PHASE 1

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IN BRIEF:

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT IN SENEGAL

THE ISSUE

A national assessment on gender statistics was conducted in 2019 and revealed three interrelated challenges:

- There was no dedicated budget for gender statistics in Senegal and no component of the national statistical system (NSS) had a specific entity in charge of gender statistics. Although all NSS structures had a gender focal point or specialist, this was often a single staff member reporting to the head of that entity.

- Several data gaps — including how often gender data are produced and in which domains — were undermined by the absence or poor quality of gender data. Data on wealth, income, expenditures and time-use of household members were generally not disaggregated by sex.

- There was 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 into the third National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) 2019–2023, setting the foundation for improved gender data.

- **Increasing data production:** The capacity of the National Statistics Agency (ANSD) has been strengthened through training to conduct surveys such as a time-use and a violence against women survey to improve monitoring of the SDGs from a gender perspective.

- **Improving data accessibility and use:** The publication of reports, policy briefs and other communications tools is contributing to greater evidence-based advocacy and policymaking to monitor progress on national commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment.

"Women Count has made it possible to stimulate the systematic consideration of gender-specific data in the production of data in Senegal."

Alé Nar Diop, General Manager, ANSD Senegal

KEY RESULTS

Since 2019, Women Count has laid the foundation for more and better gender data production and use in Senegal. Key results include:

1. Creating an enabling environment

- **Laying a strong foundation to improve gender data through national strategies is bearing fruit.** As a result of UN Women's underlined advocacy efforts in 2019, Senegal's third NSDS (2019–2023) designated gender statistics as a strategic pillar for the first time. To guide its implementation, a Gender Statistics Action Plan was adopted to further guide the ANSD and the Senegalese Government to improve the production of sex-disaggregated data at national and subnational levels and to increase accessibility for users. Since then, more gender data are being produced and used. For example, sex-disaggregated data were successfully mainstreamed for the first time in all chapters of the Economic and Social Situation report of Senegal, including a dedicated chapter on the situation of women and girls. It is the most used of all ANSD reports and it will be produced annually at the national and regional level.

- **The institutionalized Multipartite Gender Statistics Committee has strengthened coordination within the NSS.** The Committee, chaired by the ANSD, comprises 74 institutions across government, civil society and academia. Its role is to support the NSS to address the limited production, analysis and use of gender statistics at national and subnational levels. The Committee guided the design and approval of the Gender Statistics Action Plan (2020–2023).

- **The Ministry of Women is improving its ability to drive evidence-based policies by establishing a dedicated statistical unit.** UN Women commissioned a study to assess the statistical capacities of the Ministry of Women, Family, Gender and Child Protection (MFFGPE), which found that there was a

strong need to establish a dedicated statistics unit within the Ministry to guide the regular production of gender statistics across all gender units in all sectoral ministries in Senegal. The Ministry has taken forward these recommendations, with the support of UN Women, to institutionalize this unit, which will contribute to better coordination of the production and use of data to monitor and inform policies on national gender equality commitments. The unit will be responsible for reporting on gender indicators to inform Agenda 2063, scaling up the dissemination of gender data through analytical reports, encouraging other ministries to include gender in administrative statistics, and mobilizing resources for its operations. This is an important step towards building and sustaining the critical capacities of national government stakeholders and it increases the likelihood that gender-based policies will be data-driven, moving forward.

2. Increasing data production

- **Senegal's first-ever time-use survey (TUS) reveals significant disparities in women's unpaid care work.** The preliminary findings show that 90% of women surveyed contribute to unpaid care work compared to 54% of men, while 50% of men contribute to paid work compared to 31% of women. On average, women devote 5 hours a day to unpaid care work, compared to 2 hours for men — that is 2.5 times more time. After the NSDS 2019–2023 highlighted the need for detailed data on time use, in 2021, UN Women supported ANSD to implement the national stand-alone TUS. The TUS provides information about time-use distribution between paid and unpaid work and its contribution to economic growth and well-being — essential data for policymaking to achieve the SDGs. The Government has also expressed interested in using these findings to create a satellite account to understand the value of unpaid care work to GDP. UN Women will organize a press briefing in 2022 with the MFFGPE and the

Ministry of the Economy to identify how the data will be used to inform policies on gender equality in Senegal.

