women**

This is a project carried out through the partnership of İŞKUR and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). The rationale behind the project is stated as follows: "The project aims at internalizing gender-sensitive approaches in active labour

market policies and identifying occupations with more opportunities of decent work for women in project provinces including İstanbul, Ankara, Bursa and Konya."

Here, there is the following assumption: Jobs that empower human beings are formal and adequately paid jobs. It implies that informality and unpaid labour is a serious social and economic burden especially for women. The three major strategies of the project are stated as follows:

- Development and implementation of employment policies of benefit to women in the context of decent jobs and gender equality
- Promoting the employability of women entering labour market and supporting unemployed women through effective job counselling and active labour market policies (ALMP)
- Including ILO's rights-based approach in vocational training programmes, building awareness in issues of gender equality and labour standards.

Here we see the gathering of concepts that need to be underlined: gender equality, job counselling and enhancing the employment creating function of labour market policies. The main objective is to correct labour market dynamics that usually work against women workers and to enhance awareness in gender equality and working standards. Thus, the project complies with fundamental norms such as equality, gender equality, non-discrimination, decent and adequate life while making use of standards B2, F2 and C3.

#### Protocol acted with SYDGM in 2018

The main objective of this protocol is to refer persons who benefit from in-cash assistance by Social Assistance and Solidarity Foundations (SYDV) to vacant jobs through the İŞKUR if they have no disability and to active labour market modules that will increase their employability. The protocol will expire in 2021. Another protocol that envisages a cooperation of the same kind was acted in 2010 with the Social Services and Child Protection Agency. According to this protocol, persons who apply for assistance and without any disability are to be referred either to vacant jobs or vocational courses to increase their employability.

On the same date, a similar protocol was acted with the Social Security Institution. In this protocol too, the idea is to place in vacant jobs those beneficiaries registered to the SGK programmes and capable of working by entering them in İŞKUR database or to direct these persons to one of active labour market modules. In essence, these protocols are geared to save poor people (and women) from being dependent to assistances. What lies behind this idea is the belief that poverty can be overcome only by having access to market dynamics or gaining some skills to be able to have this access.

Some Active Labour Market programmes carried out by the İŞKUR have the objective of encouraging labour force participation by granting a kind of privileged status to women in

particular and saving women in need from poverty. For example, women constitute the first list with their priority in programmes under "Community Benefit Programmes." These Community Benefit Programmes are described as follows:

These are programmes implemented by the İŞKUR in order prevent loss of working habits and work discipline by unemployed persons by providing community benefit works directly or through commissioning in periods or locations where unemployment is high, to ensure their adaptation to labour market, and to provide temporary income support.

Community Benefit Programmes (CBP) are implemented in the following areas:

- Environmental clean-up
- Public infrastructure renewal
- Landscaping in public schools under the Ministry of National Education
- Repair, maintenance and cleaning works in in public schools under the Ministry of National Education
- Restoration, conservation of historical and cultural heritage
- Reforestation
- Public park arrangements
- Valley and stream improvements
- Erosion prevention work

The participation to the CBP is limited to 9 months at most in each time. A person employed for 9 months under a CBP cannot apply again until the elapse of a period of three months. A person can benefit from CBP for a period of 24 months in total, the longest. Persons eligible for CBP are identified by Provincial Directorates of Labour and Employment. Here, there are three methods including Notary selection. All candidates are groups in two lists. The first list covers those who are assigned priority: women, ex-convicts, individuals older than 35, persons with disabilities and victims of terrorism. This makes CBP an important instrument in preventing poverty among women. It is also stated that any person employed under CBP is paid the minimum wage. The CBP has its references to gender equality, decent and adequate life, adaptability and accessibility norms as well as to the standards B1, B2, A3, F1 and F2.

Further, under the provisional article 10 in the law no. 4447 providing for incentives to employers, employment of women, young persons and persons with disabilities is encouraged and supported.

#### 4. Social Security Institution

The maternity premium debt is a SGK programme for women with social security. Basically, it is intended to prevent any loss on the part of working women who fall out of employment upon maternity by enabling them to borrow for two years. Under this programme women can borrow for a period of 2 years that include their eight week of leave after birth (10 weeks in case of multiple-birth) and three weeks of leave prior to birth. This means women covered by the scheme may borrow for three two-year periods they could not work for maternity to

be repaid later (it can correspond, in total, to 6 years the maximum). This scheme is for remedying the loss of women that they incur due to maternity. The programme provides significant protection particularly to women in low-paid jobs. It is an important step in eliminating poverty among women and also in compliance with decent and adequate life, justice and fairness norms and with standards I4, I8 and B2.

The provision of social security and social protection is an important step in combating poverty among women. Home-based piecework is quite common in Turkey which actually derives from the state of poverty. As a matter of fact, the SGK launched the Programme on Social Security of Women Engaged in Home-Based Handicrafts for voluntary security coverage of poor women in this status.

With this programme women who produce for market at their homes in fact gain a kind of wage-labour status which is quite important particularly in the context of the right to retirement at older ages. However, hight security contributions expected from women is a dissuasive factor. This step is in line with gender equality, justice and fairness, accessibility and decent and adequate life norms and in conformity with standards 18, B2, C2, F1 and F2.

Having a child with disability where family care falls sport and there is need for outside help is certainly a great burden especially for working women in low-income brackets. This means both heavier domestic care burden and coping up with the economic cost of care. In such situations, the SGK tries to mitigate the burden by making lower social security contribution possible and shortening the period of employment necessary for gaining the right to retirement. The Programme for Working Women with Disabled Children in Need of Care by Others fills an important gap in combating poverty in Turkey where the disabled in need of care is more common among poor households. While in compliance with norms decent and adequate life, accessibility and adaptability, the programme also makes references to standards 15, 18, C3, C4 and F1.

The Nursing Allowance is a facility that wage or own-account workers can benefit. A woman can benefit from this allowance when she gives birth if she is covered by social security or has the status of uncovered spouse of a covered male worker. This programme too is in line with gender equality, accessibility, decent and adequate life norms and with reference to the standards I1, I8, F1 and F2.

A women with social security or has the status of uncovered spouse of a covered worker can apply to the Programme on Measures in Motherhood. An applicant may benefit from temporary incapability or nursing allowance. The standards I1, I3, I8, C4, F1 and F2 is valid in both cases as well as gender equality, decent and adequate life, accessibility and adaptability norms.

## 5. Civil Society Organizations

Under this heading there is information about active CSOs and projects and activities of other public actors. The Foundation for Supporting Women's Work (KEDV) established in 1986 attaches importance to valuing women's work in particular as a way to solve many social problems. The foundation states its major objectives as:

- 1. Supporting at grassroots level women's organizations and cooperatives against poverty on the basis of their common needs;
- 2. Encouraging the pioneer role and economic empowerment of women in development and creating resilient communities;
- 3. Strengthening women's role in disaster and migration management.

There are three programmes implemented in line with these objectives: The Empowerment and Cooperative Programme, Economic Empowerment Programme and Disaster and Migration Programme. The Empowerment and Cooperative Programme is basically a programme delivering training for women to promote women's organization at local level in the form of cooperatives. The Economic Empowerment Programme seeks to encourage women at local grassroots level to production and marketing their products. Micro-credit facility is considered as an important instrument under this programme. Finally, the Disaster and Migration Programme is for strengthening women to cope up with economic crises, natural disasters and migration which affect them more than others. These programmes are in line with decent and adequate life, justice and fairness, accessibility, adaptability and adequacy norms and also meet the standards B2, C3 and A3.

The Mothers' Assembly Association describes itself as follows: It is an institution established to inform the FAMILY as the key point in society, and to carry out supportive activities with respect to social rights and guarantees. Strengthening family unity, improving the life quality of mothers and preserving national motherhood and family values by providing means are the basic objectives. The association acts by considering that building awareness in society and raising future generations are universal musts in human advancement and development. It makes efforts to establish the rights of women and children as dep-rooted ethical principles and to attain international standards in line with human rights. By mobilizing commitment and financial resources and assigning top priority to mothers, it tries to enable them and their children to provide for their needs.

The association has implemented some important projects in this respect. For example, the **Project on Vocational Training and Employment Support to Mothers with Physical Disabilities** is for training of mothers with physical disabilities to improve their chances of employment. There is also training given to mothers in textile design and fashion. The **Project on Vocational Training and Adaptation for Young Girls in Orphanages** seeks to prepare young women in orphanages who cannot attend university but have to leave their institutions for life outside by giving them vocational training.

Established in 1985 by businessmen, academics and representatives of employee and employer organizations, the Turkish Family Health and Planning (TAP) Foundation supports maternal and child health and family planning work carried out as a part of protective healthcare services. Improving the life quality of individuals, working on gender equality basis to improve women's and girls' access to information and contributing to an equalitarian and sustainable development process are among the objectives of the foundation. Some programmes implemented along these lines are as follows:

Women's Empowerment Programme: It is a training programme with an integrated approach to impart health-protective behaviour in women's and family health; informing and empowering women in such areas as gender equality, effective communication, gender-based discrimination and violence and rights of women. The programmes Training in Women's Health (KSEP) and Capacity Building in in CSOs Working with Refugees are implemented for this purpose. The Gender Equality Programme: This programme aims to enhance awareness in gender equality in organizations and agencies cooperated with in all activities and programmes carried out by the foundation and providing services as well as persons benefiting from services. The Safe Motherhood Training and Counselling Programme: This programme aims to improve the level of awareness and self-care skills of women using public health services who are from medium and low-income groups, with low levels of education and labour force participation, but high rates of fertility.

# **IV. Indicators**

#### A. Sources for Indicators

#### 1. Composite Indexes in the Field, Data Sources and Indicators

The United Nations agencies and other international organizations have developer mixed indexes that make it possible to monitor gender inequality, compare countries and to keep track of countries' performance in time in this regard though not directly related to social protection and social assistance. Basic information, coverage of indexes and relevant definitions have already been given in other thematic area reports prepared by the CEİD. Here, the existing mixed indexes and related sources of data are presented in Table 4-1 briefly with summary information notes. Information about mixed indexes are derived mostly from the work of Toksöz and Memiş (2018). Differing from other thematic areas, this part also covers multi-dimensional poverty index which was first introduced in 2010 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

In measuring poverty, the United Nations Development Programme has launched important initiatives since the early 1990s and tried to take poverty measurements out of the limits of income/consumption even before the introduction of multi-dimensional poverty measurement. For example, the Human Poverty Index (HPI) developed as a measure of human poverty in place of income-based poverty is a composite index comprising access to a healthy life (expectation at birth to stay alive until age 40), access to education (ratio of those among adults who have not completed any school), and access to a reasonable standard of life (ratio of population without access to safe drinking water, and ratio of children below their age-specific normal weight).

