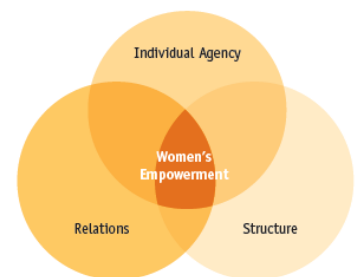




WE-MEASR: A Tool to Measure Women's Empowerment in Sexual, Reproductive and Maternal Health Programs

Globally, CARE's health programs prioritize addressing gender inequity and investing in women's empowerment in order to achieve sustainable improvements in health, as well as to ensure that women realize their full human rights. To strengthen and standardize the measurement of women's empowerment in our programs, CARE has developed a new, multidimensional quantitative survey tool. The tool – called **WE-MEASR (Women's Empowerment – Multidimensional Evaluation of Agency, Social Capital & Relations)** – is designed for use with women and consists of 20 short scales that measure women's empowerment in domains critical to sexual, reproductive and maternal health. The scales are aligned with CARE's theoretical framework for women's empowerment, which outlines three overarching domains of change essential to ensuring meaningful empowerment of women: Individual Agency, Relations, and Structure. Programs can utilize the entire set of **WE-MEASR** scales or select a sub-set of scales that measure the specific dimensions of empowerment that their program is designed to influence.



Tool Development: In developing the measures, CARE built on and adapted existing validated measures, including the *Gender Equitable Men (GEM)* scale, the *Sexual Relationship Power Scale (SRPS)*, the *Demographic and Health Survey Women's Empowerment Modules* and the *Adapted Social Capital Assessment Tool (ASCAT)*. Because so many of CARE's projects aim to achieve women's empowerment by enabling collectivization and catalyzing collective action, we prioritized the inclusion of a set of items to measure structural and cognitive social capital, including membership in and help from community groups, social cohesion and collective efficacy. We also developed new measures where we found gaps, including a set of self-efficacy measures that explore how women's confidence to enact health-promoting behaviors (e.g., use of family planning) is mediated by gender roles and gendered power dynamics in the household.

The items in the tool were tested and refined through two rounds of cognitive interviewing, including interviews with women in rural Malawi. The final measures were then field tested through interviews with 641 married women in Malawi in both patrilineal and matrilineal communities. Data from field tests were analyzed using exploratory factor analysis and reliability analysis, and then further refined. CARE is now using various adaptations of WE-MEASR in program evaluations in several countries to assess how well the scales work in other contexts and to explore associations between programming, empowerment and health behavior outcomes.

1 Pulerwitz, J., & Barker, G. (2008). Measuring attitudes toward gender norms among young men in Brazil: Development and psychometric evaluation of the GEM scale. *Men and Masculinities*, 10, 322-338.

2 Pulerwitz, J., Gortmaker, S.L., & DeJong, W. (2000). Measuring relationship power in HIV/STD research. *Sex Roles*, 42 (7&8), 637-660.

3 MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

4 DeSilva, M.J., Harpham, T., Tuan, T., Bartolini, R., et al. (2006). Psychometric and cognitive validation of a social capital measurement tool in Peru and Vietnam. *Social Science and Medicine*, 62 (4), 941-953.



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Domain	Scales	# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
Agency	Rejection of Intimate Partner Violence* ¹	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-1
	Belief in Women's Right to Refuse Sex ¹	3	α .59	2.13	.99	0-3
	Support for Traditional Gender Roles (Male Dominance) ²	7	α .69	3.46	.84	1-5
	Belief in Women's Health Rights Sub-scale	2	α .71	2.91	1.37	1-5
	SE to Discuss and Use Family Planning	4	α .60	4.30	.73	1-5
	SE to Refuse Sex	5	α .79	2.76	1.17	1-5
	SE to Go to the Health Facility	5	α .70	4.27	.75	1-5
	SE to Attend Community Meetings	4	α .72	3.79	.97	1-5
	SE to Speak out in Community Meetings	3	α .74	3.35	1.21	1-5
	SE to Ask Husband to Help with Household Duties	4	α .80	3.76	1.08	1-5
Social Capital	Ownership of Household Assets/Resources*	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5
	Contribution to Household Resources	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-3
	Social Cohesion ^{3,4,5}	11	α .82	3.64	.76	1-5
	Community Support in Times of Crisis: When Pregnant and Bleeding	4	α .80	3.76	1.12	1-5
	Community Support in Times of Crisis: If Beaten by Husband	5	α .80	3.94	.95	1-5
	Collective Efficacy	4	α .76	3.73	1.02	1-5
	Participation in Collective Action ³	5	α .59	1.79	1.32	0-5
Relations	Women's Participation in Household Decision-making ^{1,6}	15	a. 79	1.58	.23	1-2
	Interspousal Communication ⁷	5	α .77	3.58	.91	1-5
	Female Mobility ^{1,7}	8	α .59	2.94	.16	1-3

