



PHASE 1

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**IN BRIEF:**

# MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT IN TANZANIA

**THE ISSUE**

A national assessment of gender statistics in the United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania hereafter) was conducted in 2018, revealing three interrelated challenges:

- Neither Tanzania's national gender and development strategies nor its statistical plans explicitly sought to improve the production and use of gender data.
- Despite existing capacity within the national statistical system (NSS) to generate gender data to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other gender equality commitments, fewer than 30% of the gender-specific SDG indicators were fully available, and few had additional disaggregation, beyond sex.
- There was no one-stop-shop or comprehensive source for Tanzania's latest gender data, featuring both quantitative and qualitative information. User-producer forums on gender statistics were not regularly or systematically organized.

**WOMEN COUNT RESPONSE:**

- **Creating an enabling environment:** Gender statistics have been integrated in key national strategies and plans, as well as in their monitoring

frameworks. The institutional capacities of key statistical actors and inter-agency coordination mechanisms have been strengthened thanks to the gender statistics working groups established.

- **Increasing data production:** The technical capacities of the Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) in Zanzibar and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in Mainland Tanzania have been strengthened. New quality data on unpaid care work, violence against women, and social norms and institutions have been produced, while existing gender data in censuses, surveys and routine data systems have been reprocessed to fill gender data gaps to improve SDG monitoring.
- **Improving data accessibility and use:** Support to OCGS and NBS to develop a centralized and responsive online database hosting national-level gender statistics has improved monitoring of global and national commitments, including on social norms and institutions. The capacities of users have been strengthened to conduct gender data analysis, while reports, profiles and booklets on gender across the SDGs have been regularly produced to improve the use of gender statistics.

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*“The programme assisted both, the office of the Chief Government Statistician Zanzibar (OCGS) and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to develop a gender module which was embedded in the Tanzania Statistical Master Plan II and also the Five-Year Development Plan III. We were able to conduct the Social Institutions and gender Index (SIGI) survey. UN Women helped the National Bureau of Statistics to support the Household Budget Survey (HBS)”*

**Sylvia Meku, Manager, NBS**

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## RESULTS

UN Women has made significant strides in Tanzania, including significant structural improvement in the NSS to produce and use gender. Key results include:

### 1. Creating an enabling environment

- **Gender statistics are increasingly prioritized in national plans, strategies and laws in Tanzania and Zanzibar, which now require certain sex-disaggregated gender data.** Before the Women Count project in Tanzania, key national plans and legal frameworks lacked the explicit promotion of gender data production and use to drive evidence-based policymaking. As a result of UN Women’s support, NBS amended a restrictive Statistics Act, paving the way for the drafting of a Gender Statistics Strategy (GSS) that has mainstreamed gender statistics production in the Mainland and Zanzibar for the next five years. This support has also helped to ensure that the National Gender Policy, the Tanzania Statistics Master Plan (TSMP II) and the Zanzibar Strategy for the Development of Statistics (ZSDS) all explicitly include gender data action and financing plans. The GSS is embedded in the TSMP II, which highlights the importance of gender-sensitive surveys, such as time-use surveys and a violence against women (VAW) module; makes provisions for a gender chapter to be included across all survey reports; and calls for the production of sex-disaggregated data in its implementation plan. Also embedded in the TSMP II is the Five-Year National Plan of Action to End Violence against Women and Children, through which OCGS mandates relevant ministries, departments and agencies to produce sex-disaggregated VAW data to better inform support to victims. In Zanzibar, the produced VAW data have been used in community radio talk-shows and discussions on violence-related issues to sensitize people in the community. VAW data are also shared with users regularly through user-producer dialogues in Zanzibar

and have been used to adopt pragmatic programmes to manage VAW. Gender statistics have also been included in the country’s national sustainable development strategies, namely in Tanzania’s Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III, 2021/22–2025/26) and Zanzibar’s Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUZA IV). Gender mainstreaming in these strategies will further improve data availability while strengthening institutional capacities of the NSS to fuel gender-responsive policymaking.

- **National coordination has been institutionalized, leading to the improved availability and increased use of gender data for SDG monitoring in Tanzania.** Before 2018, coordination on gender data was fragmented, both in Zanzibar and the Mainland. In response, UN Women supported the establishment of Gender Statistics Units at both NBS and OCGS and founded an inter-agency Technical Working Group on Gender Statistics (TWG-GS) that oversees quality data production. These committees also advocated in various forums to use sex-disaggregated data to inform policies and programmes at a national as well as sectoral level. Regular meetings are being held to provide technical guidance related to various gender statistics activities by NBS and OCGS for quality assurance. Committee members are also now better able to manage gender statistics as a result of capacity-building under the Women Count programme. Driving gender statistics in the country, these coordination mechanisms have promoted the production of gender-related SDG indicators, which have informed and positioned gender data squarely in key strategies and plans, such as FYDP III, MKUZA IV, TSMP II and ZSDS.

### 2. Increasing data production

- **More gender data are increasing Tanzania’s ability to monitor the SDGs.** The ability to monitor the SDGs has significantly improved with the preparation and adoption of Minimum Sets of Gender Indicators

(MSGI) for the Mainland (125 indicators) and Zanzibar (79 indicators). The MSGIs paved the way for the inclusion of 26 (out of 54) gender-specific SDG indicators in the results frameworks of FYDP III and MKUZA IV. As a result of continuous data production and the reprocessing of surveys, data on 65% of gender-related SDG indicators have been produced and can be found in key monitoring and reporting tools, such as the first SDG Indicator Reports in Zanzibar and the Mainland, the country's Voluntary National Review, as well as reporting on Tanzania's progress on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) Beijing+25 report.

