

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE



Acknowledgements:

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

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January - December 2018

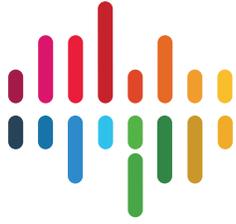


ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APRO	Asia and the Pacific Regional Office	OCGS	Office of the Chief Government Statistician of Zanzibar
AfDB	African Development Bank		
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal		
CEGS	Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics	PARIS21	Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
CST	Committee on Statistics	PRESS	Partner Report on Support to Statistics
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
DFID	Department for International Development, United Kingdom	SIAP	Statistical Institute of Asia-Pacific
ECARO	Europe and Central Asia Regional Office	Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	TCG	Titchfield City Group
ESARO	East and Southern Africa Regional Office	UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
HCP	High Commission for Planning of Morocco	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IAEG-GS	Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics	UNDS	United Nations Development System
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ILO	International Labour Organization	UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
INEGI	Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía, Mexico	UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
IPV	Intimate partner violence	UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia
ISWGHS	Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics	UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
MLE	Monitoring, learning and evaluation	VAW	Violence Against Women
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics	VAW Data JP	Joint Programme on Violence against Women Data
NPSV	Non-partner sexual violence		
NSDS	National Strategies for the Development of Statistics	WCARO	West and Central Africa Regional Office
NSO	National Statistical Office	WHO	World Health Organization
NSS	National Statistical System	Women Count	Making Every Woman and Girl Count

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AT A GLANCE

THE ISSUE

Data and statistics are indispensable tools for devising evidence-based policies and programmes to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, assessing their impact, and promoting accountability.

With 17 goals, 169 targets and 232 indicators (of which 54 are gender-specific), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a historic global commitment to achieve gender equality by 2030. The challenges for gender-responsive monitoring of the SDGs are daunting; however, there has been some progress since last year's report. Currently, 14 of the 54 indicators, (increase of four since 2017) can reliably be monitored at the global level. Established methodologies exist for another 31 indicators (increase of six since 2017) but country coverage is insufficient to allow for global monitoring. The remaining six indicators (decrease of 12 since 2017) still require some conceptual elaboration and/or methodological development and

three indicators, which have multiple components, have differences with regards to the availability of the established methodologies and/or data (i.e. multi-tiered).¹

In the 2030 Agenda, localization and adequate monitoring of SDGs targets will be critical to ensure that policies and programmes are implemented, and progress is tracked. Targets that are not monitored due to lack of data are likely to receive less priority. Without significant technical and financial investments to support national statistical systems (NSS) to tackle these challenges, there will be important gaps in our ability to adequately monitor the gender-responsive implementation of the SDGs.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Although some progress has been made since 2017, gender data gaps remain

26

PER CENT

(14 out of 54) gender-specific SDGs indicators can be reliably monitored globally

28

PER CENT

of the data needed to monitor the gender-related SDGs targets is currently available

21

PER CENT

of the gender data needed to monitor change over time is currently available

87

COUNTRIES

have conducted time use surveys but only 31 per cent of them have data from 2010 or after

Source: UN Women. 2018. Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Based on UN Women's calculations using the UNSD SDG database. Updated as of June 2019.

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

UN WOMEN'S STRATEGY FOR CHANGE

Building on UN Women's unique normative, policy, programmatic and coordination mandates, Making Every Woman and Girl Count (Women Count) aims to address three distinct but inter-related challenges:

- Weak policy space, legal and financial environment to produce and use gender statistics at the national level;
- Technical challenges within NSS that limit the production of gender data and statistics; and
- Lack of access and limited capacity on the part of users to analyse gender statistics to inform policies.

Actions needed to address these challenges are country specific but fall under three broad categories:



Creating an enabling environment:

Promoting a supportive policy environment to address institutional and financial constraints and to strengthen policies and practices governing the production and use of gender statistics.



Increasing data production:

Supporting efforts to improve the regular production of gender statistics, including building the technical capacity of the NSS and providing financial support for data collection to monitor the SDGs and other national and international commitments.



Improving data accessibility and use:

Promoting greater access to and analysis of data by users, including open access, dissemination tools, user-producer dialogues and strengthened the capacity of all relevant actors to use gender statistics in policy, programmes and advocacy.

HOW WOMEN COUNT WORKS

Key to the success of Women Count is coordination among international agencies and other actors at all levels, including through joint programming and active knowledge-sharing.

A joined-up approach at national, regional and global levels not only prevents duplication but ensures that support is cost effective and provided when and where it is needed. Between 2016 and 2021, activities include:

- **Partnerships at the country level:** Following an independent country selection exercise in 2017, 12 pathfinder countries² were selected, to implement Women Count in partnership with national statistical offices (NSOs) and in coordination with other actors.

- **Regional technical support:** Regional projects provide policy and programmatic support to pathfinder countries to implement Women Count as well as on-demand technical and financial support to other countries, to dismantle barriers to the regular production of gender statistics; to support national plans to monitor the SDGs; and promote South-South cooperation and sharing of best practices. As of 2018, regional projects are being implemented in Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia and Africa.

- **Global policy support and SDGs monitoring:** The global project provides programmatic and technical guidance to national and regional Women Count projects; monitors the SDGs through methodological work, data compilation and dissemination; and works to improve data on unpaid care and domestic work, among other thematic areas.

Additional projects, under the scope of the Women Count programme, include the Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) in partnership with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI, Mexico's NSO) and the Joint Programme on Strengthening Methodologies and Measurement and Building National Capacities for Violence against Women Data (VAW Data JP), implemented in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO).

PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHANGE

Strengthening statistical capacity to effectively monitor the SDGs requires well-coordinated and well-funded action at national, regional and global levels.

- **Country level:** Activities in pathfinder countries focus on strengthening institutional mechanisms, supporting data production, promoting greater access to data and fostering a strong culture of user-producer dialogue and collaboration. UN Women partners with all stakeholders to support the development, financing and implementation of participatory plans for monitoring the SDGs from a gender perspective.
- **Regional level:** Regional dialogues and coordination are supported by establishing partnerships with UN Regional Commissions and other relevant regional and sub-regional institutions.
- **Global level:** Work takes place through existing mechanisms to improve coordination and strengthen relationships with important players to integrate gender perspectives in national statistics strategies and other relevant policies. Global advocacy, outreach and communication also helps generate support for gender statistics.

CURRENT PARTNERS

Women Count is a \$61 million multi-stakeholder comprehensive global strategy.

As of 31st December 2018, the programme is generously supported by the Governments of Australia (AUD 6.5 million), Ireland (€ 1,050,000), Mexico (\$1.3 million), Sweden (SEK 80 million), United Kingdom (£6million), United States (\$2.5million) and Alwaleed Philanthropies (\$2.5 million), Alibaba Foundation (\$760,000), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (\$10 million) and Elizabeth Arden (\$700,000). Overall, it is currently funded at about 66 per cent (\$40.5 million) of the total, leaving a gap of 34 per cent (\$20.5 million).

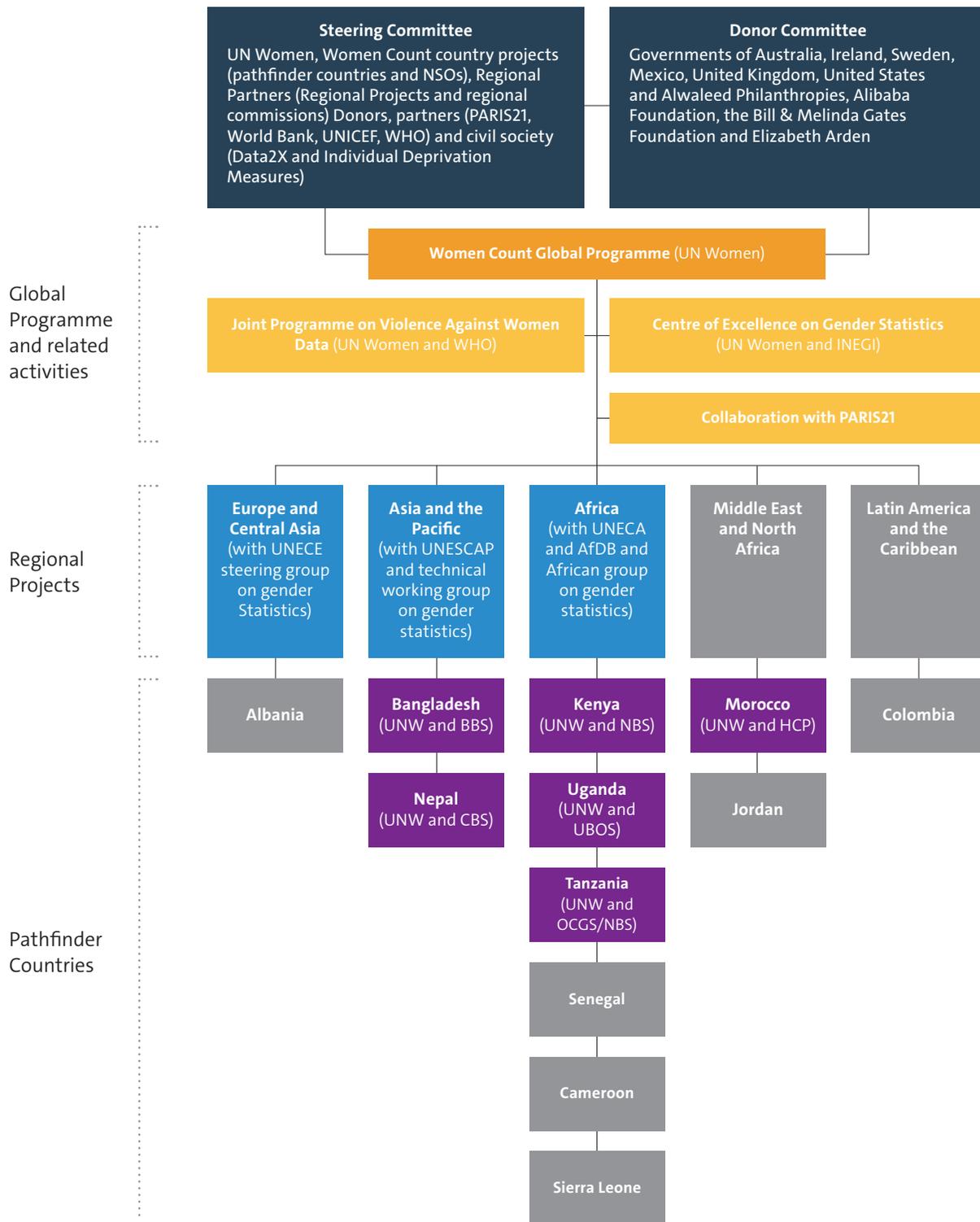
As key partners of Women Count, each donor is a member of the Donor Committee and the Steering

Committee (see Figure 1). As the executive mechanism, the Donor Committee reviews and approves budgets, approves all major changes to the programme and promotes the programme more broadly to encourage new partners to join. As a coordination and monitoring mechanism, the Steering Committee's role is to help review progress, guide implementation of the programme and ensure coordination with other actors. An additional way that UN Women works with current partners is through open lines of communication and cross fertilization with other relevant projects and programmes they support.

