THE ISSUE
A national assessment on gender statistics was conducted in 2019 and revealed three inter-related challenges:

- There is no dedicated budget for gender statistics in Senegal and no component of the National Statistical System (NSS) has a specific entity in charge of gender statistics. Although all NSS structures have a gender focal point or specialist, this is often a single staff member reporting to the head of that entity.
- Several data gaps — including how often gender data is produced and in which domains — are undetermined by the absence or poor quality of gender data. Data on wealth, income, expenditures and time-use of household members are generally not disaggregated by sex.
- There is no regular consultation, dialogue or cooperation between data producers and users, and no unified framework for disseminating gender indicators.

WOMEN COUNT RESPONSE:
- Creating an enabling environment: Gender was successfully integrated third National Statistical Development Strategy (NSDS) 2019–2023, setting the foundation for improving the production of gender data.
- Increasing data production: The capacity of the NSS is being improved to compile Tier I and Tier II indicators for the SDGs and the minimum set of gender indicators to monitor commitments under CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action and other national priorities. New data collection activities seek to address gender data gaps.
- Improving data accessibility and use: The regular publication of reports, fact sheets and other tools on gender equality data is being supported in all sectors, along with gender statistics literacy plans.
and in-depth research and analysis of Tier I, Tier II and Tier III gender indicators in the minimum set and the SDGs. User-producer dialogues are also being institutionalized.

RESULTS

The Women Count project officially kicked off at the end of 2019 with the finalization of a national gender statistics assessment and project document. Results focused on planning and preparatory activities to lay the foundation of full implementation of the project to take place in 2020. Nonetheless, a few key activities from 2019 include:

1. Creating an enabling environment

- Gender statistics are now a top priority in Senegal’s national development strategy. The national assessment coincided with the development of Senegal’s third NSDS (2019-2023) and provided a unique opportunity to integrate a gender perspective in long-term statistics plans. As a result, the NSDS now designates gender statistics as its first strategic pillar, and forthcoming action plans will aim to improve the collection of gender data through surveys and administrative systems, including civil registration, expanding thematic coverage of gender statistics in areas such as climate change, governance, and peace and security (see Case Study 1, Chapter 2).

2. Increasing data production

- UN Women is partnering with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to conduct the first Violence against Women Survey. Within this partnership, UN Women is acting as the technical and financial partner for this survey, with UNDP as the lead manager. Planning and preparatory work began, including development of the methodological note and terms of reference. The survey will produce the first violence against women data collected at the household level; mapping of survivors and service-providers; and the first administrative data collection on support for survivors at police stations, courts and health services for the country.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

- Training strengthened national planning capacities of data producers and users. UN Women, in collaboration with PARIS21, organized a training session on the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT), a free cloud-based planning tool developed by PARIS21 to help National Statistical Offices and other data producers respond to policy-related data needs. About 40 participants discussed how to integrate a gender perspective into Senegal’s third NSDS, providing an opportunity to promote co-operation between producers and users, including civil society organisations and the research community. As a result, more data users and producers are equipped to identify data gaps and to map gender data demand from global and national policies.

PLANS FOR 2020*

- Monitoring the implementation of the new National Statistical Development Strategy 2019-2023;
- Improving the capacity of the National Statistical System (NSS) to compile Tier I and Tier II indicators on the SDGs and the minimum set of gender indicators to monitor commitments under CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action and other national priorities;
- Organizing training sessions for NSS data-producers at central and district levels to produce, collect and analyse Tier I and Tier II gender-related SDG indicators;
- Institutionalizing a gender statistics curriculum within the National School of Statistics and Economic Analysis (ENSAE);
- Conducting regular training on gender statistics for statisticians and non-statistical users;

* Plans for 2020 may be further adjusted to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.