While there are differentiated HPI measures for different levels of development there is no such HPI with respect to gender. The multi-dimensional poverty index developed by using the Alkire-Foster methodology (Alkire et. al., 2015), adopted and calculated by the UNDP since 2010, the household taken as a whole is used in identifying the population in poverty. This part will briefly touch only upon the multi-dimensional poverty indicator and measures of inequality developed and updated periodically by the UNDP. These measures use indicators which overlap with the Gender Development Index and permit gender-based disaggregation and examination while capturing the dimension of gender differences in deprivation.

All these efforts waged by international organizations indicate that traditional-standard indicators used in observing poverty and social protection are not sufficient in understanding problems related to gender equality. Studies conducted so far frequently underlined the need for some new indicators from gender equality perspective in addition

to existing statistics and indicators derived from these statistics. From gender equality perspective, there is need for indicators beyond composite indexes that will allow for monitoring rights in the field and in social assistance for preventing poverty. In the parts to follow, it will be examined which indicators in rights-based monitoring in the context of gender equality are associated with norms and standards in international and national documents which observe gender equality in poverty and social protection and whether these indicators can be obtained by using available data. It is also presented, with specific reference to Turkey, the need for creating databases for indicators that we suggest as CEİD.

#### **Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI)**

**Concept:** Multidimensional poverty

<u>Dimensions:</u> Health, education and living standards

Sub-indicators: Health: Any child or adult under age 70 who is identified as malnourished. Adults over age 20 are considered as malnourished when their body mass index is under 18,5 kg/ m²′. Individual in the age group 15-19 are considered as malnourished if they remain under age specific body mass index limits set by the World Health Organization. Z-score for children: Children are considered as malnourished if height for age or weight for age is lower than two standard deviations from the median value of reference population (stunting and wasting, respectively). The second indicator under the heading health is child mortality rate. In case any child under age 18 has died within the last -five years preceding the date of the survey the case is covered in this definition. Cases of mortality at any time are considered when there is no information about the dates of child deaths.

Education: The first of two indicators under this heading are about the ratio of household members at age 10 and over who have not completed 6 years of primary education. The second indicator is information about school non-attendance of any child at school age until the age at which he or she is expected to complete grade 8.

There are six indicators under the heading "life standard." The first one is about the availability of electricity in the dwelling of the person concerned. The second indicator: Whether the household has access to sanitation complying with standards specified by the Sustainable Development Goals. Third: Whether safe drinking water is available at home or at a distance of 30 minutes of walking to get there and come back. Fourth: the quality of construction materials used in building the dwelling; and the fifth, whether there is access to fuel necessary for cooking. Lastly, the sixth indicator is information about assets that the household holds. For example, a household is considered as poor if lacking any of the items of vehicle, radio, television set, computer, bicycle, motorcycle and refrigerator.

<u>Present Ranking:</u> It was first in the Human Development Report 2010 that the UNDP presented the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) which defines overlapping states of deprivation in 3 dimensions. The MPI is a mixed index comprising indicators related to health, education and living standard. While the dimensions of health and education are based on two indicators for each, living standard is based on six indicators. All indicators needed to get the MPI index value of a country are obtained from the same household

survey. Indicators are given weights in obtaining a deprivation score and these scores are calculated for each individual covered by the survey. In order to distinguish the poor from others who are not, a deprivation score of 33.3 percent (one-third of weighted indicators) is assumed as poverty threshold. Households (and also all members of households) are considered as in multi-dimensional if the deprivation score is 33.3 percent or higher. When the deprivation score is equal to or higher than 20 but lower than 33.3 percent, associated individuals are classified as vulnerable to multi-dimensional poverty. Finally, individuals with deprivation scores of 50 percent or higher are considered as those experiencing the most severe form of multi-dimensional poverty. The MPI was calculated for 101 developing countries in the 2019 Human development Report, but Turkey is **not** one of these 101 countries.

# Human Development Index (HDI), Gender Development Index (GDI) and new Gender Development Index (new GDI)

Concept: Human Development<sup>2</sup>

<u>Dimensions:</u> Long and healthy life/information/living standard. Starting from 2014, expected years in education besides average years in education is added to "past education" as a new method in calculation (see, Table 4-1).

<u>Sub-indicators:</u> Life expectancy at birth, adult literacy rate, combined rate of school enrolment and weighted arithmetic average of income earned as calculated on the basis of purchasing power parity. The index is available for years 1995, 2000, 2005 and the period 2010-2018.

Present Ranking: The 2018 Human Development Index (HDI) value of Turkey was 0.806 in the report submitted in 2019. This value made Turkey 59<sup>th</sup> among 189 countries and regions. With this value, Turkey rose from the category of high human development to very high human development. Factors contributing to this rise include increase in life expectancy at birth (increase by 13.2 years), increase in average years in education by 3.1 years and expected years in education by 7.5 years. According to the development index calculated with reference to income inequality Turkey lost 16.2 points because of inequalities and her index dropped to 0.675. The development index calculated for women is 0.771 and for men is 0.834.

#### **Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM)**

**Concept:** Empowerment

<u>Dimensions:</u> Economic participation and decision making/political participation/say over economic resources,

<u>Sub-indicators</u>: ratio of women in legislative and executive bodies /ratio of women in specialised and technical positions / ratio of women in parliament members / ratio of women's PPP-based earned income to men's (in the period 1995-2009)

<u>Present State:</u> As GDI, GEM too was criticized for its methodology and its calculation was dropped after 2009. Starting from 2010, the new indicator used is the gender inequality

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This information note is prepared by using UNDP, WEF and OECD Country Notes and the study by Toksöz and Memiş (2018).

index (GII) which embodies more indicators while covering sub-dimension s that constituted GEM and GDI (see, Table 1).

#### **Gender Inequality Index (GEI)**

Concept: Gender Inequality,

<u>Dimensions:</u> Reproductive health / empowerment/ labour market.

<u>Sub-indicators:</u> maternal mortality rate, adolescent fertility rate, ratio of male and female deputies in the parliament, ratio of women and men having at least secondary education, male and female labour force participation rates (for the period 2010-2014). The GEI can be considered as loss in human development caused by inequalities in achievements of men and women in all three dimensions.

<u>Present State:</u> In terms of GEI value calculated in 2010 for the first time, Turkey ranks 66<sup>th</sup> among 166 countries in 2018 with her gender inequality index values which places her in the fourth group of countries. Maternal mortality rate is 16 per 100.000 population, adolescent fertility rate 26.6, the share of women in parliamentary deputies is 17.4 percent, and ratio of women with at least secondary education is 44.3 percent, which is 66 percent for men. The rate of labour force participation is 33.5 percent for women and 72.6 for men.

## 2. Gender Equality Indexes by Other Organizations

#### **Gender Gap Index (GGI)**

**Concept:** Gender Inequalities,

<u>Dimensions:</u> Economic participation and opportunities, education, health, political empowerment.

<u>Sub-indicators:</u> ratio of women's labour force participation rate to men's; ratio of women's wage to men's for similar jobs; ratio of women's calculated income to men's; rate of women employed in technical and professional jobs to men's. Other dimensions: access to education, health and survival, political empowerment. This index is the weighted arithmetic average of four sub-indexes. All indicators are expressed as the ratio of women to men and value 1 denotes absolute equality. The Global Gender Gap Index emerging first in the 2006 World Economic Forum provides a framework to demonstrate the size and scope of gender-based discrimination and to monitor developments.

<u>Present State:</u> According to 2019 data Turkey rants 130<sup>th</sup> in a list of 149 countries. Turkey lags behind many other countries with respect to sub-indicators relating to participation to economic and political life.

#### **Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI)**

**Concept:** Discrimination in Social Norms and Social Institutions

<u>Dimensions:</u> Discrimination in family, restricted physical integrity, limited resources and assets, limited civil rights.

<u>Sub-indicators:</u> legal age for marriage, early marriage, parental authority, inheritance, violence against women, female genital mutilation, fertility control, missing women, fertility preference, safe access to land, sage access to assets other than land, access to financial services, access to public sphere, access to political sphere.

Present State: The Social Institutions and Gender Index of the OECD Development Centre is a composite measure of discrimination against women in social institutions (official and unofficial legislation, social norms and practices in 180 countries. The OECD developed a composite measure covering five dimensions of discriminatory social institutions including discriminatory family law, restricted physical integrity, prejudice against the girl child, limited resources and assets and restriction of civil freedoms that affect the life of women. Among the variables of SIGI, there are sub-indicators like unequal rights to heritage, early marriage, violence against women, and unequal rights to land and property. Wits its database covering 180 countries, the SIGI presents the opportunity to examine discriminatory social institutions in more detail to make progress possible in the empowerment of women. According to 2019 data, Turkey is in the low equality group.

#### **European Union Gender Equality Index (EU-GEI)**

**Concept:** Gender inequality

<u>Dimensions:</u> Job/ Money/ Information/ Time/ Power/ Health/ Intersecting Inequalities/ Violence,

<u>Sub-indicators:</u> Participation, Dissociation, Job Quality/ Monetary Resources, Economic status/ Educational achievement, Dissociation, Lifelong Learning/ Economic Activities, Care Work, Social Activities/ Political Power, Social Power, Economic Power/Status, Behaviour, Access / Specific age, citizenship, disability, ethnicity, marital status, religion, sexual orientation and social class, discrimination on other social bases/Direct Violence, Indirect Violence (since 2013). This index is reached through the calculation of 6 main area indexes and 12 sub-area indexes and takes a value in the range 1-100.

Present State: The Index presents data for 27 EU countries but not for Turkey.

The following are databases prepared and shared by international organizations.

