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IN BRIEF:

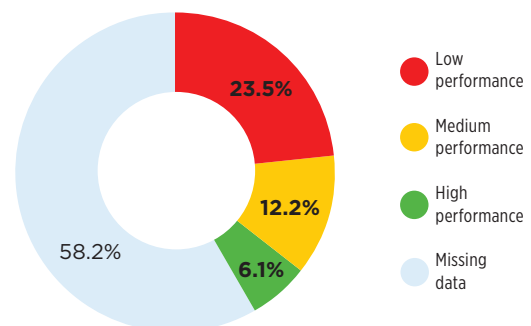
MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT IN UGANDA

THE ISSUE

A national assessment on gender statistics was conducted in 2016, revealing three inter-related challenges:

- There has been inconsistent and unpredictable financial and technical support for gender data, and the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) lacks specialized staff to liaise with or validate gender data produced by ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs).
- Gender data is quite limited, with baseline information available for only half of the indicators in Tier I. Even where it can be obtained from surveys, data is not disaggregated at district level, limiting its usability.
- Despite improvements in Uganda’s data dissemination, significant barriers to accessing gender data

FIGURE 1
How is Uganda doing on gender data?



Source: [Women Count Data Hub](#)

remain. Statistics are not processed and shared in a user-friendly manner, and there is a lack of institutional, financial and technical capacity to validate and widely disseminate data online.

WOMEN COUNT RESPONSE:

- **Creating an enabling environment:** National coordination on gender statistics is improving as a result of establishing technical working groups; gender is mainstreamed in national development plans and statistical development plans to improve monitor progress on gender equality.
- **Increasing data production:** Technical capacities of the UBOS were strengthened to produce and analyse quality data on time-use, violence against women and girls, and governance, peace and security, sectors with key data gaps.
- **Improving data accessibility and use:** Partnerships with the Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) is resulting in increased dissemination of data, policy briefs and research, and analytic reports on gender equality. User-producer dialogues are being institutionalized, including the Annual Gender Statistics Forum and tailor-made trainings on gender statistics are being provided for data users and producers.

RESULTS

Building on progress in 2018, UN Women has been actively supporting the UBOS to strengthen capacity of the National Statistical System (NSS) to produce and make available quality, comparable and regular gender statistics to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under the SDGs, CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action. Technical assistance was provided by UN Women to the UBOS to update the gender statistics strategy and integrate it into plans for national statistical development. Key results in 2019 include:

1. Creating an enabling environment

- **Review of national development plans reveals gender mainstreaming needs to be strengthened.** UN Women provided technical and financial support to the UBOS to commission the end Evaluation of the PNSD II and Mid-term review of the Extended PNSD II. The review established key achievements, challenges and emerging issues in the production of gender-responsive data, such as the need for more capacity-building efforts to strengthen the production

FIGURE 2
Measuring Progress in 2019



Significant progress in Uganda is due to successfully integrating gender in major initiatives in the coordination, production, dissemination and use of gender statistics.

of gender data across the NSS. The results will be used to inform the design of the third Statistical Plan (PNSD III) and align it with the third National Development Plan (NDP III), to be developed in 2020.

- **Coordination on gender statistics continues to be strengthened through the Technical Working Groups.** Meetings of the Technical working group resulted in improving the production of the national SDG progress report to ensure evidence based reporting and timely data was used to measure Uganda's progress on the SDGs from a gender perspective. Additionally, UN Women seconded an SDGs monitoring and evaluation officer to the Office of the Prime Minister to strengthen the Governments capacity to improve SDGs monitoring and reporting.
 - **Gender data informed the revision of Uganda's public procurement policy.** Following the revision of the National Gender Policy 2017 and of the integration of National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) indicators in the National Standard Indicators framework, a revision of Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets policy has been initiated to improve the level of women's participation and benefits from public procurement.
- ### 2. Increasing data production
- **140 National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) were adopted to improve to measure progress on gender equality.** The indicators are anchored on the NDP II and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and have been integrated within the Government's National Standard Indicator Framework. UN Women supported the Government to compile the indicators to address SDG 5

monitoring requirements and emerging issues on Uganda's progress towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. The NPGEs increased gender data coverage from 6 to 12 sectors (out of 19) and the total number of indicators from 114 to 140.

- **Training strengthened the capacities of data producers to improve production of violence against women data.** UN Women supported the participation of members of the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, UBOS Director and Senior Statistician in charge of VAW and Social statistics, to attend a Regional workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 16-19 July 2019. The workshop provided participants greater technical and conceptual clarity around planning, designing, and implementing VAW surveys. As a result, a country action plan for undertaking a VAW survey pilot was developed and data collection is expected to begin in 2020.
- **Uganda's first time use survey launched and the results are influencing national development plans.** The 2017–18 Time-Use Survey revealed that women spend more time on unpaid work, spending 6 hours on average compared to 4 hours by men, pointing to the need of policies and plans that improve women's economic empowerment. As a result, the UBOS and the National Planning Authority (NPA) have since integrated time use gender indicators in the NDP III, with support received from UN Women.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

- **UN Women and Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) teamed up to mentor statisticians to improve their data analysis skills.** UN Women and EPRC organized a customized mentorship training in partnership with the Makerere University for 17 UBOS staff to improve their capacity for in-depth analysis of existing data, in order to increase the availability of gender data to inform programming, budgeting, research and advocacy on gender equality and women's empowerment and the SDGs. As a result of the mentoring process, the trainees developed and published five policy papers on how gender statistics

can be used to inform policy and programming in the agricultural sector; sustainable modern energy; gender-based violence; women's empowerment in the land sector; information and communication technologies.

- **User-producer dialogues at the 3rd Annual Gender Statistics Forum (AGSF III) raise awareness on women's unpaid care work.** UN Women in partnership with UBOS and EPRC, organized the AGSF III on 28th November, which brought together over 220 participants from civil society organizations, ministries, academia and statisticians. Results of the Time-Use Survey were disseminated, and policy implications of women's unpaid domestic and care work were discussed by an interdisciplinary panel. Three gender analytical papers based on the Time-Use Survey, 2017 NGPSS and 2016 Uganda National Household Survey data were also presented revealing women's disproportionate share of unpaid care work and the extent of disempowerment among women and the simultaneous gaps or inadequacies experienced by the disempowered women at individual level.

PLANS FOR 2020*

- Informing the design of national development plans, PNSD III and NDP III ensuring gender is mainstreamed;
- Conducting national violence against women and girls survey;
- Improving the gender analysis and disaggregation of existing survey and administrative data to contribute to SDGs monitoring;
- Producing gender sector profiles and analysis of national priority gender equality indicators;
- Conducting a rapid gender assessment on the impact of COVID-19;
- Organizing user-producer dialogues during the Annual Gender Statistics Forum to increase dissemination and use of gender data.

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