SUDAN NATIONAL GENDER STATISTICS ASSESSMENT
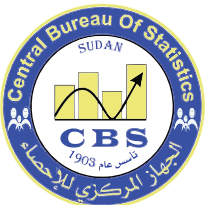
Sudan National Gender Statistics Assessment

Contents

Acknowledgements

Acronyms and abbreviations

APGS	African Programme on Gender Statistics
AU	African Union
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
DQAF	Data Quality Assessment Framework
FACCS	Federal Agencies Consultative Committee on Statistics
GD	Gender data
GS	Gender statistics
GSBPM	Generic Statistical Business Process Model
HLNM	High-Level National Mechanism
MDA	ministries, departments, and agencies
NCCS	National Consultative Committee on Statistics
NSC	National Steering Committee
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSS	National Statistical System
NUPC	National User/Producer Committee
PIU	Plan Implementation Unit
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIGI	Social Institutions and Gender Index
SWOT	Strength, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats
TQM	Total Quality Management
UNSD	United Nations Statistical Division
VNR	Voluntary National Review

Executive Summary

The national gender statistics assessment in Sudan was aimed at identifying data and capacity gaps that can be used to develop a work plan to address challenges and obstacles in three broad areas of work: i) an enabling environment; ii) data production; and iii) data accessibility and use. The findings of this assessment will provide the basis for the implementation of a gender data and statistics programme in the Sudan under the auspices of Making Every Woman and Girl Count (Women Count), UN Women's Flagship programme on gender data and statistics. The flagship programme aims to affect a radical shift in the availability, accessibility, and use of data and statistics on key aspects of gender equality and women's empowerment through a holistic and integrated approach. This includes enhancing the linkages between normative and technical work on gender statistics at national levels to provide the inputs necessary to develop a detailed work plan for project implementation.

The specific objectives of the gender statistics assessment in Sudan were to conduct a detailed review of gender statistics within the context of the National Statistical System (NSS), including documenting the extent to which gender equality is mainstreamed into the NSS; identifying gender data gaps to monitor the gender-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators and other national gender-related priorities; and assessing the extent to which the data produced is made available and used to inform policies and the implementation of programmes.

The assessment was based on a desktop review and five structured questionnaires that were distributed to and completed by key stakeholders to assess statistical capacity and data gaps. The assessment was guided by the framework for gender statistics systems assessments jointly developed by PARIS21 and UN Women[1].

As part of its ongoing efforts to improve statistical production in Sudan, in 2021, the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) established a gender statistics unit called the "Social and Gender Unit". The Unit reports directly to the Chief Statistician of CBS and has a team of seven employees. Their primary task is to produce and support the production of gender statistics. While this is a significant move forward, significant data and capacity gaps remain. The Statistics Act of 2003 is outdated and does not make adequate provision for recent advances in statistical production and needs. Neither does it specify the need for the production of gender statistics or its overt inclusion in the statistical infrastructure of the NSS. The National Statistics Development Strategy (NSDS) does not adequately reference and mainstream the production of gender statistics. However, the new NSDS, currently under development, has benefitted significantly from inputs from the gender sector. The coordination of the production and use of gender statistics has either been absent or ineffective across the NSS within the sub-systems and between the central federal level operations and states that form part of the NSDS.

The assessment has identified various other impediments in the enabling environment. These include: limited staff members; lack of gender statistics specialists or the necessary skills amongst the statisticians working in the unit; absence of a dedicated budget specifically for gender statistics within the overall national budget for statistics, and no criteria to deliberately include gender (statistics) in the national budgeting process for statistics.

With regards to the production of statistics, the assessment found that there has been limited production of gender data and statistics over time and even less during the past three years while the country was undergoing political instability and change. In instances where gender statistics were produced, this was done irregularly and potential data sources for a gender analysis, for example the 5th Population and Housing Census, were not used to produce statistical reports focusing on

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1   Assessing data and capacity gaps in gender statistics, 2019. Available from https://paris21.org/node/3286

gender. As a result, Sudan only managed to report on 31 % of the 122 gender indicators in the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 as of December 2020. There are at least three gender specific surveys that need to be executed as soon as possible: a time-use survey; a national violence against women and girls' prevalence survey, and a Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) Survey. Gender has not been mainstreamed in either the household survey production process or in the administrative data system in the country and the gender-responsiveness of the project has not been undertaken. Various recommendations that are aimed at addressing these gaps were made as part of the assessment. If implemented, these will strengthen the production of gender statistics to enable the monitoring of national policies and reporting commitments under the SDGs, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action.

Gender data and statistics are seldom produced for their own sake. Without increasing the accessibility and ease of use as well as the data literacy of gender data users (including governments, civil society, academia, and the private sector), uptake and use is likely to be limited. The study found that data accessibility is very low; this coupled with limited production indicates that significant interventions will be needed if evidence-based strategy formulation, planning, resource allocation and monitoring and evaluation in support of gender equality and women's empowerment programmes are to take place. The main recommendations of the assessment include, amongst others, the development of a gender data and statistics communication strategy and plan; the creation of a gender data and statistics webpage, and the provision of user-friendly gender policy briefs, guidelines and fact sheets in diverse formats.

Majority of stakeholders (74%) agree that COVID-19 negatively impacted the production of gender statistics in Sudan. The pandemic limited face-to-face interviews and reduced the production of statistical products using existing data sources. This has resulted in even bigger data gaps in time series that provide sex-disaggregated data. Implementing a holistic and comprehensive approach to addressing gender data and capacity gaps in Sudan will also mitigate some of these negative consequences of the pandemic.

Key findings related to the state of gender statistics		
1	Legislation and policies	There is a severe lack of policies and legislative arrangements aimed at the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.
2	Existing data	There have been no special modules of household surveys focusing on gender issues over the past three years.
3	Financial resources and infrastructure	There is no dedicated budget specifically for gender statistics within the overall national budget for statistics and there are no criteria to deliberately include gender (statistics) in the national budgeting process for statistics.
4	Staff capacity and equipment	Several gaps have been identified with regards to capacity building on gender statistics across the ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) and within CBS. The gender statistics unit does not have sufficient equipment (including, computers, printers, desks, database, estimation software, etc.) to perform its tasks.
5	Coordinating mechanism in the national statistical system (NSS)	There are no gender statistics-related provisions in the statistics law. Existing regulations restrict the exchange of data between institutions.
6	Relationship with political authorities	No procedures exist to report.

7	Gender data collections	Key specialized gender data collections such as time use, GBV and SIGI have not taken place.
8	Analysis of existing data	There is an opportunity to further analyze existing data sources from a gender perspective.
9	Administrative data	Administrative data is not easily accessible, and no regular sex disaggregated reports are produced.
10	Quality assurance	the CBS has not undertaken any assessments of its data production processes to see if they were gender-sensitive.
11	Data literacy, knowledge sharing, communicating gender statistics	There are no public information campaigns conducted based on gender statistics.
12	Advocacy strategy	There are limited efforts by the CBS/gender statistics entity to promote the use of gender statistics.

Recommendations

The main recommendations of the study are:

1. There is a need to update the national policies and legislative arrangements that aim to promote a gender statistics system to monitor and evaluate Sudan's progress and commitment towards achieving gender equality, women empowerment, and the SDGs in the context of Sudan Vision 2030, Africa 2063, and the 2030 Agenda.

2. There is need to develop capacity-building programmes on mainstreaming gender in statistics, concepts, and indicators, and methods in gender analysis and gender statistics for statisticians, data scientists, and data managers. This could be a central training center/portable ToT team)

3. There is need to further explore opportunities to mainstream gender in all surveys and data collections and analyze existing administrative and other data sources. It will be important to mobilize resource to conduct gender-specific nationally representative surveys on time use, GBV and SIGI.

4. Mechanisms and processes for communicating with data users should be strengthened and enhanced, including improving CSB website, data visualization, and access to data.

5. CSB has to develop a website with a dedicated gender statistics section.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background

Grounded in the vision of equality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, UN Women, is mandated to eliminate discrimination against women and girls and work towards the empowerment of women and attaining equality between women and men as partners and beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action and peace and security.

The ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in September 2015. It features 17 new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets that aim to end poverty, combat inequality, and promote prosperity by 2030 while protecting the environment. This encapsulates a historic and unprecedented level of ambition to "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030" (SDG 5) and includes 37 gender-related targets in 10 other SDGs. Agenda 2030 includes commitment to addressing core issues of gender equality such as eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls, eradicating discriminatory laws and constraints on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, recognizing and valuing unpaid care and domestic work, and increasing women's participation in decision-making. A robust and equally ambitious monitoring framework is required to effectively track progress with regards to implementation of the SDGs. This will make it necessary to invest significantly in gender statistics to ensure that evidence-based policies are developed, the impacts of these policies are determined, and policymakers and governments are held accountable to deliver on these commitments. Robust indicators and quality data are of critical importance and will determine whether policy efforts are marshalled and whether the goals and targets are achieved or missed. Development decisions have to be based on evidence if these ambitious targets are to be achieved, more so because Agenda 2030 also emphasizes governance and accountability.

Accountability also represents a shift from a needs-based to a rights-based approach in development planning and implementation. UN Women's gender data programme, Making Every Woman and Girl Count (Women Count) was developed with this in mind and supports Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda. To do so, it plans to create a radical shift in the production, availability, accessibility and use of quality data and statistics on key aspects of gender equality and women's empowerment. At the same time, the Africa Programme on Gender Statistics (APGS) is working to increase the availability of quality, timely and comparable gender statistics at national, regional, and international levels in Africa by aligning programme strategies and plans with Agenda 2030 and the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063. The APGS is networking with regional institutions, UN Agencies, and other institutions to achieve the four strategic areas: regional partnerships and coordination, capacity building and research, reporting, storage and dissemination; and advocacy and communication of gender statistics at the country and regional levels.

In Sudan, UN Women aims to strengthen the capacity of the National Statistical System (NSS) to produce and use gender statistics to inform and monitor the implementation of the country's gender-related commitments in the 2030 Agenda.

1.2   Justification of the assessment

Gender statistics is an integral part of statistics and cuts across "traditional" thematic areas such as education, work, health, access to resources, and decision-making to provide evidence needed to track commitments related to gender equality. Gender statistics not only reflect gender issues but also diversity, capturing all aspects of women's and men's lives. Data collection methods for gender statistics consider the stereotypes and social and cultural factors behind gender biases. Providing evidence of gender equalities and gender gaps in key areas would support policymaking to address the identified gender gaps and help to identify data that is relevant to women's and men's lives. The commitment to achieve SDGs is anchored on the availability of gender-disaggregated data and indicators. Undertaking an assessment of gender statistics would support reflecting on the responsiveness of the national statistics strategy to gender statistics and on the situation of gender statistics regarding the production of quality regular gender statistics compatible with the SDG indicators and the use and accessibility of the data by the government, academia, private sector and CSOs.

1.3   Objectives of the assessment

The study was aimed at assessing gaps in the gender statistics system in Sudan with regards to normative frameworks, strategies, production, analysis, and use of gender data and statistics.

Specific objectives included:

1. Identifying the extent to which gender issues and statistics have been integrated in the NSDS.

2. Reflecting on the gaps in the production, analysis, and use of gender statistics in the National Statistics Agency and ministries that produce gender data.

3. Identifying capacities and knowledge on gender issues and gender statistics among the producers, analysts, and users of gender statistics.

4. Reflecting on the challenges facing the coordination mechanisms and the flow of data between the producers of official statistics and between the producers and users of statistics.

5. Compiling a list of barriers that prevent the gender statistics system from functioning optimally.

6. Proposing policy recommendations and interventions on how to enhance the production and use of gender statistics.

1.4   Generic Statistical Business Process Model

The production process of gender statistics is dependent on a range of highly interrelated activities. Individual activities, and the way they are linked together, can have a significant impact on the quality of the final product. The process therefore needs to be viewed holistically – from an 'end-to-end perspective', but also considering that this is not always a linear process. This will ensure that all the activities are linked efficiently and seamlessly and that they form a well-integrated package. Clearly defined objectives and sound measurement practices should drive its overall design.

The generic statistical business process model as shown in Figure 2.1 has been used as the reference framework during the assessment as a general point of reference to assess the development and standardization of gender statistics.

Quality management/ Metadata Management								
1 **Specify Needs**	**2** **Design**	**3** **Build**	**4** **Collect**	**5** **Process**	**6** **Analyse**	**7** **Disseminate**	**8** **Archive**	**9** **Evaluate**
1.1 Determine need for information	**2.1** Outputs	**3.1** Data collection instruments	**4.1** Select sample	**5.1** Standardize and anonymize	**6.1** Acquire domain intelligence	**7.1** Update output	**8.1** Define archive rules	**9.1** Gather evolution inputs
1.2 Consult and Confirm	**2.2** Frame and sample methodology	**3.2** Process components	**4.2** Set-up colelction	**5.2** Integrate date	**6.2** Prepare draft outputs	**7.2** Produce products	**8.2** Manage archive repository	**9.2** Prepare evolution
1.3 Establish output objectives	**2.3** Variables	**3.3** Configure workflows	**4.3** Run collection	**5.3** Classify and code	**6.3** Verify outputs	**7.3** Manage release of products	**8.3** Preserve data and associated metadata	**9.3** Agree action plan
1.4 Check data availability	**2.4** Data collection	**3.4** Test	**4.3** Run collection	**5.4** Edit and impute	**6.4** Interpret and explain	**7.4** market and promote products		
1.5 Prepare business case	**2.5** Statistical processing methodology	**3.5** Finalise production systems	**4.4** Load data into processing environment	**5.5** Derive new variables	**6.5** Disclosure control	**7.5** Manage customer queries		
	2.6 Processing systems and workflow			**5.6** Calculate weights	**6.6** Finalize output for dissemination			
				5.7 Calculate aggregates				

Figure 1.1: The Generic Statistical Business Process Model

1.5   The Assessment Framework

This report contains the findings of a gap analysis of gender statistics in Sudan's NSS with regards to the normative frameworks, strategies, production, analysis, and use of gender data and gender statistics as shown in figure 2.2. The study method, activities, and tools were used for:

- Conducting a situation analysis and review of gender statistics in NSSs

- Obtaining information on how gender perspectives are integrated into national statistical systems, including both traditional and emerging areas of statistical production

- Gathering information to help identify good practices, statistics, and capacity gaps, and challenges to integrating gender in the production and use of statistics.

- Identifying the degree of relevance, accuracy, accessibility of data, clarity, and sustainability of the NSS in producing the information needed for SDGs monitoring and decision-making.

- Identifying gaps, challenges, and opportunities for improvement and making decisions about key elements for building the technical capacity to improve gender statistics. This includes data collection tools and processes currently being implemented by key stakeholders in Sudan in addition to mitigation strategies for external and internal factors that impact the statistical system performance.

- Data collection instrument development, data communication strategy and action plan, and technical capacity building.

- Policy recommendations and interventions to strengthen gender statistics and integrate gender mainstreaming in the official statistical system to address gender inequalities and meet the different needs of women and men.

- Developing a strategy to move from the current situation to the proposed setting with guidelines for future development.
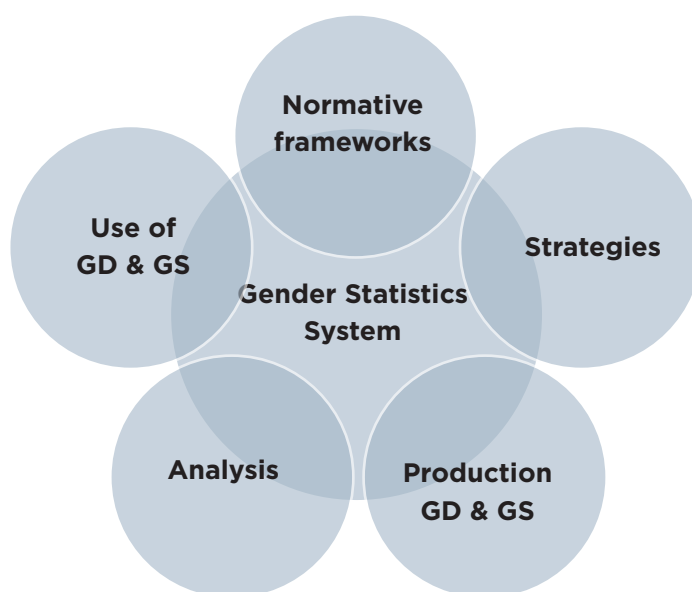
Figure 1.2: Assessment Framework

- Formulation of the next steps that focus on the operationalization to implement propositions made in this mission, including follow-up actions, timing, and identifying key stakeholders expected to take the lead for these activities.

- Final evaluation report that involves a thorough understanding of what is being implemented as well as key recommendations.

1.6 Mainstreaming gender into the data collection process

Gender mainstreaming is not only one of the key principles in the gender equality workspace, but also within the context of gender-responsive data and statistics. According to the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), this means that gender issues and gender-based biases are taken into account during the production of all official statistics and at all stages of the statistical value chain. Official gender statistics are mainly sourced from: (1) Housing and population Censuses, (2) administrative records and registries, and (3) household surveys. Each data source poses different challenges when mainstreaming gender.

1.7 Methodology

This assessment was conducted in five phases: (1) Planning; (2) Design; (3) Data collection; (4) Data analysis and (5) Compilation and validation of the report.

During the *planning and desk review phase* (1), the guidelines and assessment design were developed. This was complimented by a desk review of NSS documents. To achieve the baseline assessment goals, the guidelines covered the purpose of the assessment and the performance of current setting in producing gender statistics and collecting, analyzing, and disseminating gender data. The assessment aims to conduct a situation analysis of stakeholders' need for information, data availability, methodology, data collection, statistical processing methodology, processing systems and workflow, data collection instruments, team skills and field management, reports and dissemination, preserve data and associated metadata, and quality test and evaluation plan in an integrated approach to identify statistics and capacity gaps and propose optimal solution and capacity building including the methodology, processes, tools and technology needed to improve gender statistics production, gender data collection, management, and processing and dissemination. The approach to capture and validate evidences, was driven by the following: (a) Interview with key stakeholders (face-to-face and/or by telephone as per COVID-19 restrictions)

using PARIS21 questionnaires (national statistical office, central bank, statistics unit in key ministries, and UN agencies) (b) a desk review for NSS-related document (national statistical office strategy and plan, gender statistics reports, SDGs progress reports), (c) gender analysis for gender statistics system, processes, methodology, and tools, (d) a review for gender statistics system, processes, methodology, instrument, gender data collection, gender data management, and data communication, and (e) human resources and technical capacity assessment for the necessary skills to enable gender statistics environment. The output for this phase used to prepare Section 4 of this assessment.

The *design phase (2)* of the assessment included sample and questionnaire design. This study used a stratified two-stage sample design approach. During the first sampling stage, the institution to be interviewed was selected (based on four institutional groups) and during the second stage selection of individual (Male/Female), at questionnaires design, the study used four standard questionnaires developed by PARIS21 as follows:

Table 1.1: PARIS21 Questionnaires

Questionnaire	Responders	The aim of this questionnaire is to
A	Main module	Identify gender statistics gaps in the national statistical system, by focusing on the statistical capacity, enabling environment, and statistical production as well as coordinating mechanisms, and the use of gender statistics.
B	Gender focal points	Collect information on the statistical capacity of staff responsible for the production of gender statistics in the NSO and the ministry of women/gender.
C	Ministries	Collect information on gender statistics produced by different ministries/institutions as well as on the overall coordination of gender statistics production and use.
D	Gender statistics users	Collect information on the use of gender statistics produced by the national statistical system. Individual responses will be treated with confidentiality.