Opportunities for engagement

Interested in getting involved? Contact gender.data@unwomen.org or visit www.data.unwomen.org to learn more.

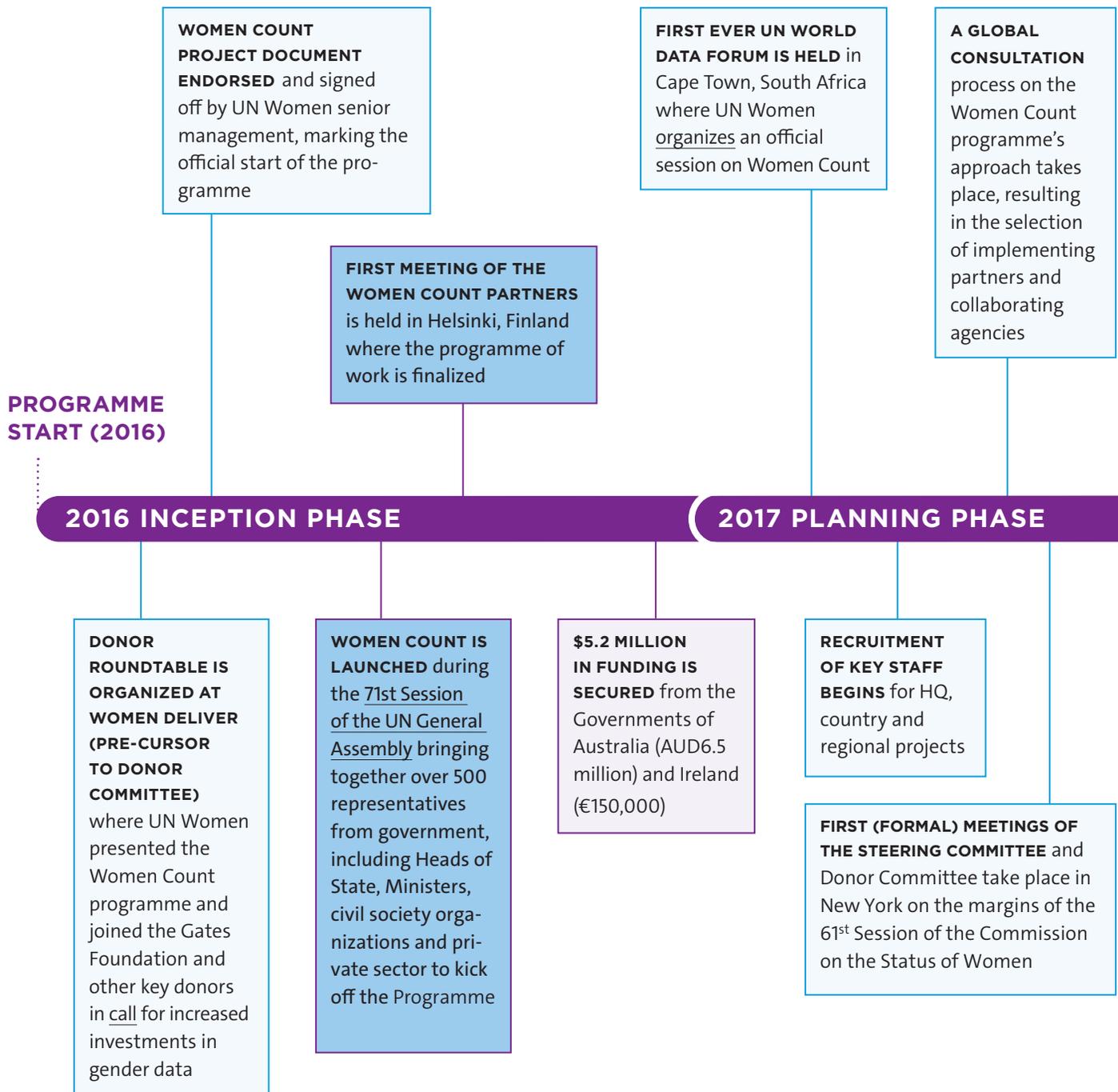
FIGURE 1.
Governance structure of Women Count (as of 2018)



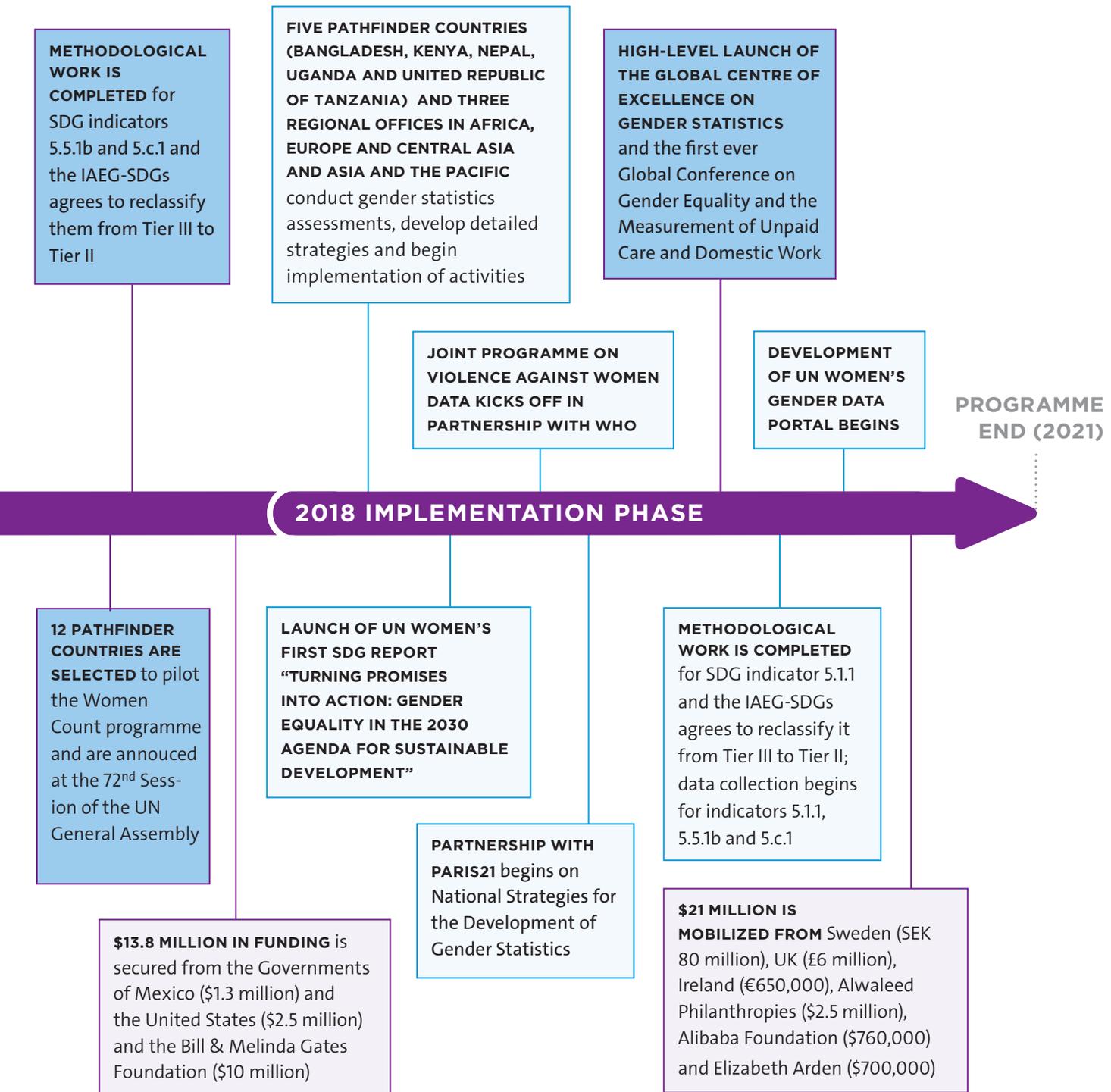
Note: As of 2018, pathfinder countries and regional projects highlighted in **grey** indicate the projects will be implemented subject to the availability of funding.



WOMEN COUNT PROGRAM



AMME TIMELINE





1. INTRODUCTION



Launched in 2016, **Making Every Woman and Girl Count (Women Count)**, is a \$61 million initiative, developed and implemented by UN Women in partnership with other actors to support countries in their efforts to monitor the implementation of the gender equality-related SDGs and other national priorities. Women Count is generously funded by the Governments of Australia, Ireland, Mexico, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States and Alwaleed Philanthropies, Alibaba Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Elizabeth Arden.

The overall objective of Women Count is to affect 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. Through this programme, UN Women works with a range of partners to support countries to build gender responsive statistical systems. The programme focuses on four key outcomes:

- **Outcome 1 – Creating an enabling environment:** Putting in place an enabling environment for a gender-responsive localization and effective monitoring of national and international policy commitments;
- **Outcome 2 – Increasing data production:** Filling gender data gaps by ensuring that quality and comparable data and gender statistics are produced regularly;
- **Outcome 3 – Improving data accessibility and use:** Ensuring that gender statistics are accessible and used to inform policy and advocacy; and
- **Outcome 4 – Monitoring, learning and evaluation:** Learning through monitoring and evaluation about the most cost-effective ways to support capacity-building in gender statistics.

As a collaborative framework, Women Count provides a roadmap for all actors including women recipient countries, donors and implementing partners to work together to provide coordinated support to address the challenges impeding the production and use of gender data to monitor national and international policy commitments, including the SDGs.

