

# A STRATEGY FOR CHANGE:

## Making Every Women and Girl Count.



## Voices from behind the programme.



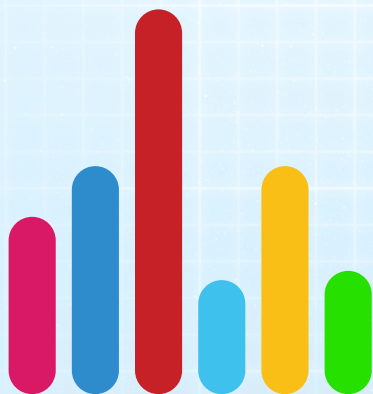


## Acknowledgements

The successful implementation of the first phase of Women Count in Kenya is attributed to a robust coordination mechanism, leading to strong overall programmatic impact and UN Women is grateful to all its partners.

We appreciate the critical roles played by the Government of Kenya specifically the National Treasury and Planning under the leadership of Hon. Amb. Ukur Yatani (Cabinet Secretary) and the Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens' Affairs and Special Programmes under the leadership of Prof. Margaret Kobia, PhD, M.G.H (Cabinet Secretary)

We are especially grateful to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics led by Mr. Macdonald Obudho, MBS (Director General) and the State Department for Gender led by Prof. Collette A. Suda, CBS (Principal Secretary) respectively in providing overall leadership and coordination during programme implementation.



Our thanks to the Council of Governors, the National Gender and Equality Commission, The Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis, the Agricultural Finance Corporation and the Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate (MED) at the State Department for Planning for their invaluable input during the implementation of the programme.

We appreciate the University of Nairobi and GROOTS Kenya for their unwavering support particularly towards dissemination and use of gender statistics.

We recognize the critical roles played by UN agencies particularly the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, UNICEF Kenya and UNFPA Kenya. We also acknowledge the support from OXFAM Kenya and CARE Kenya.

Our gratitude to Anna Mutavati (UN Women Kenya Country Representative) for providing leadership to the UN Women Kenya team specifically, Rukaya Mohammed, Maureen Gitonga, Caneble Oganga, Linner Ng'eno, Beatrice Alukonya, Queenie Meria and Luke Horswell; as well as former staff including Dr. Robert Simiyu, Joshua Musyimi and Diana Lutta. The process also benefited immensely from Isabella Schmidt, Sylvia Maina and Conrad Mudibo (UN Women ESARO) and Papa Seck, Jessamyn Encarnacion, Mika Mansukhani, Silvia Pina Juste and Ophelia Adjie-Darko (UN Women Headquarters)

Finally, we are indebted to the women and men of Kenya, our work would not be possible without you.



## Key Achievements 2018-2021

### Creating an enabling environment.



- The **Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical committee (IAGSTC)** was re-constituted and operationalized. The committee is chaired by Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and co-chaired by State Department for Gender. Part of its main role is to provide oversight in the implementation of the programme and validation of gender statistics.
- Gender statistics is included as a **key priority** in Kenya's national development plans, including **Kenya's third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III)**.
- **Updating the Standard Chart of Accounts (SCOA)** in partnership with National Treasury and UNICEF to include specific coding on gender equality and women's empowerment, nutrition, sanitation, and child protection. This will enable Kenya to track and report on SDG indicator 5.c.1 which seeks to measure government efforts to track budget allocations for gender equality throughout the public finance management cycle and to make these publicly available.
- Integration of gender related SDG indicators in the **MTP III (2018-2022) monitoring and evaluation framework (National and County Reporting Indicators handbook)**.
- **Gender Sector Statistics Plan (GSSP 2019/20-2022/23)** is now in place. It is part of the Kenya Strategy for the Development of Statistics (KSDS) and aims at strengthening Kenya's statistical capacity in gender statistics and offers strategic direction for the sector.
- In **2021**, integrating gender statistics in the **Statistics Act Regulations** is underway. The regulations are being reviewed to ensure they address the strengthening of the policy and legal mechanism for the production of gender statistics. This is in partnership with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, the Attorney General's office and the State Department for Gender.

