ALL ABOUT THE
GLOBAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON GENDER STATISTICS
The CEGS is a global institution that contributes towards gender equality and women’s empowerment by helping to close the gender data gap.

The CEGS was launched in 2018 and is the result of two strategic alliances:

(1) An alliance between UN Women and the Mexican National Statistics Office (INEGI); and

(2) As part of the programmatic scope of the UN Women Flagship Programme Initiative “Making Every Woman and Girl Count” (Women Count) that aims at achieving a radical change in the production and use of gender statistics.

The CEGS is hosted in the offices of INEGI in Mexico City. The CEGS’s mission is to support and improve the generation, analysis and use of gender statistics to ultimately assist national statistics systems to implement, monitor and evaluate the gender components of the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). National statistics systems consist of various entities, such as national statistics offices or public and private institutions, which are in charge of producing and using the statistical information of a country to ultimately design effective public policies.
THE IMPORTANCE OF GENDER DATA AND STATISTICS

Data helps us understand a given situation and it empowers us to make strategic decisions. Data is converted into statistics that help us to measure and describe different realities to ultimately manage complex problems. One of the biggest challenges the world is currently facing is gender equality.

Today we do not know enough about what hinders us to achieve gender equality to improve the lives of women and girls, as data is scarce. We need data on their daily realities to comprehend which barriers to gender equality exist. For instance, data and statistics can tell us in which area of a city families live, who lack access to adequate day-care facilities for their children, this in return enables us to respond with targeted interventions.

Gender statistics are important, because they guide global, regional and national policies and programmes; help determine progress levels with reference to a given baseline; and monitor whether goals are met as within established timeframes or not. Therefore, gender statistics are fundamental for monitoring the SDGs and other international agreements related to the rights of women and girls, and gender equality.

Key milestones have been achieved in gender statistics in recent years. However, significant gaps in gender data persist on an international level.

There are many reasons for this gap. First and foremost, producing gender statistics is costly, as to date international experiences and best practices are not identified, systematized and shared. This limits the capacity of national statistics systems to produce and use gender statistics.

BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE

By uniting UN Women’s expertise on gender equality with the technical knowledge of national statistics offices, Mexico, and Latin America more generally, became one of the first regions to start collecting gender-disaggregated data and to foster a dialogue between producers and users of gender statistics to use the information for policy and programme design. It is for this reason that the CEGS has its headquarters in Mexico.
THE STRATEGY FOR CHANGE: COLLABORATION AS KEY TO CLOSE THE GENDER DATA GAP

When people and institutions work together on a common goal such as eliminating barriers to gender equality, great things can be achieved that seemed impossible before. If we were to scale up collaboration between different actors working on and with gender statistics, we could improve the lives of women and girls, sooner than later, at home, at work and everywhere else.

The CEGS was founded to enhance collaboration by linking producers and users in gender statistics, to ultimately help close the gender data gap.

The CEGS identifies, systematizes and shares knowledge on gender data by and for different actors, and is the bridge connecting knowledge with action. It is a point of encounter and a service hub for various actors within national statistics systems and beyond. Through this approach, countries are empowered to collect and use gender data more efficiently, preventing duplication of efforts.

HOW THE CEGS OPERATES

In the first three years of implementation, the CEGS focuses its work on two thematic areas and three programmatic strategies. The thematic areas are pressing issues that are tackled by UN Women at a global level through its work on ending violence against women and girls, and women’s economic empowerment.

**THEMATIC AREAS**

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<th>Unpaid care work</th>
<th>Violence against women and girls, particularly gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)</th>
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<td>Women carry out at least two and a half times more unpaid household and care work than men. As a result, they have less time to engage in paid labour, or work longer hours, combining paid and unpaid labour. Yet, it is rarely recognized as “work”.</td>
<td>Violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. The consequences of violence against women and girls on the individual lives of women and girls, their families and communities are severe and range from immediate to long-term multiple physical, sexual and mental consequences, including death.</td>
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<td>We need to quantify the double burden women carry in order to start attributing an economic value to it.</td>
<td>We need to understand violence against women and girls better in order to come up with preventative measures.</td>
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Facilitate technical expertise through multidisciplinary networks, connecting producers of gender statistics with each other, as well as with decision makers in policy, the economy and beyond. For instance, the CEGS hosts specialized events that provide a space for shared learning and collaboration.

Serve as a knowledge hub to various stakeholders through the identification, systematization, and documentation of knowledge products and resources. An extensive online repository that includes tools and resources on gender statistics is at the heart of this programmatic strategy.

Act as an innovation lab and conduct research on emerging and cutting-edge issues related to gender statistics, such as geospatial analysis. As part of the work conducted under this pillar, the CEGS develops research papers and other relevant knowledge products.

**PROGRAMMATIC STRATEGIES**

**PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHANGE**

**Global level:** International institutions such as the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) are part of the CEGS’s governance mechanism. In its work, the CEGS also seeks cooperation with research institutions and universities, other centres of excellence, as well as existing international organizations working on the field of gender statistics. Furthermore, in joint efforts with the private sector, the CEGS aims at collaborating on research projects that could support the integration of more women into the labour force and at the same time inform important market decisions of the private sector, benefitting the economy at large. The existing know-how and expertise on data analytics and statistics of selected industries could leverage the impact of the CEGS’s work.

**Regional level:** On a regional level, the CEGS connects different regions for shared learning and exchange through south-south and triangular cooperation. This is primarily facilitated through partnerships between national statistics offices.

**Country level:** On a national level, the CEGS particularly collaborates with national statistics offices in different countries. Furthermore, the CEGS fosters the dialogue between statistics offices and policy makers.

For more information visit: [mexico.unwomen.org/es](http://mexico.unwomen.org/es)