This **third edition** of the Annual Report covers the period from January through December 2018. It provides an overview of the key achievements during this period. An indicator dashboard (see page 12) shows the results achieved for each project and narrative summaries of progress achieved by each project are presented in Annexes II - XI. The report also provides an update on resource mobilization and advocacy and reflects on the challenges and lessons learnt from the first full year of implementation. Plans for 2019 at the global, regional and national levels are briefly presented in the last section. Annex I presents an indicative budget of the programme for 2019.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

A new global impetus to increase financing for statistics is taking shape

One of the key themes addressed during the second UN World Data Forum, that took place in Dubai in October 2018, was the need for donors, data communities and international agencies to work together with national statistical systems (NSS) to increase the level and efficacy of support for statistics. A recent Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report indicates that the traditional approach to funding for data and statistics has relied heavily on technical assistance, lacks country ownership, is donor driven and is not necessarily geared towards strengthening the broader NSS.³ In addition to increasing funding for statistics from the current 0.33 per cent to 0.7 per cent of Official Development Assistance,⁴ recommendations for addressing these challenges include: reshaping donors approach to statistical capacity development to promote country ownership; improving coordination; increasing the sustainability of financing; aligning support with national priorities; and emphasizing results-based support. The Women Count programme, which places a premium on country ownership and responding to national priorities, coordination at national, regional and global level, and linking gender data to policy and vice versa to achieve sustainable results, is well aligned with this agenda. However, despite recent gains, funding for gender data remains limited and needs to be scaled up significantly (see Chapter 3).

Reforming the UN system to support the implementation of the SDGs: Gender data as an indispensable tool

The adoption of General Assembly resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the United Nations Development System (UNDS) on 31 May 2018 seeks to comprehensively transform the UNDS to enhance its support to countries to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In response to the UN system-wide effort, UN Women is undergoing a process of restructuring to further clarify its operating model and to strengthen its ability to deliver results.

A key part of the UN reform is to strengthen the support that the UNDS provides to countries on data and statistics. In his report, the UN Secretary-General emphasized a strong push for “the entities of the UNDS to improve and harmonize internal data collection mechanisms to produce comparable, system-wide data, with disaggregation at the global, regional and country levels.”⁵

The strong emphasis on data as key to UN reform, can better position UN Women as countries increasingly demand support on statistics. UN Women’s triple mandate – intergovernmental support, UN coordination and programmatic work – and the collaborative approach taken by the Women Count programme offers a significant opportunity to increase the attention and resources devoted to gender data in the work of the UN system.



2018 KEY HIGHLIGHTS



COUNTRY

Five pathfinder countries conducted national gender statistics assessments, developed detailed strategies and began implementing activities.



Three countries – Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda – strengthened institutional mechanisms, including integrating gender equality in national statistics strategies, establishing coordination mechanisms for gender statistics at all levels of government, and committing to regular monitoring of SDGs and national policies.



Six new surveys were supported in Albania, United Republic of Tanzania, Morocco, Uganda and Georgia to address key data gaps and strengthen countries' capacities to monitor the SDGs.



The technical capacities of **554 data producers and 210 data users** were strengthened through training and capacity building activities.

REGIONAL



Three regional projects developed detailed strategies, recruited gender statistics advisers and began implementation of activities.



Three non-pathfinder countries (Cambodia, Ethiopia and Georgia) were supported to conduct national assessments and their capacities to produce and disseminate new gender data were strengthened. An additional five countries (Egypt, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Zimbabwe) were supported to establish strong partnerships with NSOs, and will begin implementing activities in 2019.



Partnerships were formalised with UN Regional Commissions in Africa (UNECA), Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and in Europe and Central Asia (UNECE) to support implementation of Women Count projects in their respective regions.



A sub-group on gender statistics training was established under the Statistical Institute of Asia-Pacific (SIAP)'s Network for Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. This sub-group will produce a regional training curriculum for data users and producers, as well as create two repositories, one of training resources and one of training experts on gender statistics.

GLOBAL



\$21 million in new financial commitments was secured from Sweden (SEK80 million), United Kingdom (£6 million), Alwaleed Philanthropies (\$2.5 million), Alibaba Foundation (\$760,000), Elizabeth Arden (\$700,000), and Ireland (€650,000), bringing the total level funding for the overall programme to \$40.5 million.



Methodological work was completed for Tier III indicators. SDG indicator 5.1.1 (on legal frameworks to advance gender equality) was approved for reclassification as Tier II. Data for indicators 5.1.1, 5.5.1b and 5.c.1 (all previously Tier III) were collected and will be reported for the first time in 2019, as part of the annual UN Secretary-General's SDGs report.



Increased data on women's economic empowerment as a result of collaborating with the World Bank on gender and poverty data and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on new data on women's labour force participation by marital status.



UN Women and the Government of Mexico, through the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) **launched the Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS)**. The launch was followed by the first ever Global Conference on the Measurement of Gender Equality and Unpaid Care and Domestic Work.



WOMEN COUNT PROG MEASURING RESULTS

ABOUT THE PROGRESS DASHBOARD

The Women Count Progress Dashboard shows achievements against each outcome and output indicator for global, regional and country projects in 2018. To determine levels of achievements, the following methodology is used:

A (achieved): If a positive 2018 target exists (i.e. 2018 is different than the 2017 baseline) and is achieved

B (not achieved): If a positive 2018 target exists (i.e. 2018 is different than the 2017 baseline) but the target is NOT achieved

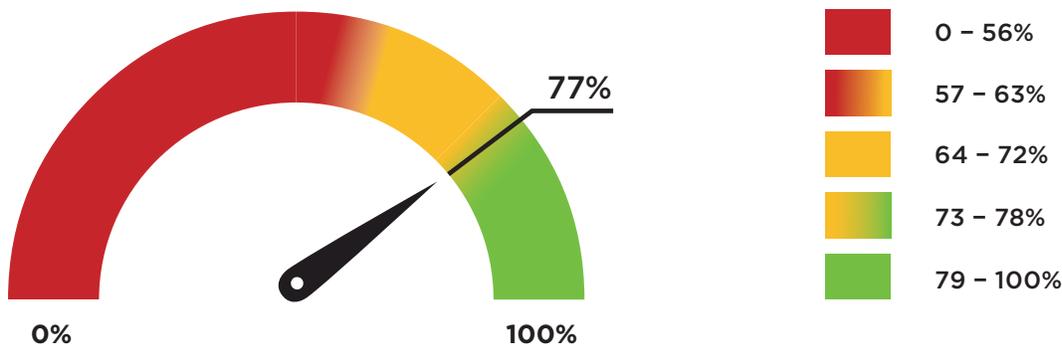
Percentage of outcome and output targets achieved or on track in 2018 = $\frac{100 \times (A + B)}{A + B + C}$

C (on track/some progress): If a positive 2018 target does not exist, but work has started in 2018

D (not started/applicable): If a positive 2018 target does not exist, and work has NOT started in 2018 (excluded from the final calculation of 2018 achievements)

A full detailed list of indicators, baselines and targets for global, regional, and country projects are provided in a separate attachment (Annex XII).

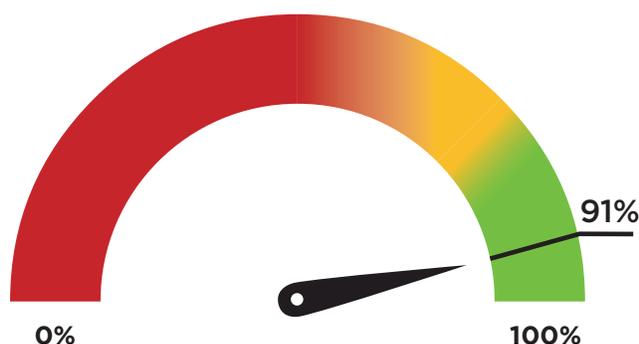
OVERALL PROGRESS OF THE WOMEN COUNT PROGRAMME



Overall more than three quarters of all targets were achieved or are on track to be achieved, with 84 per cent of all Outcomes and 75 per cent of all Outputs met.

GRESS DASHBOARD: IN 2018

GLOBAL PROJECT



Progress made at the global level was driven by strong technical and operational support to all Women Count projects, successful completion of methodological work on SDG Tier III indicators and increased outreach and advocacy for gender statistics. However, there was a delay in developing and launching the UN Women gender data portal, initially expected to take place in 2018 but will instead take place in 2019.

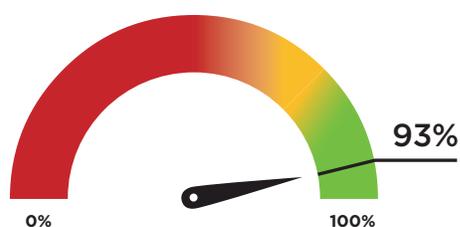
REGIONAL PROJECTS

Asia and the Pacific



Significant progress was made in Asia and the Pacific as a result of forging a strategic partnership with UNESCAP and successfully establishing inter-governmental coordination mechanisms on statistics. The demand for technical support from both pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries (Mongolia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, China etc.) increased substantially beyond planned and facilitating a number of user-producer dialogues and training workshops on gender statistics is driving progress in the region.

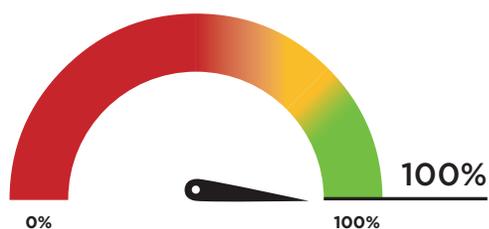
Europe and Central Asia



Significant progress was made in Europe and Central Asia as a result of strong demand for support from pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries (e.g. Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) and increased coordination with UN Agencies to advance gender statistics in the region. Support for time use scheduled in 2018 will take place in 2019 instead.

COUNTRY PROJECTS

United Republic of Tanzania



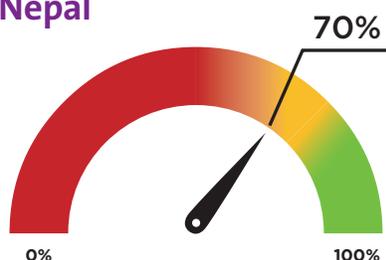
Progress in the United Republic of Tanzania was driven by the support provided to the National Bureau of Statistics to conduct the 2018 Household Budget Survey and a number of activities were initiated that will contribute to achieving the 2019 and 2020 targets.

Kenya



Progress in Kenya is due to the high-level political buy-in from the government which led to the establishment of the Inter-Agency Committee for Gender Statistics Technical Committee, organizing a high-level training for producers and initiating several activities, including the reprocessing of existing data to produce county gender fact sheets and working with the National Treasury to update the Standard Chart of Accounts to include specific coding on gender equality and women's empowerment. Some planned activities such as training of data users did not take place as planned and will be implemented in 2019 instead.