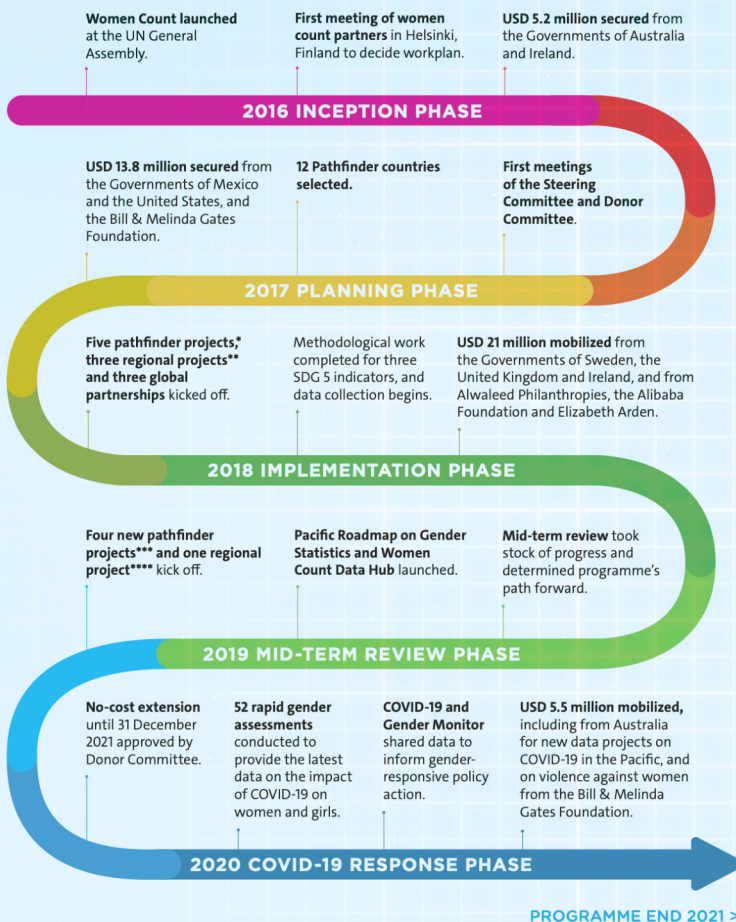
### Increasing data production.



- **County Gender Datasheets (2019)** developed providing new baseline data to track progress on gender equality and women's empowerment at the county level.
- First-ever **Women Empowerment Index (2020)** which is the first measure of women's empowerment across socio economic domains at National and County level in Kenya. This was done in partnership with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF.
- **Kenya Comprehensive Poverty Report (2020)**. This report is the first attempt in Kenya to measure poverty in a comprehensive manner, including the factors associated with poverty for different population groups at National and County Levels. It measured monetary and multidimensional poverty among children, youths, adult women and men and the elderly in Kenya. This was done in partnership with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF.
- **Women's access to Agricultural Finance in Kenya (2019)**. This baseline survey is aimed at establishing the status of access to agricultural finance by women in Kenya. The findings of the survey are to guide in developing effective and coherent strategy in programming of Women's Affirmative Access Window (WAAW) programme which seeks to drive financial inclusion in agrifinance across the agricultural value chains by increasing agricultural loans to women to approximately Ksh 1,4 million per day in a calendar year or Ksh 1 billion (US\$ 10,000,000) in a period of 2 years.
- **Gender chapter in the Economic Survey (2020 and 2021)** This was the first time the Economic Survey provided data and variables for the gender sector for policy review advocacy on the status of women and men in the economic empowerment, political leadership and social protection domains. It was published by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics.
- **COVID 19 gender assessment report (2020)**. The report assesses the effect of COVID-19. Specifically, the prevention and response mechanisms. It also provides policy recommendations that will guide COVID-19 responses and recovery plans for Kenya.
- The **capacities of data producers and users to produce and use gender statistics strengthened** to address capacity gaps and the increasing demand for gender statistics to monitor Sustainable Development Goals progress.