*Indices, no alpha reliability reported

Scale Items Adapted From:

¹ MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

² Pulerwitz, J., & Barker, G. (2008). Measuring attitudes toward gender norms among young men in Brazil: Development and psychometric evaluation of the GEM scale. *Men and Masculinities*, 10, 322-338.

³ DeSilva, M.J., Harpham, T., Tuan, T., Bartolini, R., et al. (2006). Psychometric and cognitive validation of a social capital measurement tool in Peru and Vietnam. *Social Science and Medicine*, 62 (4), 941-953.

⁴ Lippman, S.A., Donini, A., Díaz, J., Chinaglia, M., Reingold, A. & Kerrigan, D. (2010). Social-environmental factors and protective sexual behavior among sex workers: The Encontros intervention in Brazil. *American Journal of Public Health*, 100 (S1), S216-S223.

⁵ Kuhlmann, A.S., Galavotti, C., Hastings, P.H., Narayanan, P., Saggurti, N. Investing in communities: Evaluating the added value of community mobilization on HIV prevention outcomes among female sex workers (FSWs) in India. *AIDS and Behavior*, published on line October 2013. DOI 10.1007/s10461-013-0626-6.

⁶ Pulerwitz, J., Gortmaker, S.L., & DeJong, W. (2000). Measuring relationship power in HIV/STD research. *Sex Roles*, 42 (7&8), 637-660.

⁷ ICRW. (2011). *Towards improved economic and sexual reproductive health outcomes for adolescent girls (TESFA)*. Baseline survey. Washington, DC: Author.

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Attitudes and Beliefs about Gender and Women's Rights Scales

Purpose of scales: These scales measure gender-related attitudes and beliefs that increase risk/vulnerability for poor health and/or inhibit the behaviors that promote and protect health, including power relations between men and women.

NOTE: These are all questions about beliefs and attitudes not questions about behaviors. They measure women's attitudes about gender equality and internalized norms and perceptions of norms. By asking individuals about attitudes and beliefs over time, we may be able to measure individual-level change over time; changes among many individuals may reflect larger-scale change in shared attitudes and beliefs.

(Interviewer:) I would like to ask you some questions about men and women and how they behave together: some of the questions will address sensitive subjects, such as your relationship with your husband. All responses will remain confidential, and you do not have to answer a question if you do not want to. Also, if interrupted by another person, I will pause the interview or change the subject in order to maintain privacy.

Rejection of Intimate Partner Violence

(Interviewer:) Sometimes a husband is angry with his wife. In your opinion, is a husband justified in hitting his wife in the following situations:

- 1. Is he justified in hitting his wife if she goes out without telling him?*
- 2. Is he justified in hitting his wife if she neglects their children?*
- 3. Is he justified in hitting his wife if she argues with him?*
- 4. Is he justified in hitting his wife if she refuses to have sex with him?*
- 5. Is he justified in hitting his wife if she did not cook the food properly?*

Item response options: Yes or No, where Yes = 1 and No = 0.

The index was constructed as follows: if respondent answers "No" to **ALL** of the five questions then scale score = 1; otherwise scale score = 0. A high scale score (1) indicates respondent does not believe hitting is justified under any circumstances and is considered an equitable gender belief.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-1

References Adapted from: MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

Belief in Women's Right to Refuse Sex

(Interviewer:) Please tell me if you think a woman is justified in refusing to have sex with her husband in the following situations:

1. First, is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she knows he has a sexually transmitted disease?
2. Is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she knows he has sex with other women?
3. Is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she has recently given birth?