Nepal



Some progress was made in Nepal as a result of training on time use and violence against women data and user-producer dialogues held to increase appreciation for and use of gender statistics. However, severe challenges persist caused by significant delays in finalising a Letter of Agreement with the Central Bureau of Statistics, preventing UN Women from implementing some of the planned activities in 2018.

Uganda



Progress in Uganda includes the successful completion of a time use survey and a governance peace and security survey, developing a Strategy for the Development of Gender Statistics that was integrated in the second Extended Plan for National Statistical Development, reprocessing existing data to fill 57 per cent of National Priority Gender Indicators and assisting 29 Ministries, Departments and Agencies and 16 local government entities to develop and implement statistical plans to increase the production and use of gender data. However, some planned activities such as training of producers and users did not take place and several knowledge products slated to be published in 2018 will only be completed in early 2019.

Bangladesh



Significant administrative delays in finalising a Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics prevented the implementation of most activities in 2018, particularly those requiring the participation of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Activities will begin in 2019 when the LOA is expected to be signed.

** Note: The Morocco and Africa regional projects did not have established targets in 2018, so results for those projects were not included in the calculation. See Annexes IV and XI for more details and description of key achievement for these projects.

2. RESULTS DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE

This section presents an analysis of key results under each Outcome across all country, regional and global projects during the January - December 2018 reporting period.



OUTCOME 1: CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Outcome 1 aims to help countries put in place a supportive and well-coordinated policy environment, including enabling legal frameworks and institutional arrangements, to ensure that gender-responsive localization and effective monitoring of the SDGs take place. During the reporting period, results focused on conducting national assessments and developing Women Count projects, improving national statistical planning and coordination and increasing cooperation and coordination with relevant actors at global and regional levels to facilitate partnerships and address gender data needs.

Women Count projects responded to national priorities and helped to strengthen country ownership through national gender statistics assessments

At the national level, five pathfinder countries⁶ conducted assessments of how gender statistics are coordinated, produced, disseminated and used. Through extensive and inclusive multi-stakeholder

consultations, assessments investigated the extent to which countries' legal and policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms for statistics constitute enablers or disablers and served as a basis for developing Women Count action plans. This approach, generally led by NSOs with technical and financial support from UN Women, brought together stakeholders in the national data ecosystem, including data producers, policymakers, civil society, academia, the private sector and development partners, to ensure that Women Count projects are aligned with and respond to national priorities and needs.

As a result, there has been complete ownership of Women Count projects by national stakeholders, as well as greater collaboration.⁷ In **Kenya**, the process of conducting the assessment and validating the results led to greater collaboration among UN agencies, including between UN Women and UNICEF to conduct a study on gender and child poverty. In **Uganda** and the **United Republic of Tanzania**, local donor support for gender statistics was channelled through UNWomen, reducing fragmentation. **Morocco's** NSO, the High Commission for Planning (HCP), took advantage of the process to evaluate the technical needs of regional statistical offices to identify opportunities to improve gender statistics at subnational levels.

BOX 1.

Promising practice: Responding to national priorities and securing institutional commitments on gender statistics in Kenya

Enhancing manufacturing, affordable housing, universal health coverage and food security are essential parts of Kenya's new development plan for achieving the SDGs. But without data on women's entrepreneurship, access and control over assets, employment, or the challenges in accessing decent work due to unpaid care responsibilities, it is impossible to devise adequate policies and monitor their effectiveness. More importantly, in a devolved system of government, critical decisions taken at the subnational level have an important bearing on women's lives. This means that putting robust gender data in the hands of county governments

is essential. With UN Women's support, Kenya's National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) has committed to mainstreaming gender equality in all data collection activities to fill these critical gender data gaps. UN Women has also partnered with important stakeholders, such as the Council of Governors and the State Department of Gender Affairs, which are members of the newly-established Gender Statistics Technical Committee to keep gender statistics at the forefront of important national debates and policies.

Institutional mechanisms for gender statistics were strengthened to ensure sustainability

Adequate statistical planning and coordination are central to improving the production and use of gender statistics and both are critical to the success of Women Count. Integrating gender in statistical planning increases the chance that gender statistics production and use are institutionalised. Better coordination ensures that statistical processes are integrated, human and financial resources are used more efficiently, capacity gaps and data gaps are identified and addressed more effectively and harmonised concepts and definitions are used to produce quality gender data and statistics.

Uganda's Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) developed a Strategy for the Development of Gender Statistics to guide the production of the 2016 National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEI).⁸ The strategy informed the inclusion of a gender perspective in the Extended Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD) II, which is the framework for strengthening statistical capacity in Uganda in order to monitor the National Development Plan (NDP) II.⁹ Furthermore, through UN Women's technical and financial support, 29 Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and 16 local government entities developed strategic plans to increase the production and use of gender statistics, resulting in a complete mainstreaming of gender in the NSS.

In **Kenya**, an Inter-agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee was established. Led by KNBS and co-led by the State Department of Gender Affairs (SDGA), with MDAs, two civil society organisations,¹⁰ and UN agencies and donor agencies as members, the Committee coordinates all work on gender statistics in Kenya, serves as a link between data users and producers, oversees the implementation of Women Count, and ensures that there is no duplication of efforts or resources.

In **Bangladesh**, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), with the support of UN Women, is working on establishing three inter-agency committees to ensure an effective and well-coordinated gender statistical system in the country. These efforts mean that for the first time, gender equality will be taken into consideration in all phases of statistical planning, production and analysis, contributing significantly to the monitoring of national gender equality commitments and the SDGs while ensuring long term sustainability.

Working together at the regional level led to improved coordination and effectiveness

Through UN Women's Regional Offices for Asia and the Pacific (APRO), Europe and Central Asia (ECARO) and East and Southern Africa (ESARO) projects, regional coordination of gender statistics is improving, in part due to the technical and financial resources provided by UN Women but also from UN Women's leadership and commitment to meaningfully collaborate with all UN Regional Commissions and other actors.

At the 6th Session of the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) Committee for Statistics, UN Women gained official membership to all thematic workstreams of the Committee. This means that UN Women is now able to participate and influence the work of all these workstreams to mainstream gender across all areas of statistics. Results in some of these areas, such as improving gender and disaster statistics, are already starting to materialize. UN Women and UNESCAP are jointly leading work on gender and disaster statistics, using data integration to assess disaster risks from a gender perspective and contributing significantly to disaster preparedness in the Asia and Pacific Region.

Following consultations with the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), UN Women is co-organising a Workshop on Gender Statistics for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asian Countries including a session on Institutional Mechanisms to Support Gender Statistics, during the UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics in May 2019 in Neuchatel, Switzerland. UN Women will also financially support the participation of policymakers and gender specialists from seven countries¹¹ to ensure that a diverse group of stakeholders are represented and benefit from the forum.

In Africa, despite limited funding in 2018, UN Women took the lead, together with UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), to establish a common workplan. This resulted in the revival and strengthening of the Africa Group on Gender Statistics, which was established in 2012 by the Africa Statistical Commission, but faced a chronic lack of resources. Going forward, UN Women and UNECA, in collaboration with AfDB, agreed to pool resources to provide better quality technical and financial support to countries.

Global technical and programmatic guidance, knowledge-sharing and inter-agency coordination formed the backbone of Women Count

Women Count projects depend on strong technical guidance provided at the global level to ensure that the approach to statistical capacity development is consistent across projects, aligned with the Women Count model and in accordance with the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

In order to guide country level interventions, five technical guidance documents on priority statistical activities were produced and disseminated to all pathfinder and some non-pathfinder countries implementing Women Count: With the aim of providing technical guidance to promote standards and consistency in country interventions and facilitate its delivery, five Guidance Notes on priority statistical activities were produced and shared with all projects: i) Establishing a Project Steering Committee; ii) Assigning or designating Gender Statistics Focal Points or establishing Gender Statistics Units within NSOs or other key actors; iii) Establishing inter-agency coordination mechanisms; iv) Processing/reprocessing existing data to fill gender data gaps and/or generate gender statistics and indicators with further disaggregation; and v) Conducting user-producer dialogues.

To ensure that project development, implementation and administrative management strictly follow Results Based Management principles, UN Women developed programmatic guides that were used to set up projects in UN Women's administrative systems, including: i) Guidance note for pathfinder countries and regional offices to integrate their projects in UN Women's Results Management System (RMS); ii) Guidance note on project quarterly reporting in RMS; iii) Planning timeline template and guidance for the development and set up of Women Count projects; iv) Revenue allocation tracker; and v) Human Resources tracker.

This guidance was critical to facilitate accurate, timely and quality reporting of results and finances and ensure accountability for all pathfinder countries. In addition, the technical and programmatic guides were also used by UN Women offices in Ethiopia, Georgia and Cambodia, in combination with technical support from UN Women's regional offices, to develop and implement projects that are in line with Women Count. In Ethiopia, this resulted in the UN Women country office securing over \$1.7 million from local donors to kick-start their project.

Technical support provided to UN Women's office in **Egypt**, to organize a consultative workshop on gender statistics in October 2018 with CAPMAS (Egypt's NSO) and other stakeholders led to an agreement whereby UN Women in 2019 will help develop a 'national strategy for gender statistics' that considers the commitments made in Egypt's Sustainable Development Strategy and National Strategy for Women's Empowerment. UN Women will coordinate with the World Bank, which supports the development of a broader National Strategies for the Development

of Statistics (NSDS). This initiative will greatly benefit from the work the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) is doing on the guidance for National Strategies for the Development of Gender Statistics (see Box 2).

UN Women contributed to various interagency initiatives, including meetings of the Interagency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS), the Committee of UN Chief Statisticians, the Committee on the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA), and joining the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys (ISWGHS),¹² all of which are mandated by the UN Statistical Commission to increase

the coordination of international statistical activities. Through membership in the new UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) Task Team 3 on Country-focused Data and Reporting, the Women Count programme was included in the UN Country Team Toolkit,¹³ specifically as a guide for gender-responsive SDG localisation and implementation.¹⁴

UN Women also participated in the 16th Conference of the International Association for Official Statistics, which offered an opportunity to inform the wider statistical community about the Women Count programme but also keep abreast of new developments in official statistics.

BOX 2.