#### PROGRAMME START (2016) >



## In 2021, the following work on data production is ongoing;

- Publication of the **Gender Dimensions Monograph** which is part of the analytical reports from the Kenya Population and Housing Census (2019). It will provide an opportunity to; a) Carry out multivariate analysis in the future in order to capture relations that may not be visible if using sex-disaggregated data only b) generate appropriate indicators for use in sensitizing stakeholders on the need for and importance of sex-disaggregated data for policy formulation and decision making and c) Identify areas in which new data need to be collected in order to fully grasp elements of gender inequality.
- The first ever **Time Use Survey** in Kenya is currently underway in partnership with the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. The survey aims to provide data to; a) Identify gender differences in time use patterns with special focus on paid and unpaid work activities b) inform policy and resource allocation to programmes that will accelerate achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment and c) improve on the compilation of the contribution of household production to the National Accounts to inform macroeconomic policies and strategies. It will also provide data to track and reporting on **SDG indicator 5.4.1**.
- Publication of a preliminary report on **SDG indicator 5.b.1** on mobile ownership. The findings from the report are key to track gender equality since a mobile phone is a personal device that if owned, and not just shared, provides women with a degree of independence and autonomy.
- Publication of an **Information Sheet on the SDG gender indicators metadata**. The document will provide precise information to the Kenya National Statistical System (NSS) on the SDG gender related indicators. This aims to raise awareness on gender data and reveal the gender inequalities and existing gender data gaps in social, economic, environmental and political dimensions.
- Publication of the **strategy for the implementation of SDG 5 (2020-2025)**. The strategy identifies actions that require to be undertaken to position the country on the fastest and most reliable trajectory for the achievement of SDG 5. This is in partnership with the State Department for Gender.

## Improving data accessibility and use.

- UN Women** partnered with **University of Nairobi** to implement a student research grant programme where 17 students received research grants to conduct further analysis of gender data. 15 of the research papers were published in a research manuscript '**Gender Statistics for Evidence-Based Policies**'. Two of the grantees received scholarship offers to the **University of Iceland's Gender Equality Studies and Training programme** while two were selected to join the **Young Professionals Program at the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)**.
- UN Women** partnered with **GROOTS Kenya** to disseminate gender statistics to academia, Civil Society Organizations, and government policymakers including County Gender Directors. This led to increased demand for the use of gender statistics in county annual plans, budgets and implementation reports by county and sectoral departments.





**Fridah  
Githuku**

**Executive Director**

**GROOTS Kenya**

“ ”

I'm proud that GROOTS was able to bring into the national statistic space the data demand for rural women and influencing how the data tools are best modeled for them. We also championed to include asking the most uncomfortable questions to enable us to disseminate to the communities that would have otherwise been left behind.



GROOTS Kenya is a National movement of grassroots women led community based groups and self help groups in Kenya.



**Macdonald  
Odubho**

**Director General**

**Kenya National  
Bureau of Statistics**

“ ”

One of our biggest achievements is to form the Inter-Agency on Gender Statistics Technical Committee. We introduced new methodologies to work out, through best international practices, so we are able to ensure that whatever data we are producing, we will find a good use for all of the stakeholders.



Kenya National Bureau of Statistics provides, manages and promotes quality statistical services through utilisation of best practices for evidence based decision making.





The Council of Governors comprises of governors from the 47 counties of Kenya.

“”

At County Government level, the women count data was used to increase the involvement of women at the planning table, especially for gender budgets. Gender data is a planning tool and I saw an improvement in relation to matters of planning for gender.



**Jacqueline Mogeni**

Former  
Chief Executive Officer  
Council of Governors



“”

UNICEF partnered with UN Women to support KNBS to generate the Kenya Comprehensive Poverty Report. Since that report was produced, we have engaged National Treasury, through KIPPRA to involve the counties to utilize that evidence in their review of the gender budget process for the last two financial years. Our assessment shows that the counties have improved their fiscal strategies to include women in budgets.



**Dr. Robert Simiyu**

Social Policy and  
Economics Specialist

UNICEF



UNICEF works to promote and protect the rights of children and women in Kenya.





**Paul  
Kuria**

**Director Programmes  
& Research**

**National Gender  
Equity Commission**



The University of Nairobi is a research intensive university with a reputation for excellence and a strong and vibrant research culture.

“ ”

The Women Count programme has influenced our involvement in research, especially in the response to COVID-19. We recently completed the COVID-19 GENDER ASSESSMENT and it highlighted the effects on women in the labour force and important gaps. It is because of this project that we've had investment in such spaces.