- **Preparations are underway to fill data gaps on the prevalence of violence against women in Senegal for the first time.** 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. 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, a mapping of survivors and service-providers, and the first administrative data collected on support for survivors at police stations, courts and health services across the country. Data collection will begin in 2022.

- **Data producers and users from across the NSS are now better equipped to collect data and close national gender data gaps.** UN Women has led over 20 trainings on improving gender data use and production, which have benefited more than 400 data producers and users since the start of Women Count, in partnership with ANSD. Data producers and users have participated in these capacity-building efforts in 10 out of the 14 regions of Senegal and have applied their skills to produce sex-disaggregated data as part of the routine statistics produced annually by sectoral ministries. With PARIS21, training on tools to support the monitoring of data activities for decision-making have equipped more data users and producers to identify gaps and to map the gender data demand from global and national policies.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

- **Policymakers are better informed by new analysis on how to address gender disparities in Senegal.** UN Women in partnership with ANSD developed four studies: on differential access to education for men and women, on determinants of violence against women, on gender disparities in access to formal employment, and on the role of gender in measuring the contribution of entrepreneurship and leadership to added value. These studies reprocessed existing data from the Demographic Health Survey, Poverty Monitoring Survey and General Business Census which are not often analysed by sex. Their analysis found that women's entrepreneurship contributed

22.1% of Senegal's GDP in 2017 and noted pervasive inequalities in access to formal employment, where men are 1.6 times more likely than women to have a formal job. The studies include policy recommendations to enact gender quotas in the public and private sectors to encourage women's employment. By highlighting the disparities between men and women in these respective sectors and by assessing the socioeconomic and demographic factors contributing to such gaps, this research will inform future policy decisions and support the monitoring of SDGs 4, 5 and 8.

- **Data spur policy action to support vulnerable women to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.** The results of a rapid gender assessment (RGA) on the effects of COVID-19 in Senegal revealed that women and self-employed women in particular had been harder-hit than their male counterparts. Such data fuelled a new government programme aimed at strengthening the resilience of vulnerable groups and women in the informal sector in particular, which has since received USD 1.7 million in funding from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation. The findings informed MFFGPE's proposal for a Resilience-Building Programme for Households and Vulnerable Groups (PAREM), which focuses on the economic resilience of women in the informal sector, through subsidies and economic support to women-led small and medium-sized enterprises and community capacity-building for vulnerable groups.

- **Data users are improving how gender data are communicated through media.** A video was produced to make visible the actions undertaken and the results expected under the Women Count project. Capsules were developed to improve communication on the use of gender statistics in Senegal and were shown on national television. ANSD's second quarter newsletter, the widely read "PHARE", included a focus on the contributions of the Women Count project in Senegal. Moreover, with ANSD support, the Association of Gender Information Professionals, a network of journalists, was established to improve how gender data are communicated through online and print media. The network has been instrumental in bringing together journalists and strengthening their capacity to use data effectively in media reports.

PLANS FOR PHASE II[1]

Thanks to contributions from the French Development Agency (AFD) in 2020, the Women Count project in Senegal will extend its first phase until December 2022. The project will continue working towards the expected results set out by Women Count to improve the enabling environment for gender statistics, produce gender data and increase gender data accessibility, before transitioning to Phase II in 2023. Activities will include:

- Strengthening advocacy efforts to amend and mainstream gender in the national statistics law.
- Supporting ANSD to conduct the first-ever survey on violence against women.
- Facilitating the production of a bi-annual statistical bulletin "Women and Men in Senegal.
- Organizing user-produce dialogues to promote data use for policies and advocacy.

FIGURE 1

Measuring Progress during Phase I

Progress was the result of improved technical capacity to conduct surveys — such as a time-use and violence against women — and to improve monitoring of the SDGs from a gender perspective. In 2021, 100% of targets were met by the project.

- Conducting trainings for data producers at district level to strengthen their capacity to produce, collect and analyse SDG data from a gender perspective.

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1 Plans for Phase II are in the process of being finalized.