Collaborating with PARIS21 to mainstream gender in national strategies for the development of statistics (NSDS)

Objective

The collaboration between PARIS21 and UN Women aims to strengthen statistical systems to produce high-quality gender statistics that are timely, aligned with national priorities and the 2030 Agenda and relevant to policy makers, academics, civil society organisations and citizens. PARIS21 implements the following four major activities between 2018 and 2020:

- **Improving the coordination and planning of gender statistics** by developing an assessment framework to identify gaps, using PARIS21 tools, integrating a gender perspective into the NSDS and creating a gender statistics module in NSDS guidelines.
- **Improving the dissemination and communication of gender statistics** through media engagement, data visualisation trainings and dialogue-driven user-producer dialogues.
- **Reporting the use of gender data (and its value)** by analysing citizens' use in national newspaper archives and policy makers' use in policy documents and national development plans.
- **Reporting of financial resources for gender statistics** through a special issue of the 2018 Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) and annual updates for 2019 and beyond.

Key Achievements In 2018

Activities began with the signing of the Letter of Agreement between PARIS21/OECD and UN Women in June.

Countries selected for project implementation

PARIS21 developed an iterative prioritisation method to identify pilot countries, resulting in an initial pool of 18 countries. Within this pool, Dominican Republic and Maldives were selected to begin activities in the first half of 2019. Preliminary discussions are also underway with Senegal which is set to conduct its NSDS starting in 2019.

Improvement in coordination and planning

- **An assessment framework and guidelines to identify capacity gaps in gender statistics at the national level was developed:** The gender statistics assessment tool is intended to provide a comprehensive framework to review different dimensions of gender-sensitivity within NSSs, thereby generating information that makes it possible for an NSDS to integrate a gender perspective. A draft version of the assessment tool, to be sent to an expert review group in the first quarter of 2019, was developed.

- **An expert review group to review the tool and guidelines was created:** Members of the group are gender specialists or gender statisticians from units of international, regional and national institutions. Specialists from Statistics Finland, OECD, UN Women, UNECE, UN ESCAP, UN ESCWA and World Bank have agreed to be part of the group.
- **Two NSDS gender statistics assessment are planned:** Preliminary discussions are underway with the Dominican Republic's Oficina Nacional de Estadística (ONE) as well as Maldives' National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) confirmed interest in adding a gender perspective to their statistical development planning and, in collaboration with PARIS21, carrying out an assessment of their gender statistics capacity. Tentative work plans for the second semester of 2019 were agreed.

Monitoring of financial resources for gender statistics

The Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) is one of PARIS21's flagship publications. It presents data on technical and financial support to statistical development worldwide and is a valuable tool for collaboration between donors and recipient countries. A key innovation in this year's report is the inclusion of a new module on gender statistics in the questionnaire and use of the marker on gender equality in the OECD Creditor Reporting System to analyse bilateral donors' commitments. The results show that multilateral support to statistics amounted to \$623 million in 2016, but funding for gender statistics remains low, with only 5 per cent of actual financial commitments having gender equality as the main objective.¹⁵

Plans for 2019

Improving the coordination and planning of gender statistics: The first version of the assessment framework for gender statistics will be developed, then reviewed by the expert group. The pilot of the assessment framework will take place in three countries, including Dominican Republic and Maldives; Kyrgyz Republic and possibly Senegal.

Improving the dissemination and communication of gender statistics: The gender e-learning module by PARIS21 which aims to improve the skills of journalists and statisticians for using and presenting gender data in a user-friendly manner, particularly in contexts of low data literacy will be developed. The first e-learning materials are expected to be finalised by October 2019.

Reporting the use of gender data (and its value): Text analysis of the use of gender data aims to highlight the presence of gender information in newspapers, national development plans, and other policy documents in order to measure citizens' awareness and actual policy-uses. It will be conducted at three levels: basic reference, reference with numbers, and a reference with higher mathematical terms (such as bias, treatment, error or significance).

Reporting of financial resources for gender statistics: PARIS21's PRESS 2019 will present updates on global support to gender statistics, collecting and analysing overseas development assistance data.



OUTCOME 2: INCREASING DATA PRODUCTION

Outcome 2 aims to increase the production of quality and comparable gender data and statistics to address existing gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments. During the reporting period, results focused on supporting data collection and analysis, strengthening the capacity of countries to produce gender data and statistics through training and SDGs monitoring.

Gender data collection and analysis supported to fill key data gaps to monitor the SDGs and other national commitments

Gender data gaps related to violence against women and girls (SDG Target 5.2 and 11.7), unpaid care and domestic work (Target 5.4), and governance, peace and security (Targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7 and 16.b) were addressed by supporting six new surveys, contributing to strengthening countries' capacities to monitor the SDGs.

In **Georgia**, following the second national survey on violence against women (VAW), UN Women supported the analysis and publication of the results in 2018. A key innovation in this survey was the inclusion of questions on sexual harassment.¹⁶ Through advocacy and by working with the Government and local activists, the data became one of the catalysts for the recently adopted law banning sexual harassment. In **Albania**, the National Institute for Statistics was supported by UN Women and UNDP to conduct their third VAW survey, with the results due to be published in 2019. The survey will provide for the first-time data on the incidence of dating violence, sexual harassment and stalking in Albania. In **Morocco**, UN Women provided technical support, including training of interviewers and questionnaire design, to HCP to conduct its second edition of the national prevalence survey on VAW since 2009 (data collection will take place in 2019). The results of the survey will inform the enforcement of the newly adopted law against VAW and to monitor progress against eliminating it.

Upon request from the **United Republic of Tanzania's** National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), UN Women collaborated with the World Bank to support the national household budget survey (HBS). With a module on time use included in the HBS, 85 SDGs indicators can now be monitored, including unpaid care and domestic work (SDG Target 5.4.1) (see Box 3).

In **Uganda**, UBOS conducted its first ever Time Use Survey¹⁷ in 2017-18, which UN Women supported by providing resources for the survey and technical support to finalise field operations, conduct data analysis and prepare thematic reports and policy briefs.¹⁸ The results, expected in 2019, will be widely disseminated, including through policy dialogues and round table discussions.

Following the National Governance Peace and Security Survey conducted in 2017, UN Women supported UBOS to analyse the data and publish the report in 2018. The survey which produced data on topics such as democratic governance, peace and security, rule of law, human rights, transparency, accountability helped to inform and monitor the Government of **Uganda's** legal and administrative commitments to good governance and address key data gaps on SDG 16 indicators. As a result of UN Women's technical and financial support and advocacy, important gender equality concerns were addressed in this survey for the first time including attitudes and perceptions towards gender equality, paid and unpaid work, women's interest and participation in politics and violence against women in public and private spheres.¹⁹

Furthermore, as a result of UN Women's support, **Uganda** was also able to make better use of existing data to monitor their National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEI). By reprocessing data from existing, surveys and administrative data systems, including the Uganda National Household Survey and the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey, UBOS was able to produce data for 57 per cent of the NPGEIs (80 of the 140 indicators), bringing the government closer to its objective of increasing the production and use of gender data in policy, planning and monitoring of gender equality.²⁰

In **Kenya**, UN Women in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) agreed to support Agriculture Finance Corporation to carry out a baseline survey on the current status of agribusiness financing for women with a specific focus on achieving food security and nutrition and manufacturing, two pillars in Kenya's Big 4 Agenda²¹, which are also in line with the SDGs. The findings of the survey, expected in 2019, will inform impact assessment of the Women Affirmative Access Window project whose main objective is to extend finance to all women in agriculture to support production, mechanization, post-harvest management, value addition and access to local and export markets.

Training on gender data and statistics administered to strengthen the capacity of data producers

The lack of capacity to produce and use gender data is commonly identified as a key challenge in most pathfinder countries and regions, with the need for sustainable high-quality training considered a necessity. Without adequate training, producers will not have the requisite skills to produce quality data, gender specialists will continue to face challenges to use data to inform evidence-based policies, and gender will not be integrated in statistical processes. Building the capacity of producers and users is therefore an important part of the Women Count programme.

In 2018, 554 data producers improved their skills to collect gender data, including on VAW and unpaid care and domestic work, using internationally accepted methods and best practices. In **Kenya**, to build the capacity of the Inter-agency Technical Committee for Monitoring of Gender Statistics, 60 high-level officials were trained on topics related to global, regional and national frameworks and tools for gender statistics, production of gender data and monitoring SDGs from a gender perspective, measuring unpaid care work

BOX 3.

Promising practice: Increasing the production and availability of time use data in the United Republic of Tanzania

Time use data is integral to monitoring SDG target 5.4, which calls for recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care work as a condition for achieving gender equality. In the **United Republic of Tanzania**, without data on time use, it was not possible to monitor progress on SDG Target 5.4 and capture women and men's experiences in unpaid care and domestic work. UN Women advocated for the inclusion of a time use module in the national household budget survey (HBS). As a result, for the first-time ever, new data on monetary poverty, time poverty and multidimensional poverty

of women will be generated. Additionally, given that the HBS was designed to address data needs of at least 85 SDG indicators, the inclusion of the time use module will allow for further SDG-related gender analysis related to unpaid work, among others. The results of this survey will also allow the United Republic of Tanzania to produce a household satellite account of unpaid care and domestic work in 2020, which will be used to highlight the value of the unpaid care and domestic work that women do and to advocate for better policies to recognize, reduce and redistribute it.

through time use surveys, among others. The training uncovered additional capacity needs including on citizen-generated data and other data from alternative sources, preparing a sector report on the SDGs, gender and poverty indicators and advocacy. These topics have in turn been integrated in activities supported by the Kenya Women Count project.

As part of UN Women's efforts to institutionalize training on gender statistics, UN Women teamed up with SIAP to establish a Sub-group on Gender Statistics Training under the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. The Sub-group provides a space for South-South cooperation and knowledge sharing in Asia-Pacific, focuses on developing a training curriculum on sharing of experiences and promoting coordination on trainings on gender statistics. Learning from this model, similar structures can be established elsewhere, working with other regional training institutions.

To kick-off its work, the Workshop on Effective Collaboration for Increasing Availability, Access and Use of Quality Gender Statistics organized by UN Women and SIAP in Chiba, Japan, in September 2018, provided an opportunity for 24 participants from 16 countries to deepen their understanding of gender statistics for policy formulation and planning as well as for the implementation and monitoring of gender equality commitments and national development strategies.²²

In Africa, to improve the production and use of gender indicators using administrative data and non-official sources (such as citizen-generated data), two related guides were produced. Both guides are undergoing



A training workshop co-organized by UN Women and SIAP provided an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding of gender statistics for policy formulation and planning.

peer-review and will be finalised in 2019. Once published, they will constitute valuable resources for all NSS and non-official data producers and users in the region and will inform the work of all pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries in the Women Count Programme.