In addition to above questionnaires, the assessment team also added a Questionnaire E- which contained questions around COVID-19 and which was developed by the assessment team.

The *data collection phase (3)* was implemented over a period of two weeks from 16th to 30th June 2021. Face-to-face key informant interviews using a CAPI application were also conducted with representatives from 26 national, sub-national, and international organizations. The participants represented governmental bodies, research institutes, academia, banks, development corporations, and UN agencies. The team created a database for the survey and used STATA and SPSS for data analysis.

Once all the data was captured, it was *analyzed and integrated (4)* into the report (please refer to Section 5 of this assessment). A list of organizations interviewed can be found in Annex 1. The final phase for developing the assessment report included the preparation of the conclusions, key findings, and recommendations (5) as well as the *validation of the report by key stakeholders (5)*.

A stratified two-stage sample design was used for sampling. The first sampling stage was the selection of the institution, which resulted in the selection of four groups at the national level (federation). These were key ministries, academic institutions, national research centers, banks, and NGOs. The second stage was selection of individuals by sex. A total of 26 entities were selected and participated in the study. Most of them were either gender statistics users and/or producers.

CBS controls the statistics system in the country and has 18 offices in the Sudanese states.

Planning & desk review	1.1	Define the purpose of the assessment
	1.2	Guidelines development
	1.3	Assessment approach design
	1.4	NSS documents Desk review
	1.5	Collection of evidence
	1.6	Situation analysis
Design	2.1	Sample design
	2.2	Questionnaire Design
	2.3	CAPI app
	2.4	Training Team
	2.5	Quality assurance plan
	2.6	Pilot survey
Data collection	3.1	Data collection
	3.2	Quality assurance and validation
Data analysis	4.1	Data validation
	4.2	Data processing
	4.3	Data analysis
Final report	5.1	Compilation of narrative report and integration of desk review and assessment findings
	5.2	Review of draft
	5.3	Validation workshop

Figure 1.3: Assessment process and methodology

1.8   Guiding principles

National data ecosystems in many countries including Sudan have undergone significant transformation over the past decade experiencing changes in conceptualization, the legislative and policy environment, technology, infrastructure, and governance. At present, data ecosystems are generally anchored around three strategic axes: (1) building the enabling environment for the functioning of the statistical system; (2) producing statistics to meet user needs, which are many and varied; and (3) ensuring data accessibility and use. These three strategic axes are firmly reflected in the consensus on the core principles for nurturing the African Data Revolution (see Box 1).

The principles of the African Data Revolution emerged from the Africa Data Consensus, which was developed at the High-Level Conference on Data Revolution in Africa in March 2015. The revolution is defined as representing:

"A profound shift in the way that data is harnessed to impact on development decision-making, with a particular emphasis on building a culture of usage. The process of embracing a wide range of data communities and diverse range of data sources, tools, and innovative technologies,to provide disaggregated data fordecision-making, service delivery and citizen engagement; and information for Africa to own its narrative"

Box 1: Principles of the African Data Revolution

Data must be disaggregated by sex, age, income, disability, and other categories to the lowest levels of administration. People must be counted to make them count. Civil registration should be accessible and provided at no cost. Official data belongs to the people and should be open to all. The data community should embrace the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics as a starting point. There is need for proper governance and coordination of the data ecosystem. African governments should acknowledge open data provided by credentialed data communities as acceptable sources of country statistical information. Technology, new forms of data, and other innovations should be actively embraced. Data communities should promote a demand-driven data user culture spanning the entire ecosystem. Privacy and intellectual property rights should be respected. Data should be translated into information that is simple, understandable, and relevant. Information must be timely, accurate, relevant, and accessible and data driven by identified needs rather than for its own sake. The data revolution in all its facets should be gender sensitive.

Source: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), 2015

2 Country Profile

2.1 Socio-economic context

The Republic of Sudan is located in the Northeast part of the African continent and is the third largest country on the African continent with a total area of 1,882,000 sq km. According to the African Development Bank Group, in 2020, real GDP in Sudan shrunk by an estimated 8.4% after shrinking by 2.5% in 2019. Economic activity in the Sudan has been subdued due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on commodity prices, trade, travel, and financial flows. Growth has been further affected by diminished consumption and investment and disruptions in the value and supply chains. Lockdowns, aimed at reducing transmission of the virus, particularly impacted the service sector and reduced GDP here by 58% and by 22% in the industrial sector. In 2020, inflation increased to an estimated 124.9%. This is significantly higher than the 82.4% recorded in 2019. Two of the primary factors underlying the rapid increase in inflation are the monetization of the fiscal deficit and an 118% currency depreciation. In addition to that, in 2020, public revenues decreased by 35%. This was accompanied by a significant increase in spending, which increased the fiscal deficit to 12.4%. This is also higher than the 2019 deficit of 11.3%. Advances from the central bank have been used to finance the fiscal deficient. During this period, the Sudan's main trading partners in the Persian Gulf reduced their exports and imports. The current account deficit narrowed to 12.6% of GDP from 15.1% in 2019. In line with the pandemic-induced economic slowdown, during the first half of 2020, credit from the private sector as a percentage of GDP declined by 4% points.

Between July and December 2020[2], the Government boosted credit to the private sector to approximately 12% of GDP by reducing the cash reserve ratio. This is still well below the 14% of GDP recorded in 2019. Between 2019 and 2020, returns on assets decreased from 1.8% to 1% while non-performing loans decreased from 3.5% to 3%. This reflects reduced profitability due to the sharp economic contractions. It is estimated that the slow-down in the economy has increased poverty from an estimated 48.3% to 56% in the same time-period.

All these factors contribute towards projections that the economy of Sudan will remain in recession in 2021. However, a return to modest growth is expected in 2022[2]; current predictions indicate that growth in supply will be driven by agriculture and mining while demand will increase based on increased private consumption and investment. It is expected that Sudan's removal from the States Sponsor of Terrorism List and improved economic outlook will stimulate financial flows thereby benefiting growth. Poverty is projected to decline by 0.5 percentage points in 2022 in line with the expected economic recovery. It is also expected that imports, including fuel and food supplies, will decline due to reductions in remittances and foreign direct investment. The prioritization of public spending and tighter monetary policies may lead to a reduction of inflation in 2021 from 129.7% to 57.5% in 2022. At the same time, fiscal and current account deficits are also expected to improve in the wake of planned economic acceleration reforms.

The 2020 debt sustainability analysis conducted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank found that Sudan was in debt distress. Total public debt reached 201.6% of GDP in 2019, of which 80% was external[2]. Between 2017 and 2019 the share of total external debt in arrears increased from 80% to 85%. It is expected that Sudan's eligibility to be included in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative relief, will increase after its removal from the Terrorism List. However, repayment of the country's commercial debt obligations has constrained the fiscal space for growth-generating public investments. This lack of fiscal space necessitates urgent

reforms to broaden the tax base by rationalizing tax exemptions and improving tax administration. Improvements in governance are also necessary to crowd in private investment and finance. Gross reserves only represented about 2 months of imports in 2020, which is low at an estimated $1.1 billion and is unlikely to augment public financing sources in the short term.
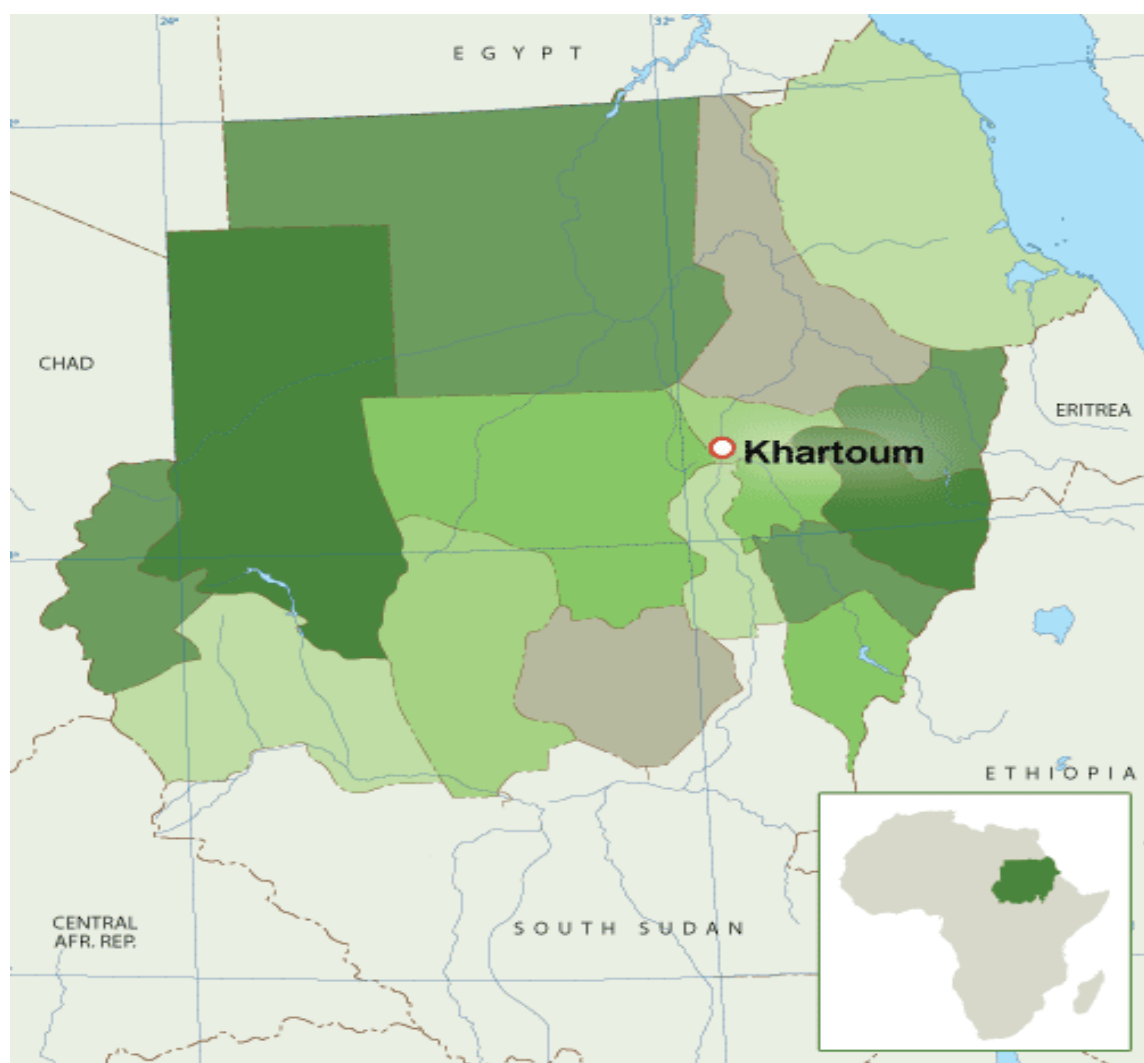

Figure 2.1 : Map of the Sudan

2.2   Population dashboard

According to the UNFPA population dashboard, Sudan's total population was 44.9 million as of mid-2021, 39.5% of which is aged less than 14 years and with a life expectancy of 68 years at birth for women. As shown in Figure 3.2, between 2005-2019, 34% of children were married by the age of 18 years.
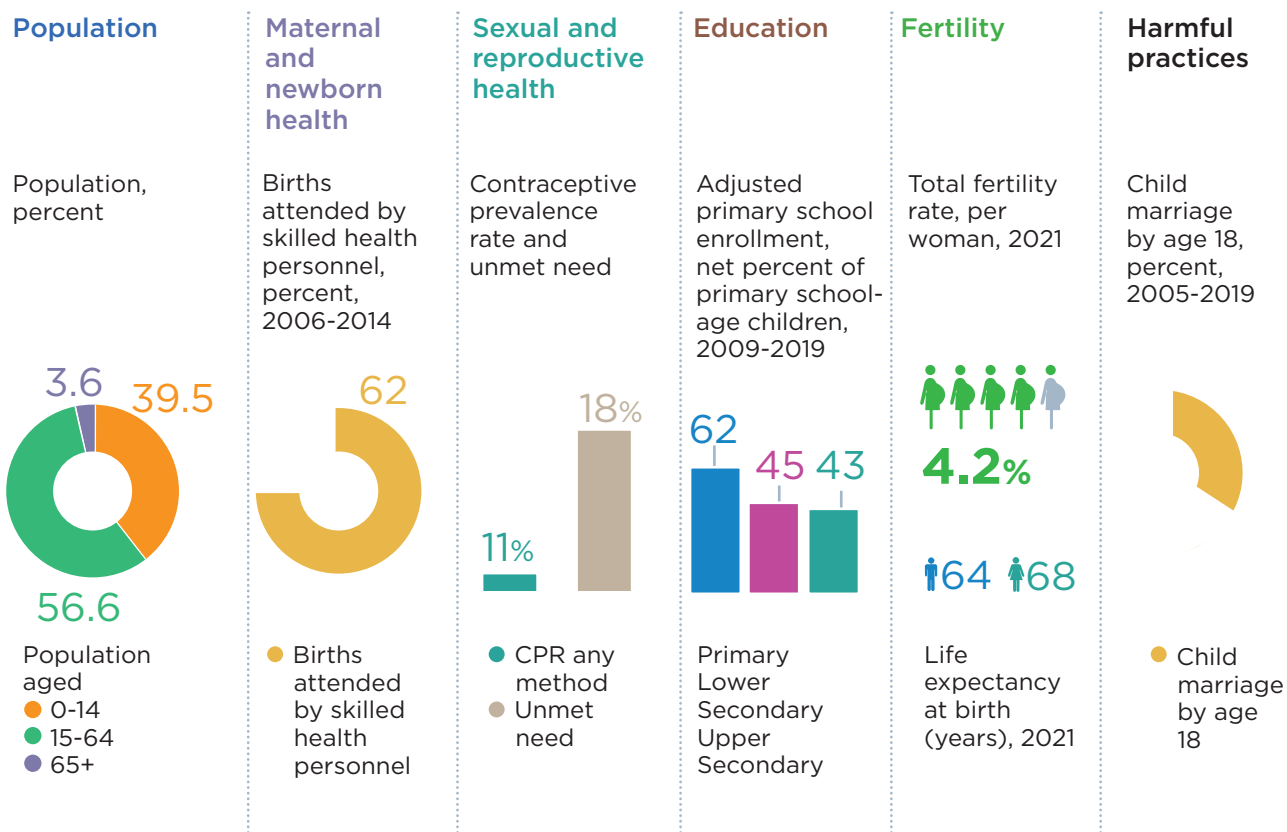
Population

Population, percent

3.6 39.5

56.6

Population aged
- 0-14
- 15-64
- 65+

Maternal and newborn health

Births attended by skilled health personnel, percent, 2006-2014

62

- Births attended by skilled health personnel

Sexual and reproductive health

Contraceptive prevalence rate and unmet need

18%

11%

- CPR any method
- Unmet need

Education

Adjusted primary school enrollment, net percent of primary school-age children, 2009-2019

62   45   43

Primary
Lower Secondary
Upper Secondary

Fertility

Total fertility rate, per woman, 2021

4.2%

♂64 ♀68

Life expectancy at birth (years), 2021

Harmful practices

Child marriage by age 18, percent, 2005-2019

- Child marriage by age 18

Figure 2.2: Sudan Population Dashboard

2.3   Sudan HDI value and rank

According to the UNDP Human Development Report, Sudan's HDI value for 2019 is 0.510, which represents an increase of 54% from 0.331 in 1990. According to the global ranking, Sudan is at position 170 out of 189 countries and territories and therefore has among the lowest HDIs in the world. Between 1990 and 2019, Sudan's life expectancy at birth increased by 9.8 years, the mean education years attained grew by 2.3 years, and expected years of schooling by 4.0 years. According to UNFPA's dashboard, women's life expectancy is 68 years and 64 years for men (2019). Sudan's GNI per capita increased by about 142.9 % between 1990 and 2019. Child marriage by age 18 is 34% and adolescent birth rate per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 is 87% (2003-2018).

2.4   Gender Development Index

UNDP introduced a new measure in the 2014 Human Development Report - the Gender Development Index (GDI) - based on the sex-disaggregated Human Development Index (HDI) and defined as a ratio of the female to the male HDI. The GDI reflect gender inequalities based on three basic dimensions of human development: health (measured by female and male life expectancy at birth), education (measured by female and male expected years of schooling for children and mean years for adults aged 25 years and older) as well as economic resource control (measured by female and male estimated GNI per capita).
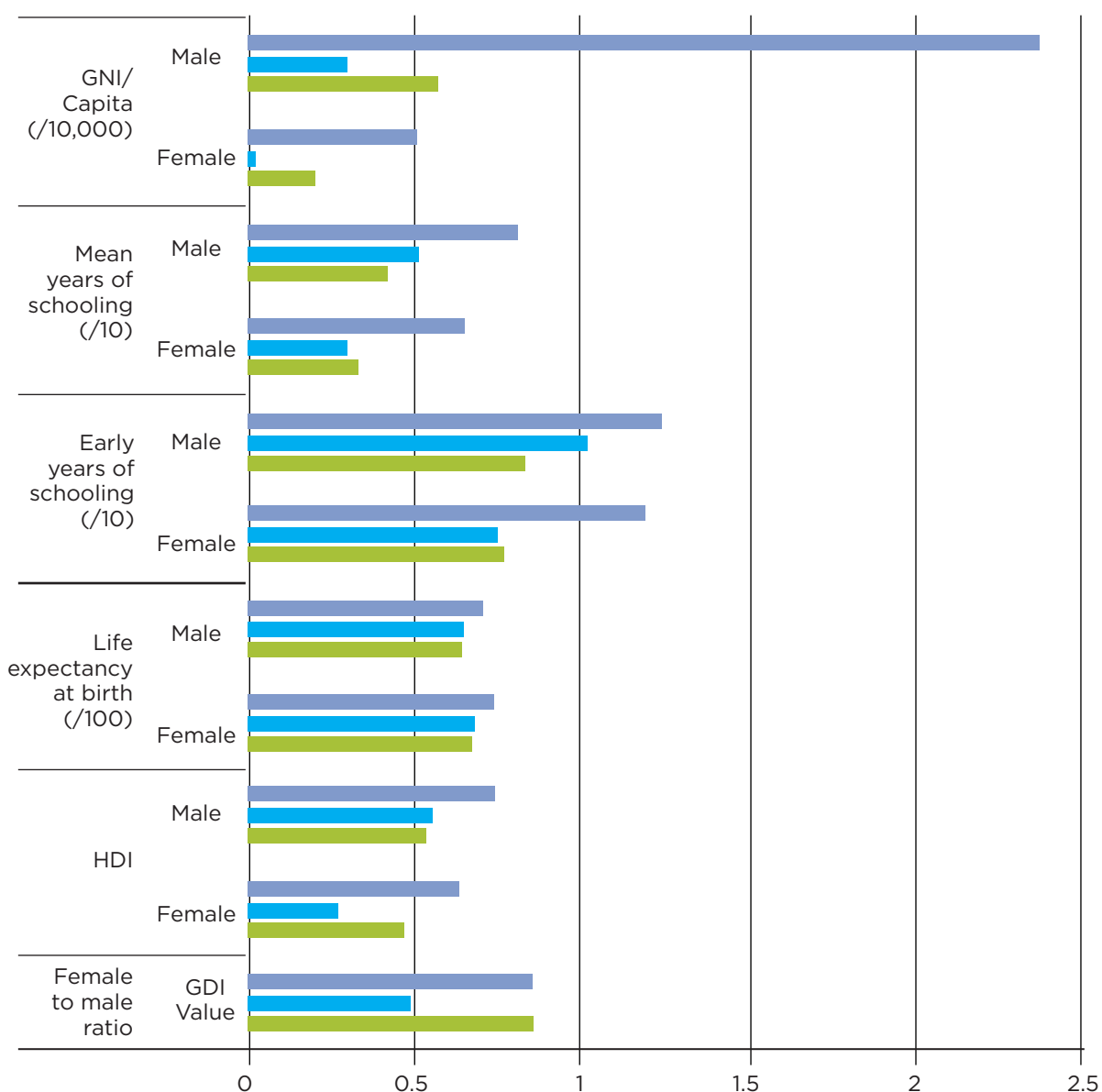
Figure 2.3: Gender Development Index, Sudan within the context of Yemen and the Arab states

Country groups are based on absolute deviation from gender parity in HDI. This means that the grouping takes into consideration inequality regardless of whether it is in favor of men or women. The HDI and GDI are calculated for 167 countries. The 2019 female HDI value for Sudan is 0.466 in contrast with 0.542 for males resulting in a GDI value of 0.860 and placing it into Group 5.