Item response options: Yes or No, where Yes = 1 and No = 0

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores. The scale score range is 0-3, and a high scale score (3) indicates a woman is justified in refusing sex in all situations and is considered an equitable gender belief.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
3	α .59	2.13	.99	0-3

Additional tests for reliability

CARE's Maternal Health Alliance Project, added an additional three items to this scale:

4. Is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she is tired?
5. Is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she is not in the mood?
6. Is a woman justified in refusing to have sex with her husband if she is unhappy with her husband?

This six-item scale was also found to be reliable (Source: Maternal Health Alliance Project, CARE):

Country	Sample	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
Malawi	1,950 women – reproductive age (15-49) who had a child in the last year and whose child was still alive at the time of the interview	α .80	3.14	1.96	1-5

CARE recommends using the six-item scale.

References

Adapted from:

MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

Support for Traditional Gender Roles (Male Dominance)

(Interviewer:) I am now going to read some statements about relationships between men and women. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree or strongly disagree.

1. It is the mother's responsibility to take care of the children.
2. A man should have the final say about decisions in his home.
3. A man is the one who decides when to have sex with his wife.
4. A woman should tolerate being beaten by her husband to keep her family together.
5. Only when a woman has a child is she a real woman.
6. If a woman wants to avoid being pregnant, it is her responsibility alone.
7. It's better to have more sons than daughters in a family.

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neither Agree Nor Disagree = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates a higher support for traditional gender roles (male dominance).

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
7	α .69	3.46	.84	1-5

References

Adapted with permission from:

Pulerwitz, J., & Barker, G. (2008). Measuring attitudes toward gender norms among young men in Brazil: Development and psychometric evaluation of the GEM scale. *Men and Masculinities, 10*, 322-338.

Belief in Women's Health Rights Sub-scale

(Interviewer:) I am now going to read some statements about women's health rights. Please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree or strongly disagree.

- 1. A woman can go to the health facility without her husband's permission.*
- 2. A woman can use family planning without her husband's permission.*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neither Agree Nor Disagree = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates a higher belief in women's health rights.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
2	α .71	2.91	1.37	1-5

Self-efficacy Scales

Purpose of scales: Questions about self-efficacy measure confidence in performing a specific behavior under various conditions (personal, physical, social and environmental). The WE-MEASR scales ask about self-efficacy to perform key SRMH-promoting behaviors under a set of conditions related to gender roles and gendered power relations in the household.

(Interviewer:) Now I am going to ask you some questions about how confident you feel in your own ability to do certain things: for each one I would like you to tell me whether you are completely sure you could do it, somewhat sure you could do it, neither sure nor unsure you could do it, somewhat unsure you could do it, or not at all sure you could do it.

Self-efficacy to Discuss and Use Family Planning

(Interviewer:) Now I am going to ask some questions about how confident or sure you are that you could use family planning if you wanted to. Even if you do not want to use family planning right now, try to imagine sometime in the future when you might wish to use family planning.

- 1. How sure are you that you could bring up the topic of family planning with your husband?*
- 2. How sure are you that you could tell your husband that you wanted to use family planning?*
- 3. How sure are you that you could use family planning?*
- 4. How sure are you that you could use family planning, even if your husband did not want to?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to discuss and use family planning.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
4	α .60	4.30	.73	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This four-item scale was also found to be reliable among the following samples (*Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*):

Country	Sample	Alpha
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .72
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .82

Self-efficacy to Refuse Sex

(Interviewer:) Now I am going to ask you some questions about whether you feel you can refuse to have sex in certain situations. Please remember your answers will be kept completely secret, and you don't have to answer questions you don't want to.

1. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband when you don't want to have sex but he does?*
2. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband if you were feeling tired?*
3. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband if he gets angry with you if you don't have sex?*
4. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband if he threatens to hurt you if you won't have sex?*
5. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband if he threatens to have sex with other women if you don't have sex with him?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to refuse sex.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	α .79	2.76	1.17	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

CARE's Family Planning Results Initiative, added an additional item to this scale:

6. *How sure are you that you could refuse to have sex with your husband if you were feeling sick?*

The six-item scale was found to be reliable among the following samples (*Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*):

Country	Sample	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .80	3.51	1.12	1-5
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .86	3.96	0.81	1-5

Self-efficacy to Go to the Health Facility

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask about going to the health facility.

