

# UN WOMEN RAPID ASSESSMENT SURVEY ON COVID-19

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTE ON COLLECTING EVIDENCE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

### STATISTICS AND COVID-19

COVID-19 took the world by surprise, including statistical systems. Evidence on the gendered socio-economic consequences of the pandemic is essential to guide effective response. Up to now, however, much of this available evidence was rather anecdotal due to the lack of data.



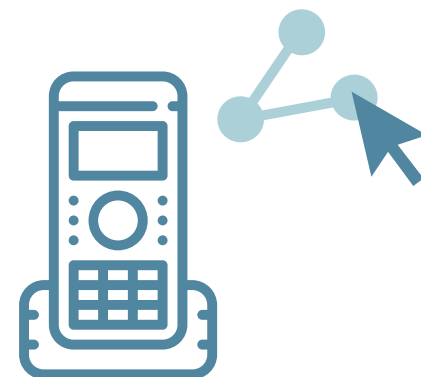
### PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

To fill some key data gaps, UN Women partnered with mobile-network operators across Asia-Pacific to gather evidence. As the pandemic's lock-down measures rendered face-to-face data collection impossible, private sector partners enabled UN Women to reach millions of women and men across the region.



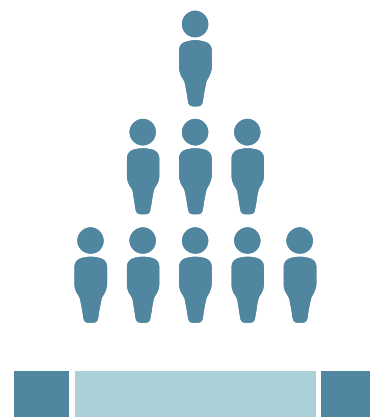
### MIXED-METHOD

Mobile-network operators sent a text message to a random sample of 1 to 3 million registered users in each country. The SMS invited users to complete the survey, hosted on UN Women's data hub but only accessible with the link for sample-control purposes. UN Women also used its own data collection tool to avoid any confidentiality issues associated with third-party tools. As the survey distribution method (SMS) is likely to return more responses from educated population (more likely to own and use smartphones) weights have been applied to adjust the estimates and, in select countries, voice interviews have been used to complement the datasets.



## PERSISTING GENDER INEQUALITIES

The survey generates data on some of the gendered consequences of COVID-19 in the world of paid work as well as unpaid domestic and care work. The survey also captures issues associated with access to healthcare and information. Because of the data collection method, findings may somewhat underestimate persistent gender inequalities. In a data vacuum, however, they provide important pointers to inform rapid response.



## THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

The people we serve are facing losses. They do not all have a cellphone or a functioning internet connection. Yet, they show tremendous cooperation. As of April 2020, the survey collected more than 12,000 responses in four countries in Asia and the Pacific, and counting. The estimates will be updated on an ongoing basis as responses continue being received.



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