3 Situation Analysis

3.1 Introduction

Statistical legislation (acts, laws, and decrees) is a sine non qua for establishing an effective statistical system. Such legislation establishes and protects the statistical system, defines the roles and responsibilities of various actors, and organizes information collection and management of national statistics. Moreover, a strong legal base protects confidentiality and ensures impartiality and objectivity. This section describes the achievements and challenges of the NSS in Sudan to create the necessary regulatory environment to mainstream gender in statistical processes, the production of gender statistics and its uptake and use. The report also identifies specific resources and interventions that will be needed to establish an effective gender statistics system.

3.2 Evolution of the National Statistical System

The Department of Statistics (CBS) was originally established in 1903 as a division within the Customs Department. Its main task was to collect and compile foreign trade statistics . By 1932, the division was affiliated to the so-called Economic Committee. The Committee later became the Department of Trade and Economics. The Division of Statistics separated from the Department of Trade and Economics in 1953 to become an independent body - the Department of Statistics under the auspices of the Ministry Social Affairs. The Department of Statistics was moved again in 1958 when it was grouped under the Headquarters of the Council of Ministers. This was the case until 1969 when the Ministry of Economic Planning was established and the Department of Statistics annexed to it. In November 1995, the Council of Ministers decreed the establishment of the CBS. At the time, the Bureau was reporting to the Minister of Finance and National Economy but was transferred back to the Council of Ministers in 2000, where it remains to date.

The CBS has been tasked with statistical coordination at the national level and is the official agency responsible for the collection and compilation of data. The production of statistics in the Sudan is regulated by the Statistics Act of 2003. The Act provides CBS with the authority to determine and enforce the use of standardized statistical concepts and definitions; the methods to be used for statistical operations, as well as the publication, in the form of periodical or ad hoc reports, findings of such data collection provided that confidentiality can be protected. Article 16 protects the rights of the public to access any information that is not related to individuals for a fee. According to the Statistics Act of 2003, a National Statistics Council (NSC) should be established under the chairmanship of the Minister provided that the CBS Director General is a member and rapporteur of the Council. Other promulgated members of the Council include representatives from other organs of state that produce official statistics such as the Bank of Sudan, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Health, and the Ministry of Labour and Administrative Reform.

3.3 Gender Statistics in the National Statistical System

Gender statistics are integrated into the NSS in various ways including by placing the gender statistics unit in the statistical system, a matter that has a direct impact on its reporting lines and prerogatives. There is an official unit responsible for gender statistics which is located in the CBS. Its work is supplemented by the collection of gender-specific data through line ministries. Figure 3.1 shows the location of gender statistics in the NSS.

National Statistical Council NSC

Gender statistics/Data collection

Line ministries producers of official statistics

The Central Bureau of Statistics CBS

Director General CBS

Gender-specific data

Gender-specific data

Social and Gender Unit

Producers of Official statistics

1. Bank of Sudan
2. Ministry of Finance and National Economy
3. Ministry of General Education
4. Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
5. Federal Ministry of Health
6. Ministry of Labour & Administrative Reform

Central Bureau of Statistics

- Director General's Office
  1. Computer Centre
  2. Statistical Training Centre
  3. Two Support Sections

- Training and public relations

- Executive office

- Fieldwork and state statistical offices
  1. Coordination of all statistical operational activities
  2. Cartography and mapping

- Financial and economic surveys and statistics
  1. National accounts
  2. Foreign trade statistics
  3. Internal trade statistics
  4. Statistics Yearbook

- Social and demographic surveys and statistics
  1. Censuses
  2. Surveys
  3. Vital registration
  4. Labor statistics

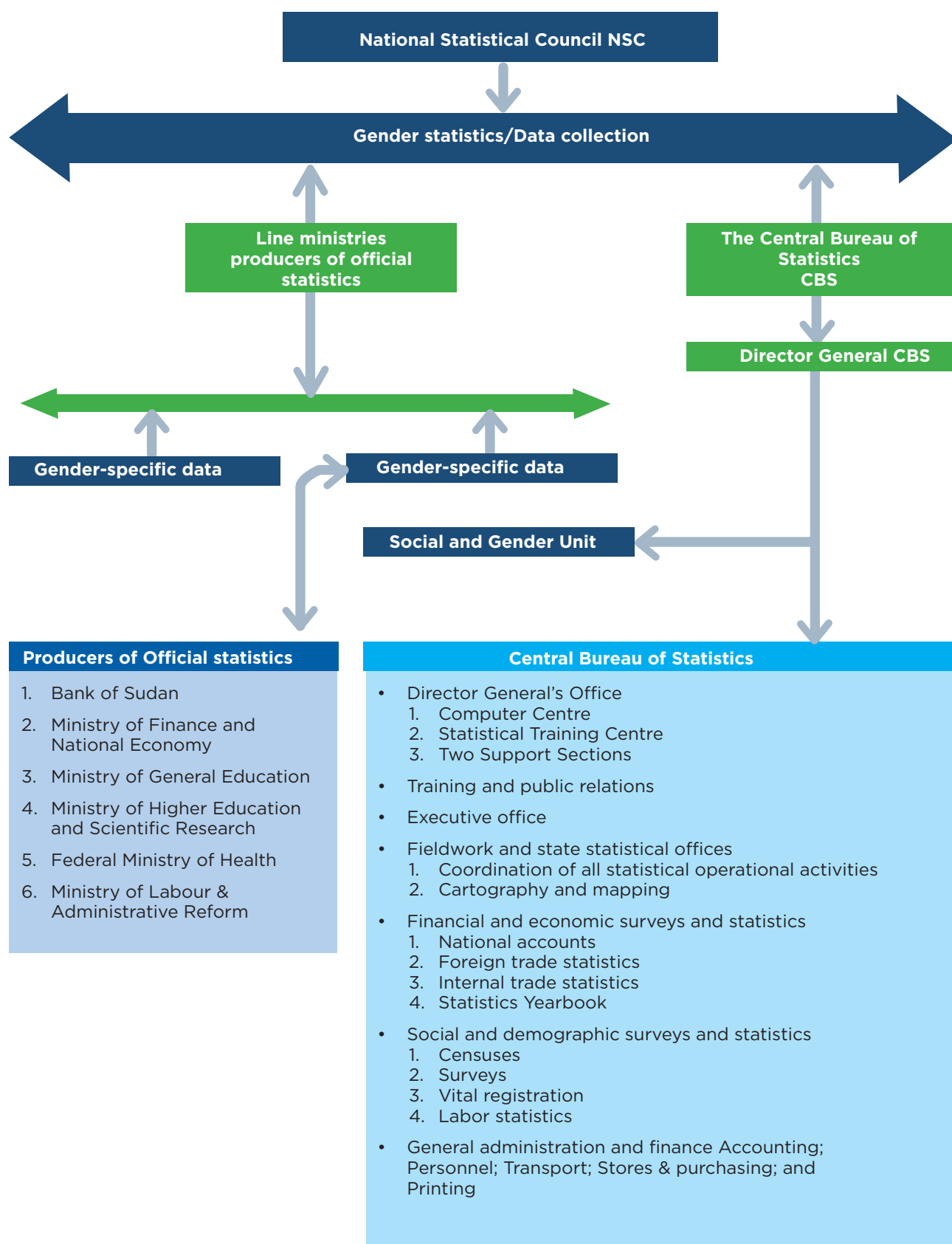- General administration and finance Accounting; Personnel; Transport; Stores & purchasing; and Printing

Figure 3.1 : Gender statistics within National Statistical System (NSS)

The CBS regional offices are responsible for collecting data in the context of the statistical work of the central office. So far they do not have a focal point for gender statistics or experts in gender statistics. CBS began to develop an action plan for regional office development with the support and training of the United Nations. This will be implemented in the next few years as part of the new NSDS.

The CBS has 320 staff members in the context of a population of 43 million people. The staff are qualified in statistics, economics, information technology, and other relevant disciplines as shown in Table 3.1. Seven (7) of these staff members have been assigned to the Gender Statistics Unit. There is a severe shortage of specialized human resources and statisticians in the Sudanese statistical system. This is also reflected in the staffing of the Gender Statistics Unit .

Table 3.1: The numbers and qualifications of CBS staff

Statistics	Economic Statistics	Information Technology	Graduate qualifications (Others)	Other academic qualifications	Total
44	36	24	82	133	319

Source: https//www.sesric.org/imgs/news/1513_presentation_CPOS_CAB_meeting_sudan_ar.pdf

3.4   Statistical regulatory framework

3.4.1   Statistics Act

Appropriate statistical legislation is the backbone of an effective NSS. Such legislation should provide for an enabling institutional and regulatory framework for the production and management of official statistics and ensure professional independence of a national statistical agency and other agencies within the NSS to enhance the integrity, impartiality, and credibility of official statistics as well as data confidentiality. The demand for statistics is indeed very high if appropriate response will be given to the social, economic, and political developments in Sudan especially for the current Sudan with recent changes in government and the separation with South Sudan. Years of conflict have also brought about a huge deficit in data supply leaving significant data and capacity gaps that must be filled and with sense of urgency.

The *Statistics Act of 2003*[2] identified CBS as the producer and provider of national statistics. In this capacity, it is therefore tasked to address some of the challenges arising from huge data demands. The findings of the assessment suggest that CBS cannot rectify the situation on without the support of other entities to complement its efforts. There are various reasons for this. First, the Act does not sufficiently empower CBS enough to perform its supervisory role of the NSS. One of the main reasons for this is that other players in the NSS have regulations from which they derive their mandate and these regulations exist side by side with the 2003 Statistics Act with no clarity provided regarding which one supersedes the other. Second, the 2003 Act is essentially a CBS Act and not for the entire NSS. The NSS is not even defined in the Act and the roles of the CBS vis-à-vis the components of the sub-systems have not been sufficiently articulated. One of the current omissions of the act is that it does not mention the users of Statistics. Instead, it emphasizes those involved in gathering statistical data through surveys or through administrative actions.

There is therefore need to revise the Act to make provision for the establishment of the NSS with special reference to the concepts of data eco-systems, specific roles and responsibilities of the coordinating Agency, other key role players in the statistical system and other component statistical sub-systems.

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2   Sudan Statistics Act of 2003, available at https://unstats.un.org › unsd › dnss.

### 3.4.2 National Strategy for the Development of Statistics

The *NSDS*[3] has been developed as a framework for strengthening statistical capacity uniformly across the entire NSS in Sudan such that each of the sub-systems will be empowered to manage results and outcomes of development. It also serves as an integrated framework within which sub-systems and different stakeholders generate, disseminate, and use statistics that are credible and provide a sound basis for national planning and development by:

   I. Strengthening statistical production consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and based on International best practices;

  II. Improving coordination and promoting integration and collaboration among and between producers and users;

 III. Strengthening national capacity for producing and using statistics; and

 IV. Ensuring long-term sustainability of the NSS through provision of adequate resources,

The NSDS is implemented under the guidance and supervision of the CBS and includes all governmental and non- governmental agencies which are using statistics.

The first NSDS in Sudan (2012-2016) was based on the imperatives of the National Development Plan (2012-2016) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The NSDS identified the production and dissemination of gender statistics as one of its core businesses and a key success factor of the NSS. NSDS stated that *"In order to fulfill the mission of the NSS, the following shall be the core business (key success factors of the NSS): production and dissemination of social statistics, the range of social statistics will include statistics and Indicators on population and demography, migration and vital statistics, gender statistics, labor and employment statistics, culture statistics, education statistics, health statistics, geo-information, and poverty statistics".* The overall strategy for the development of statistics in Sudan has components of strategies for CBS, MDA strategies, and the State strategies. The elements of the governance structure are as shown in Figure 3.2. The NSDS derived ten strategic goals from the identified challenges facing the NSS. One of the main challenges is that *"coordination has either been absent or ineffective across the NSS, within the sub-systems and at the Federal Level operations with the states".*

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3   Sudan NSDS 2012-2016. Available from http://nsdsguidelines.paris21.org/sites/default/files/sudan_NSDS_2012-16.pdf
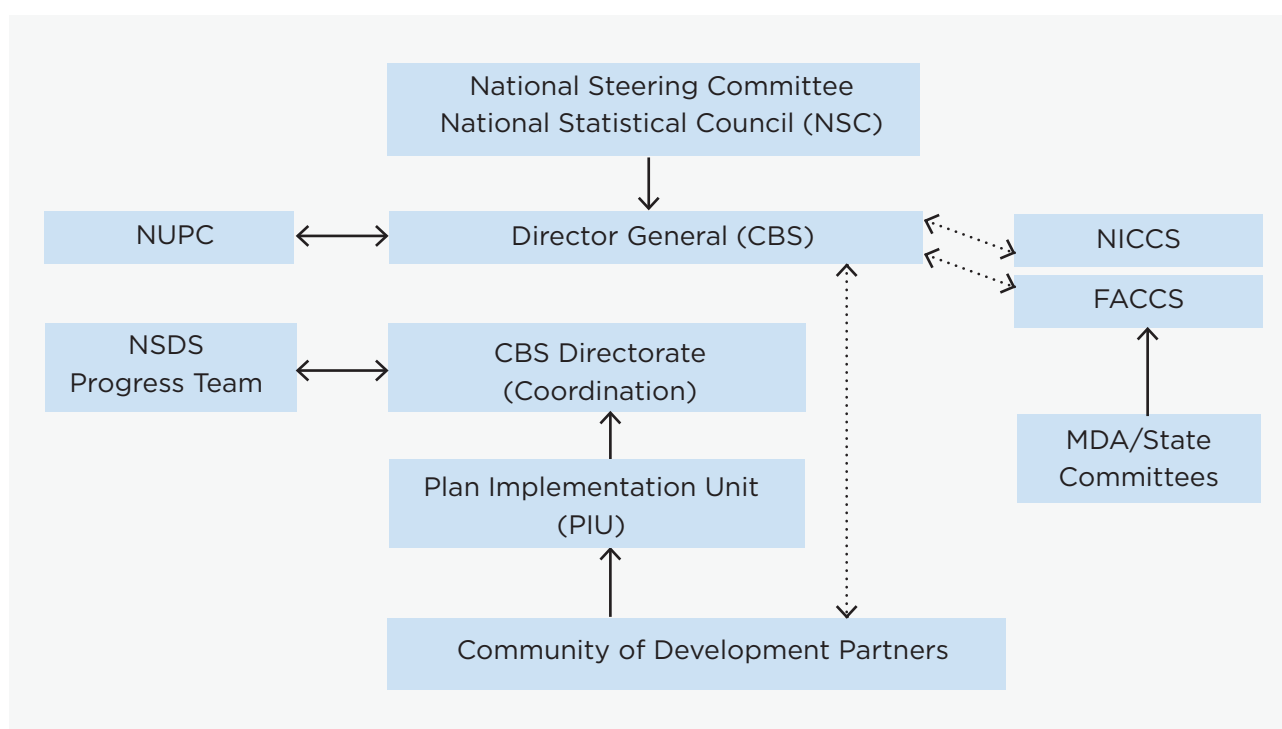
According to the NSDS *"NSS statistical products must pass the test when subjected to the dimensions of quality of timeliness, consistency, completeness, coherence, reliability, and relevance under the Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF)". For continuous improvement in quality of products and services, the NSS will embrace the principles and practices of Total Quality Management (TQM)"*

An evaluation of NSDS[4] noted in 2017 that the World Bank Statistical capacity indicator for Sudan rose from as low as 43.3 at the onset of the NSDS in 2012 to 63.3 in 2016. This surpassed the Sub-Saharan average score (59.9). This improvement continued well beyond 2016. In 2019, the overall statistical capacity score reached an all-time high since the inception of the index of 71.1. Unfortunately, in 2020, this score declined again to 54.4. This evaluation did not expound on the implementation of gender statistics-related interventions as it followed a more general approach.

3.4.3 Voluntary National Review

The Voluntary National Review (VNR) has been undertaken as a process for building awareness and understanding of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which the Government of the Sudan is committed to implementing with the engagement of all stakeholders. All VNR activities have been undertaken by the Government of the Sudan under the auspices of the High-Level National Mechanism established through a 2016 presidential decree to oversee the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs in the country. The VNR 2018 noticed that "no attempt has been made to quantitatively measure progress on sustainable development, this report states the difficulties of measuring the SDGs indicators because of shortage of timely and quality data and information, and lack of human resources in data collection and analyses. Much of the data that is need to measure the SDGs indicators does not exist, therefore new data and information-gathering strategies have to be devised". The VNR 2018 highlights the need to: (1) Build the capacity of the CBS as the custodian of data and statistics, (2) Implement policies and decisions to make the national statistical system productive and efficient through adding value to the collection of primary data and greater user-producer interactions, (3) Develop and promote administrative records, and (4) Build the skills and capacities of statisticians located in line ministries.

3.4.4 The National Audit Chamber Report 2019

A report released by the National Audit Chamber of Sudan (NACR2019) on the country preparedness to implement the SDGs outlines progress and issues related to institutional framework. The report notes that there was a severe lack of indicator data on some Goals and that CBS had planned to establish statistical units in all sectors and ministries for the production and use of statistical data, but that the number of units was insufficient. The report recommended "upgrading CBS to ensure that it meets all data requirements".

3.4.5 Agenda 2030

The Sustainable Development Report (SDR2021) ranked Sudan at 139 out of 164 worldwide with a country score of 49.5 - less than the regional average (51.9) and 39.2 out of 100 as a statistical performance index. Sudan's progress in the 17 SDGs is classified as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2 : The 2021 Sudan progress in the 17 SDGs

On track or maintaining SDG achievement	Moderately improving	Stagnating	Decreasing	No Data
SDG4 SDG13	SDG3 SDG6 SDG7 SDG14 SDG16	SDG2 **SDG5** SDG8 SDG9 SDG11 SDG15 SDG17	SDG1	SDG10 SDG12

Source: Sustainable Development Report 2021.