- **Increased gender data production has reduced data gaps and led to increased commitment of financial resources for gender statistics.** UN Women has supported NBS and OCGS to conduct surveys and modules as well as to reprocess existing survey data on time-use and VAW. The time-use modules in the Household and Budget Surveys (HBS) in the Mainland and Zanzibar informed the construction of the first household satellite account, providing further details on unpaid care and domestic work. They also fed the compilation of a National Multidimensional Poverty Index (SDG 1.2.2), providing a valuable level of disaggregation for assessing the true extent of poverty among Tanzanian women. The first Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) survey, coupled with the dissemination of gender-based violence and crime data from the police, equally served as impetus for the Government to support UN Women's initiative to mobilize non-core resources for a stand-alone VAW survey in 2022/2023. This is a testament of the increased commitment and a whole-of-government approach towards gender statistics production.
- **Capacity-building on the production and use of gender statistics has been systematized across the NSS and is improving reporting on national commitments.** UN Women has been supporting NBS and OCGS in their efforts to systematically provide trainings on how to collect, analyse and use gender data for monitoring and reporting on the SDGs and for policymaking. More than 200 data producers and users have improved their abilities to conceptualize surveys and analyse quantitative and qualitative gender data. As a result, NBS, OCGS, the Ministries of Gender from the Mainland and Zanzibar and the Department of Police have increased data

production and analysis of VAW crime statistics, time-use data and the SIGI survey.

### 3. Improving data accessibility and use

- **New gender data are spurring advocacy and fuelling policy changes.** The SIGI, conducted in 2020, underlines that discrimination in social institutions – such as child marriage, VAW and unequal inheritance and property rights – hamper opportunities for women and girls. For example, SIGI data revealed that 16% of girls were married before the age of 18 in Tanzania – lower than the average rate of girl child marriage of 24% in Eastern Africa in 2019. Produced with UN Women's support, a working paper highlighting the SIGI findings is being used in advocacy with policymakers to pass the pending Marriage and Divorce Bill currently before Parliament, which would increase the minimum age for marriage from 15 to 18. With UN Women, reports on unpaid care work in the Mainland and Zanzibar were also finalized and are currently available for reference on the websites of NBS and OCGS. These findings have been used to adjust UN Women programme interventions on women's economic empowerment and the care economy in Tanzania. Moreover, HBS data were used to revise the minimum salary of government employees and Labour Force Survey data (2020/21) were used to increase the allocation for women under the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) as part of government poverty-reduction strategies.
- **More information is now available and widely accessible on the status of women and girls in Tanzania.** UN Women's support for data production has increased the availability of gender-related statistics in status reports on women's economic empowerment, Zanzibar in Figures, and gender equality overall. This first-ever Country Gender Equality Profile (CGEP) for Zanzibar makes available sex-disaggregated data on key gender issues, building on data production supported by UN Women, including from the HBS and the rapid gender assessment (RGA). The accessibility of gender-related statistics and reports on the status of women and girls has increased through the dedicated gender statistics pages hosted under the NBS and OCGS websites, which were visited by 9,000 visitors annually. Through an inclusive dissemination approach, the findings of the reports on Zanzibar's SDG indicators and its MSGIs have been shared widely, through prioritized regional-level dissemination and diversified communication

channels to reach different stakeholders. For example, younger and more general-public audiences are being reached through the increased use of digital platforms and social media.

- **Zanzibar has institutionalized the regular dissemination of VAW and crime statistics.** In 2017, the Government of Zanzibar made a bold commitment to end violence against women and children. In service of improved policymaking in this area, UN Women supported the preparation of the OCGS Action Plan on Gender Statistics, shedding light on three key issues – migration, marriage and divorce registration, and crime – and specifying specific data user needs. Since then, OCGS has regularized the dissemination of VAW and crime statistics through monthly statistical releases of secondary VAW data from the police in Zanzibar. These data have been used in civil society advocacy for improvements to Zanzibar’s VAW information system to ensure that standardized and quality VAW data are collected throughout the country. Through the community radio discussions in Zanzibar, the data have been used to sensitize communities to better manage VAW cases.

## PLANS FOR 2022

Plans for Women Count Phase II in Tanzania will focus on: sustaining the integration of gender statistics in the NSDS, national development and gender policies; strengthening the technical capacities of governments, civil society and other actors to fill gender data gaps and inform evidence-based policymaking; supporting the production and use of gender data on VAW, governance, peace and security and time-use; increasing the availability and accessibility of gender

**FIGURE 1**  
**Measuring Progress during Phase I**



Progress was driven by institutional strengthening of NSOs, enhanced coordination mechanisms and increased gender data availability, leading to improved reporting and advocacy for policy changes. In 2021, 100% of targets were met by the project.

data knowledge products; as well as further advancing monitoring and reporting on the SDGs. Specific interventions will include:

- Strengthening gender statistics mechanisms in the Mainland and in Zanzibar.
- Finalizing the performance indicators for FYDP III and MKUZA IV.
- Conducting a VAW survey (2022/2023).
- Collecting data on women in local government (2022/23).
- Strengthening administrative data systems on VAW in Zanzibar.
- Customizing and finalizing the methodologies to develop citizen-generated data.
- Developing methodologies and document best practices on the institutionalization of user-producer dialogues.