“ ”

First and foremost, the university has the technical know how, to analyse gender statistics and to be able to translate the complex statistical messages into simple messages. We have found this research has raised issues on women economic empowerment, Gender Based Violence and women's reproductive health. This will enrich the discussion of the discourse.



National Gender Equality Commission focuses on special interest groups, which includes women, youth, persons with disabilities, children, the older members of society, minorities and marginalised groups.



**Dr. Joy  
Kiiru**

**Senior Lecturer,  
School of Economics**

**University of Nairobi**





National Gender Equality Commission promotes gender equality and freedom from all forms of discrimination in Kenya, especially for special interest groups through ensuring compliance with policies, laws and practices.

“ ”

National Gender Equality Commission considers women a critical constituency. The programme provided data that will contribute to a broad spectrum of issues and will inform policy and legislation gaps.



**Betty  
Sungura-Nyabuto**

**Commission Secretary  
/ CEO**

**National Gender  
Equality Commission**



“ ”

From this programme, KIPPRA has moved forward to develop a Gender Centre and we are looking forward to other institutions coming into help us analyse this data that has been collected. So KIPPRA will be able to disseminate this data and help the 47 counties in Kenya to understand how they can mainstream data in their work.



KIPPRA works to provide quality public policy advice to the Government of Kenya by conducting objective research and analysis and through capacity building in order to contribute to the achievement of national development



**Dr Nancy  
Nafula**

**Principal Policy Analyst**

**Kenyan Institute  
for Public Policy  
Research  
and Analysis**





**Elizabeth  
Obanda**

**Former Gender  
Advisor to  
Agricultural Finance  
Corporation**



Kenya National Bureau of Statistics strives to be a global leader in the provision of quality statistical services through professionalism, integrity, confidentiality, customer focus, innovation and teamwork.

“ ”

It is the appreciation of the fact that up to 80% of women in Kenya have no access to agri-finance and they are denied finance for various reasons. The women count programme shows clearly that women require knowledge and financial literacy to enable them to interrogate the information that is out there and therefore access the available funds.



“ ”

The gender statistics sector plan is part of the Kenya Strategy for The Development Of Statistics aimed at strengthening capacity in gender statistics. It has been very important because it enhances stakeholder participation in gender statistics, particularly in the production, management and use of data.



It is Agricultural Finance Corporation's mission is to provide sustainable financing through participative and collaborative financial and non-financial interventions, innovations, technology and products.



**Abdikadir  
Amin Awes**

**Director, Population  
and Social Statistics**

**Kenya National  
Bureau of Statistics**





UN Women is the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

“ ”

Gender statistics has a long way to go, the 2030 agenda is still ahead of us and we know that many gender equality indicators are yet to be made. So as long as gender equality has not yet been achieved, we will still need initiatives like the Women Count programme to be our barometer to help us measure whether we are achieving our goals or not.



**Anna  
Mutavati**

Kenya Country  
Representative

UN Women



“ ”

I think the biggest achievement of the Women Count programme would be for UN Women to be seen as a strategic partner by the National Statistics office. Just the fact that we were able to nurture that partnership, demonstrate our comparative advantage when it comes to gender statistics and have them appreciate our contribution in the discourse was a milestone.



A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.



**Maureen  
Gitonga**

Programme  
Specialist-Gender  
Statistics

UN WOMEN





**Caneble  
Oganga**

**Gender Statistics  
Advisor**

**Kenya National  
Bureau of Statistics**



**Ministry of Public Service and Gender  
State Department for Gender**

To coordinate gender mainstreaming in national development planning and promote equitable political and socio-economic development for women, men, girls and boys

“ ”

The programme has been able to support by giving the technical advice and this has been important that it has also helped to inform the revision of the Gender Based Violence module in the demographic health survey so that more indicators can be captured.



Kenya National Bureau of Statistics acts as the principal agency of the government for collecting, analyzing and disseminating statistical data in Kenya



“ ”

The coordination between the State Department for Gender and other stakeholders has been very robust. This Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee has provided a platform where participation and engagement of all stakeholders has been harnessed.



**Baldwin  
Anyiga**

**Economist**

**State Department  
for Gender**





[data.unwomen.org](https://data.unwomen.org)