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4   NSDS (2012-2016) Evaluation Sudan, 2017. Available from https://nsdsguidelines.paris21.org/node/821.

In the context of the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, CBS established statistical units in sectors and ministries for the production and use of statistical data for SDGs progress monitoring. A cross-section of sources at the national and international level (like VNR 2018, NACR2019, and SDR2021) indicated that there is still a severe lack of indicator data on most of the Goals due to limited capacities of the CBS. Table 3.3. summarizes selected SDG indicators related to gender.

Table 3.3: Key gender statistics indicator values for Sudan as per SDG report 2021[5]

#	Indicator	Value	Year
1	Ratio of female-to-male mean years of education received (%)	78.6	2019
2	Ratio of female-to-male labor force participation rate (%)	43.1	2019
3	Seats held by women in national parliament (%)	30.5	2018
4	Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (% of females aged 15 to 49)	30.1	2014

Source: Sustainable Development Report 2021.

1.5 NSS characteristics and SWOT analysis

It is important to strategically strengthen the capacity of all actors in a NSS because a good NSS normally exhibits a uniform capacity to generate and use statistics. A good NSS has to function impartially with regards to data collection and releases; data provided to the NSS has to be treated with confidentiality and objectivity, transparency, integrity, and independence should characterize all its operations. The different parts of the system generate relevant data (through users' and producers' interactions), convert data into information through policy/research analysis, and ensure that data is released timeously in line with the release calendar. This is normally based on good cooperation between and responsiveness of suppliers (line ministries, data collection targets, and individuals) and producers. It is important that data production, dissemination and use adheres to the fundamental principles of official statistics[6]. Typically, the media takes the lead in statistical advocacy about the importance of statistics to the society as well as the wide distribution of data to the public. Other bets are placed on training institutions ensuring that effective and relevant capacity building takes place. All NSS players should be quality-conscious and data generated in the system should meet assessment requirements across all the quality dimensions of relevance, accuracy, completeness, consistency, timeliness, accessibility, and appropriate levels of disaggregation. In the context of these characteristics, a SWOT analysis of the Sudan NSS was carried out as part of the development of the NSDs 2012-2016[7]. Even though this analysis was carried out some time ago, many of these problems currently persist. The results of this analysis are summarized in Table 3.4.

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5   Sustainable development report 2021. Available at https://sdgindex.org/reports/sustainable-development-report-2021/.
6   United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx
7   Sudan NSDS 2012-2016. Available from http://nsdsguidelines.paris21.org/sites/default/files/sudan_NSDS_2012-16.pdf

Table 3.4: SWOT analysis for NSS

↑ Strength	↓ Weakness	✚ Opportunities	❗ Threats
Team work spirit	Ineffective coordination	High data demand	Internal conflicts negatively affect census and survey programmes
The need for a strong NSS	Absence of a coordination General Directorate at the CBS, Field organization and Survey Methodology	The presence of high-level policy support for Statistical Development in Sudan plus strong political will for a paradigm shift for an effective National Statistical System	Poor state of the economy which could lead to limited funding of the NSS
A Semi-autonomous CBS with branch	Absence/weak functional organizations for statistical production at MDA	Extensive international support for statistical development	Poor condition of service for the statistical personnel and sub-standard working environment
Competencies and unique capabilities are available in Institutions within the components of the NSS	Poor funding for statistical activities	South-South cooperation in the African plus the International frameworks	Varying reporting requirements by donors that are not harmonized with the national reporting standards.
An up-to-date EAs is available for use	Poor infrastructural facilities		
GIS technology	Poor advocacy for the importance of statistics		
Existence of a Statistical Training Centre	Lack of dissemination policy		
	Lack of capacity building		
	Weak analytical and report writing skills		
	Lack of IT Strategy		
	Inadequate Statistics Act and non-implementation of some provisions within the Act		
	Poorly equipped Statistical Training Centre		
	Poor record keeping		
	Weak Management Information Systems		

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	Lack of capacity building		
	Weak analytical and report writing skills		
	Lack of IT Strategy		
	Inadequate Statistics Act and non-implementation of some provisions within the Act		
	Poorly equipped Statistical Training Centre		
	Poor record keeping		
	Weak Management Information Systems		

4 Gender Statistics Production in Sudan

4.1 Introduction

Statistical production can be depicted as a process consisting of three interlocking levels /components as in Figure 4.1. The optimal functioning of one level is an important precondition for the effective functioning of the subsequent level. The development of gender statistics can therefore be achieved by following the process logic of the framework: first, the enabling environment that makes it possible/hinders the production of gender statistics, then the production of gender data, and finally, making gender data and statistics more accessible to users and other stakeholders.
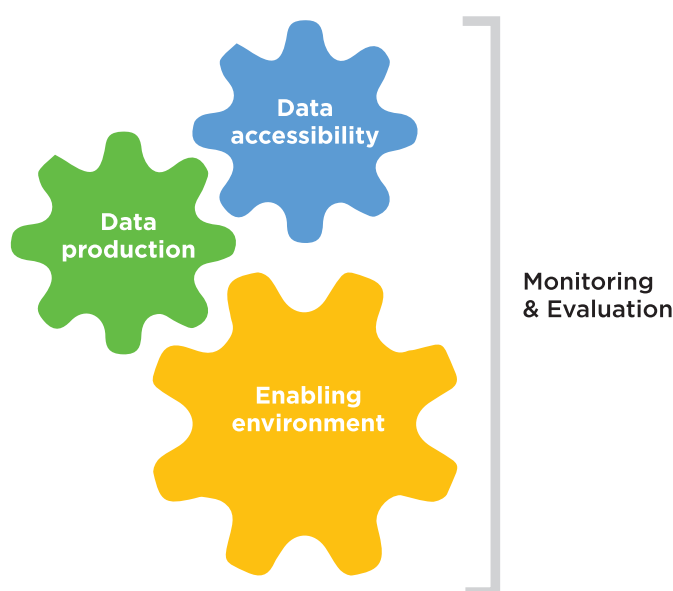
Figure 4.1 Gender statistics framework

Identifying statistical gaps and challenges forms the core of an assessment of a gender statistic system. This assessment was aimed at highlighting the gaps in Sudan's NSS in the context of these three dimensions and with a specific focus on the laws, regulations, strategies, and other normative frameworks that are in place; statistical capacity; statistical production; coordination mechanisms and the uptake and use of gender statistics.

This section of the report is based on information collected during interviews with ministries, academic institutions and other entities that participated in the survey while using the adapted structured questionnaires (A-D) sourced from Paris21 guidance materials and secondary information that formed part of the desk top review where appropriate.

4.2   Enabling environment

4.2.1   Introduction and overview

Sudan is committed to promoting women's equal participation in all aspects of life as evidenced by the 2005 Interim National Constitution of the Republic of Sudan and reconfirmed in the recent 2019 transitional constitution.

Moreover, as part of its regional and international participation and as part of supporting women's empowerment, Sudan has ratified international treaties and declarations such as the Beijing Platform for Action, Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, African Charter on Human and People's rights (African Charter) and associated Maputo protocol. In April 2021, Sudan's Council of Ministers also ratified the United Nations' 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

While both the National Development Plan and the national poverty reduction strategy include a section on women's empowerment, there are no specific references to the need to develop gender statistics. However, the process of developing approved strategies for the development of gender statistics across the entire national statistical system (NSS) is ongoing.

Assessing the NSS and CBS entails reviewing the enabling environment for gender statistics programmes and its effectiveness in identifying and meeting stakeholders' needs. It is thus important to consider contributing factors for the establishment of an enabling environment. Figure 4.2 shows the elements of an enabling environment.
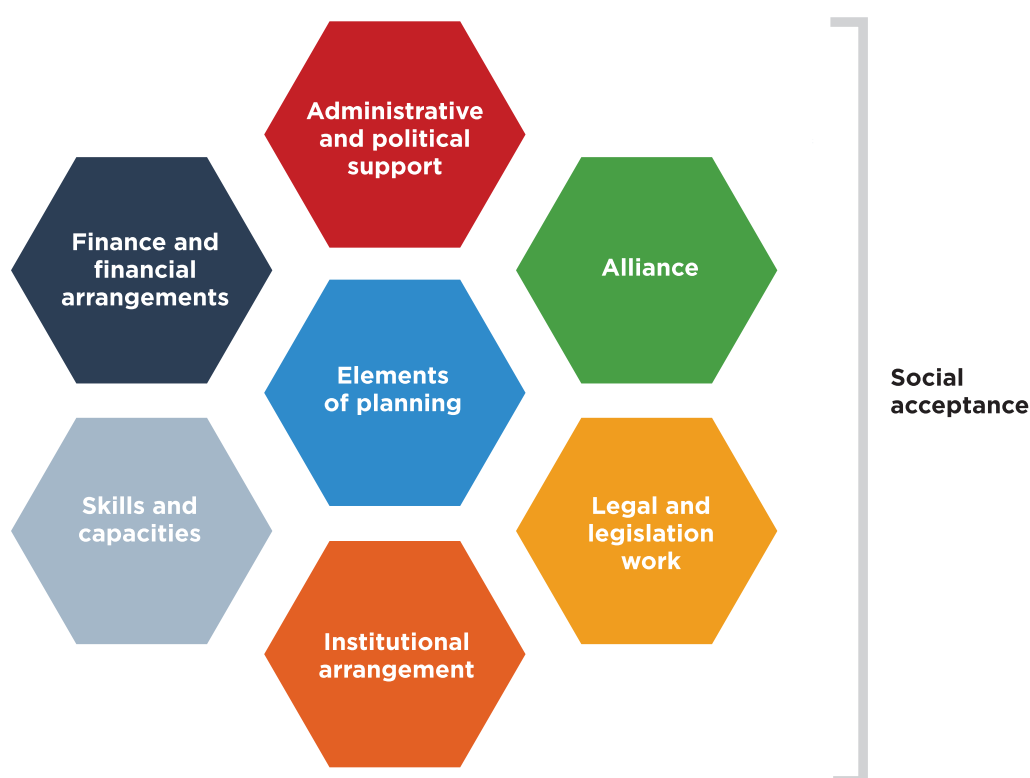
Figure 4.2 The elements of an enabling environment

Generally, the field of statistics does not always enjoy the moral, political, and financial support it deserves as a resource for strategic planning, decision-making and good governance. Moreover, being a relatively new field of statistics, gender statistics is jeopardized by lack of awareness of its strategic role in improving statistics in general and in formulating integrated, inclusive, and sustainable development policies. Assessing a particular office of statistics entails reviewing the

enabling environment for gender statistics programmes and its effectiveness in identifying and meeting stakeholders' needs. Best practice indicates that national-level planning initiatives are more successful when a higher level of political and administrative support is attained.

However, in the absence of appropriate national legislation and regulatory frameworks, it is difficult to effect sustainable improvements in gender programmes. Sudan is currently undergoing a transformation process with regards to institutions, legislation, and policies. Appropriate statistical legislation (acts, laws, and decrees) is a sine non qua for establishing an effective statistical system. High-level management has the power to redirect all sectors towards integrating the gender perspective in all statistical processes, introduce new data collection methods, secure resources for the gender statistics programme, and bring about administrative change.

The study also found that:

(1) *Political support:* there is political support for the development of gender statistics at the national level (indicator: the establishment of a social and gender statistics unit in CBS, raising funds from relevant agencies, and the wide acceptance of gender equality as a policy objective by the Government and in the political arena (indicator: there was campaigns calling for gender equality (50%) in the new transitional government, and in the legislative council; the establishment of a gender unit in each ministry).

(2) *Reporting political interference:* there are currently no procedures in the NSS to report political authorities when they try to unduly influence or interfere with statistical production or dissemination processes.

(3) *Stakeholders' interests:* national gender statistics users (ministries, media, or civil society organizations) do not see gender equality as a policy priority in the transition period. No non-governmental users of gender statistics have approached CBS over the past year for an intervention relating to gender statistics and no data collection exercises or indicators relating to gender have been compiled at the request of users over the past three years.

(4) *Communication and transparency*: developing new gender statistics programmes or improving existing ones requires building and sustaining alliances both within and outside the NSS. To facilitate regular communication and alliance-building, it is important to develop a list of those who join, or are willing to join, the office of statistics in achieving the goals of the gender statistics programme. Equally importantly, statisticians and external partners need to appreciate mutual needs and reach a common understanding of important issues. A key success factor in planning is to ensure participation of various stakeholders in ways that correspond to their interests and communicate with the relevant groups before and during planning activities. Current information shows that CBS does not have a website and therefore has no dedicated online portal via which to publish gender statistics. The Bureau thus communicates gender statistics only through CBS publications such as (a) Annual Statistical Book, (b) Sudan in Numbers, and (c) Data Dashboard. A data communication strategy is foundational to improving the availability, accessibility, and use of gender statistics; reactivating the CBS website and developing a section for gender statistics are key starting points.

(5) *Culture and change management*: A major challenge for mainstreaming gender in statistics is convincing statisticians and users of the importance of this field. Effective change management is the key to overcoming resistance to the gender statistics programme in both the centralized and decentralized offices of statistics. Assessment data shows that CBS is implementing critical and core changes with respect to gender statistics, the environment of gender statistics production has changed in recent years at the national level, CBS has adapted and embraced these changes by establishing a gender statistics unit and raising funds to support its work. The strategic plan is directed at all sectors to integrate a gender perspective in all statistical processes, for example, the inclusion of gender concepts in

surveys and studies that are currently being conducted and the national policies being designed and evaluated through the analysis and use of gender statistics such as the women's empowerment policy.

The assessment found that there are national laws, regulations, polices and national action plans that govern the coordination, collection, production and dissemination of the statistical system and data. However, there are no gender statistics specific laws, regulations, policies, or sector plans as part of the national plan for the development of statistics. However, the new NSDS currently being developed includes gender statistics and the Social and Gender Statistics Unit is involved in this process. No national gender indicator framework has been developed despite the existence of a women's empowerment policy as developed by the ministry of social development.

4.2.2 Institutional setting and organizational design

CBS is the national body that oversees the NSS in the country. In addition to the headquarters based in Khartoum, CBS also has 18 offices situated in each of the 18 Sudanese wilayat or states. In the context of development and improvement of gender statistics, in 2021, CBS established a gender statistics unit - the "Social and Gender Unit". The Unit reports directly to the CBS Chief Statistician, has seven employees, and eight primary functions as summarized in Figure 4.3. So far, there is no clear work plan for the regional offices and the relationship with CBS is primarily through working jointly on household questionnaire surveys being carried out in the Sudan. The regional offices do not have gender specialists or gender statisticians and most of the employees are either statisticians or data collectors. with the support and training of the UN, CBS developed an action plan as part of the next NSDS. The transitional government support, awareness and advocacy for gender issues and statistics is an opportunity that can be harnessed to strengthen the gender function of CBS at the regional level. This needs to be done in close collaboration with the government and through the provision of technical, material, and administrative support.

1
- Compiling gender statistics and maintaining gender statistics databases
- Analysing data from a gender perspective

2
- Disseminating gender statistics via publications and/or a website
- Ensuring that gender perspective is addressed in all aspects of the statistics production within the NSO

3
- Integrating a gender perspective in statistics training or introducing statistics in gender training and awareness rising workshops; organising national training related to gender statistics
- Answering requests for gender statistics from national and international users

4
- Conducting methodological work (development of gender statistics, measurement issues, data collection methods)
- Coordination of an inter-agency committee that serves as a venue for discussion on gender statistics
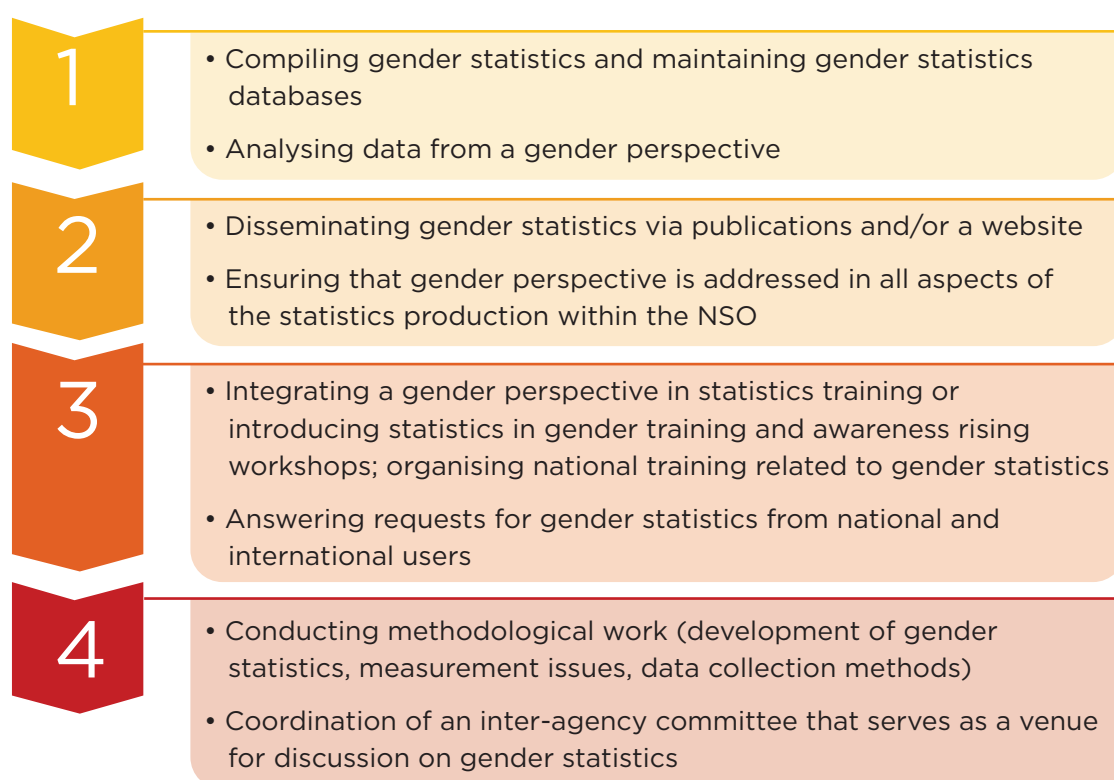
Figure 4.3 Main Tasks of Gender Statistics Unit

The assessment found that the social and gender statistics unit in CBS is still facing many challenges which limit the unit's performance quality, products, plans and contributions in the context of gender statistics. Specific problems that were identified include: (1) No gender experts consulted/involved in production of gender statistics in the gender statistics unit; (2) No incentives in place to enhance the retention of gender statistics staff and reduce turnover; (3) Poor training and capacity building in gender statistics; (4) No efforts made by the CBS/Gender statistics unit to promote the use of gender statistics, and (5) Poor data communication/public information campaigns based on gender statistics. Given the weak relationship between the regional offices and the social and gender statistics unit in the center as well as limited experience in regional offices, there is urgent need to develop a coordination mechanism by allocating a focal point in the regional offices, providing experts in gender statistics and training workers on the skills of collecting, analyzing, and publishing gender statistics.

Assigning focal points can be a good way to start a new gender statistics programme in countries where the national statistical system lacks a gender focus. However, as the gender perspective gets integrates into the system, the role of focal points can change from coordinators to producers who integrate the gender perspective into all stages of collection, production, and dissemination of data.