Methodological work for Tier III SDGs indicators was completed and data collection has begun

Building on the methodological work for SDG indicator 5.1.1 (*Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex*), UN Women worked with the World Bank and OECD Development Centre (as co-custodians), to test the indicator and validate the results. During its 7th meeting in March 2018, the IAEG-SDGs reclassified the indicator from Tier III to

Tier II. This follows the reclassification of SDGs indicators 5.5.1b (*women's representation in local governments*) and indicator 5.c.1 (*gender-responsive budgeting*) in 2017 and concludes the methodological work for the Tier III indicators for which UN Women was responsible. Data collection and compilation has started and the results will be reported for the first time in 2019 in the UN Secretary-General's annual SDG report.

Global SDGs monitoring was enhanced through data compilation to monitor indicator 5.4.1 (time spent on unpaid domestic and care work) and to improve data on women's economic empowerment. In collaboration with the Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) (see pg. 26), a report on the availability and comparability of time-use statistics around the world and implications of using different survey methods in the measurement of time spent on unpaid work – particularly childcare – is being produced. Working with ILO's Statistics Division, new data for 88 countries on labour force participation by sex and marital status was produced, showing the negative impact of marriage on women's labour force participation in most countries and regions. In collaboration with the World Bank, data on poverty by sex produced in 2017²³ were updated to include more countries and further disaggregation. The findings will inform the forthcoming edition of UN Women's Progress of the World's Women flagship report: "Families in a Changing World", to be launched in June 2019.

In collaboration with the World Bank, UN Women is updating the Gender Data Navigator assessment framework with SDG questions and implementing it in six pathfinder countries.²⁴ The results will contribute to the work of the IAEG-SDGs' workstream on data disaggregation as well as the work of the ISWGHS.

Lastly, UN Women collaborated with the UK Office for National Statistics and other partners to help establish the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age Disaggregated Data (TCGA). The TCGA's overall objective is to develop standardized tools and methods for producing data disaggregated by age and ageing-related data, and to lead the development and communication of new standards and methodologies. Given the salience of ageing for women who are overrepresented among older adults, UN Women contributes technically and collaborates with partners to promote and advocate for a gender lens in the work of the TCGA. In 2018, UN Women participated in the first meeting in Chichester, England, and is now a member of the Steering Group. The work plan of the TCGA was developed and submitted to the UN Statistical Commission and is expected to be approved in March 2019.²⁵



OUTCOME 3: IMPROVING DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND USE

Outcome 3 aims to make gender data and statistics accessible and to promote their use by governments, civil society, academia and the private sector to inform research, advocacy, policies and programmes and to promote accountability. Results in 2018 focused on improving collaboration between users and producers, fostering knowledge sharing through global and regional forums and the development of UN Women's gender data portal that will serve as a global resource for gender data and SDGs monitoring.

Producers and users worked together to improve gender data use at the national level

In **Kenya**, UN Women, and the Council of Governors are collaborating to develop County specific gender data sheets for 10 select counties in partnership with KNBS. As a key data user and with deep knowledge of the local context and needs, the role of the Council of Governors is to coordinate the exercise while KNBS leads on the technical aspects, including conceptualisation, data production and analysis. The result of this analysis, expected in 2019, will contribute to delivering Kenya's Big 4 Agenda by informing a project to deepen gender mainstreaming efforts at the subnational level, currently being implemented by UN Women and the Council of Governors.

In **Uganda**, building on the experience of Statistics Sweden's gender statistics training programme, UN Women initiated a gender statistics training initiative for data users and trained 17 representatives from civil society organisations. The objectives of the trainings were to strengthen data literacy and understanding of gender statistics and to inform reporting for policy use and advocacy. As a result of these trainings, participants will be mentored by UBOS, with UN Women's technical and financial support, to prepare issue papers and fact sheets on gender statistics that will be finalised in 2019 and serve as a useful resource for policymakers to devise more targeted evidence-based policies on gender equality and women's empowerment.



Participants from NSOs, ministries of gender and other relevant government departments gathered for the Regional Consultation Meeting on Gender Statistics in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Regional forums helped foster collaboration and knowledge sharing

Building on the Regional Forum on Gender Statistics organized in 2017 in Dakar, UN Women, UNECA and the AfDB joined forces once again to organize a Regional Consultative Meeting on Gender Statistics, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, to enhance the capacity of Member States to produce and use gender data and statistics. The workshop led to the review and endorsement of the work on gender statistics in the region by African Member States, including endorsement of the Women Count Africa project and the AfDB-UNECA Africa Gender Index. The workshop also provided an opportunity to and to train participants on topics related to violence against women and girls (VAWG) measurement and time use surveys.

For this meeting, UN Women facilitated the participation of 31 participants (half of the total) from NSOs, ministries of gender and other relevant government departments. Key outcomes included: i) review and approval of the work-plan of the Africa Programme on Gender Statistics (APGS) 2017-2018 and 2019-2021; ii) revival of the Africa Group on Gender Statistics (EGGeS); and iii) an agreement to develop a regional minimum set of gender indicators that will be submitted to the Africa Statistical Commission for adoption. If adopted, the resulting minimum set will provide a common monitoring framework for gender equality in Africa, which will be a key milestone towards a common intergovernmental gender statistical agenda for the continent.²⁶

Development of UN Women's gender data portal began

The goal of UN Women's gender data portal is to improve access to gender data to inform policy and advocacy (specifically on monitoring gender equality in the SDGs, but also across several thematic areas), and to enhance UN Women's position as a knowledge hub on gender equality. The portal, located at data.unwomen.org, will be central to UN Women's online presence and integrated into UN Women's corporate identity. The portal will have three components:

- **Gender data features:** Gender data stories and visualizations will provide compelling content that puts data into context, drawing on research from UN Women's flagship reports and other research, as well as success stories from Women Count, to add substance to the data.
- **Dashboards:** The portal will be a one-stop-shop for monitoring all gender-related SDG indicators as well as other key data on UN Women's priority areas, including women, peace and security and violence against women.
- **Women Count hub:** The hub will serve as the online presence of Women Count, presenting the latest developments in the programme implementation at the country, regional and national levels. The hub will also showcase progress on towards the key milestones set out in the Women Count results monitoring framework.

In 2018, UN Women commissioned the development of the prototype and functional requirements and subsequently through a competitive tendering process, contracted Insomniac Design to build the portal. The portal is expected to be launched during the UN General Assembly in September 2019 in New York.



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JOINT PROGRAMME ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DATA

OBJECTIVE

UN Women and WHO are implementing a 5-year (2018-2022) global joint programme on violence against women data (VAW Data JP), currently funded by DFID, aimed at ensuring quality, comparable data on different forms of VAW are available and collected overtime to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action and the SDGs. The Joint Programme focuses on three areas:

- **Methodological developments:** Strengthening and dissemination of standards for VAW data collection, in particular on psychological intimate partner violence (IPV), violence against older women and violence against women with disabilities; developing guidelines for the collection, analysis, sharing and use of administrative data on VAW, and coordination of an interagency working group on VAW data, engaging UNFPA, UNICEF, UNSD and UNODC, including for monitoring and reporting of SDG target 5.2 indicators.
- **Capacity building:** Strengthening capacities in the Arab region and Africa for the implementation of national population-based surveys on the prevalence of VAW and data use, through the selection

of institutions in each region to lead such capacity strengthening, based on core guiding principles of ownership and sustainability.

- **Data use:** Increased collection and use of VAW data for advocacy, policy and programming, through strategic data literacy and data dissemination initiatives including data producers and data users dialogues.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

The first Steering Committee meeting of the VAW Data JP was held in June to discuss plans for 2018- 2019 and approve budget allocations. Data on IPV and non-partner sexual violence (NPSV) have been extracted and the database updated for the calculation of country, regional and global estimates by WHO. A systematic review of studies, measures and survey instruments on violence against older women was also initiated. Work has commenced to develop a background paper and organize an expert group meeting on VAW administrative data to inform the development of global guidelines, and the technical advisory board has been set up. A partnership was established with UNESCWA for capacity building for implementation of VAW prevalence surveys in the Arab region.

At the national level, UN Women supported user-producer dialogues in **Jamaica**, with government and civil society stakeholders, around the results of the 2016 Women's Health Survey, and their use to support the implementation of the National Strategic Action Plan against Gender Based Violence 2017-2027. Specific recommendations include targeting all-boys schools to address gender discrimination and toxic masculinities from an early age, and carefully monitoring and addressing school drop-out and fertility rates among girls, based on the finding that IPV prevalence is higher in women who began living with a man before they were 18.

With support from the VAW Data JP, UN Women in **Georgia** ensured wide dissemination of the findings of the 2017 National Study on VAW, jointly implemented by Georgia's NSO (GEOSTAT) and with the support of the European Union. The survey findings greatly informed the drafting and advocacy process around regulating sexual harassment. In partnership with the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, UN Women advocated for the development and adoption of relevant legislation. As a result, the parliament of Georgia will adopt a bill introducing the definition of sexual harassment and its regulation in the public space as well as workplace environments in 2019.

The VAW Data JP contributed to strengthening UN inter-agency coordination and collaboration on VAW data. Partnerships were established with the European Institute for Gender Equality, the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System, UNESCWA and others, which set an important foundation for the successful implementation of the programme. The VAW Data JP also made efforts to ensure linkages with other global programmes, such as Women Count, the Spotlight Initiative, the UNFPA kNOWVAWdata initiative in Asia and the Pacific, as well as the UN Global Joint Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence.

PLANS FOR 2019

Methodological developments

- Organize an expert group meeting on violence against older women and work towards identifying a core set of data for developing a standard module/ set of questions that could potentially be added to existing surveys;
- Conduct an analysis of data, questions and methods used to report on psychological IPV, in order to reach consensus on a standard measure;
- Finalise country, regional and global estimates on IPV and NPSV and conduct country consultations for validation;
- Coordinate the inter-agency working group reporting on SDG 5.2.1 indicator and proposal of an alternative 5.2.2 indicator on NPSV for the upcoming 2020 comprehensive review of the global SDG indicator framework;
- Finalise a background paper on VAW administrative data and organize an expert group meeting to inform the development of global guidelines; consensus on the outline of the guidelines and issues to address.