Table IV-1 United Nations Indexes for Gender Inequality, Poverty and Human Development

Index	Producing Agency	Data Source	Components	Indicators Relating to the Thematic Area (Given as coloured)	Update period	Coverage (Number of countries)	Available data
Multidimensio	UNDP	Human	Health	Rate of population with malnutrition by age groups	Annual	101	Annual,
nal poverty (MPI)		Developmen t Reports- UNDP	Education	-Rate of individuals completing 6 years of schooling among household members at age 10 or older -School absence of any child at school age until the age of completing grade 8			2010-
			Living standard	Availability of, fuel, sanitation and household appliances			
Gender	HDR,UNDP	UNDESA	Long and healthy life	Life expectancy	Every two years	155	Annual,
Development Index (GDI)		UIS World Bank,	Education	Adult literacy rate	Annual		1995-2009
index (GDI)		ILO		Gross enrolment rate	Annual		
		ILO	Living standard	Estimated Income (US\$ PPP)	Annual		
Gender Empowermen t Measure	HDR,UNDP	PR,UNDP ILO IPU World Bank	Economic participation and decision-making power	Lawmakers, top-level managers and directors (ratio of women)	Annual	109	Annual, 1995-2009
(GEM)				Those in professional and technical occupations (ratio of women)	Annual		
			Political participation	Number represented in the parliament	Annual		
			Command on economic resources	Ratio of women's estimated average income to men's (USD PPP)	Annual		
Gender	HDR,UNDP	UN IAEG	Reproductive health	Maternal mortality rate	Every two years	152	Annual,
Inequality		UNDESA		Infant mortality rate	Every two years	1	2010-
Index (GEI)		IPU UIS	Empowerment	Number represented in the parliament	Annual	1	
		ILO		Rate of people with secondary education at least (by gender)	Annual		
			Labour market	Labour force participation rate by gender	Annual	]	
New Gender	HDR,UNDP	UNDESA	Health	Life expectancy	Every two years	148	Annual,
Development Index (GDI)		UIS World Bank	Education	Average years in education	Annual		2010-
index (GDI)		ILO		Expected years in education	Annual		
			Living standard	Estimated Income (USD PPP)	Annual		

https://www.genderindex.org

Table IV-2 Indexes of Other Institutions

Index	Producing Agency	Data Source	Components	Indicators Relating to the Thematic Area (Given as coloured)	Update Period	Coverage (country)	Presently available data		
		Index of discrimination in social norm		Legal age for marriage					
		and social institutions	Intra-family	Intra-family	Intra-family	Early marriage			
		(SIGI) country profile UN World Marriage Data, DHS	discrimination	Parental authority					
		MICS		Inheritance			2009,		
		SIGI Country Profile		Violence against women		108	2012,		
		DHS World Value Survey,		Female genital mutilation			2014		
		WHO, International Violence Against Women Survey,	physical	Control over fertility					
C				Missing women					
Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI)	OECD Developm ent Centre	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights MICS CIA, UNDP EUROSTAT National Household Survey Data		Fertility preference	Compiled in regular intervals.				
		SIGI Country Profile	Restricted resources and assets	Safe access to land Safe access to assets other than land Access to financial services					
		SIGI Country Profile	Restricted civil	Access to public sphere					
		World Bank IPU	rights	Access to political sphere					

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 Table IV-3 Indexes of Other Institutions (continued)

Index	Producing Agency	Data Source	Components	Indicators Relating to the Thematic Area (Given as coloured)	Coverage (countries)	Available data
		Eurostat-EU LFS , Eurofound-	Working life	Participation		
	for Gender Equality (EIGE)	European WCS		Discrimination		
	(LIOL)			Job quality		
		Eurostat-Structure of Earnings	Money	Financial resources		Every two
		Survey, Eurostat-EU SILC		Economic status	27	years, 2013-
		Eurostat-EU LFS	Information	Educational status		2013-
		Eurostat- UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat		Discrimination		
		(UOE) Education Statistics		Life-long learning		
			Time	Economic activities		
		Eurofound-European WCS		Care activities		
European Union				Social activities		
Gender Equality		EC-DG Women and Men in	Power	Political		
Index (EU-GEI)		Judiciary and decision-Making Mechanisms		Social		
		IVIECTIATIISTIIS		Economic		
		Eurostat-EU SILC	Health	Status		
		Eurostat-Population Statistics		Behaviour		
				Accessibility		
		Eurostat-EU LFS	Intersecting inequalities	Population by age, citizenship, disability, ethnicity, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, and social class  Discrimination		
		Outcomes of FRA surveys on	Violence	Direct		
		violence against women- Eurobarometer		Indirect		

https://www.genderindex.org

## **B.** Mapping of Relevant Databases

The following databases are among sources of indicators that make poverty prevention and social assistance monitoring possible from the perspective of gender equality.

#### International Statistics and Databases

#### **Global Gender Statistics Programme**

The global gender statistics programme was developed by United Nations agencies, ILO, World Bank, UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) and the Statistical office of the European Union. In the gender statistics database compiled under this programme, indicators are presented under 12 headings: health, poverty, education, economy, violence, armed conflict, power and decision-making, environment, improvement in women's status, women's human rights, media, structural discrimination and violation of the rights of girls.

#### **Gender Statistics by the UN Economic Commission for Europe**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe was established in 1947 by the ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Council) and it is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations. Following the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, the importance of measuring poverty, inequality and vulnerability are stressed by all UN agencies and development units of member countries. It was stated that countries and international organizations were in need of comparable data and compatible data sets pointing out to the absence of a coherent set of indicators to measure poverty. There was need to develop guides and suggestions to improve the international comparability and usability of poverty-related statistics and meta data. Consequently, a working team was created together with UNECE member countries to share information and best practices in measuring poverty and in the 2015 report titled "Gender Equality Indicators" the following indicators were presented as disaggregated by gender under the heading "Poverty":

- a. Poverty indicator most widely used in the country
- b. Indicators developed by using age-disaggregated form of most widely used poverty indicators in the country.
- c. Indicators developed by using most widely used poverty indicators in the country as disaggregated by household types
- d. Ratio of population under poverty risk as indicator of relative poverty
- e. Ratio of population under poverty risk by age
- f. Ratio of population under poverty risk by household type
- q. Ratio of population under poverty line as indicator of absolute poverty
- h. Ratio of population under poverty line by age
- i. Ratio of population under poverty line by household type
- j. Ratio of population remaining under the level of 1 dollar of income a day

k. Ratio of population living in households deprived of at least 4 out of 9 items identified by the EU as indicators of material deprivation

These nine items are as follows:

- 1. Coping with unexpected expenses
- 2. One week holiday away from home (for all family members)
- 3. Avoiding arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills, instalments)
- 4. Meal with meat, chicken every second day (or its vegetarian equivalent)
- 5. Keeping home adequately warm
- 6. Washing machine
- 7. Colour TV
- 8. Telephone (fixed line or mobile)
- 9. Personal car

Source: <a href="http://www.unece.org/stats/poverty.html">http://www.unece.org/stats/poverty.html</a>

## **International Labour Organization, Social Protection and Working Poverty**

The inclusion of the concept of gender equality in poverty measurement and social protection policies and the elimination of gender equality in the context of social protection is one of the objectives in the establishment of the Social Protection Platform supported by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization as lead organizations. Below are some fundamental indicators relating to social protection and poverty developed by the platform:

- a. Share of population benefiting from at least one social protection programme
- b. Population benefiting from at least one social protection programme
- c. Persons above retirement age receiving retirement pensions
- d. Persons with severe disabilities benefiting from disability assistance
- e. Unemployed people receiving unemployment benefits
- f. Number of workers insured against work accidents
- g. Children / children receiving in-cash assistance to households/number of households
- h. People in poverty covered by social protection scheme
- i. Population without defence to risk of poverty covered by social assistance scheme
- j. Ratio of working poor (ratio to total population of working people earning less than 1.90 USD a day)

Source: http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/research-and-databases/kilm/lang--en/index.htm

# Social Indicators by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD):

The social indicators report prepared by the OECD in every two years aims to contribute to meeting the need for quantitative data related to social welfare and demographic trends by offering new indicators in this field. The ninth report released in 2018 presents 25 indicators many of which are new and assessments on 36 OECD member states. Besides member states, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia and South Africa as well as other G20 countries, Argentina and Saudi Arabia Dare also included when data sources allow. The report has a

special section on lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) individuals; it discusses how these individual cope up with problems they face in terms of income equality and welfare status and which policies can be developed or improved so as to cover LGBT individuals as well. Another special section in the report is about the public perception in regard to social and economic risks and to what extent governments address these risk on the basis of OECD's 2018 Risks Survey. Additionally, the report also provides a guide for readers to enable them to understand better the nature of OECD social indicators. Indicators on poverty measurement and social protection suggested by the report are listed below:

#### -poverty

- a. ratio of population in poverty by broad age groups and gender (age group 0-17, population at working ages and elderly population (age 66 and over))
- b. rate of relative poverty (ratio of population living in households with income 50% lower than median household income)
- -social assistance
- a. ratio of population at working ages that benefit from cash transfers
- b. ratio of population receiving minimum income support by types of support (unemployment benefits, housing aid, poverty allowances)
- public spending for social protection
- a. proportion of social protection spending to GDP
- b. distribution of social protection spending by its types (i.e. health, education, retirement pensions, spending for active employment programmes, cash assistance to population at working ages)

Source: <a href="http://www.oecd.org/gender/">http://www.oecd.org/gender/</a>

## **World Bank Gender Data Portal and Poverty and Equality Data Portal:**

The Poverty and Equality Data Portal is a large data source of the World Bank Group providing indicators related to poverty, inequality and welfare sharing. The portal provides access to poverty and inequality data also in groups such as "low", "low medium" and "upper medium" income levels. It also presents household-based absolute poverty indicator Among indicators, there are alternative measures such as the ratio of population in poverty, poverty gap and square of poverty gap. Additionally, these household-based poverty indicators are calculated by discerning female/male children making child poverty rates available in the portal. In the World Bank gender statistics data portal, 620 indicators can be reached for countries and country groups under the following headings:

- Representation
- Economic and Social Institutions
- Economic Opportunities
- Education
- Health
- Public Life and Decision-making

Source: https://data.worldbank.org/topic/gender

#### **Gender Statistics of European Statistics (Eurostat):**

The European Statistics - Eurostat of the EU developed indicators for poverty and population under the risk of social exclusion in the context of poverty mitigation as a major policy component under the Europe 2020 strategy which gives the growth and employment agenda for the decade ahead. The Europe 2000 strategy addresses social concerns and economic targets on equal grounds. It is further stated that reducing the ratio of population under the risk of poverty and social exclusion as targeted can be possible only with success in other priorities such as providing better opportunities for employment and education. The Eurostat presents related indicators for Eu and EU region countries (including Turkey).