- 1. How sure are you that you could go to the health facility if you wanted to go?*
- 2. How sure are you that you could go to the health facility if you were worried that the staff would treat you badly?*
- 3. How sure are you that you could go to the health facility if your husband objected to your going?*
- 4. How sure are you that you could go to the health facility if you feel you have some work to do at home?*
- 5. How sure are you that you could go to the health facility if your family thought you were neglecting your household duties?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to go to the health facility.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	α .70	4.27	.75	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This five-item scale was also found to be reliable (α .82) among a sample of 600 women of reproductive age (18-45) in Ethiopia. (Source: *Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*)

Self-efficacy to Attend Community Meetings

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask about attending community meetings.

1. How sure are you that you could attend a community meeting?
2. How sure are you that you could attend a community meeting if your family did not encourage you to go?
3. How sure are you that you could attend a community meeting if your family did not want you to go?
4. How sure are you that you could attend a community meeting if your family would not help with your household duties so that you could attend?

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to attend community meetings.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
4	α .72	3.79	.97	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

Additional testing of this scale showed a reliability of α .91 when the first item was dropped among a sample of 1,950 women of reproductive age (15-49) in Malawi who had a child in the last year and whose child was still alive at the time of the interview. (Source: Maternal Health Alliance Project, CARE)

Self-efficacy to Speak out in Community Meetings

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask about speaking out or expressing your opinion at community meetings.

- 1. How sure are you that you could express your opinion at a community meeting?*
- 2. How sure are you that you could express your opinion at a community meeting if some people did not agree with that opinion?*
- 3. How sure are you that you could express your opinion at a community meeting if most people did not agree with that opinion?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to speak out at community meetings.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
3	α.74	3.35	1.21	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This three-item scale was also found to be reliable (**α .79**) among a sample of 1,950 women of reproductive age (15-49) in Malawi who had a child in the last year and whose child was still alive at the time of the interview. *(Source: Maternal Health Alliance Project, CARE)*

Self-efficacy to Ask Husband to Help with Household Duties

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask you several questions about your husband's participation in household duties.

1. How sure are you that you could ask your husband to do some of the household duties?
2. How sure are you that you could ask your husband to do some of the household duties if you want his help and he isn't doing anything else at the time?
3. How sure are you that you could ask your husband to do some of the household duties if you want to go to an important community meeting?
4. How sure are you that you could ask your husband to do some of the household duties if you want to go visit a friend or family member?

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher self-efficacy to ask husband to help with household duties.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
4	α .80	3.76	1.08	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This five-item scale was also found to be reliable among the following samples (Source: *Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*):

Country	Sample	Alpha
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .88
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .92

Access and Control Over Productive Assets Indices

Purpose of indices: These indices measure whether a woman has control over material assets that might help her exercise control over her own life and/or increase her role and status in the family or community. We ask specifically about a woman's ownership of productive assets and contribution to household resources.

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask you some questions about your work and the ownership of goods in your household.

Ownership of Household Assets/Resources

(Interviewer:) Now I will ask you about things concerning you.

- 1. Aside from your household chores and work, did you do any work outside the home in the past 12 months for which you received money?*
- 2. Aside from your household chores and work, did you do any work outside the home in the past 12 months for which you were paid in goods?*
- 3. Do you have any cash savings of your own, including in a VSLA group?*
- 4. Do you have any land that is owned by you alone?*
- 5. Do you own any assets that could help you generate income?*

Item response options: Yes or No, where Yes = 1 and No = 0

The index was constructed by summing the item scores. The index score range is 0-5, and a higher index score indicates more control over assets.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-5

Contribution to Household Resources

(Interviewer:)

- 1. What proportion of your household expenses is met from the money you earn; would you say, your money is used to pay for all or most, some or none of the household expenses?*

Item response options: All/Most, Some or None, where All/Most = 3, Some = 2, and None = 1

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
1	N/A	N/A	N/A	0-3

Social Capital Scales

Purpose of scales: The social cohesion and “community support in times of crisis” scales measure perceptions of mutual aid, trust, connectedness and social support. These scales thus incorporate not only cognitive social capital domains but also a major dimension of structural social capital (social support).