The degree of inclusion of gender focal points or gender units in ministries and other entities that participated in the assessment is depicted in Figure 4.4. Some of the line ministries have a gender unit embedded within these ministries for example the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Education have mainstreamed gender statistics as have the Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Industry. Some ministries such as the Ministry of Finance are now activating or establishing gender units in their respective operations. None of these entities have specialized or dedicated staff working on gender statistics.

Ministries such as the Ministry of Youth and Sport and Ministry of Health only have gender focal persons, banks (Umdurman National Bank, Saving & Social Development Bank and Family Bank). Some organizations in the private sector (Hagar Foundation) have gender focal persons but no staff members specifically dedicated to gender statistics.

Some international organizations, such as the World Bank have gender statistics officers. The academic institutions included in the sample all had gender units. These include the Development Research and Studies Centre at the University of Khartoum, Gender and Reproductive Health and Rights Resource and Advocacy Centre (GRACE) at Ahafad University for Women, and the Economics and Social Research Institution.

Gender statistics focal points should be designated as technical rather than administrative and should not be expected to have all the requisite knowledge and skills. The assessment found that 63% of focal points of gender statistics have more than five years' experience in gender statistics and 88% consider themselves having good or better than adequate in the field.

Reporting skills are essential for focal points to be effective; their reports should be submitted to senior managers. The assessment found that less than half of the focal points have been invited to a management or high-level meeting at their respective institutions to provide insights about gender statistics. Approximately 8 in 10 focal points have never had an opportunity to join international meetings related to gender statistics and 50% have never prepared a report on gender statistics for regional or international forums (also see Figures 4.5 and 4.6).

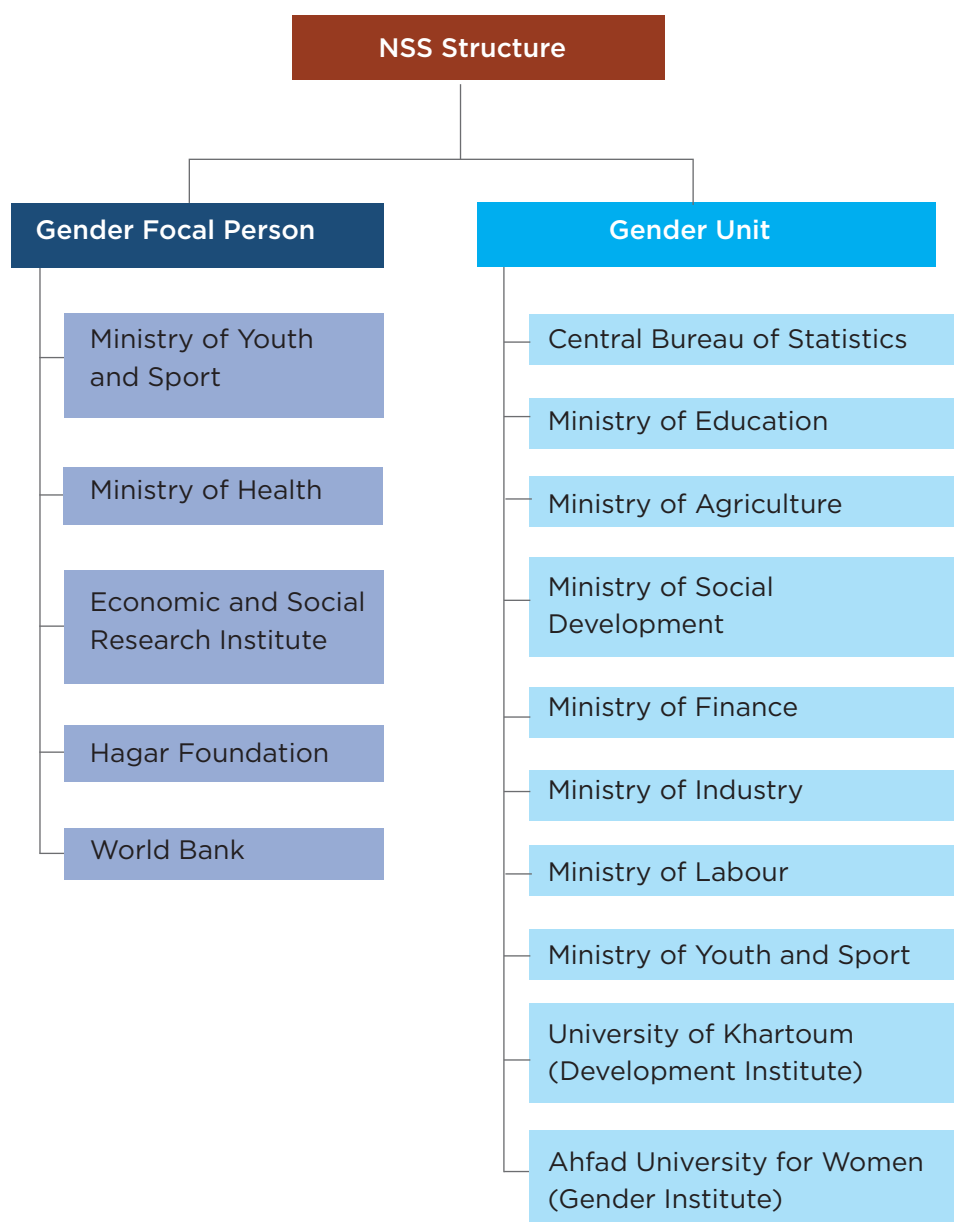**Figure 4.4** *Distribution of gender focal persons versus gender units in the NSS structure as per interviewed ministries/entities*
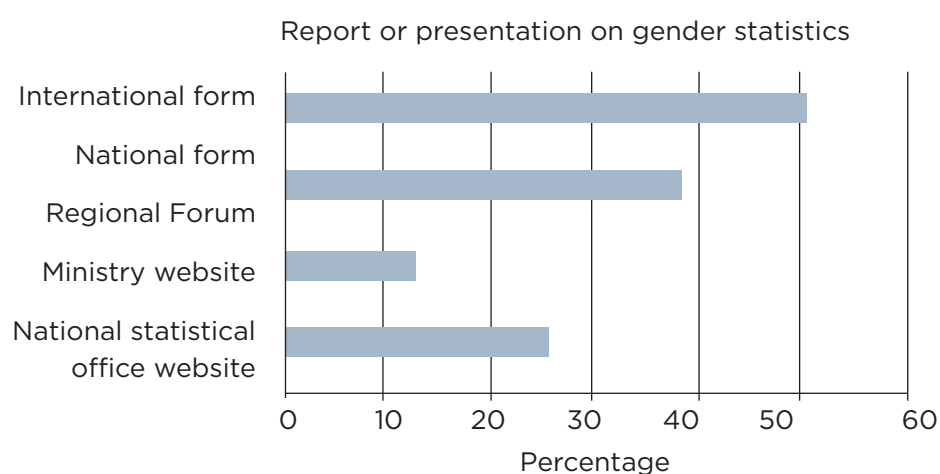

Report or presentation on gender statistics

Figure 4.5 Role of the gender focal persons in preparing a report for an international forum

Legend:
- Invited to management or high-level meetings at your institution to provide insights about gender statistics
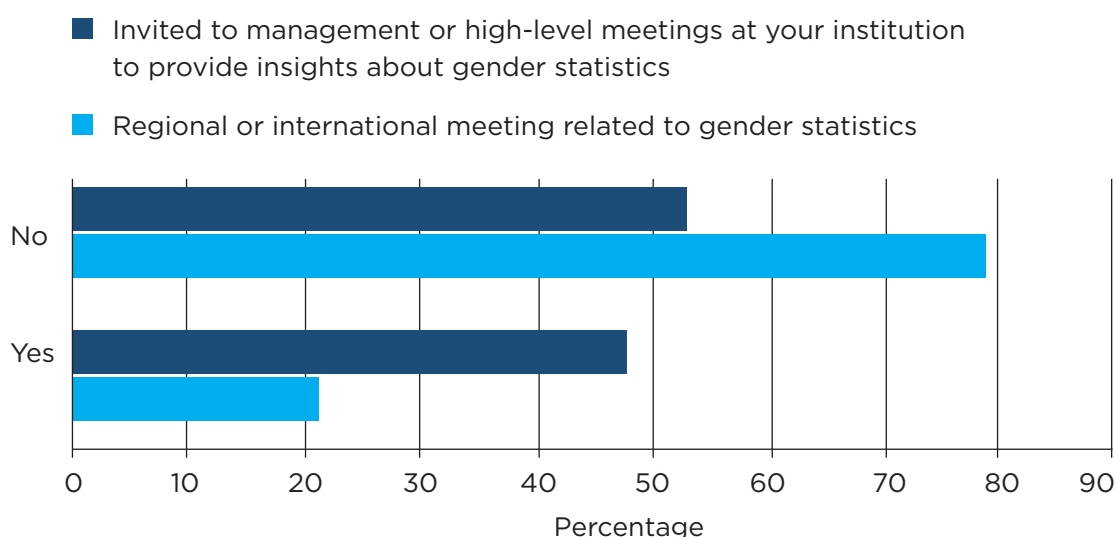- Regional or international meeting related to gender statistics

Figure 4.6: *Role of the gender focal persons in joining management or high-level meetings and or regional or international meetings*

4.2.3 Statistical capacity

Most respondents to the assessment questionnaire indicated that gender statistics skills gaps exist both in the CBS and in the various MDAs that form part of the gender statistics system. Mainstreaming gender in statistics processes, sampling, data processing, and data analysis calls for professional skills. So far, there have been limited capacity-building programmes in gender statistics for CSB staff/Gender Unit/gender focal points so expansion is necessary.

Assessment respondents proposed a wide range of potential topics for training with the most commonly mentioned being: use of different statistical analysis programs; engendering statistical analysis; conducting qualitative and quantitative surveys; database development; collecting survey data for human resource-related issues; developing gender-sensitive indicators; critical and thematic analysis of gender data; production of indicators in women's participation in peace 16.6; basic gender statistics concepts; calculating work hour indicators from a gender perspective; Interpretation and use of data and reports; qualitative gender indicators; gender-responsive budgeting; gender concepts and women empowerment; classification of survey data.
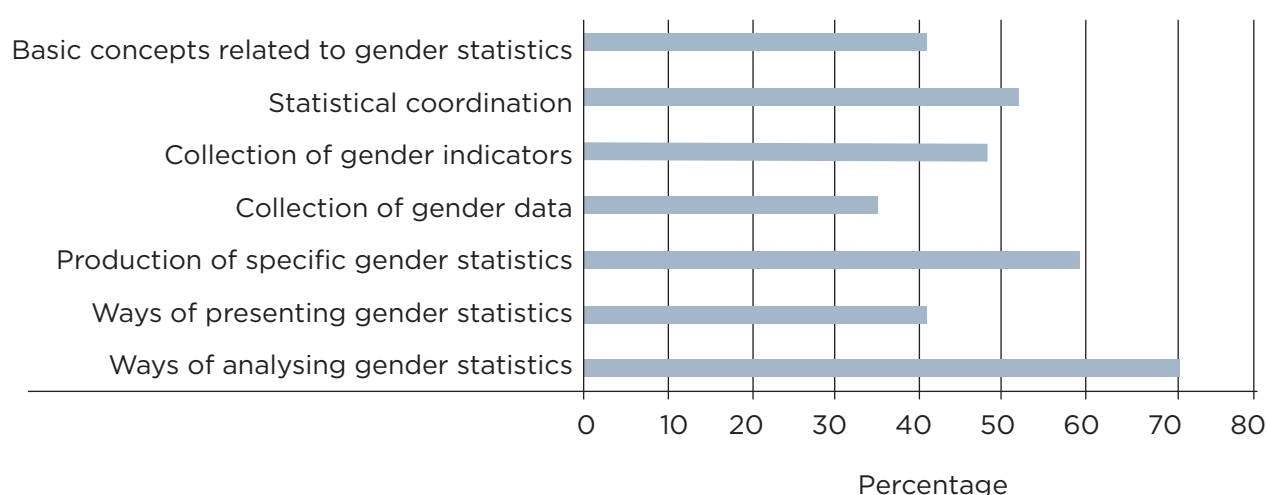

Figure 4.7 *Most frequently mentioned gender statistics topics participants would like to learn more about*

4.2.4 Financial and physical resources

Access to the necessary financial and physical infrastructure and resources will be critical success factors for the newly-established Gender Statistics Unit in CBS especially for gender data collection, data processing, analysis, and dissemination. A dedicated budget will be essential to provide and update infrastructure.

The assessment found that the unit faces the following challenges: a general national shortage of funds for statistical purposes, the absence of a dedicated budget for gender statistics activities, and the absence of criteria to deliberately include gender (statistics) in the national budgeting process for statistics.

The Gender Statistics Unit does not have a dedicated budget for gender statistics primarily because the Unit is new (established in 2021) and is fundraising from donors. The resource mobilization efforts are currently largely ad-hoc and activity-based rather than part of a comprehensive plan to develop gender statistics. An example includes financial support from the Government and donors received in March 2021 for data collection, statistics, publication in context of COVID-19, social and economic impact on women, and support for specific gender statistics publications.

the gender statistics unit is also constrained in terms of physical infrastructure as it does not have sufficient equipment (including, computers, printers, desks, database, estimation software, etc.) to perform its tasks.

4.2.5 Coordination of gender statistics

The United Nations Statistics Commission for Central Europe[8] defines coordination as a process through which activities, responsibilities, command, and control structures are synchronized and integrated. Within a statistical context, this refers to the more efficient production of statistics through the use of common standards, norms, and principles.

The NSDS (2012-2016) identified coordination as one of NSS challenges due to ineffective coordination within agencies. Currently there is no coordination mechanism between regional offices and the newly-established Social and Gender Statistics Unit and a general lack of expertise and skills in gender statistics, data collection, analysis, and dissemination at all levels. Most of the line ministries or agencies (social development, planning, local government, labor, health, and education) collect gender-specific data. Building good coordination mechanisms in the NSS will improve gender statistics, quality of data, and minimize efforts and cost. More than three quarters (78%) of the entities which responded to the survey indicated that they cooperated with CBS.

In general, the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs is responsible for providing data and statistics to support decision-making at the level of the executive body and acting as a coordination hub. There are some mechanisms of coordination between line ministries and CBS in collecting gender-specific data for the following ministries: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Local Governance, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Social Development.

There is currently no particular committee or group that convenes on a regular basis for the purpose of coordinating the production of gender statistics. Other obstacles that impede the coordination of the production of gender statistics include the absence of gender statistics-related provisions in the Statistics Act, no specific regulation guiding the collection and production of gender information, and lack of representation of gender aspects in any of the statistical entities.

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8   Coordination of the production of official statistics. https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/documents/technical_coop/2014/mtg3/S2_Jan_Byfuglien.pdf

4.2.6 Conclusions on the enabling environment

The review of NSS documents and analysis of data obtained during the assessment has shown the following gaps in the gender statistics enabling environment:

i.   There is political support for the development of gender statistics at the national level (indicator: the establishment of a gender unit in the CBS, and fundraising from the relevant agencies), and gender equality is widely accepted as a policy objective by the Government and in the wider political arena.

ii.   A number of challenges and gaps in the enabling environment for gender mainstreaming and gender statistics were identified namely:

o   There is very poor consideration for gender statistics in the NSDS; the 2003 Statistical Act was found to be quite outdated and does not specify the need for the establishment of a Gender Statistics Unit.

o   The most recent NSDP (2012-2016) does not make provision for gender statistics. However, gender statistics is being included in the new plan which is being developed in consultation with the new Gender Unit.

o   A severe shortage of specialized human resources in the CBS and the Gender Statistics Unit (the CBS only has 44 staff members qualified in statistics, and the Gender Unit only has 7 staff members). There are currently no gender experts involved in the production of gender statistics in the Gender Statistics Unit.

o   Shortage of funds for the Gender Statistics Unit.

o   Weak physical infrastructure (Information technology and software) to collect, process, store, secure, and disseminate gender statistics/data.

iii. The federal statistics office (CBS) is responsible for producing gender statistics through data analysis and dissemination and coordination with line ministries. Regional offices are mainly responsible for the collection of data according to plans and methodologies developed at the federal level.

iv.   Both the federal office and regional offices need capacity-building programmes for gender statistics and mainstreaming gender in statistical work in addition to internal experience in gender statistics.

v.   Limited capacity to generate gender statistics at the federal and state levels. Capacity building will therefore be needed with respect to gender statistics production in general including instrument design, data collection, data analysis, and data dissemination. Such capacity building will also need to include mainstreaming gender in all statistical work.

4.3   Gender statistics production

4.3.1   Introduction

Due to the current political transition and accompanying instability, no statistically representative national surveys were conducted in the Sudan during the past three years. This includes data needed for monitoring the implementation of international agreements, such as the Beijing Platform for Action, and the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, which are being systematically integrated in official data systems.

In accordance with analyzing data based on a gender perspective, the CBS Gender Unit participated in incorporating the gender perspective into its projection studies for example the fifth Population and Housing Census, which took place in 2008 and the census which is currently underway.

The CBS stated that one of the country priorities in the coming years is to generate more gender-specific data to meet planning and national and international reporting requirements, for example, women's participation in senior leadership positions and women's political participation to promote gender equality. This will be achieved through a combination of household surveys with sex-disaggregated analysis, inclusion of gender specific modules in surveys, and improvement and increased use of administrative data systems.

4.3.2 Household survey and Population and Housing Census data collections

Even though limited household survey production took place during the past three years due to the political transition, Sudan launched its first Population and Housing Census in December 2020. The most recently available data is for the 5th Census which took place in 2008. The 2021-2022 Census will be the first since the separation from South Sudan. It will be carried out over a two-year period and will provide essential general population and sex disaggregated data. Other data sources that have provided sex disaggregated and gender data over the years include Core Welfare Indicators (2015), National Household Budget and Poverty Survey (2015), Multiple Cluster Survey (2014) and Household Health Utilization and Expenditure Survey (2014). Annex 6 provides more details on this.

During the past three years, no gender dedicated special modules have been included in house-hold surveys. Sudan has also never conducted a national statistically representative time use survey or a violence against women prevalence survey.

CBS and its stakeholders have identified the following priority gender data collection and analysis exercises that will be critical in the next three years:

i.   Reviewing all household surveys from a gender perspective and identifying questions that could be included in the survey to better meet national and international reporting requirements

ii.   Conducting a time use survey

iii.   Conducting a national violence against women and girls prevalence survey

iv.   Conducting a Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) survey[9]

It will be necessary to also analyze existing data from a gender perspective. This will include an analysis of the 5th Population and Housing Census data (2008), 2014-2015 National Baseline Household Budget Survey data, and the planned 6th Population and Housing Census to be conducted between 2021 and 2022.

There is need to develop a national gender indicator framework and to ensure that the necessary data is collected to meet national and international planning and reporting requirements with reference to the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063.

4.3.3 Gender indicator gaps

Sudan does not have a national gender indicator framework. The data needs for monitoring the implementation of international agreements (CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action, SDGs) have thus far been systematically integrated in the official data systems but significant gaps remain. If the gender indicators that form part of the SDGs are considered, the country is only able to report on 31% of the indicators required to monitor for the SDGs[10]. Specific gaps in priority gender areas include violence against women, unpaid care and domestic work, key labor market statistics and the gender pay gap. Additionally, data on important areas of concern to women such as gender and poverty, gender and the environment, and access to assets such as land is not regularly collected using comparable methodologies. Annex 5 provides a detailed analysis of the status of each indicator.