- a. Persons under the risk of poverty or social exclusion
- b. Persons under the risk of poverty or social exclusion by rate of urbanization
- c. Persons under the risk of income poverty after social transfers
- d. Persons under the risk of income poverty after social transfers by citizenship status
- e. Persons in serious material deprivation
- f. Individuals living in households with very low levels of employment
- g. Rate of poverty risk at workplace
- h. Population living in houses with leaking roof, dam walls, decayed floors and windows
- i. Unmet needs in medical examination and care reported by persons by gender
- j. Population without bathroom, shower and toilet in their houses by status in poverty
- k. Population who cannot keep their homes adequately warm by gender
- I. Rate of excess population by status in poverty

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Gender\_statistics

# C. Monitoring and Evaluation in the Field of Poverty Prevention, Social Protection and Assistance

This part is about the connections between indicators for social protection and assistance that constitute the starting step of monitoring process in the field of poverty mitigation, social protection and assistance with relevant norms and standards.

# 1. Connection of Indicators with the Strategic Goals in International Documents

The European Council (EU) issued a report in 2007 stressing that poverty is a multi-dimensional which cannot be measured by referring only to income and monetary poverty line. According to the report, poverty is related to deprivation; in other words, it means welfare gap with respect to education and training, health, housing, labour market, economic resources, social protection, family and private life, safety and participation to public life. The same report suggests 18 multi-dimensional indicators related to strategic goals (EU, 2007).

**Table IV-4** Poverty Indicators According to Reference Standards and Norms

No.	Indicator	Reference	Reference
		Standard	Norm
1	<ul> <li>Poverty rate by age and gender (Age groups are as follows.)</li> <li>Under 16</li> <li>age group 16-24</li> <li>age group 25-49</li> <li>age group 50-64</li> <li>65 and over</li> <li>age group 16-64</li> </ul>	A1. Reviewing, adopting and implementing macroeconomic policies and development strategies responding to the needs and strivings of women in poverty;	Gender equality  Right to decent and adequate standard of living
2	<ul> <li>Risk of poverty by household type and gender (including single parents with children in need of care -dependent)</li> <li>all households;</li> <li>single-adult households;</li> <li>households with an adult under age 65;</li> <li>single-adult households where the adult is at age 65 or over;</li> </ul>	A2. Re- arranging legislation and administrative practices in a way to safeguard women's equal rights and	Gender equality  Right to decent and adequate standard of living

	single-parent households with dependent	access to	
	children;	economic	
	<ul> <li>single-parent households with woman as</li> </ul>	resources.	
	the responsible member;		
	single-parent households with man as the		
	responsible member		
	<ul> <li>households with two adults both under</li> </ul>		
	age 65;		
	<ul> <li>households with two adults at least one of</li> </ul>		
	whom is at 65 and over;		
	<ul> <li>two-adult households with one</li> </ul>		
	dependent child;		
	<ul> <li>two adults with two dependent children;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>two-adult households with three or more</li> </ul>		
	dependent children;		
	<ul> <li>households with three or more adults;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>three or more adults with dependent</li> </ul>		
	children;		
	<ul> <li>households without dependent children;</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>households with dependent children</li> </ul>		
3	- Rate of economically inactive population	A3. Supporting	Gender
	by age and gender	women by	equality
		facilitating their	
		access to	Right to
		savings, credit	decent and
		mechanisms	adequate
		and institutions.	standard of
			living

Poverty indicators existing in the UNECE Minimum Indicator Set developed in then succeeding period are given below. All indicators in this list have to be developed as disaggregated by sex.

**Table IV-5** List of Minimum Poverty Indicators by Reference Standards and Norms

No.	Indicator	Reference	Reference Norm
		Standard	
1.1	Poverty indicator most commonly used in	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	the country		and adequate standard
			of living
1.1.1	Indicators derived from the most	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	commonly used poverty indicator as		and adequate standard
	disaggregated by age		of living
No.	Indicator	Reference	Reference Norm
		Standard	

1.1.2	Indicators derived from the most	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
1.1.2	commonly used poverty indicator as	AT and AZ	and adequate standard
			of living.
4.0	disaggregated by household types	A4   A0	
1.2	Rate of population under the risk of	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	poverty by relative poverty indicator		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.2.1	Rate of population under the risk of	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	poverty by age		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.2.2	Rate of population under the risk of	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	poverty by household type		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.3	Rate of population under poverty line by	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	absolute poverty indicator		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.3.1	Rate of population under poverty line by	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	age groups		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.3.2	Rate of population under poverty line by	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	household types		and adequate standard
			of living.
1.4.1	Rate of population living on less than 1	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	dollar a day		and adequate standard
			of living,
1.5.1	Rate of population living in households	A1 and A2	Gender Equality, Decent
	who cannot afford at least four of nine		and adequate standard
	items specified by the EU as indicator of		of living, Accessibility,
	material deprivation		Adequacy, Social
	·		Protection

Source: UNECE (2014: 14).

Under the cooperation in the field of social policy envisaged by the EU countries in their Lisbon Summit of 2000, the EU countries and the European Commission jointly identified and adopted some additional indicators. The first group of these common indicators were adopted in 2001 and then updated in 2009 (Atkinson, Marlier, Montaigne, & Reinstadler, 2010). The indicators suggested by the EU for monitoring in the context of the Beijing Platform and Action Plan are presented in the table below:

Table IV-6 List of Indicators Suggested by the EU by Reference Standards and Norms

No.	Indicator	Reference Standard	Reference Norm
1	Poverty risk (on the basis of gender breakdown and calculation of gender gap)	A1, A2, B2	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
2	Rate of poverty in population at advanced ages	A1 and A2 F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
3	Rate of poverty in population at age 65 and over (on the basis of gender breakdown and calculation of gender gap)	A1 and A2 F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
4	Rate of poverty risk in single adults with dependent children	A1 and A2 B1 and B2 F1 and F2	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
5	Median level of retirement pension (on the basis of gender breakdown and calculation of gender gap)	A1 and A2 F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection, Justice and equity
6	Material deprivation by gender, age and household type	A1 and A2 B1 and B2 F1 and F2	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
7	Rate of population living in households who cannot afford at least four of nine items specified by the EU as indicator of material deprivation (on the basis of gender breakdown and calculation of gender gap)	A1 and A2 F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
8	Average number of items missing (0 to 9) as indicators of material deprivation at individual level (by gender)	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection

The relationship between indicators in the Development Goals and UN and other international conventions will be established under this heading.

Table IV-7 List of MDG-related Indicators by Reference Standards and Norms

No.	Indicator	Reference Standard	Reference Norm
1	Population living on less than 1 dollar a day (PPP)	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living
2	Rate of poverty gap	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living
3	Ratio of working people living on less than 1 dollar a day (PPP)	A1, A2 F1, F2 B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living
4	Ratio of complaints lodged to and responded by human rights institutions, ombudsman or official authorities in relation to violation of the right to social security	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
5	Ratio of population appropriately informed about in cash or in-kind assistance and support under the existing social security programmes	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
6	Net official development assistance received or provided to ensure the realization of this right as a Ratio of total social security spending and gross national income	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
7	Budget share of public funds allocated directly to poverty mitigation programmes	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
8	Budget share of public spending allocated to basic services (education, health and social protection)	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection
9	Budget share of public resources allocated directly to poverty mitigation programmes	F1 and F2 I6, I7, I8, B2, C4	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Adequacy, Social Protection

In total, 230 indicators were identified in relation to Sustainable Development Goals. All of these indicators are closely associated with poverty prevention and social protection strategies. Of these, the Goal Five focuses on ensuring gender equality together with its

sub-indicators. Below are indicators that clearly take gender equality norm as basis in the field of social protection.

**Table IV-8** List of SDG-related Indicators by Reference Standards and Norms

No.	Indicator	Reference	Reference Norm
1	Rate of population living under	Standard A1, A2	Gender Equality,
•	internationally defined line of poverty by gender, age, employment status and geographical location (rural/urban distinction, etc.)	F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 1	Decent and adequate standard of living
2	Rate of population living under nationally defined line of poverty by gender and age.	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 1	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living
3	Rate of those among children, unemployed, elderly, disabled, pregnant and work accident victims who benefit from social protection schemes (by gender)	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 1R	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Adequacy, Accessibility, Social Protection
4	Nate of informal employment in total employment by sectors and gender	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 8	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living,
5	Rate and number of children in the age group 5-17 engaged in child labour by age and gender	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 8	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living,
6	Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers by gender and migration status	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 8	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living,
7	Rate of population living on less than 50% of median income by gender, age and disability status	A1, A2 F1, F2, F4 B2, C4, SDG 10	Gender Equality, Decent and adequate standard of living, Accessibility, Social Protection

# V. Indicator Based Analysis of the Current Situation in Turkey

# A. Poverty Statistics

The first official calculation of the rate of poverty in Turkey was made in 2001 by the TÜİK under the social Risk Mitigation Project carried out with the World Bank. With the start of Household Budget Surveys, the first expenditure-based poverty indicators were presented in a report jointly prepared by the Turkish Statistical Institute and the World Bank. The outcomes of the report were made public in 2004 by the TÜİK with a news bulletin titled "2002 Poverty Study" (TÜİK, 2004). In the period 2002-2009, annual values of expenditure-based poverty were calculated and finally, in 2011, calculations based on household budget surveys were abandoned and income-based calculation was adopted with a change in methodology.