Social Cohesion

(Interviewer:) I would now like to ask you some questions about your community. For each of the following statements, do you strongly agree, agree, are undecided, disagree, or strongly disagree?

1. The majority of people in this community can be trusted.
2. The majority of people in this community generally get along with each other.
3. I feel that I am really a part of this community.
4. I can rely on people in my community if I need to borrow money.
5. I can rely on people in my community if I need to talk about my problems.
6. I can rely on people in my community to help deal with a violent or difficult family member.
7. I can rely on people in my community to help me if I have difficulty breastfeeding my baby.
8. I can rely on people in my community to help me if I can't provide my child with enough healthy food.
9. I can rely on people in my community to help take care of my children/household if I need to go to the doctor or hospital.
10. I can rely on people in my community to help take care of my children/household if I need to go outside the home to work.
11. The people in my community are an integrated group.

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neither Agree Nor Disagree = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher social cohesion.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
11	α .82	3.64	.76	1-5

References

Adapted with permission from:

- DeSilva, M.J., Harpham, T., Tuan, T., Bartolini, R., et al. (2006). Psychometric and cognitive validation of a social capital measurement tool in Peru and Vietnam. *Social Science and Medicine*, 62 (4), 941-953.
- Lippman, S.A., Donini, A., Díaz, J., Chinaglia, M., Reingold, A. & Kerrigan, D. (2010). Social-environmental factors and protective sexual behavior among sex workers: The Encontros intervention in Brazil. *American Journal of Public Health*, 100 (S1), S216-S223.
- Kuhlmann, A.S., Galavotti, C., Hastings, P.H., Narayanan, P., Saggurti, N. Investing in communities: Evaluating the added value of community mobilization on HIV prevention outcomes among female sex workers (FSWs) in India. *AIDS and Behavior*, published on line October 2013. DOI 10.1007/s10461-013-0626-6.

(Interviewer:) Now I am going to tell you about some different situations, and I will ask you to tell me about who, apart from your immediate family, you might turn to for help in these situations.

Community Support in Times of Crisis: When Pregnant and Bleeding

(Interviewer:) First situation: Imagine for a moment that you are eight months pregnant, and you have started bleeding heavily.

1. How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who you could go to for advice?
2. How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who could take you to the hospital?
3. How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who would help care for your children or household while you are away?
4. How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who would loan you money for transport?

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher community support.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
4	α .80	3.76	1.12	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This four-item scale was found to be reliable (α .83) among a sample of 1,950 women of reproductive age (15-49) in Malawi who had a child in the last year and whose child was still alive at the time of the interview.

(Source: Maternal Health Alliance Project, CARE)

This four-item scale was also found to be reliable among the following samples (Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE):

Country	Sample	Alpha
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .74
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .84

Community Support in Times of Crisis: If Beaten by Husband

(Interviewer:) *Second situation: Try to imagine that your husband has beaten you. This may never have happened, but try to imagine being in that situation. Again, you don't have to answer any questions that you don't want to. Also, if we are interrupted by another person, I will pause the interview or change the subject in order to maintain privacy.*

1. *So, if your husband has beaten you severely, how sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who you could talk to about your problem?*
2. *How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who you could go to for advice?*
3. *How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who would loan you money if you needed it?*
4. *How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who would shelter you if you needed it?*
5. *How sure are you that there is someone in your community, apart from your immediate family, who would take you to the hospital?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher community support.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	α .80	3.94	.95	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This five-item scale was also found to be reliable among the following samples (Source: *Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*):

Country	Sample	Alpha
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .85
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .82

Collective Efficacy Scale

Purpose of scale: This scale measures respondents' confidence that if a group acts together, they can effect change.

Collective Efficacy

(Interviewer:) Ok, now I am going to ask some questions about how the women in your community help each other and work together to improve their lives.