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9   The need for this survey was not identified during the assessment itself but by officials from the Federal Ministry of Health who attended the UN Women POWER regional policy dialogue on SIGI in July 2021.
10   UN Women country profiles. https://data.unwomen.org/country/south-sudan

Table 4.1: Sudan gender SDG indicator availability per goal

Goal No.	Goal Specific analysis	Grand total gender indicators		Indicator value not available		Available - low achiever		Available - medium achiever		Available - high achiever	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
	Total all SDG	122	100	84	68.9	27	22.1	9	7.4	2	1.6
1	No poverty	11	9.0	9	81.8	0	0.0	2	18.2	0	0.0
2	Zero hunger	2	1.6	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
3	Good health and well-being	15	12.3	4	26.7	8	53.3	2	13.3	1	6.7
4	Quality education	32	26.2	24	75.0	6	18.8	2	6.3	0	0.0
5	Gender equality	25	20.5	14	56.0	9	36.0	1	4.0	1	4.0
8	Decent work and economic growth	10	8.2	4	40.0	4	40.0	2	20.0	0	0.0
9	Industry, innovation, and infrastructure	1	0.8	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10	Reduced inequality	2	1.6	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
11	Sustainable cities and communities	4	3.3	4	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
13	Climate action	1	0.8	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
16	Peace, justice, and strong institutions	18	14.8	18	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
17	Partnerships for the goals	1	0.8	1	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

Source: UN Women country profiles

There are a number of potential data sources that could be used for the Agenda 2030 indicators that currently do not have data sources. These are summarized in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Potential data sources for indicators from the SDG indicator framework currently not being monitored per sector

Thematic Area	Goals	Potential data sources
No poverty, reduced inequality, and no hunger	1, 2, 10	• National Household Budget and Poverty Survey data • Quick Household Consumption Survey • Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire
Decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation, and infrastructure	8, 9	• Comprehensive Industrial Survey data, • Labor Force Survey data • Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire
Good health and well-being	3	• Household Health Survey data, • Utilization and Expenditure Survey data
Quality education	4	• Household Health Survey data • Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
Gender equality	5	• Use regional instruments such as the Africa Gender Development Index of the Africa Gender Index.
Sustainable cities, communities, and climate action	11, 13	• The National Baseline Household Survey • Population and Housing Census
Peace, justice, and strong institutions	16,17	• The National Baseline Household Survey

Other indicator frameworks of relevance to gender statistics such as the UN global minimum set of gender indicators and the Africa minimum set of gender indicators were not included in this gap assessment.

4.3.4 Administrative and alternative data sources

Considering the limited data availability for SDG reporting, administrative and other non-conventional data sources such as citizen-generated data could potentially be used for alternative gender data reporting purposes. Several respondents indicated that they would like to have access to readily available and easy-to-access reports that summarize administrative data sets e.g., regular reports on the health information system. The SDG monitoring framework recognizes the importance of using alternative data sources (even if there is no written policy, which is important to establish). CBS identified administrative records as an alternative data source to produce gender indicators and developed a plan to use these as an important source of gender data in the future. The action plan for the next stage contains three pillars: rehabilitation of infrastructure, staff capacity building, and utilization of technology. However, there is still a gap in the policy frameworks that enable and support the use of these alternative data sources.

Table 4.3 Existing administrative data sources that contain sex disaggregated data

Name of administrative data set	Responsible ministry/entity	Kinds of indicators measured
Civil registration system	1. Civil Registration Authority, Ministry of the Interior 2. Department of Statistics' Birth and Death Register, Ministry of Health 3.Central Bureau of Statistics	Goals 3,4,5
Health information system	Ministry of Health	Goals 3,6
The National Information system	Ministry Of Cabinet	Goals 8,9,12,17
EMIS	Ministry of Education	Goal 4

4.3.5 Quality assurance

According to NSDS, *"Data development/overall data production process has been inconsistently and irregularly addressed leading to poor data delivery with inadequate data quality and lack of reliable data time series".* Currently, CBS does not have a national framework for statistical quality.

The assessment findings show that: (1) CBS and ESCWA carried out a joint assessment of gender statistics quality in the past 3 years (Gap in Gender Data, for ESCWA)[11], (2)[12] CBS did not undertake any assessments of its data production processes to see if they were gender-sensitive, and (3) there have been no efforts or plans in the NSS to monitor the quality and use of gender data from administrative sources.

So far, CBS has been using international guidelines and standards on producing statistics on violence against women, as well as the UN 2016 guidelines on integrating a gender perspective into statistical production.

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11   https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/pubs/pdf/arab-gender-gap-report-english_0.pdf
12   https://www.unescwa.org/sites/default/files/pubs/pdf/19-00286_sd_arab-gender-lens_we2.pdf

4.3.6 Gender thematic areas requested by users

In the assessment, primary gender statistics stakeholders indicated that they are experiencing gender statistics gaps in the following production and thematic areas:

- Updated information on manufacturing industries (addressed by conducting a comprehensive gender sensitive survey)

- Gender responsive budgeting at country level

- Reasons for girls dropping out of education

- Employment opportunities in secondary schools

- Parity rates in education

- Women's empowerment and how men can be involved and made aware

- Culture and the impact of the environment on both women and men from the physical, mental, and social dimensions of health

- Child marriage, social norms driving FGM/C, GBV statistics

- Women's ownership of resources (land, production inputs)

- Women's inclusion in the economy especially in production and marketing

- Supporting environment that will enable women to maintain both their role in the family role and their production role

- Vocational training for women

- Considering women in conflict areas and laws that are prejudiced against women

- Marketing and promotion of Sudanese products

- AIDS statistics

- Engendering household surveys, facility surveys, use of administrative records, employment data and data about workers' conditions.

4.3.7 Innovation and information and communications technology

In the context of change, innovation and information and communications technology (ICT) CBS introduced the used of mobile based applications for gender data collection. ICT changes have had a positive impact on data quality. Furthermore, when mobile technologies are used, less time is spent collecting and entering data and more time is focused on process efficiencies. Errors are significantly reduced, and richer data is collected including photos, GPS coordinates, and automatic date and time stamping. With a mobile application, data can be immediately validated in the field with notifications if or when an entry falls outside the normal or expected range.

4.3.8 Conclusions on gender statistics production

The following challenges with regards to gender data collections and analysis have been identified during the assessment:

- Key gender indicators are currently not being produced in Sudan. The country has only been able to report on 31% of the 122 gender indicators in the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 as of December 2020.

- There is need to review all household surveys and administrative data systems from a gender perspective and identify questions that could be included in these surveys and systems to better meet national and international gender indicator reporting requirements.

- Even when collected, gender statistics data collection to address national and international data gaps takes place at irregular intervals. No gender-specific data collection took place during the past three years due to political change and instability. There are at least three gender specific surveys that need to be executed as soon as possible: a time-use survey; a national violence against women and girls' prevalence survey, and a Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI).

- In addition to data not being collected, existing data is also not regularly analyzed from a gender perspective and included in reports or policy briefs. The 5th and ongoing 6th population and housing census provide important gender data. The development of a gender monograph based on this data will have to be included in planning processes.

- The use of technology has not been optimized in statistical processes in the Sudan. There is need to increase the adoption of new technologies to speed up data collection and improve the quality of data. This includes but is not limited to developing an integrated system for field data collection with transfer to a central database at headquarters, development of an information security protocol to store and access data, and data dissemination and analysis software.

- CBS currently does not have a National Statistics Quality Assurance framework that can be used to assess the quality of statistics of any kind which then also include per implication gender statistics.

4.4 Gender data accessibility and use

4.4.1 Normative frameworks around data accessibility and use

The assessment found that CBS has an official data-sharing policy as well as classifications and definitions that have been harmonized among data producers. This improves the comparability of data, minimizes inconsistencies, and helps to support the use of a common language in defining and calculating indicators. In line with harmonizing shared data to ensure compatibility, minimize inconsistencies, and use common language in defining and calculating indicators, CBS tries to unify classifications and definitions among different data producers.

This will complement information obtained from consultative meetings and user-producer dialogues with technical advisory committees aimed at identifying gender-specific needs before implementing a major survey (i.e., censuses, poverty survey). There is also need to further strengthen NSS agency partnerships/collaborations with different actors from the country's data ecosystem such as UN Women and the Development Studies and Research Institute who are supporting the production and use of gender statistics.

The recently created social and gender statistics unit at CBS has started promoting gender statistics internally through capacity building and monitoring programmes for CBS and Unit staff. This is mostly done in the context of gender statistics as part of official statistics. No special gender statistics related public campaigns aimed at promoting and increasing the uptake and use of gender statistics has been held so far. There is need to develop and implement a gender statistics communication strategy jointly with key stakeholders that will include all potential gender statistics users and decision-makers.

There are also currently no procedures in place to report political or administrative pressures that the CBS may face when producing and disseminating statistical information, or instances of abuse or misrepresentation of gender statistics.

4.4.2 Relationship between data producers and users

Three critical success factors in the uptake and use of gender data are making data accessible by creating tools and products that make the statistics more user-friendly, strong collaboration and exchange between users and producers, and creating regular and systematic opportunities to deliberate and create action plans associated with the accessibility and use of these statistics. The two stages of data communication (pre-data collection and post-data collection) that typically form part of the statistical value chain provide ideal opportunity for building and strengthening these relationships between the producers and users of gender statistics.

The main groups of gender statistics users in the country as identified by the CBS are ministries, universities, academic institutions, and civil society organizations with no other potential users identified for the current period. The needs of users are usually taken into consideration before conducting major surveys. This is being done using forms, evaluation reports, consultative meetings, and interactions with technical committees. In addition, CBS also regularly evaluates user satisfaction through a user satisfaction form. However, the questionnaire being used is general rather than specifically focusing on gender statistics.

CBS also collaborates with international organizations such as the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and UN Women to strengthen the gender statistical system, increase gender-responsiveness of the NSS, methodological feedback concerning gender statistics production, technical assistance for gender statistics and organization of training related to gender statistics to promote the use of gender statistics in Sudan. The Social and Gender Statistics Unit also works closely with national entities for example, academic institutions in the dissemination of reports for users.

The assessment found that 67% of stakeholders are using gender statistics. A more detailed summary of gender statistics use can be found in Annex 4. This summary includes the source institution of the data, type of statistics, frequency and how they are being used.

According to users and stakeholders consulted during the assessment, the top four purposes for stakeholders in using national gender statistics are: (1) policy formulation, (2) decision-making, (3) research purposes and (4) economic information. Also see Figures 4.8 and 4.9.
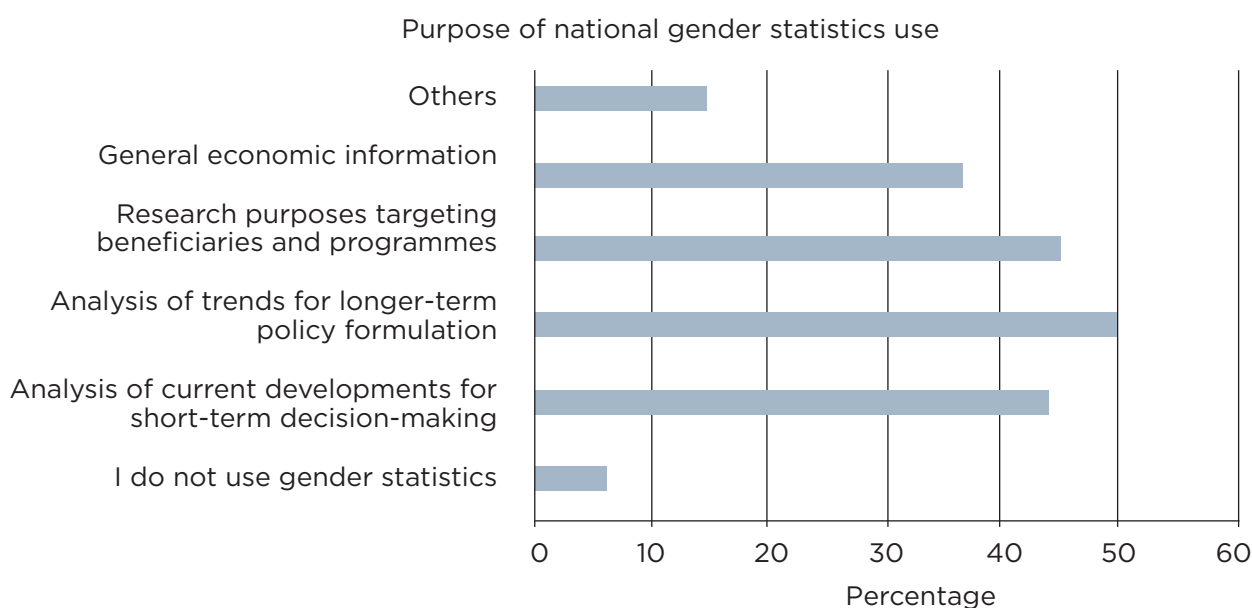

Purpose of national gender statistics use

Figure 4.8 Purposes of gender statistics use by stakeholders

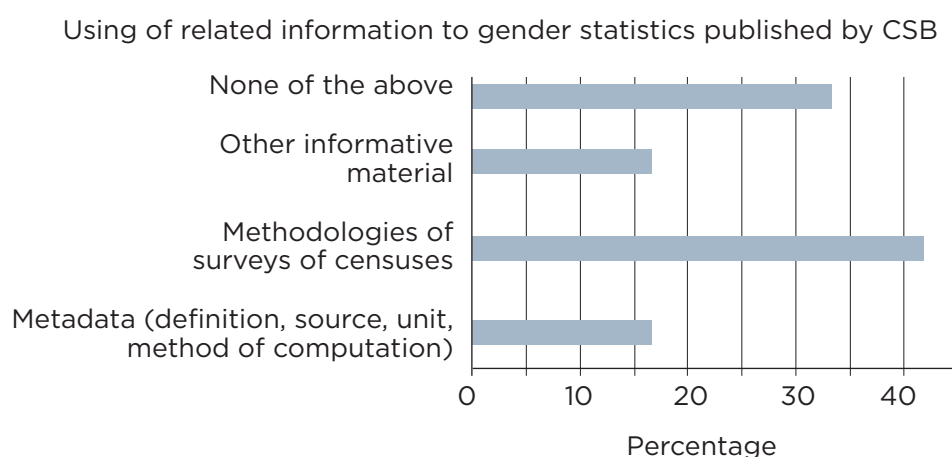Using of related information to gender statistics published by CSB

Figure 4.8 Use of related information by stakeholders

Within the context of gender statistics, less than 40% of stakeholders used information related to methodologies of census and surveys published by CBS, and less than 20% of stakeholders used the published metadata.

The most used gender data according to assessment questionnaire respondents are the Action Plan to manage small business and vocational (artisanal work) unemployment indicator; World Bank statistics on bank accounts by sex and urban/rural; Foreign Direct Investment -FDI; total numbers of schools in the states 2019-2020- 2021; reproductive health indicators; FGM/C and CM statistics from MICS 2014; not applicable, because we do not do gender statistics; reproductive health, poverty and education; study on value of rural women, women in informal sector survey; Sudan high frequency survey; disaggregation of trainees and researchers based on sex; statistics for employment, unemployment, wages and working hours.

4.4.3 Data literacy, knowledge sharing, communicating gender statistics and advocacy strategy

Currently the social and gender statistics unit at CBS does not conduct public campaigns or consultations to enhance the use of gender statistics. his is partly because the unit was only recently established. The unit would like to develop plans as well as conduct such campaigns in future. Despite this, they contribute towards the monitoring and use of gender statistics by ministries and agencies who are already interested in gender statistics.

Some of the survey participants said that they would like to learn more about visualization of GBV, economy, land ownership of women data as well as how to present gender data to different stakeholders.

4.4.4 Strategic networking and communication

In the past two years, several investments in gender-related workshops and trainings have taken place at CBS. Various UN agencies and development partners have contributed towards this work. Table 4.4 summarizes the most relevant of these activities:

Table 4.4 CBS Strategic Networking & Communication of gender statistics (2020/2021)

#	Total	Titles
1	5	Workshop training conducted online - ESCWA online, ministry of work ministry of social Development
2	15	Training workshop foreign investment survey
3	6	Online workshop e.g., sustainable development indicator- important of data in design making - use of data for planning in crisis time
4	2	Examples: a. preparation to conduct 2020-2021 Census (technical committee) b. The joint survey between CBS and the World Bank for studies of the social impact of the outbreak of the Corona pandemic on the population
6	1	Example: FGM/C Research Forum
7	3	Example: meeting to restructure the gender unit for its importance in women empowerment especially rural women
8	1	Example: Gender & Economy workshop, to include gender in policies and strategies
9	1	Example: UNDP workshop on the article 13-25
10	3	people with disabilities and job market
11	2	Example: Workshop on planning and budgeting, UN Women
12	2	Workshop and meeting about Labour Market Sequential Survey Meeting, Training Workshop on Survey Form

4.4.5   Conclusions gender data accessibility and use

Data accessibility aims to ensure that gender statistics are accessible in terms of data format, location, and time using a variety of platforms. These include communication media such as websites, open data portals, dashboards, social media, and traditional media to reach users in governments, civil society, academia, UN agencies and the private sector and to strengthen adequate demand for their production.

The assessment found that there is no comprehensive gender statistics communication plan or strategy in place at present, nor have there been any specific advocacy or other events that promote the uptake and use of gender data and statistics. The limited production of gender data and statistics during recent years has also impacted negatively on data accessibility and use. CBS does not have a dedicated web page or gender data portal to make gender data more accessible to users.

A comprehensive approach will be needed to address these issues. First, a stakeholder analysis is required to identify current as well as future issues and actors for the purpose of growth, engagement and use of gender data by a) identifying – listing to relevant groups, organizations, and people; b) analyzing – understanding stakeholder perspectives and interests; c) mapping – visualizing relationships to objectives and other stakeholders; and d) prioritizing – ranking stakeholder relevance and identifying issues.

Secondly, there is a need to improve on the overarching processes. The first step involves a) raising awareness among stakeholders to improve understanding of the value of gender statistics in the local and international context and the challenges facing the NSS, followed by b) engagement with local leaders and decision-makers to strengthen commitment, c) identifying roles and responsibilities at local team level. The final phase is a "stock-taking and assessment exercise" of the internal setting to strengthen the integration of information into planning, cooperation and decision making related to gender statistics, and d) the final step is the development and implementation of the workplan.

