

- (e) Are women represented in the mechanism? Is there any barrier to women's participation or representation in the mechanism?
- (f) To whom is the mechanism accountable?
- (g) What kinds of disputes are brought before this mechanism? May women bring gender-specific cases or complaints for resolution here?
- (h) Why do parties or women bring their disputes to this mechanism?
- (i) What rules, oral or written, govern the non-state mechanism? Who made those rules? Are the rules responsive to women's needs or to violations of women's rights?
- (j) How does the mechanism resolve disputes?
- (k) What is the participation of the disputants in the process?
- (l) What results or forms of resolution can be expected from the mechanism, especially in gender-specific cases (e.g., domestic violence)?
- (m) How are the resolutions implemented or enforced? What are the problems in the implementation or enforcement of the resolution?
- (n) How does the community view dispute resolution by the non-state mechanism?
- (o) What are the advantages, if any, of choosing the non-state mechanism over the state mechanism?

Links

- (a) Does state law allow the non-state mechanism to resolve disputes? If yes, what disputes, particularly gender-specific disputes, are allowed? If yes, how does the state reinforce (or negate) the dispute-resolution function of the non-state mechanism? If no, what does the state do when the non-state mechanism resolves disputes?
- (b) What is the difference, if any, in how state and non-state mechanisms resolve gender-specific disputes?
- (c) How does the non-state justice mechanism relate to the local system of governance?

E. What are women's conceptions of rights and violations? What are their experiences as users (or non-users) of justice mechanisms?

1. For women to access a mechanism for justice, there has to be a grievance for which a remedy is sought. Some cultural or social beliefs hold legitimate certain acts or experiences that otherwise would be considered harmful or violations under international human rights law. Sometimes women themselves do not perceive any harm in their social experiences.