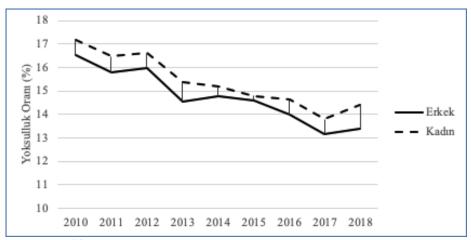
In official definitions made, poverty is defined in its narrowest sense as "... the state of dying in hunger and having no shelter" and in its widest sense as "lagging behind the rest of society with respect to food, clothing and housing those these are sufficient for survival." The first of these represent the absolute poverty approach in which the household or the individual is unable to attain even the minimum level of welfare necessary for survival.

The rate of poverty is calculated by identifying the minimum needs of consumption on the basis of per capita consumption spending at household level and taking the ratio of those who remain under this minimum level of welfare to total population. The minimum level of welfare here may cover food expenditures only or, as the absolute poverty line, cover both food and non-food expenditures. Along this line, the TÜİK uses the values of daily per capita 1\$, 2.15\$ and 4.30\$ according to current purchasing power parity as expenditure-based lines of poverty which allows for international comparisons (Table 5-1). Besides the rate of absolute poverty, rates of relative poverty too are officially calculated and presented in Turkey: "...relative poverty denotes the condition that individuals remain at a level of income which is a certain percentage below the average level of welfare in society. Accordingly, individuals or households earning and spending under a specific threshold are considered as in relative poverty (TÜİK, 2015). Tables 5-1 and 5-2 shows changes taking place in rates of poverty over time in Turkey. These changes in rates of poverty can be explained only by examining changes observed in income distribution.

Since official poverty indicators are calculated, as mentioned above, by using income or consumption expenditures that can be measured at household level, they cannot offer a full poverty indicator as broken down by gender. In poverty rate calculations that are presented as disaggregated by gender are based upon the assumption that income or consumption spending is shared equally in the household. Even with these limitations, the rate of female poverty turns out as higher than the rate of male poverty in Turkey as is the case in other countries (Figure 5-1). The falling trend observed in the period 2010-2017 changed

direction in 2018 as rates of poverty started rising for both males and females. This change was more pronounced in the case of women. Further, different statistics may be used to reach richer information about poverty among women. For example, property ownership by gender is one of these variables. More detailed information about this can be found in the main report.

**Figure V-1** Poverty Rates by Gender and 50% of Equivalized Individual Median Household Income , 2010-2018



Source: TÜİK Poverty Statistics: <a href="http://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013">http://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013</a>

**Table V-1** Individual Poverty Rates by Absolute Poverty Line Methods, (Consumption-Based) 2002-2015

	Individual poverty rate (%)													
Methods	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007(3)	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (5)	2015 (5)
Turkey														
Food poverty (hunger) (4)	1.35	1.29	1.29	0.87	0.74	0.48	0.54	0.48			•			•
Poverty (food + non-food) (4)	26.96	28.12	25.60	20.50	17.81	17.79	17.11	18.08			•			•
Less than 1 \$ per person a day (1)	0.20	0.01	0.02	0.01							•			
Less than 2.15 \$ per person a day (1)	3.04	2.39	2.49	1.55	1.41	0.52	0.47	0.22	0.21	0.14	0.06	0,06	0,03	0,06
Less than 4.3 \$ per person a day (1)	30.30	23.75	20.89	16.36	13.33	8.41	6.83	4.35	3.66	2.79	2.27	2,06	1,62	1,58
Expenditure-based relative poverty (2)(4)	14.74	15.51	14.18	16.16	14.50	14.70	15.06	15.12						
Urban														
Food poverty (hunger) (4)	0.92	0.74	0.62	0.64	0.04	0.07	0.25	0.06						
Poverty (food + non-food) (4)	21.95	22.30	16.57	12.83	9.31	10.36	9.38	8.86						
Less than 1 \$ per person a day (1)	0.03	0.01	0.01											
Less than 2.15 \$ per person a day (1)	2.37	1.54	1.23	0.97	0.24	0.09	0.19	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0,02		
Less than 4.3 \$ per person a day (1)	24.62	18.31	13.51	10.05	6.13	4.40	3.07	0.96	0.97	0.94	0.60	0,64		
Expenditure-based relative poverty (2)(4)	11.33	11.26	8.34	9.89	6.97	8.38	8.01	6.59	•					
Rural														
Food poverty (hunger) (4)	2.01	2.15	2.36	1.24	1.91	1.41	1.18	1.42						
Poverty (food + non-food) (4)	34.48	37.13	39.97	32.95	31.98	34.80	34.62	38.69						
Less than 1 \$ per person a day (1)	0.46	0.01	0.02	0.04										
Less than 2.15 \$ per person a day (1)	4.06	3.71	4.51	2.49	3.36	1.49	1.11	0.63	0.57	0.42	0.14	0,13		
Less than 4.3 \$ per person a day (1)	38.82	32.18	32.62	26.59	25.35	17.59	15.33	11.92	9.61	6.83	5.88	5,13		
Expenditure-based relative poverty (2)(4)	19.86	22.08	23.48	26.35	27.06	29.16	31.00	34.20						

TÜİK, Poverty Survey, 2015

<sup>(1)</sup> Current values of relevant years were used as TL equivalents of 1 \$ on PPP.

<sup>(2) 50%</sup> of equivalized median value of per capita consumption spending is taken as basis.

<sup>(3)</sup> New population projections are being used since 2007.

<sup>(4)</sup> Not calculated since 2010 due to on-going methodological revision work.

<sup>(5)</sup> New administrative division is taken as basis in sample design starting from 2014; hence no estimate was made on rural/urban basis.

Table V-2 Rates of Relative Poverty, (Income-based) 2006-2018

#### **Individual Poverty Rate (%)**

• • •													
	Years												
Median Income Rate	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
%40													
Poverty line (Annual TL) Number of poor (1000	1 881	2 433	2 531	2 818	2 972	3 255	3 611	4 008	4 443	4 997	5 693	6 355	7 113
persons)	8 665	6 799	7 021	7 485	7 355	7 288	7 344	6 788	6 572	6 652	6 482	5 865	6 322
Poverty rate (%)	12.8	9.9	10.1	10.6	10.3	10.1	10.0	9.1	8.7	8.7	8.4	7.4	7.9
Poverty gap <sup>(1)</sup>	29.1	24.5	23.7	25.6	24.0	25.4	23.7	22.6	22.3	22.3	20.8	20.0	22.3
%50													
Poverty line (Annual TL)	2 351	3 041	3 164	3 522	3 714	4 069	4 515	5 007	5 554	6 246	7 116	7 944	8 892
Number of poor (1000	12												
persons)	548	11 163	11 580	12 097	12 025	11 670	11 998	11 137	11 332	11 219	11 026	10 622	11 091
Poverty rate (%)	18.6	16.3	16.7	17.1	16.9	16.1	16.3	15.0	15.0	14.7	14.3	13.5	13.9
Poverty gap <sup>(1)</sup>	31.7	26.4	25.6	28.0	26.6	26.3	26.9	26.0	24.4	25.3	24.3	22.6	23.7
%60													
Poverty line (Annual TL)	2 821	3 649	3 797	4 227	4 457	4 883	5 418	6 012	6 665	7 495	8 539	9 532	10 670
Number of poor (1000	17												
persons)	165	16 053	16 714	17 123	16 963	16 569	16 741	16 706	16 501	16 706	16 328	15 864	16 888
Poverty rate (%)	25.4	23.4	24.1	24.3	23.8	22.9	22.7	22.4	21.8	21.9	21.2	20.1	21.2
Poverty gap <sup>(1)</sup>	33.6	28.4	27.9	29.6	28.7	29.2	29.2	26.7	27.2	26.8	26.5	25.8	25.4
%70													
Poverty line (Annual TL)	3 291	4 257	4 430	4 931	5 200	5 697	6 320	7 016	7 775	8 744	9 963	11 121	12 448
Number of poor (1000	21												
persons)	611	20 595	21 358	21 938	21 816	21 730	22 252	21 979	22 223	22 546	22 096	22 171	22 701
Poverty rate (%)	32.0	30.1	30.9	31.1	30.6	30.0	30.2	29.5	29.4	29.5	28.7	28.1	28.5
Poverty gap <sup>(1)</sup>	34.8	31.2	31.3	32.4	31.9	31.0	31.2	29.0	29.3	28.4	28.5	27.2	28.0

TÜİK, Income and Living Conditions Survey

Reference period for incomes is the previous calendar year. Total income is the annual amount.

<sup>(1)</sup> Poverty gap gives information about the extent of poverty. Poverty gap closer to 100 means extreme poverty whereas smaller values indicate lower levels of poverty. The formula is Poverty gap = ((Poverty line- EFB median income of the poor)/Poverty line)\*100.

It appears that gender inequality is an important dimension of poverty and income inequality in Turkey given that: 1) the type of household with single working member is common, 2) both income to labour and non-labour income are lower for women, and 3) when in employment, women are more in low-paid jobs than me. Low labour force participation by women whose education is not full and their temporary employment in precarious jobs point out to the problem of inequality associated with sexist division of labour (See, Toksöz and Memiş, 2018 and Toksöz, 2020 CEİD Employment Report and Updated Report). Much higher risk of poverty for households with single working member clearly demonstrates the strong relationship between employment and poverty. It is found that the risk of poverty for households where there is single male breadwinner is two times greater than for households where both spouses are employed, controlling all other factors that contribute to this risk (İlkkaracan and Değirmenci 2013). The rates of poverty with respect to age groups and levels of education are presented in the main report. Sounder indicators related to the right to adequate standard of living can be obtained only with statistics about the characteristics of dwellings. Discussions and statistics on this issue can also be found in the main report.