5 COVID-19 Impacts

5.1 COVID-19 Impacts on gender statistics

The assessment found that COVID-19 has impacted statistics in general and gender statistics in particular. 89% of stakeholders agreed that COVID-19 had impacted the production of gender statistics in general while 74% felt that gender statistics was specifically impacted as shown in Figure 5.1.
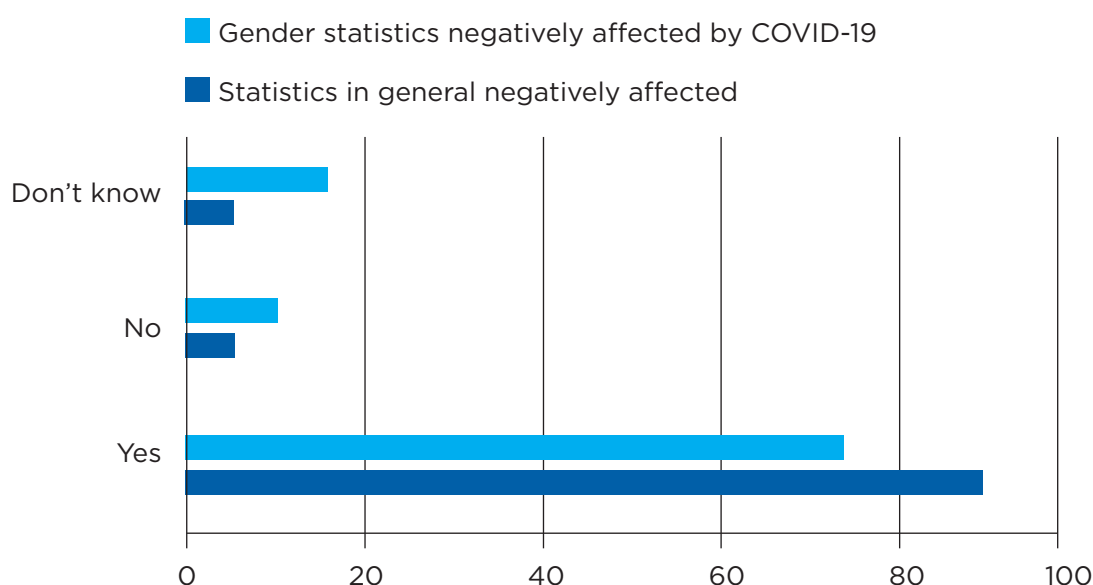
Figure 5.1: COVID-19 Impacts on statistical production

Some examples of the specific impacts of COVID-19 on statistical production in general and gender statistics in particular include the availability of statistics, quality, delay, cost, and material. Figures 5.2a and 5.2b show the extent of the perceived impact for each of these. Key stakeholders identified the following impacts for COVID19, *"delay in gender disaggregation in all produced data, lack the information data about students and teachers at schools in states, delay of national surveys and health surveys, FGM/C rose during the lockdown period, delay of the project aimed to increase the gender awareness for seven to eight months, delay of heath and economic gender statistics, delay in report from ministries such as health, interior, education, delay in the preparation and implementation of the household survey that should take place earlier this year, delay in data about small business- session workers, delay in the data about small business it is effect by covid 19 that lead to decreased revenue and profits, number of beneficiary from micro finance, delay of Income source projects, beneficiaries of monthly support by organizations ,and women sport, and annual youth activity".* COVID-19 has also led to a delay in the start of the 6th Population and Housing Census, which is supposed to provide sex disaggregated and other gender/data statistics at the lowest possible geographic level.
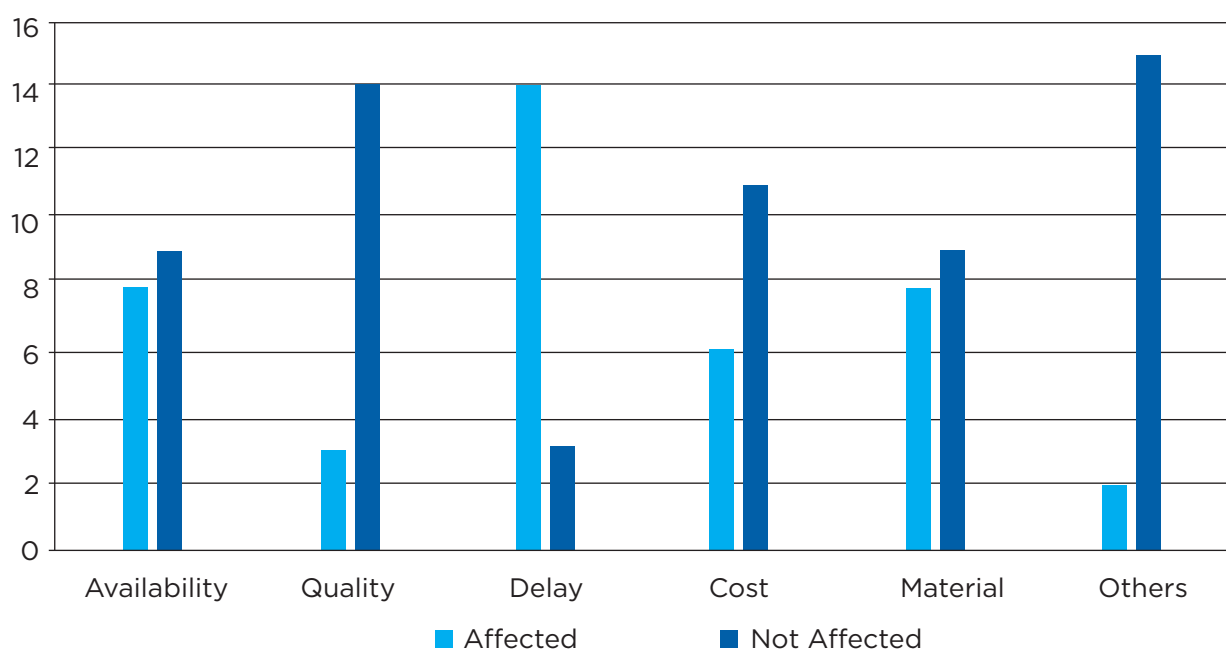
Figure 5.2 Impact of COVID-19 on statistical production in general
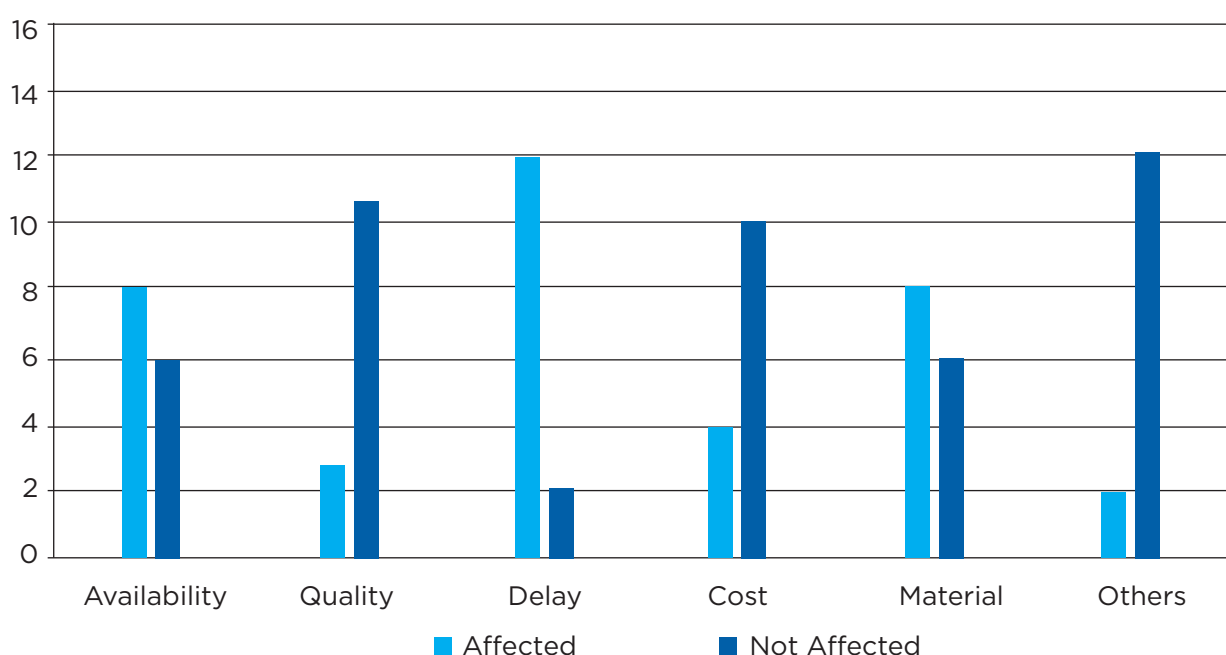
Figure 5.3 Impact of COVID-19 on gender statistics production

The key stakeholders that participated in the assessment proposed mitigation strategies for COVID-19 impacts on data, CBS, capacity building, communication, experts, and infrastructure aspects related to general and gender statistics. The respondents presented some suggestions on how to deal with the obstacles created by the COVID-19 pandemic. In terms of data collection, they proposed using online data sources of gender statistics, virtual platforms, and focusing on other sources of gender statistics. Respondents proposed capacity building in data collection and use of virtual platforms, as well as focusing on other non-traditional sources of gender statistics. The development and expansion of IT and internet infrastructure was also seen as important. Annex 2 contains more information on this.

6 Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations

Introduction

Gender statistics aspire to reflect reality in a more accurate way and go beyond appearance and stereotypes so that the invisible line between men and women is drawn and differences are made clear. This vision acts as a driver to improve the way we describe reality and avoid unwanted biases. It also prompts statisticians to continuously improve definitions and data collection methods in the process of making official statistics more gender sensitive.

Even though statistical production has been undergoing a strain during the past three years due to political instability and transition as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, gender statistics has experienced significant growth and support in 2021 through the establishment of a dedicated gender statistics unit within the CBS under the name of "Social and Gender Statistics Unit".

The assessment identified a number of potential challenges, gaps and limitations that affect the ability of CBS to develop a quality gender statistics system capable of producing quality, timely, regular, comprehensive, and comparable gender statistics to monitor and evaluate Sudan's progress and commitment towards achieving gender equality, women empowerment, and the SDGs in the context of Sudan Vision 2030, Africa 2063, and 2030 Agenda. Challenges remain in several areas. These will be summarized based on the three pillars used for the assessment namely normative frameworks, data production, and the uptake and use of gender data and statistics.

Normative frameworks and enabling environment to produce and use of gender statistics

Findings

Even though the current process of developing a new NSDS is incorporating gender statistics considerations, historically, very little has been done in this regard. The NSDS 2012-2016 did not include any references to gender statistics and the 2003 Statistical Act is outdated and does not specify the need for the establishment of a gender statistics unit or highlight gender statistics as an area of focus.

There is need to strengthen the governance of gender statistics in terms of clear roles and responsibilities, development of the necessary legal and normative frameworks in support of gender statistics, and the need to develop an identity and logo for the gender statistics unit.

With regards to human resources, the CBS has a severe staff shortage. This also impacts on the gender statistics unit (the CBS has only 44 staff members qualified in statistics while the social and gender statistics unit only has 7 staff members).

There are no gender experts involved in the production of gender statistics within the gender statistics unit. Professional skills are needed to produce quality gender statistics not only for mainstreaming gender across the statistical value chain but also for all statistical processes, sampling, data processing, data analysis. Evidence shows poor capacity building programmes in gender statistics. This applies to the social and gender statistics unit, CBS staff in general and gender focal points in other ministries and entities.

The gender statistics unit also lacks the physical infrastructure (Information technology and soft-

ware) required to collect, process, store, secure, and disseminate gender statistics/data as well as the financial resources necessary to execute its mandate effectively. There is currently no dedicated budget specifically for gender statistics within the overall national budget for statistics.

Conclusion

With regards to the enabling environment, the assessment found that there is a lack of policies and legislative arrangements that regulate the enabling environment for gender statistics. Coordination of gender statistics production and use across the NSS has largely been ineffective due to limited active governance and lack of coordination mechanisms. Various capacity gaps have been identified and in the absence of capacity building programmes in gender statistics for CSB staff/social and gender statistics unit/gender focal points there will definitely be a need to focus on this as part of a gender statistics development plan. There is a severe shortage of specialized human resources within the CBS and gender statistics unit and a shortage of financial resources and equipment in the newly established social and gender statistics unit.

Recommendations

The assessment team recommends that the CBS with the support of relevant stakeholders:

Updates the national policies and legislative arrangements that aim at promoting a gender statistics system to monitor and evaluate Sudan's progress and commitment towards achieving gender equality, women empowerment, and the SDGs in the context of Sudan Vision 2030, Africa 2063, and 2030 Agenda.

Updates the national strategic statistical master plan to meet the data needs of the present development agenda 2030 and the SDGs

Engages with oversight institutions to legislate for budgets for statistics, data production and dissemination, and monitoring and evaluation to effectively address challenges in the production and use of data. There should also be a dedicated budget specifically for gender statistics within the overall national budget for statistics with specific criteria to deliberately include gender (statistics) in the national budgeting process for statistics.

Develops a national gender indicator framework.

Develops a protocol for data exchange to eliminate any existing regulations restrict data exchange between institutions.

Integrates sector and county statistical plans into the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and focuses on working towards data interoperability and comparability.

Includes an article on gender statistics in the Statistics Act to enshrine its legal protection and ensure adequate investment and support.

Updates NSDS in terms of considering the enabling environment as the cornerstone of gender statistics.

Provides the necessary support for the governance structure of the Social and Gender Statistics Unit, recruits professional staff in gender statistics and creates mechanisms to improve the coordination of gender statistics. The necessary infrastructure and equipment for the production of gender statistics (Information technology and software) should also be provided to the Social and Gender Statistics Unit.

Create a training team for capacity building and implement a capacity building programme to create an enabling environment for gender statistics.

Data production

Findings

The study found that there is currently a limited quantity of gender statistics being produced. As of December 2020, Sudan was only able to report on 31% of the 122 gender indicators in the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. When data is collected, it tends to be irregular; no specific gender-related data collection took place during the past three years. There are at least three gender-specific surveys that need to be executed as soon as possible: a time-use survey; a national violence against women and girls' prevalence survey and a SIGI survey.

No work has been done thus far to mainstream the gender perspective in statistical work, data collection, data analysis, and data dissemination. There is therefore need to review all household surveys from a gender perspective and identify questions that could be included in the survey to better meet national and international reporting requirements and develop a standard module for gender statistics to be integrated with each household surveys.

The availability of gender statistics will increase if existing databases are analyzed and used to provide gender statistics reports and policy papers. The ongoing 6th Population and Housing Census will provide important gender data and the development of a gender monograph based on this data will need to be included in planning processes.

The adoption of new technologies to speed up data collection, enhance processing and data exchange, and improve the quality of data will enhance the overall gender statistics production process. There is no national quality assurance framework for statistics in general and gender statistics in particular.

Conclusion

Data development and the overall data production process has been inconsistently and irregularly approached resulting in the delivery of insufficient data of limited quality and the absence of reliable data time series collected at regular intervals for most indicators. Significant capacity gaps, limited availability of gender statistics, and limited data exchange between institutions characterize gender statistics in Sudan. In the absence of a national quality assurance framework, the production of gender statistics and administrative data cannot be consistently and systematically improved. There is also need to mainstream gender across the statistical value chain.

Recommendations

It is recommended that CBS, with the support of relevant stakeholders, prioritize the following activities:

1. Develop capacity building programmes on mainstreaming gender in statistics, concepts, indicators and methods in gender analysis and gender statistics for statisticians, data scientists and data managers. This could be a central training center/portable ToT team.

2. There is need to include special modules focusing on gender issues in all household surveys to update existing national databases and fill data gaps in monitoring the contribution of women to the economy – population movement, and other areas. This could be a standard module for all household surveys.

3. CBS should make efforts to enhance the retention of gender statistics staff and reduce turnover.

4. The newly established Gender and Social Statistics Unit needs to be equipped with the necessary infrastructure including, computers, printers, desks, database, and estimation software for data collection, processing, and dissemination.

5. Data producers should compile metadata for all existing data to enhance access and use and a national quality assurance framework should be developed for gender statistics data collection, and administrative data.

6. Key administrative data sets that provide administrative data need to be assessed for coverage and quality and the necessary improvement plans developed.

Data accessibility and use

Findings

The accessibility of the data that is produced is limited as there is no dedicated gender web page or web portal that can provide gender statistics in various formats, resulting in producers, users, the public, decision-makers, media, international organizations, and research institutes not being able to find the necessary gender data and statistics when needed. There is also no communication strategy/plan/team at present to engage stakeholders, the public, and the media and to impact decision and policy-makers with respect to gender issues. There is also limited communication of data and metadata based on gender statistics. Without increasing the emphasis on promoting the use and uptake of gender statistics by developing more appropriate and accessible data products, the uptake and use of gender statistics for evidence-based planning, policy formulation, resource allocation, project implementation, and monitoring and evaluation is unlikely to improve in Sudan.

Conclusion

In order to address the weak uptake and use of gender data and statistics in the Sudan, It will be necessary to approach the dissemination and communication of gender data and statistics from a number of perspectives. The development of a gender statistics communication strategy and plan, regular production of policy briefs and gender statistics products in user-friendly and accessible formats, regular user-producer dialogues to promote producer-user exchanges and the creation of a gender web page on the CBS website will make a significant contribution towards moving this process forward.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the assessment, it is recommended that CBS and partners prioritize the development and strengthening of mechanisms and processes for communicating gender data with data users. This includes developing a communication strategy and plan, improving the CBS website, developing data visualizations and a gender web page, strengthening the data hub for data-sharing between the various national and subnational statistical agencies and international organizations, introducing mechanisms that support automatic data-sharing between agencies for statistical purposes such as the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX).

Data communication with data users should be well prepared, enhanced, and involve two stages: pre-data collection (exchange of ideas, data needs and availability, preferred data formats, and communication channels) and post-data collection (data producers should communicate the data, how to access it, interpret it, and use it) given that they benefit both the data producer and user experience in CBS. This will also go a long way towards improving perceptions of transparency and collaboration, which are the foundations for building trust.

All these activities will be enhanced if public information campaigns aimed at promoting the uptake and use of gender data and statistics, developing general data literacy, and institutionalizing regular user-producer dialogues are held. This is likely to be more successful if it is underpinned by a stakeholder analysis that identifies issues and actors, capacity building on data communication, and a clear strategy to grow and engage.