Capacity Building

- Support to UNESCWA to finalise of a VAW data toolkit, and organization of a joint meeting with NSOs and women machineries in the Arab region to present the toolkit and discuss methodological and ethical and safety principles for the implementation of VAW surveys;
- Organize a capacity building workshop with relevant pathfinder countries of the Women Count programme and the Spotlight Initiative planning the implementation of national VAW prevalence surveys in the East and Southern Africa region;
- Launch a call for proposals for a partner institution in the Arab region as well as in the East and Southern Africa region, to develop and implement a capacity building course for the implementation of VAW prevalence surveys;
- Partner with UNFPA to ensure synergies with the similar initiative being implemented in the Asia Pacific region, kNOWVAWdata.

Data use

- Provide technical assistance for the planning and implementation of VAW prevalence surveys, as well as analysis and use of data, with a focus on pathfinder countries of the Women Count programme, including **Albania** and **Morocco**.



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CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON GENDER STATISTICS

OBJECTIVE

The Global Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS), based in Mexico, is an innovative first-of-its kind initiative, that contributes to the strategic efforts of UN Women and INEGI to strengthen the production, availability, analysis and use of internationally comparable data and statistics in key emerging aspects of gender equality and women's empowerment. The CEGS aims to strengthen gender statistics through collaboration, knowledge sharing, research and innovation. The CEGS focuses on three thematic areas:

- Measuring different forms of violence against women and girls (particularly its most extreme forms such as femicide violence) and crimes against women through the framework of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes in collaboration with INEGI and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) *Center of Excellence for Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice*, also based in Mexico City
- Measurement of unpaid care and domestic work; and
- Gender and geospatial analysis, including vital statistics.

Planned activities include: organising global conferences and seminars and convening expert groups, preparing and disseminating briefing papers and maintaining a digital knowledge repository, conducting and facilitating new research and data analysis related to these thematic areas.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018

In September, the CEGS was officially launched at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mexico, in partnership with INEGI.²⁷ The high-level launch further positioned the CEGS as a forum that could **facilitate south to south exchanges** to assist countries to implement the 2030 Agenda, promote **knowledge sharing** among leading actors within the global statistical community; and be a catalyst to undertake **new research on gender statistics**. The Executive Board, currently composed of representatives from both UN Women and INEGI, met for the first time to discuss the strategic focus of the CEGS, define the modalities of Board membership and agreed on plans to convene the Technical Advisory Board composed of ECLAC, OECD, UNSD and the World Bank.

The launch was followed by the first Global Conference on Gender Equality and the Measurement of Unpaid Care and Domestic Work. The conference was attended by over 100 people and was headlined by leading researchers and time use and unpaid care work experts. Topics discussed include time use research and measurement challenges; innovations in measurement; and policy and programmatic uses of unpaid care and domestic work data. These discussions helped shape the research and policy agenda of the CEGS, including the commissioning of three research papers addressing the following:

- Review of methodological problems that stand in the way of cross-country comparisons of time-use surveys globally;
- The effect of methodological features on reports of total time devoted to unpaid work and, more specifically, direct care of family members;
- Research using micro-data from four to six countries to test the effect of methodological features on survey data quality.

All three papers are expected to be finalised in 2019 and will contribute to international efforts to harmonise and improve the measurement of unpaid care and domestic work.

PLANS FOR 2019

- Convene expert meetings on the measuring VAW and femicide (in collaboration with UNODC);
- Build a digital repository of resources, best practices and experiences on thematic priorities and emerging methodologies in gender statistics;
- Conduct new research to compare methodologies used for time use data collection and their impact on global comparability and investigating methodologies used to measure indirect supervision and direct care of family members;
- Commission new research on geospatial approaches for gender statistics related to women's economic empowerment and femicide.



Members of the CEGS Executive Board gather for the first official meeting to discuss plans and the strategic focus of the CEGS. ©ONU Mujeres/Dzilam Méndez

3. STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS, RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND ADVOCACY

LEVEL OF FUNDING AS OF 2018

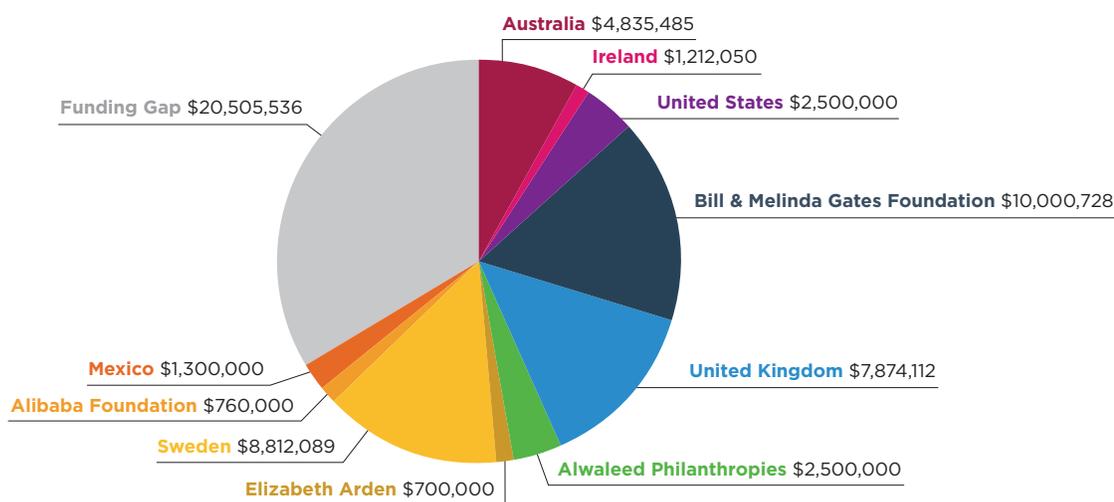
Strong, consistent and diversified growth in financial commitments to Women Count

The Women Count programme has continued to grow in 2018 with **new commitments** totalling \$21 million from the following donors: United Kingdom (£6 million), Sweden (SEK80 million), Ireland (€650,000), Alwaleed Philanthropies (\$2.5 million),

Elizabeth Arden (\$700,000), and Alibaba Foundation (\$760,000) (see table 1). Combined with previous commitments of \$19.1 million from the Governments of Australia, Ireland, Mexico and the United States and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the total contributions to the programme amounted to \$40.5 million, leaving a gap of \$20.5 million (see Figures 2 and 3). Despite this gap, these new commitments will enable the programme to expand to all 12 pathfinder countries and to both UN Women regional offices in Africa (i.e. East and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa) in 2019.

FIGURE 2.

Level of funding for the Women Count programme, by donors (as of 31 December 2018)



Note: Amounts are in USD

TABLE 1.**Summary of contributions received and expected, by donors, per year**

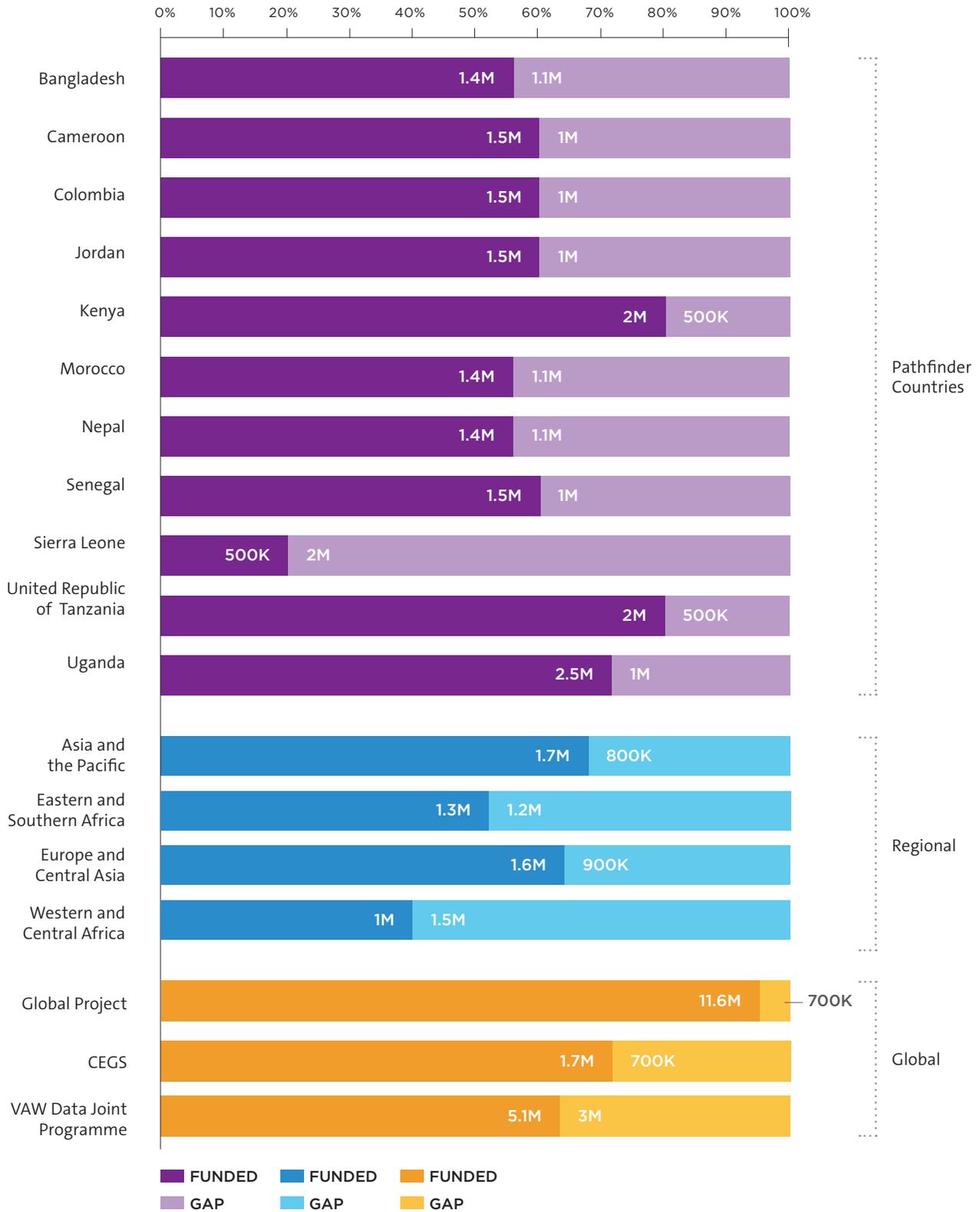
Donor	Value of contributions as per agreement	Contributions received in 2016	Contributions received in 2017	Contributions received in 2018	Total contributions received (as of 31 st December 2018)	Expected contribution in 2019	Expected contribution in 2020	Main area of work supported
Australia	4,835,485	2,120,755	1,566,584	1,148,146	4,835,485	–	–	Non-earmarked, fully flexible (with strategic interests in Asia and the Pacific)
Ireland	1,212,050*	163,043	296,209	752,798	1,212,050			Non-earmarked
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	10,000,728	–	3,000,000	4,000,728	7,000,728	3,000,000	–	Global Policy Support project, Kenya, Tanzania and Nepal projects
Mexico**	1,300,000	–	440,000	–	440,000	430,000	430,000	Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS)
United States	2,500,000	–	2,500,000	–	2,500,000	–	–	Global Policy Support project
Alwaleed Philanthropies	2,500,000	–	–	500,000	500,000	1,250,000	750,000	Non-earmarked (with strategic interests to support Jordan and Morocco and Senegal projects, and some support for the Global Policy Support project)
Alibaba Foundation	760,000	–	–	380,000	380,000	380,000	–	Non-earmarked, fully flexible
Elizabeth Arden	700,000	–	–	375,000	375,000	325,000		Non-earmarked, fully flexible
Sweden	8,812,089	–	–	4,412,089	4,412,089	3,300,000	1,100,000	Non-earmarked, fully flexible
United Kingdom	7,874,112	–	–	4,047,581	4,047,581	1,913,265	1,913,265	65 per cent to VAW Data Joint Programme and remaining 35 non-earmarked
TOTAL	40,494,464	2,283,799	7,802,793	15,616,342	25,702,934	10,598,265	4,193,265	