#### B. Social Protection Statistics

Data about social protection spending and income in Turkey prepared by the TÜİK is based on standards given in the "European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics" (ESSPROS) manual. The ESSPROS classified social assistance under 8 headings named as risk/needs. These headings are:

- Illness/healthcare,
- Disability ,
- Old age,
- Widowed/orphaned,
- Family/child,
- Unemployment,
- Housing,
- Social exclusion (assistance not classified elsewhere)

Social Protection Statistics give the total of all social protection assistance and financial support, minus taxes and contributions paid by beneficiaries, in order to mitigate identified risks and burden of households or individuals. Financial support mentioned here denotes social protection assistance in the form of tax reduction excluding tax reductions for encouraging social protection and private insurance plans. The number of pension beneficiaries given in statistics represent the number of persons who receive one or several of periodic cash assistance classified in seven categories (disability pensions, early retirement pensions for loss in working capacity, retirement/old-age pensions, early retirement pensions, partial retirement/old-age pensions, survivors' benefits and retirement benefits due to the state of labour markets).

Social Protection Statistics are created by compiling information from relevant institutions by the TÜİK (Social Security Institution, Turkish Employment Agency, General Directorate of Foundations, Banka Foundation Funds, Presidency of Disaster and Emergency Management, T.C. Presidency of Strategy and Budget, T.C. Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services, Ministry of National Education, General Directorate of Student Credit and Dormitories, Municipalities, Associations and Foundations).

Social protection as given in statistics covers all interventions (except those of one-off nature, mutual, and for single individuals) made to mitigate risks for and burden of needs of identified household or groups in individuals. Net social protection assistance is the sum total of all assistance and financial support minus taxes and social contributions paid by beneficiaries. Financial assistance mentioned here denotes social protection provided in the form of tax reduction. It excludes tax reductions to encourage social protection and private insurance plans.

Beneficiaries given in Social Protection Statistics are in seven groups as beneficiaries of disability pensions, early retirement pensions for loss in working capacity, retirement/old-

age pensions, early retirement pensions, partial retirement/old-age pensions, survivors' benefits and retirement benefits due to the state of labour markets who receive periodic cash assistance for one or more of these (TÜİK, 2020).

According to the table below showing amounts of social protection spending almost a half o this spending consists of payments to retirees/elderly persons which is followed by assistance in health and care. The rate of benefiting from social assistance by population with severe disabilities is low for both sexes and with inequalities with respect to gender (Table 5-3 and 5-4).

**Table V-3** Number of Persons Receiving Assistance and Pension under Social Protection - 2018

	Total no. of			
	beneficiaries	Male	Female	Female/Male
	(Thousands)	(Thousands)	(Thousands)	(%)
Total number receiving pensions	13 766	7861	5 905	43%
Total number receiving				
disability/invalidity benefits	856	503	353	41%
Unconditional				
beneficiaries	139	119	20	14%
Conditional beneficiaries	717	384	334	46%
Total number receiving				
retirement/old age pensions	9 514	7 144	2 370	25%
Unconditional				
beneficiaries	6 450	5 629	821	13%
Conditional beneficiaries	710	270	440	62%
Total number receiving				
survivors' benefits	3 758	264	3 494	93%
Unconditional				
beneficiaries	3 427	252	3 175	93%
Conditional beneficiaries	331	12	319	96%
Total number receiving retirement/old	•		•	
age and survivors' benefits (1)	12 913	7 358	5 555	43%
Total number of beneficiaries	14 389	7 922	6 467	45%

Note: TÜİK, Social Protection Statistics. The reason values do not add up to total is the clearance of those receiving redundant pension.

**Table V-4** Social Security Coverage (4/A, 4/B, 4/C), 2016-2019

Year		2016	2017	2018	2019
I- Insured	•	21,131,838	22,280,463	22,072,840	22,000,964
1- Compulsory		19,099,026	20,241,389	20,093,780	20,172,891
Compulsory 4/a, 4/b (except agriculture), 4/c		18,367,294	19,511,173	19,374,552	19,542,660
Agriculture compulsory (4/b		717,876	705,592	696,175	600,787
Muhtar		13,856	24,624	23,053	29,444
2- Apprentice		1,170,080	368,373	341,659	319,017
3- Overseas community		24,710	21,592	22,899	21,002
4- Agriculture (4/a)		36,125	50,602	45,384	41,108
5- Other insured		442,552	462,452	407,996	364,434
6- Intern and trainee (*)		359,345	1,136,055	1,161,122	1,082,512
II- Pensioner (receiving monthly pension					
File		11,171,059	11,418,722	11,867,931	12,214,543
Person		11,755,365	12,154,140	12,613,151	12,977,719
1- Old-age pension		8,121,461	8,402,314	8,729,758	8,968,462
2- Disability pension		120,923	123,494	124,936	126,947
3- Invalidity pension		12,170	12,934	13,504	14,039
4- Death benefit (File)		2,787,524	2,748,356	2,863,274	2,963,088
5- Death benefit (Beneficiary)-		3,343,265	3,451,929	3,576,046	3,692,788
6- Permanent incapacity benefits		70,081	73,035	75,654	79,209
7- Survivor benefits (File)		58,900	58,589	60,805	62,798
8- Survivor benefits (Beneficiary)		87,465	90,434	93,253	96,274
III- Dependant		34,933,242	35,522,020	35,096,530	35,305,977
Insured/pensioner rate		1,89	1,95	1,86	1,80
IV- Special funds		392,201	406,856	413,983	420,020
1- Active insured		140,174	141,285	142,391	140,529
2- Pensioners		85,920	91,670	92,906	94,027
3- Dependant		166,107	173,901	178,686	185,464
4- Insured/pensioner rate		1,63	1,54	1,53	1,49
Social Security Coverage (I+II+III+IV)		68,212,646	70,363,479	70,196,504	70,704,680
Registered with the General Health Insurance		10,189,469	9,825,269	10,585,086	11,473,608
Paying their General Health Insurance	contributions	2,679,737	1,889,260	2,322,684	2,393,087
General Health Insurance contributions are made by	the state	7,509,732	7,936,009	8,262,402	9,080,521

<sup>\* 9</sup> There is increase in the number of interns and trainees since the enactment of the Law no. 6764 dated 9 December 2016 which covered student interns in vocational and technical secondary education and students receiving supplementary training in these schools in insurance scheme with respect to work accident and occupational diseases.

# VI. Right-Based Monitoring Indicators in the Field of Poverty and Social Protection

Monitoring reports have been prepared in 10 different thematic areas by the Gender Equality Monitoring Association. These reports underline the importance of monitoring carried out through a rights-based approach in ensuring gender equality in various areas and present qualitative and quantitative indicators developed through a rights-based approach that can be used in monitoring processes. As stated in all thematic reports, It is of great importance that rights-based monitoring indicators, unlike composite indicators, are developed specifically foreach of the policy areas related to gender equality

Gender indicators do not reflect indicators that are obtained directly from gender disaggregated data. The identification of inequalities and standards and norms pertaining to the needs of different sexes as well as priority areas based on this information can be possible only with the availability of rights-based indicators that are both sound in content and accessible. The following part presents, in this context, rights-based and gender equality sensitive indicators in the field of poverty, social protection and social assistance in a way to support the very objective of the Gender Equality Monitoring Association.

This part firstly presents poverty indicators (by demographic characteristics, household type and labour status) under the following headings:

- a. Rate of absolute poverty
- b. Rate of relative poverty
- c. Rate of material deprivation
- d. Rate of permanent poverty
- e. Poverty gap

Social protection indicators (again by demographic characteristics, household type and labour status) presented under the following headings:

- a. Illness/healthcare,
- b. Disability,
- c. Old age,
- d. Widowed/orphaned,
- e. Family/child,
- f. Unemployment,
- g. Housing,
- h. Social exclusion

#### A. Indicators Calculable from TÜİK Household Data Sets

Table VI-1 Rate of Absolute Poverty by Demographic Characteristics and Labour Force Status

		Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data frequency
1		nutrition.	- Age group 50-64 - Age 65 and over - Age group 15-64 - Illiterate - Without finishing any school - Under high school - Graduates of high school and it equivalents - Higher education graduates - Nuclear family (without children) - Nuclear family (with children)	TÜİK, Household Consumption Expenditures (Budget) Survey Rate of population in poverty by food and food + non- food poverty line	members brought from their working places, goods and	Annual  Microdata is accessible at the level of 26 statistical regions.
2	Poverty	Same as above.	<ul> <li>Rate of absolute poverty (by labour status)</li> <li>Individuals out of labour force (by reasons)</li> <li>Unemployed individuals</li> <li>Individuals in employment</li> <li>Status in employment (by its form)</li> <li>Social security status</li> <li>Formal</li> <li>Informal</li> <li>Sector</li> <li>Agriculture</li> <li>Industry</li> <li>Services</li> </ul>	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Table VI-2 Rate of Relative Poverty by Demographic Characteristics and Labour Status

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data frequency
3	Poverty	• Right to adequate standard of livingDecent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equality.  -UDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 11 -CEDAW Art. 4 -PEEP Art. 6  National Policy Documents Referred to: -National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)	- Under age 15 - Age group 15-24 - Age group 25-49 - Age group 50-64 - Age 65 and over - Age group 15-64  • Illiterate • Without finishing any school • Under high school • Graduates of high school and it equivalents • Higher education graduates • Single-person household	Living Conditions Survey (ILCS) Rate of population under 50% o	The purpose of ILCS is to produce data relating to living conditions, social exclusion and relative income poverty besides income distribution.  The content and administration of the questionnaire confirm to Eurostat standards.  The Income and Living Conditions Survey gives the details of sources of income as operating income (1. Wages and salaries, 2. Entrepreneurial income) and non-operating income (1. Real estate income, 2. Income from securities, 3. Unilateral transfers , 4. Social transfers and 5. Inter-household transfers).  Besides income, it is also possible to reach information about status of persons related to health, education, housing, their marital status and past employment experience.	
4	Poverty	Same as above.	<ul> <li>Poverty risk (by labour status</li> <li>Individuals out of labour force (by reasons)</li> <li>Unemployed individuals</li> <li>Individuals in employment</li> <li>Status in employment (by its form)</li> <li>Social security status         <ul> <li>Formal</li> <li>Informal</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sector         <ul> <li>Agriculture</li> <li>Industry</li> <li>Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Table VI-3 Rate of Material Deprivation by Demographic Characteristics and Labour Status

		Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data frequency
5	Poverty	Right to adequate standard of living. Right to adequate housing. Decent and adequate standard of living, Non-discrimination, Gender equalityUDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 11 -CEDAW Art. 4 -PEEP Art.6 -EU 2020 National Policy Documents Referred to: National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP 2018-2023)	financial difficulties (proportion to general population of persons who cannot afford/provide for at least 4 of the following 9 items due to economic reasons) (by age group, level of education and household type)  1. Coping with unexpected expenses 2. One week holiday away from home 3. Avoiding arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills, instalments) 4. Meal with meat, chicken every second day (or its vegetarian equivalent) 5. Keeping home adequately warm 6. Washing machine 7. Colour TV 8. Telephone (fixed line or mobile) 9. Personal car For information about aga groups, levels of education and household types see Table 6-2.	TÜİK, Income and Living Conditions Survey (ILCS)		Same as above.
6	Poverty	Same as above.	<ul> <li>Rate of material deprivation- Rate of persons facing serious financial difficulties         <ul> <li>Individuals out of labour force (by reasons)</li> <li>Unemployed individuals</li> <li>Individuals in employment</li> <li>Status in employment (by its form)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Social security status         <ul> <li>Formal</li> <li>Informal</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sector         <ul> <li>Agriculture</li> <li>Industry</li> <li>Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Table VI-4 Rate of Permanent Poverty by Demographic Characteristics

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source		Data collection frequency
7	Poverty	• Right to adequate standard of living.  -Decent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equality.  -UDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 11 -CEDAW Art. 4 -PEEP Art.6 -EU 2020  National Policy Documents Referred to: -National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023) -Family Assistance	who, for at least two years in a period of four years, remained under the income level defined as 60% of equivalized per capita household disposable income (by age group, level of education and household type)  For information about categories by age group, level of education and household type see Table 6-2.		The purpose of ILCS is to produce data relating to living conditions, social exclusion and relative income poverty besides income distribution.  The content and administration of the questionnaire confirm to Eurostat standards.  The Income and Living Conditions Survey gives the details of sources of income as operating income (1. Wages and salaries, 2. Entrepreneurial income) and non-operating income (1. Real estate income, 2. Income from securities, 3. Unilateral transfers, 4. Social transfers and 5. Inter-household transfers).  Besides income, it is also possible to reach information about status of persons related to health, education, housing, their marital status and past employment experience.	data Microdata is accessible at the level of 26 statistical regions.
8	Poverty	•	Rate of permanent poverty (by labour status)  - Individuals out of labour force (by reasons)  - Unemployed individuals  - Individuals in employment  - Status in employment (by its form)  - Social security status  - Formal  - Informal  - Sector  - Agriculture  - Industry  - Services	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

**Table VI-5** Poverty Gap by Demographic Characteristics

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source		Data collection frequency
9	Poverty	• Right to adequate standard of living.  -Decent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equalityUDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 11 -CEDAW Art. 4 -PEEP Art.6 -EU 2020  National Policy Documents Referred to: -National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018- 2023) -Family Assistance	information about the extent/intensity of poverty calculated on the basis of distance between the average income of the poor and poverty line (by age group, level of education and household type)  For information about categories by age group, level of education and household type see Table 6-2.	Living Conditions Survey (ILCS)	The purpose of ILCS is to produce data relating to living conditions, social exclusion and relative income poverty besides income distribution. The content and administration of the questionnaire confirm to Eurostat standards.  The Income and Living Conditions Survey gives the details of sources of income as operating income (1. Wages and salaries, 2. Entrepreneurial income) and non-operating income (1. Real estate income, 2. Income from securities, 3. Unilateral transfers, 4. Social transfers and 5. Inter-household transfers).  Besides income, it is also possible to reach information about status of persons related to health, education, housing, their marital status and past employment experience.	Microdata is accessible at the level of 26 statistical regions.
10	Poverty	Same as above.	Poverty gap (by labour status) Individuals out of labour force (by reasons) Unemployed individuals Individuals in employment Status in employment (by its form) Social security status Formal Informal Sector Agriculture Industry Services	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

**Table VI-6** Assistance Related to Illness/Healthcare

Title	e l	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
1 Socia	tection	• Right to have a healthy lifeDecent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equalityAccessibility -Inclusiveness -UDHR Art. 22, 25 -ICESRC Art. 9, 10 -CEDAW Art. 11, 14 -PEEP Art.6 -UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28 -UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27  National Policy Documents Referred to: -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)	/healthcare assistance in total social assistance  • Number and percentage of illness/healthcare assistance beneficiaries (in-cash/in-kind) (by	Data Sources: Social Security Institution, Turkish Employment Agency, General Directorate of Foundations, Bank-Foundation funds I, Presidency of Disaster and Emergency Management, T.C. Presidency of Strategy and Budget, T.C. Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services, Ministry of National Education, General Directorate of Student Credit and Dormitories, Municipalities, Associations and Foundations.	TÜİK with its request of data from the database of the	Annual  Variables compiled: Retirement pensions, survivor benefits, disability benefits, unemployment benefits, in and outpatient treatment costs, cost of pharmaceutical products, rehabilitation and institutional care, death benefits, birth benefits, maternity leave payment, labour force training course costs, trainee per diems, etc.

Table VI-7 Assistance for Disability Care

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
2		Right to have a healthy lifeDecent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equalityAccessibility -Inclusiveness -UDHR Art. 22, 25 -ICESRC Art. 9, 10 -CEDAW Art. 11, 14 -PEEP Art.6 -UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28 -UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27  National Policy Documents Referred to: -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)	assistance in total social assistance  Number and percentage of disability assistance beneficiaries (by gender, age group and household type)  Average amount of disability benefits (cash/in-kind)(by gender, age group and household type) (cash/in-kind)(by gender, age group and household type) (cash/in-kind)(by gender, age group and household type)	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Table VI-8 Assistance for Elderly Care

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Frequency
3		Right to have a healthy life.  -Decent and adequate standard of living,  -Non-discrimination,  -Gender equality.  -Accessibility  -Inclusiveness  -UDHR Art. 22, 25  -ICESRC Art. 9, 10  -CEDAW Art. 11, 14  -PEEP Art.6  -UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28  -UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27  National Policy Documents Referred to:  -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)		Same as above.	Same as above.

**Table VI-9** Survivor Benefits

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Frequency	Collection
4		Right to have a healthy life. Decent and adequate standard of living, Non-discrimination, Gender equality. Accessibility Inclusiveness  -UDHR Art. 22, 25 -ICESRC Art. 9, 10 -CEDAW Art. 11, 14 -PEEP Art.6 -UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28 -UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27  National Policy Documents Referred to: -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)		Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as abo	ove.

Table VI-10 Family/Child Support

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
5 Social Protection	• Right to have a healthy lifeDecent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equalityAccessibility -Inclusiveness -UDHR Art. 22, 25 -ICESRC Art. 9, 10 -CEDAW Art. 11, 14 -PEEP Art.6 -UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28 -UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27  National Policy Documents Referred to: -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)	Share of family/child support in total social assistance     Number and percentage of people receiving family/child support (in-cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)     Average amount of family /child support (cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

**Table VI-11** Unemployment Benefits

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Frequency	Collection
6 Social Protect	<ul> <li>Right to have a healthy life.</li> <li>Right to an adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Right to work.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>UDHR Art. 22, 25</li> <li>ICESRC Art. 9, 10</li> <li>CEDAW Art. 11, 14</li> <li>PEEP Art.6</li> <li>UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28</li> <li>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to: <ul> <li>Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as abo	ove.

Table VI-12 Housing Support

Title	е	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection	Data Collection
					Method	Frequency
7 Soci Prot	tection	<ul> <li>Right to have a healthy life.</li> <li>Right to an adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 22, 25</li> <li>ICESRC Art. 9, 10</li> <li>CEDAW Art. 11, 14</li> <li>PEEP Art.6</li> <li>-UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28</li> <li>-UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:         <ul> <li>-Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Share of housing assistance in total social assistance  Share of housing support in total social assistance  Number and percentage of people receiving housing support (in-cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)  Average amount of housing support (cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)		Same as above.	Same as above.

#### **B.** Suggested Indicators

 Table VI-13 Other Types of Assistance against Social Exclusion

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	 Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
8 Social Protection	<ul> <li>Right to have a healthy life.</li> <li>Right to an adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Accessibility.</li> <li>Inclusiveness.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>-Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 22, 25</li> <li>ICESRC Art. 9, 10</li> <li>-CEDAW Art. 11, 14</li> <li>-PEEP Art.6</li> <li>-UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28</li> <li>-UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> <li>-Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> </ul>	exclusion b.y.s assistance in total social assistance  Number and percentage of beneficiaries of social exclusion b.y.s. assistance (in-cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)  Average amount of social exclusion b,y.s. assistance (in- cash/in-kind) (by gender, age group and household type)	Same as above.	Same as above.

**Table VI-14** Indicators of Preventive Social Protection Related to Labour Standards

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator			Data Collection Frequency
9		<ul> <li>Right to social security.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 25</li> <li>-ICESRC Art. 11</li> <li>-CEDAW Art. 4</li> <li>-PEEP Art.6</li> <li>-EU 2020</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> </ul>	sectors:  Generosity in minimum wage:  - Measurement of the level at which normal minimum wage is set;  Universality of minimum wage:  -Ratio of people earning less than minimum age by gender and household type  Time limit fixed and applied to weekly overtime work hours  Additional pay for overtime work;  Time limit fixed and applied to night work  Additional pay for night work	Conditions Survey (ILCS)  2.Legislation Labour Code and relevant regulations	ILCS is to produce data relating to living conditions, social exclusion and relative income poverty besides income distribution.  The content and administration of	Microdata is accessible at the level of 26 statistical regions.

https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?LegislationNo=6249&LegislationTur=7&LegislationTertip=5

T.C. Presidency of the Republic of Turkey Legislation Information System:

Table VI-15 Indicators of Preventive Social Protection Related to Unemployment Benefits

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator		Data Collection	
				Method	Frequency
9 Preventive Social Protection	<ul> <li>Right to adequate standard of living</li> <li>Right to work.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 25</li> <li>-ICESRC Art. 11</li> <li>-CEDAW Art. 4</li> <li>-PEEP Art. 6</li> <li>-EU 2020</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> <li>National Employment Strategy</li> <li>-Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> <li>-Family Assistance</li> </ul>	Duration of unemployment benefits:     -Minimum time period for which the provision of unemployment benefits is guaranteed     Whether additional assistance is granted and time is extended for those with dependent children     Generosity: Amount of unemployment benefits     Ratio of persons enjoying unemployment benefits to total number of unemployed by gender	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Source: TÜİK Poverty Statistics, <a href="https://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013">https://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013</a> T.C. Presidency of the Republic of Turkey Legislation Information System: <a href="https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?LegislationNo=6249&LegislationTur=7&LegislationTur=5">https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?LegislationNo=6249&LegislationTur=7&LegislationTur=5</a>

Table VI-16 Indicators of Preventive Social Protection Related to Parental Leave

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source		Data Collection Frequency
10 Preventive Social Protection	<ul> <li>Right to adequate standard of living</li> <li>Right to work.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 25</li> <li>-ICESRC Art. 9 and 11</li> <li>-CEDAW Art. 11</li> <li>-ILO 102</li> <li>-ESC Paragraph 8</li> <li>-ECHR 34</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> <li>National Employment Strategy</li> <li>-Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> <li>-Labour Code Art. 74</li> </ul>	leave: Minimum time period for which paid maternity leave is guaranteed  Generosity: Ratio of the amount paid during paid maternity leave to the earlier earning of the beneficiary (its measurement)  Duration of paid paternity leave: Minimum time period for which paid paternity leave is guaranteed  Generosity: Ratio of the amount paid during paid paternity leave to the earlier earning of the	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Source: Same as above.