- 1. How sure are you that the women in your community could prevent each other from being beaten or injured by family members?*
- 2. How sure are you that the women in your community could improve how women are treated at the health facility?*
- 3. How sure are you that the women in your community could obtain government services and entitlements?*
- 4. How sure are you that the women in your community could improve the health and well-being of women and children in the community?*

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Completely Sure = 5, Somewhat Sure = 4, Neither Sure/Unsure = 3, Somewhat Unsure = 2, and Not at all Sure = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates higher collective efficacy.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
4	α .76	3.73	1.02	1-5

Participation in Collective Action Scale

Participation in Collective Action

(Interviewer:)

1. *In the past 12 months, have you joined together with other people in your community to address a problem or common issue?*
2. *In the past 12 months, has your community carried out or organized activities with people from another community?*
3. *In the past 12 months, have you spoken out in public about a problem that affects someone else?*
4. *In the past 12 months, have you talked with local authorities or governmental organizations about problems in the community?*
5. *In the past 12 months, have you attended a demonstration about a problem in your community?*

Item response options: Yes or No, where Yes = 1 and No = 0

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores. The scale score range is 0-5, and a higher scale score indicates a higher level of collective action.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	α .59	1.79	1.32	0-5

The alpha (.59) was below the threshold of acceptability. Further revision and testing of this scale is recommended.

References

Adapted with permission from:

DeSilva, M.J., Harpham, T., Tuan, T., Bartolini, R., et al. (2006). Psychometric and cognitive validation of a social capital measurement tool in Peru and Vietnam. *Social Science and Medicine*, 62 (4), 941-953.

Women's Participation in Household Decision-making Power Scale

Purpose of scale: This scale measures decision-making behavior at the household level, which across many contexts is the primary sphere of women's influence. This scale explores power relations between men and women by measuring a woman's ability to influence key decisions that affect her life. These questions are not intended to measure a woman's decision-making power over a specific kind of decision (e.g. household finances) but rather are intended to measure a woman's influence over a range of decisions in her life, in order to measure her decision-making power.

Women's Participation in Household Decision-making

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask you about who usually makes decisions in your household.

1. *First, would you tell me which member of your household usually makes decisions about your health care? Would this person be: you, your husband, both you and your husband together, your mother-in-law or father-in-law, your own parents, or someone else?**
2. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making large household purchases?**
3. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making household purchases for daily needs?**
4. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you will visit family/relatives/friends?**
5. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your whole household will visit family/relatives/friends?**
6. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money that you bring into the household?*
7. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money your husband brings into the household?*
8. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your family will sell a large asset (like a cow)?*
9. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your family will sell a small asset (like a chicken)?*
10. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about whether you can work to earn money?*
11. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you and your husband have sex?*
12. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about whether you and your husband use family planning?*

13. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about what you can wear?****
14. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about who you can spend time with?****
15. *Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how you spend your time?****

Item response options: You, Your Husband, You and Your Husband Together, Mother- or Father-in-law, Someone Else, or Mother or Father. The items were scored as follows:

- a) For questions #1-12, responses You or You and Your Husband Together = 2 and all other responses = 1. As these twelve questions pertain to household decisions, an empowered response is considered to be a decision made by a woman alone or a woman jointly with her husband.

b) For questions #13-15, You = 2 and all other responses = 1.

As these three questions pertain to a woman’s autonomy, the only response that is considered an empowered response is when she answers that she is the sole decision maker.

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-2, and a higher scale score indicates more equitable decision-making in the household.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
15	a. 79	1.58	.23	1-2

Additional tests for reliability

I. A shorter 12-item scale was tested for reliability among women of reproductive age in Kenya and Ethiopia.

This scale included the following 12 items:

1. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about your health care?
2. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making large household purchases?
3. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making household purchases for daily needs?
4. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you will visit family/relatives/friends?
5. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your whole household will visit family/relatives/friends?
6. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money that you bring into the household?
7. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money your spouse brings into the household?
8. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your family will sell a large asset (like a cow)?
9. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your family will sell a small asset (like a chicken)?
10. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about whether you can work to earn money?
11. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you and your husband have sex?
12. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about whether you and your husband use family planning?

Item response options: You, Your Husband, You and Your Husband Together, Mother- or Father-in-law, Someone Else, or Mother or Father, where You or You and Your Husband Together = 2 and all other responses = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-2, and a higher scale score indicates more equitable decision-making in the household.