References

1. The 2003 Statistics Act, 2003

2. National Strategy for Development Statistics (NSDS), 2016

3. Voluntary National Review, 2018

4. The National Audit Chamber Report, 2019

5. Sustainable Development Report, 2021

6. UNDP Report, 2021

7. African Development Bank Report, 2021

8. UNFPA Population Dashboard

Annexes

Annex 1: Survey responders

Agency	Responder	Position	sex	email
Central Bureau of Statistic	Nasreen Abdelmotalib	Senior Statistician/ Social and gender statistics unit	2	nasreenaaa@yahoo.com
Central Bureau of Statistic	Magda Sayed	Manager of Khartoum State Statistic Office	2	magdasayed505@gmail.com
Ministry of industry	Amal Abdalrahim khogli	Director / gender mainstreaming unit	2	sky7at@gmail.com
Youth and Sport	Fakher Eldien Fadllah Ahmed	/ Manager at policies, planning and studies unit	1	fakhri1973@gmail.com
Central Bank of Sudan	Elsharif Zain Alabdeen	President the Banks and Financial Institutions Department	1	elsharif.eltahir@cbos.gov.sd
Saving and Social Development Bank	Mohamed El Taher El Tayeb Mohamed	Employee at Directorate of Planning and Research	1	wadeltaher1@hotmail.com
Central Bank of Sudan	fatima Mohammmed Osman	senior statistic	2	fatima.nana2013@gmail.com
Minstry of Education	Omsalama Alamein Ali	Director of statistic and planning Department	2	omsalama30@yahoo.com
Ministry of Health	Dr. Wiam Bushra	Director of the surveys and health data department and the focal person responsible for coordinating between partners related to surveys and population data	2	wiam.bushra@yahoo.com
Ahfad University for Women	Israa Kamal	Research Officer	2	esraakamalali5@gmail.com
Ministry of Agriculture	Omima Abdelgader	Agricultural engineer	2	may-abdo83@yahoo.com
Ministry of agriculture	Sumia Abdallah	Gender Officer	1	sumiagurtoby@gmail.com
University of Khartoum	Dr. Samia Nihar	Head of Gender and Developmental Unit	2	samia_nihar@hotmail.com
Economic and Social Research Institute	Mohamed Ibrahim	Associate Professor	1	moh.ibrahim@esrb.gov.sd
Ministry of Youth and Sport	Rihab Abo Obida	Media person	2	hobababker@gmail.com
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	Maha Hammad	Manager Assistant/ general directorate of planning and economic policies	2	mahahamad259@gmail.com
Social and Economic research institute	Dr.AbdAlaal AbdAllatief	Assistant Professor	1	www.esrb.gov.sd

Agency	Responder	Position	sex	email
Ministry of Industry	Imad Mohammed	Director of statistic unit	1	imad2002khatmi@yahoo.com
Social Development	Manahil El Nazeer	Project Coordinator/ Women Empowerment and Gender Inclusion	2	gdwfa3@yahoo.com
Haggar Group	Haba Mohammed Ahamd	Sustainability and Social Impact Officer	2	hmb@haggargroup.ae
Umdurman National Bank	Dr.Mohammed Hussain Abdalarhman	planning and Quality Unit Manger	1	
Haggar Group	Bashir Ahmad Elsamani	Sustainability and Social Impact Manger	1	bae@haggargroup.ae
Umdurman National Bank	Asma Awad	Director Abn Khowled for Women Branch	2	
family bank	Adal Ali Omar	Head of planning Department	1	
Family Bank	Maha Mohammed	Planning and research Department	2	
Ministry of Work	Amira Ibrahim Ahmad	Director of the Department of Labor Market Studies and Information	2	amprasud@yahoo.com
Ministry of Work	Thruia Farah	General Manger	2	thruiafarah@yahoo.com
World Bank	Alvin Etang Ndip	Senior Economist	1	aetangndip@worldbank.org
World Bank	Eiman Osman	Poverty and Equity Consultant	2	eosman1@worldbank.org

Annex 2: Key stakeholders mitigation proposal for COVID-19

	Aspect	Mitigation strategy steps
1	Data Collection	1. pay more attention to online data collection 2. use of social media programmes as a tool for data collection 3. use of innovative ways in collecting data with high quality 4. monitoring the data production 5. focus on other sources of gender statistics and strengthen them. 6. enhance health institutions statistics production, and develop detailed gender indicators 7. use of virtual means of data collection 8. activate the idea of virtual platform to reach to the user 9. online meeting 10. work remotely (access to data and server) 11. Accumulation of data
2	CSB and Surveys	1. Keep working closely with the Central Bureau of Statistics to push for national surveys to take place, putting all social distancing measures into consideration. 2. Financial fund for surveys
3	Capacity Building	1. capacity building for data collection 2. training of staff in using such virtual programmes 3. institutional capacity building in collecting and analyzing gender statistics 4. build capacity of workers in the social and gender statistics unit
4	Communication	1. help in development and update the ministry website
5	Experts	1. work with experts to develop an emergency road map to identify the gap in gender related data
6	Infrastructure	1. internet infrastructure 2. prepare hall or room for virtual conference

Annex 3: Mapping of statistics use within key stakeholders

source institution	type of statistics	the frequency	how they are used by your institution
CBS	1. population information 2. population projection	yearly	rate of students number at education system and age group
CBS	population surveys and census/	continuous	/ in development of polices, strategies and interventions needed
CBS	Reproductive health indicators/	more than 10/year/	in researches, studies, and paper writing
CBS	national surveys,	more than 3 time/ year	in developing manuals and books writing Ministry of Education, educational surveys, once/year, in writing papers on girls education
CBS	women in rural areas and economic situation/	once/ year/	in plans, policies and programmes development Sudan Central Bank/ economic situation/
CBS	time series, studies, reports/	not less than10/ year/	study, research, consultancies, feeding the information bank in the institute B. bank of Sudan/ annual report to know the indicators of government spending and GDP/10/year/ study, research, consultancies C. Ministry of Finance/indicators related to finance, studies, Poverty, education and health readings/ 10/year/study, research, consultancies
1.CSB 2. ministry of finance 3. ministry of agricultural .4. central bank of Sudan -	economic statistic	yearly	for planning
CBS	1. all data related to gender 2. data on education gap between boys and girls, percentage of girls acceptance by the higher education, women illiteracy, challenges of girls education in areas with no schools, mobile schools/	3-4/year 1-2/ year	1. used in reports/ and projects development ministry of education/ 2. reports, interventions, development of women literacy programs, school rehabilitation programmes communications and information technology commission/ women usage of technology/ every 2 yea

source institution	type of statistics	the frequency	how they are used by your institution
1. Ministry of health 2. Ministry of Education/	annual report	1/year	to develop rates and ratios
Women	Business and the Law/	Yearly	Inform design of our work and further study
1. 1. Banks Union 2. Central Bank of Sudan	Deposits and finance Capital adequacy	1/year 4/year	1. to identify the position of the bank in the banking market 2. to enhance the capital adequacy indicators
banks and financial institutions- the family bank	Budgeting and finance reviews	periodic report	Collect and analysis the data for build the cash count study
	Data		There is no unit specialized in gender statistics because the agricultural survey, do not consider gender statistics

ANNEX 4: Key stakeholders proposal to improve gender statistics use

What could be done to improve availability, accessibility and use of gender statistics in your institution	
1	a. establish a specialized social and gender statistics unit
	b. build capacity of ministry staff to run the social and gender statistics unit
	c. establish a public website that collect all data related to banking and provide users with user name and password for the confidentiality
2	Collaboration between the institutes and NSO
3	Publication of information 2. population projection
4	a. more resources to conduct a large scale studies
	b. capacity building in statistical analysis
5	a. Coordination and coordination mechanisms with different partners and stakeholders
	b. Continuous use of information produced to improve quality
	c. Establishment of system or mechanism of information exchange between different partners to benefit from produced information to achieve data quality from a comprehensiveness perspective.
	d. Take advantage of and benefit from the information produced from different sources
6	a. CBS should conduct agricultural survey that consider gender statistics
	b. All researches and studies should consider gender aggregation
	c. Training workshops in gender statistics
	d. establishment of gender statistics unit in the ministry
7	a. conduct more frequently specialized surveys
	b. conduct more in-depth analysis
	c. Conduct new surveys, and desegregated by gender
	d. Collecting gender specific data using specific instruments for that, rather than simple gender disaggregation of data as typically done
	there is a need for analysis of findings of the existed surveys from gender perspective, so we need 1. financial aid to recruit experts for analysis 2. need to regional and international experts to help in data management 3. need for analysis programs
	a. Reactivation of all gender units in all Sudanese states
	b. Coordination and collaboration between related ministries and entities
	c. Coordination and collaboration between related units inside the ministry
	d. Build the capacity of the unit staff 5. logistic support
	q. Capacity building for staff (how to collect the data, data entry, production of general indicator for gender statistic.
	b. Capacity building for staff at institute in gender statistic.
	c. Meet the institute need training in this field by statistic surveys.
	It is important contact with the employees and discuss the importance of study for him before started the data collection, because the some of employees didn't fill the question-er or reject to participate in the study
	Do a labour market survey with related parties and publish the result in the ministry website

ANNEX 5: SDG indicator availability assessment matrix

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
1	1.1	1.1.1	Employed population below international poverty line, by sex and age (%)	Medium achiever
1	1.1	1.1.1	(supplementary) Population living below the international poverty line by sex and age (%)	Medium achiever
1	1.2	1.2.1	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (%)	Not available
1	1.2	1.2.2	Proportion of population living in multidimensional poverty (%)	Not available
1	1.3	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population with severe disabilities receiving disability cash benefit, by sex (%)	Not available
1	1.3	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of mothers with newborns receiving maternity cash benefit (%)	Not available
1	1.3	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension, by sex (%)	Not available
1	1.3	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of unemployed persons receiving unemployment cash benefit, by sex (%)	Not available
1	1.4	1.4.2	Proportion of people with legally recognized documentation of their rights to land out of total adult population, by sex (%)	Not available
1	1.4	1.4.2	Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to land out of total adult population, by sex (%)	Not available
1	1.b	1.b.1	Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	Not available
10	10.3	10.3.1', '16.b.1	Proportion of population reporting having felt discriminated against, by grounds of discrimination, sex and disability (%)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex (victims per 100,000 population)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.2	Conflict-related death rate (civilians), by sex, age and cause of death (%)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to physical violence in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to robbery in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to sexual violence in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.1	16.1.4	Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (%)	Not available
16	16.2	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for forced labour, servitude and slavery, by age and sex (number)	Not available
16	16.2	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for removal of organ, by age and sex (number)	Not available

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
16	16.2	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for other purposes, by age and sex (number)	Not available
16	16.2	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitaton, by age and sex (number)	Not available
16	16.2	16.2.3	Proportion of population aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by ageÂ 18, by sex (% of population aged 18-29)	Not available
16	16.3	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for physical assault, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.3	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for robbery, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.3	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for sexual assault, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.5	16.5.1	Prevalence rate of bribery, by sex (%)	Not available
16	16.7	16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (Ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national populationÂ with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), Lower Chamber or Unicameral	Not available
16	16.7	16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (Ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national populationÂ with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), Upper Chamber	Not available
2	2.1	2.1.2	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)	Not available
2	2.3	2.3.2	The income of small-scale food producers, dissagregated by sex and indigenous status.	Not available
3	3.1	3.1.1	Maternal mortality ratio	Low achiever
3	3.1	3.1.2	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	Low achiever
3	3.2	3.2.1	Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Low achiever
3	3.2	3.2.1	Under-five mortality rate, by sex (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Low achiever
3	3.3	3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex and age (per 1,000 uninfected population)	Medium achiever
3	3.4	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (probability)	Low achiever
3	3.4	3.4.2	Suicide mortality rate, by sex (deaths per 100,000 population)	Medium achiever
3	3.5	3.5.1	Alcohol use disorders, 12-month prevalence (%)	High achiever
3	3.7	3.7.1	Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (% of women aged 15-49 years)	Low achiever
3	3.7	3.7.2	Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years)	Low achiever

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
3	3.8	3.8.1	Universal health coverage (UHC) service coverage index	Not available
3	3.9	3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisonings, by sex (deaths per 100,000 population)	Low achiever
3	3.a	3.a.1	Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older, by sex (%)	Not available
3	3.c	3.c.1	Health worker distribution, by sex and type of occupation (%)	Not available
3	3.c	3.c.1	Health worker distribution, by sex and type of occupation (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available
4	4.1	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Medium achiever
4	4.1	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Low achiever
4	4.1	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Low achiever
4	4.2	4.2.1	Proportion of children aged 36–59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical development, social-emotional development, and learning (% of children aged 36-59 months)	Not available
4	4.2	4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex (%)	Not available
4	4.3	4.3.1	Participation rate in formal and non-formal education and training, by sex (%)	Low achiever
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.6	4.6.1	Proportion of population achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional skills, by sex, age and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.6	4.6.1	Proportion of population achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional skills, by sex, age and type of skill (%)	Not available
4	4.7	4.7.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment	Not available
4	4.a	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Low achiever
4	4.a	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Low achiever
4	4.a	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Medium achiever
4	4.c	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
4	4.c	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available
4	4.c	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available
4	4.c	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available
4	4.c	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Low achiever
5	5.1	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 3: employment and economic benefits	Not available
5	5.1	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 1: overarching legal frameworks and public life	Not available
5	5.1	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 4: marriage and family	Not available
5	5.1	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 2: violence against women	Not available
5	5.2	5.2.1	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age (%)	Not available
5	5.2	5.2.2	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment	Not available
5	5.3	5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 (%)	Low achiever
5	5.3	5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%)	Low achiever

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
5	5.3	5.3.2	Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age (%)	Low achiever
5	5.4	5.4.1	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic chores and care work, by sex, age and location (%)	Not available
5	5.5	5.5.1	Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government (%)	Not available
5	5.5	5.5.1	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (% of total number of seats)	High achiever
5	5.5	5.5.2	Proportion of women in managerial positions (%)	Not available
5	5.5	5.5.2	Proportion of women in senior and middle management positions (%)	Not available
5	5.6	5.6.1	Proportion of women who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care (% of women aged 15-49 years)	Not available
5	5.6	5.6.2	Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education (%)	Low achiever
5	5.6	5.6.2	(S.1) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 1: Maternity Care (%)	Medium achiever
5	5.6	5.6.2	(S.2) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 2: Contraceptive and Family Planning (%)	Low achiever
5	5.6	5.6.2	(S.3) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 3: Sexuality Education (%)	Low achiever
5	5.6	5.6.2	(S.4) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 4: HIV and HPV (%)	Low achiever
5	5.a	5.a.1	Share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure (%)	Not available
5	5.a	5.a.1	Proportion of people with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land (out of total agricultural population), by sex (%)	Not available

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
5	5.a	5.a.2	Degree to which the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees womenâ€™s equal rights to land ownership and/or control (1=No evidence to 6=Highest levels of guarantees)	Not available
5	5.b	5.b.1	Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex (%)	Low achiever
5	5.c	5.c.1	Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment (%)	Low achiever
8	8.1	8.10.2	Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a financial institution or mobile-money-service provider, by sex (% of adults aged 15 years and older)	Low achiever
8	8.3	8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment, by sector and sex (ILO harmonized estimates) (%)	Medium achiever
8	8.5	8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of employees by sex and occupation (local currency)	Not available
8	8.5	8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex and age (%)	Low achiever
8	8.6	8.6.1	Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training, by sex and age (%)	Low achiever
8	8.7	8.7.1	Proportion of children engaged in economic activity, by sex and age (%)	Low achiever
8	8.7	8.7.1	Proportion of children engaged in economic activity and household chores, by sex and age (%)	Medium achiever
8	8.8	8.8.1	Fatal occupational injuries among employees, by sex and migrant status (per 100,000 employees)	Not available
8	8.8	8.8.1	Non-fatal occupational injuries among employees, by sex and migrant status (per 100,000 employees)	Not available
8	8.8	8.8.2	Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	Not available
9	9.5	9.5.2	Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants, by sex	Not available
10	10.1	10.2.1	Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available
11	11.1	11.1.1	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing, by sex	Not available
11	11.2	11.2.1	Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available
11	11.7	11.7.1	Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available

Goal	Target	Indicator number	Gender indicator	Assessment
11	11.7	11.7.2	Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	Not available
13	13.b	13.b.1	Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities	Not available
16	16.7	16.7.2	Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	Not available
17	17.18	17.18.1	Statistical capacity indicator for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring	Not available

Source: UN Women county profiles

Annex 6: The World Bank: Improving Household Surveys and Administrative Data in Sudan: Statistical Capacity Building (2018)

Household Surveys already conducted	Survey dates
Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)	2000, 2010, 2014
Social Services Survey	2003
Comprehensive Industrial Survey	2003
Household Health Survey	2006 & 2010
Quick household Consumption Survey	2007
The National Baseline Household Survey	2009
Household Health Utilization and Expenditure survey	2009
Labour force survey	2009
National Household Budget and Poverty Survey (NHBPS)	2011
Core Welfare Indicator Questionnaire	2014/2015

The surveys in the table below were planned for the period 2018-2021, but due to political instability and transitions did not take place. The 6th Population and Household Census is currently being conducted and data collection will take place over a two-year period, until 2022.

Planned Household Surveys	Survey dates
Household budget survey	2019
Comprehensive agricultural census	2018/2019
Agriculture survey	2018/2019
Multiple indicator cluster survey	2019
Financial inclusion survey	2019
Industrial sector survey	2019
Population and Housing Census	2021

Annex 7: Validation Workshop for the Draft Assessment Report

The UN Women country office held a validation workshop on 11th of August 2021 to validate the results of the gender statistics assessment in Sudan and to finalize the study report. The participants were 15 employees from different entities; most of them were responded to the study questionnaire,

Agency	Total
CBS	5
Ministry of youth and sport	2
Ministry of : Finance, Health, Labor, Agriculture, Commerce, Industry , Social development, Environmental society	8 (1 each)

The **UN Women** country representative, **Adjaratou Fatou**, kickoff the workshop, UN Women Programme Specialist, **Marry**, highlighted the importance of this assessment recommendations in developing the production of gender statistics in Sudan, The director of the CBS, **Ali Abbas** highlighted the importance of gender statistics and how the findings of this assessment may help in updating national strategy of statistics. Furthermore, he highlighted the importance of partnership in enhancing the development of national statistic system in the country.

Adjaratou Fatou (middle), Ali Abbas (Right) Marry (left)

The international consultant and the leader of assessment team , **Dr. Alhaj,** explained the assessment objectives , methodology, the gaps and challenges that faces Sudan in providing gender statistics and the report recommendations to enhance production of gender statistics. The national consultant, **Arwa Salah**, divided participants into three teams as shown in figure 10.1, each group discussed the assessment results, the discussion were guided with a set of questions (annex 5).

Figure 10.1 : validation participants

7.1   Workshop Outputs

The validation workshop identified the **lack of awareness** of the concept and importance of gender statistics as the main challenge to the national statistical system. On the other hand, it classified **capacity building of gender units staff** in ministries as a top priority. In general **the validation workshop recommendations came aligned with the assessment report and participants approve the final report recommendations** .table 10.1 summarize the workshop outputs

Table 10.1 summary of the workshop outputs

Guide	Team 1: (CBS, M. of agriculture, M. of health and M. of youth and sport)	Team 2:(M. of industry, M. of commerce, CBS)	Team 3: (M. of labor, M. of youth and sport, M. of finance, environmental society, CBS)
Challenges	lack of awareness about the concept of gender statistics is one of the main challenges	Lack of awareness among decision makers about the importance of gender statistics in economic development	Social barriers in understanding and accepting the concept of gender
Priorities in capacity building	Establishment of specialized training center for gender statistics	Capacity building of gender units staff across ministries Provision of gender experts across all the ministries.	Capacity building in gender and gender statistics to achieve SDGs and African agenda 2063
Priorities in researches	Identify the gaps in gender statistics across all sectors e.g women ownership over lands	How to use gender statistics in economic development Impact of gender in industrial development	The role and impact of gender in managing natural resources
Recommendation	Development of gender statistics strategy and policies Then establishment of gender statistic units across the ministries and institutes	Development of gender statistics strategy and policies Update national policies and legislations Development of national gender indicators framework	Development of gender statistics strategy and policies Develop a protocol for data exchange to eliminate any existing regulations restrict data exchange between institutions

Annex 8: Discussion Guide for the validation workshop

The participants divided to 3 teams and follow the following questions to guide the validation process

1. Do you think that the collaboration between gender statistics producers was reflected clearly in the study?

2. Do you think that the use of gender statistics was reflected clearly in the study?

3. Are there any other challenges to be added?

4. What are the priorities to build the capacity in gender statistics?

5. What are the priorities for future research?

6. What are the priorities in the suggested recommendations?