Table VI-17 Indicators of Preventive Social Protection Related to Sick Leave

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Ind	licator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
11 Preventive Social Protection	Right to work.	•	Minimum time period for which paid sick leave is guaranteed Ratio of sick leave allowance to the normal pay of the person concerned; Minimum time period of paid sick leave guaranteed for the sickness of parents Ratio of sick leave allowance in case of parental sickness to the normal pay of the person concerned; Minimum time period of paid sick leave guaranteed for the sickness of children Ratio of sick leave allowance in case of child sickness to the normal pay of the person concerned;	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Source: Same as above.

Table VI-18 Indicators of Preventive Social Protection Related to Disabilities and Work Accidents

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
12	Preventive Social Protection	Same as above.	Generosity in disability benefits: Minimum level set for disability benefits un case of loss of working capability     Additional allowance for those having their dependent children: (Whether there is such allowance and the Ratio of its beneficiaries to total)	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.
			<ul> <li>Minimum level in compensation for work accident</li> <li>Checking whether additional allowance is granted to beneficiaries with dependent children (their proportion to total)</li> </ul>			

Source: TÜİK Poverty Statistics, <a href="http://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013">http://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013</a>

T.C. Presidency of the Republic of Turkey Legislation Information System: https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?LegislationNo=6249&LegislationTur=7&LegislationTertip=5

Table VI-19 Rate of Absolute Poverty by Characteristics of Household Members in Need of Care

Titl	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
1 Ρον	<ul> <li>Right to adequate nutrition.</li> <li>Right to adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>UDHR Art. 25</li> <li>ICESRC Art. 11</li> <li>CEDAW Art. 4</li> <li>PEEP Art. 6</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:         <ul> <li>National Employment Strategy</li> <li>Women's</li> <li>Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	age group, level of education and extended household type)  - Single-adult households where the adult is at age 65 or over;  - Extended households grouped by ages of children in households where there are children in need of care  - Other households grouped by ages of children in households where there are children in need of care	TÜİK, Household Consumption Expenditures (Budget) Survey  Rate of population in poverty by food and food + non-food poverty line	Household Budget Survey (HBS) compiles information about household-level consumption expenditures in Turkey since 2002. Consumption expenditure is the average consumption expenditure made by households within the month of the survey including purchases, consumption from own production, in kind income brought by working household members from their working places, goods and services purchased by households to be given to others as gifts or allowances, and durable goods like car, refrigerator, washing machine, dishwasher, computer, television, camera, furniture, air conditioner etc. purchased within the last year.  Variables: personal disposable income that household members obtained within the last year. Variables related to socioeconomic status: Type and proprietorship of the house used, its heating system, facilities and othe properties.  Variables related to consumption expenditures: Types of expenditure and total monthly amount of spending by sub-expenditure groups.  Variables related to household composition employment and income status: Ages of household members, gender and status in education, employmen (occupation, economic activity, position at work, etc.) and net non-operating and non-operating income obtained within the last year.	d e r f y t d

Table VI-20 Rates of Relative Poverty and Material Deprivation by Characteristics of Household Members in Need of Care

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
2	Poverty	Right to adequate standard of living.  -Decent and adequate standard of living, -Non-discrimination, -Gender equality.  -UDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 11 -CEDAW Art. 4 -PEEP Art.6  National Policy Documents Referred to: -National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)	education and extended household type)  - Single-adult households where the adult is at age 65 or over;  - Nuclear households groped by age of children in households where there are children in need of care  - Extended households groped by age of children in households where there are children in need of care  - Other households grouped by ages of children in households where there are children in need of care	Conditions Survey (ILCS)	The purpose of ILCS is to produce data relating to living conditions, social exclusion and relative income poverty besides income distribution.  The content and administration of the questionnaire confirm to Eurostat standards.  The Income and Living Conditions Survey gives the details of sources of income as operating income (1. Wages and salaries, 2. Entrepreneurial income) and non-operating income (1. Real estate income, 2. Income from securities, 3. Unilateral transfers, 4. Social transfers and 5. Inter-household transfers). Besides income, it is also possible to reach information about status of persons related to health, education, housing, their marital status and past employment experience.	Microdata is accessible at the level of 26 statistical regions.
3	Poverty	Right to adequate standard of living. Right to adequate housing. Decent and adequate standard of living, Non-discrimination, Gender equalityUDHR Art. 25 -ICESRC Art. 9 11 -CEDAW ArtPEEP Art.6 -EU 2020 National Policy Documents Referred to: -National Employment Strategy -Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023) - Family Assistance	population facing serious financial difficulties (proportion to general population of persons who cannot afford/provide for at least 4 of the following 9 items due to economic reasons) (by age group, level of education and household type)  - Single-adult households where the adult is at age 65 or over;  - Extended households groped by age of children in households where there are children in need of care  - Other households grouped by ages of children in households where there	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Source: TÜİK Poverty Statistics, http://www.tuik.gov.tr/PreTablo.do?alt\_id=1013

Table VI-21 Rate of Multidimensional Poverty (MPI)

	Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)		Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
4	Poverty	<ul> <li>Right to adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Right to adequate housing.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>-UDHR Art. 25</li> <li>-ICESRC Art. 9 11</li> <li>CEDAW Art.</li> <li>-PEEP Art.6</li> <li>-EU 2020</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> <li>-National Employment Strategy</li> <li>-Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> <li>-Family Assistance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The multidimensional poverty rate developed by UNDP (consisting of three dimensions as health, education and living standards). Its calculation for Turkey is important and all data and information required is available in TÜİK's ILCS data set.</li> <li>The MPI is calculated for 101 developing countries in the 2019 Human Development Report. Turkey, however, is not one of these countries.</li> </ul>	Same as above.	Same as above.	Same as above.

Table VI-22 Indicators Related to Accessibility and Inclusiveness in Social Assistance

Title	Relevant Human Rights and Norms	Indicator (by gender)	Data Source	Data Collection Method	Data Collection Frequency
5 Social Protection	<ul> <li>Right to have a healthy life.</li> <li>Right to an adequate standard of living.</li> <li>Accessibility.</li> <li>Inclusiveness.</li> <li>Decent and adequate standard of living,</li> <li>Non-discrimination,</li> <li>Gender equality.</li> <li>Accessibility</li> <li>Inclusiveness</li> <li>IUDHR Art. 22, 25</li> <li>ICESRC Art. 9, 10</li> <li>CEDAW Art. 11, 14</li> <li>PEEP Art.6</li> <li>UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Art. 9, 28</li> <li>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Art. 26,27</li> <li>National Policy Documents Referred to:</li> <li>Women's Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan (WESAP) 2018-2023)</li> </ul>	Ratio of persons benefiting from social assistance but still remaining under poverty line by types of social assistance Illness/healthcare Disability, Old age, Widowed/Orphaned, Family/child , Unemployment, Housing, Social exclusion	Same as above.		Same as above.

## **Concepts and Technical Terms**

**Relative poverty:** Individuals or households who, relative to general population, have income and spending below a specific limit are considered as in relative poverty. Depending on the purpose, level of income or expenditures may be chosen as measure of welfare. The TÜİK is engaged in income-based relative poverty calculations. 4 different relative poverty lines are calculated according to equivalized median individual disposable income of households:

Ц	40%	ot	med	ian	income
_		_			

☐ 50% of median income,

☐ 60% of median income,

☐ 70% of median income

**Those under the risk of poverty:** People with equivalized individual disposable income under these limits are defined as under the risk of poverty.

**Poverty rate:** Ratio to total population of people whose equivalized individual household disposable income is below the poverty line.

**Poverty gap:** Poverty gap- It is an index giving information about the extent/intensity of poverty calculated on the basis of distance between the average income of the poor and poverty line. Poverty gap closer to 100 means extreme poverty whereas smaller values indicate lower levels of poverty.

**Poverty gap:** The formula is: Poverty gap= ((Poverty line-EFB median income of the poor)/Poverty line)\*100

**Those under the risk of permanent poverty:** Calculated on the basis of quadrennial panel data, it is population who were under the risk of poverty in at least two years within the period of last four years, remained under the risk of poverty income level defined as 60% of equivalized per capita household disposable income 60% of equivalized disposable median income of household members is used in calculating permanent poverty.

**Material deprivation:** It is the rate of population facing serious financial difficulties defined as being unable to afford/deprived of at least 4 of the 9 items specified due to economic reasons) (by age group, level of education and household type. These items are:

- 1. Coping with unexpected expenses
- 2. One week holiday away from home (for all family members)
- 3. Avoiding arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills, instalments)
- 4. Meal with meat, chicken every second day (or its vegetarian equivalent)
- 5. Keeping home adequately warm
- 6. Washing machine
- 7. Colour TV
- 8. Telephone (fixed line or mobile)
- 9. Personal car

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