This 12-item scale was found to be reliable among the following samples (Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE):

Country	Sample	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .74	1.62	.23	1-2
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .80	1.81	.24	1-2

II. A 10-item scale was tested for reliability among **men** of reproductive age in Kenya and Ethiopia.

This scale included the following items:

1. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making large household purchases?
2. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about making household purchases for daily needs?
3. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you will visit family/relatives/friends?
4. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your whole household will visit family/relatives/friends?
5. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money that you bring into the household?
6. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about how to use the money your spouse brings into the household?
7. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when your family will sell a large asset (like a cow)?
8. Which member of your household usually makes decision about when your family will sell a small asset (like a chicken)?
9. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about when you and your wife have sex?
10. Which member of your household usually makes decisions about whether you and your husband use family planning?

Item response options: You (husband), Your Wife, You and Your Wife Together, Mother- or Father-in-law, Someone Else, or Mother or Father, where Your Wife or You and Your Wife Together = 2 and all other responses = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-2, and a higher scale score indicates more equitable decision-making in the household.

This 10-item scale was found to be reliable among the following samples (*Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE*):

Country	Sample	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
Kenya	317 men – reproductive age (18-49)	α .79	1.63	0.25	1-2
Ethiopia	300 men – reproductive age (18-49)	α .85	1.73	.26	1-2

References

*Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 were adapted from:

MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

**Items 13, 14 and 15 were adapted with permission from:

Pulerwitz, J., Gortmaker, S.L., & DeJong, W. (2000). Measuring relationship power in HIV/STD research. *Sex Roles*, 42 (7&8), 637-660.

Interspousal Communication Scale

Purpose of scale: This scale measures the dynamics of interspousal communication. It complements the above scale, which asks about who makes the final decisions concerning household matters. Measuring changes in interspousal communication is especially interesting as increased quantity/quality of communication may be an important intermediate outcome associated with the longer-term outcome of more equitable decision-making.

Interspousal Communication

(Interviewer:) I would now like to ask you about things you may discuss with your husband: for each one please tell me if you discuss this always, often, sometimes, seldom or never.

1. How often do you and your husband discuss things that happened during the day?
2. How often do you and your husband discuss your worries or feelings?
3. How often do you and your husband discuss what to spend household money on?
4. How often do you and your husband discuss when to have children?
5. How often do you and your husband discuss whether to use family planning?

Item response options: 5-point Likert scale, where Always = 5, Often = 4, Sometimes = 3, Seldom = 2 and Never = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-5, and a higher scale score indicates a higher level of interspousal communication.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
5	α .77	3.58	.91	1-5

Additional tests for reliability

This four-item scale was also found to be reliable among the following samples (Source: Family Planning Results Initiative, CARE):

Country	Sample	Alpha
Kenya	317 men – reproductive age (18-49)	α .63
Kenya	617 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .75
Ethiopia	300 men – reproductive age (18-49)	α .66
Ethiopia	600 women – reproductive age (18-45)	α .74

References

Adapted with permission from:

ICRW. (2011). *Towards improved economic and sexual reproductive health outcomes for adolescent girls (TESFA)*. Baseline survey. Washington, DC: Author.

Female Mobility Scale

Purpose of scale: This scale is designed to measure women's freedom to travel outside the home.

Female Mobility

(Interviewer:) Now I would like to ask you about going places. Please tell me whether you are permitted to go to the following places on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?

1. Are you permitted to go to the market to buy or sell things on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
2. Are you permitted to go fetch water on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
3. Are you permitted to go to training courses, including adult literacy classes, on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
4. Are you permitted to go to the health facility on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
5. Are you permitted to go to a community meeting on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
6. Are you permitted to go to homes of close-by friends on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
7. Are you permitted to go to outside the village on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?
8. Are you permitted to go to church or mosque on your own, only if someone accompanies you, or not at all?

Item response options: On My Own, Only If Someone Accompanies Me, or Not At All, where On My Own = 3, Only If Someone Accompanies Me = 2, and Not At All = 1

The scale was constructed by summing the item scores and dividing by the number of items. The scale score range is 1-3, and a higher score indicates a higher level of mobility.

# of Items	Alpha	Mean	SD	Range
8	α .59	2.94	.16	1-3

The alpha (.59) was below the threshold of acceptability. Further revision and testing of this scale is recommended.

References

Adapted with permission from:

MEASURE DHS & ICF Macro. (2008). *Demographic and health survey (DHS)*. Calverton, MD: Author.

ICRW. (2011). *Towards improved economic and sexual reproductive health outcomes for adolescent girls (TESFA)*. Baseline survey. Washington, DC: Author.



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