* Includes a €400,000 contribution from the Government of Ireland directly to the Women Count project in the United Republic of Tanzania.

** Value of total contribution reflects cash (\$1 million) and in-kind (valued \$300,000) contributions. The in-kind contribution is prorated across years.

Note: Values are in USD.

FIGURE 3.
Current level of funding per project (as of 31 December 2018)



Note: As of 2018, the graph depicts the level of funding per country and regional project based on an indicative budget of \$2.5 million. The Europe and Central Asia regional project includes support to Albania. The Uganda country project includes local DFID funding.

Funding for gender data remains a global challenge

Despite this strong growth, challenges remain for overall financing to improve the production and use of gender data. Based on recent estimates by PARIS21, gender statistics remains woefully underfunded with only 10 per cent of statistical development projects funded by multilateral donors in 2017 containing any activities for gender data. Even though the OECD Creditor Reporting System's gender equality marker shows that 64 per cent of statistical projects have set gender equality as an important objective; and only 5 per cent of actual financial commitments have gender equality as their main objective.²⁸ This means that funding for gender data is still marginal, with little support coming from statistics departments of donor agencies and other sectors. Therefore, as the global community moves towards establishing “innovative funding mechanisms” for statistics, as called for by the Dubai Declaration²⁹ (see Introduction - new developments), greater prioritization and advocacy from within donor agencies is needed to ensure that the statistics projects they support fully integrate a gender perspective. This is particularly true in the face of the strong demand for country-level support that emerged following the first full year of implementing the Women Count programme (see Ch.2 - Outcome 1 section).

KEEPING GENDER DATA IN THE SPOTLIGHT THROUGH ADVOCACY

In 2018, UN Women developed advocacy materials such as infographics and promotional materials for Women Count, explored new partnerships with media to expand outreach and organized and participated in over 20 global and regional events, workshops and roundtable discussions, including during the Commission on the Status of Women, the 7th Global Forum on Gender Statistics, the UN World Data Forum and others. Two key events are showcased below and a full list of events UN Women organized or participated are presented in Table 2.

During the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), UN Women organized an Interactive Expert Panel on “Innovative data approaches for measuring progress on gender equality and women's empowerment” that brought together

officials from UN Member States, the UN System, research organizations and civil society. The interactive panel which focused on the participation in and access of women to the media and information and communications technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women (CSW Agreed Conclusions 2003), provided an opportunity to explore the benefits and challenges or potential misuses that big data and new information and communication technologies can present for women.³⁰ These reflections were summarized in a Chair's Summary which was included in the official CSW documentation and reflected in the Agreed Conclusions.

UN Women participated actively in the 7th Global Forum on Gender Statistics in Tokyo, Japan, in November 2018. The event brought together gender data producers and users from national and international statistical offices, government agencies, international organizations, academia, civil society and development partners. UN Women supported the participation of statisticians from **Kenya** and **Uganda** which provided them an opportunity to discuss with peers ways to improve data and evidence for gender policies. They also learned about new developments in gender statistics, including the nexus between gender and the environment, measuring asset ownership and entrepreneurship from a gender perspective, monitoring international migration, measuring gender identity and sexual orientation and the availability of disaggregated data, to ensure that no one is left behind.

UN Women also organized a side event during the 7th Global Forum on “Addressing gender data challenges to monitor the SDGs: What have we learned after two years?” which brought together over 75 gender data producers and users from national and international statistical offices, government agencies, international organizations, academia, civil society and development partners. Participants, which included Women Count pathfinder countries and donors, shared their experiences and discussed lessons learnt on improving data and evidence for gender equality. They emphasized the need for continued support to address challenges related to gender data scarcity related to the SDGs, the need to disaggregate data beyond sex in order to meet the 2030 Agenda commitment to leave no one behind, and to better foster dialogues between users and producers.

Increased dissemination of gender-related SDG data

In February 2018, UN Women launched its flagship report “Turning Promises into Action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda.” The report demonstrated through concrete evidence and data the pervasive nature of discrimination against all women and girls. Through a gender lens, the report examined progress and challenges in implementing all 17 SDGs and put forth actionable recommendations on how to fulfil the 2030 Agenda.

In an effort to widely promote the report’s key messages, UN Women supported the production and dissemination of key advocacy products, including infographics on “*Why gender equality matters to achieving all 17 SDGs*”³¹ in the form of data cards (see image below). A series of issues briefs were produced³² which review the global indicators framework from a gender perspective and call for greater investments in and support to national statistical systems. Furthermore, UN Women published a short paper with the World Bank on “*Spotlight on Goal 1: Gender differences in poverty and household composition through the life cycle*,”³³ which shows that a life-cycle approach can reveal meaningful differences in the way women, men, girls and boys experience poverty. This paper informed the analysis in the “Turning

Promises into Action” report and is the first ever study that analyses these gender dimensions of poverty systematically at the global level.

Enhancing the visibility of Women Count through media

In 2018, UN Women participated in webinars and press briefings, contributed to partner blogs and initiated a rebranding exercise of the programme’s logo.

UN Women participated in a webinar organized by Devex, alongside the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Equal Measures 2030 on “A Practitioners Guide to Gender Data.”³⁴ The webinar explored barriers to collecting gender data and ways to overcome them, provided practical guidance for collecting and analysing gender data, tips for integrating sex-disaggregated measurements for monitoring and evaluation and recommendations on how to use gender data for advocacy. The webinar attracted over 1,000 practitioners and development experts and is one of Devex’s largest and most successful webinars to date. As a result of this success, UN Women is exploring a formal media partnership with Devex for the Women Count programme.

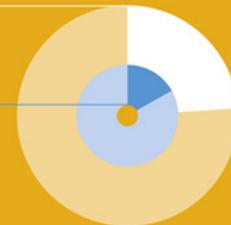
UN Women also contributed to partner blogs and op-eds highlighting the importance of filling gender data gaps. A special Q&A with UN Women Executive Director, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngucka and the President

Gender matters but data challenges remain

We need more and better data to monitor progress for women and girls: across all SDGs, across all countries, and over time. Here are ways to step it up:

Only 23%
of the available data
is from 2010 or later

Only 16%
is available for two or
more points in time



Support the inclusion of gender-specific indicators across all 17 SDGs by 2020.

6 out of the 17 SDGs have no official indicator that explicitly tracks progress for women and girls.



Work towards the regular collection of data for gender-specific indicators, ensuring quality and comparability.

Only 23 per cent of the available data for monitoring gender across the SDGs is from 2010 or later.



Develop global, regional and national strategies for identifying groups who are being left behind.

Women and girls with disabilities, migrant, refugee and displaced women and girls and those with diverse gender identities are among those groups who remain invisible in official statistics.

of Women Deliver, Katja Iversen, entitled “Making Girls & Women Count,” discussed the role of data and accountability in advancing gender equality as part of the Deliver for Good Campaign. UN Women’s Executive Director presented UN Women’s work on gender data to achieve the SDGs. Women Count was also referenced in news articles, reports and blogs produced by partners (see Table 3).

To further engage the media, UN Women participated in a Data Advocacy and the SDGs Press Briefing, organized by Data2X, on the margins of the 2nd UN World Data Forum in Dubai. During the briefing, UNWomen discussed the role of gender data in advocacy and how to better harness the power of data in journalism around advancing women’s empowerment and gender equality.

Increased dissemination of gender-related SDG data

To improve consistency in outreach and communications, UN Women recruited an Outreach, Visibility and Online Content Specialist to develop an outreach and communications strategy with a set of concrete objectives and activities aimed at engaging wider audiences and increasing the visibility and impact of the Women Count programme. The outreach and communications strategy is expected to be finalised in 2019. A key element proposed as part of the strategy is the need for a harmonised visual identity for the entire programme and a set of distinct branding guidelines to ensure visual unity for all knowledge products produced as part of Women Count.

BOX 4.

Previous logo



Revitalized logo



UN Women procured the services of RichardsDee, a design agency that developed a concept for a sub-brand identity for UN Women at Cannes Young Lions Awards in June 2017, winning the Gold medal in the design category. To align with UN Women’s new corporate sub-branding identity, RichardsDee is developing a new visual identity for the Women Count programme, to be finalized and rolled out in 2019 (see Box 4).

TABLE 2.**List of events organized and/or attended by UN Women in 2018**

Event	Name	Organizer(s)	UN Women's Role	Location	Date
OECD Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment	First OECD Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment	OECD	Participant, presented the status of monitoring SDGs indicators 5.4.1 and 5.1.1 and gave an update about the Women Count Programme	Paris, France	January
49 th Session of the Statistical Commission	Side event "From Data to Policy: Time Use Surveys and the Sustainable Development Goals"	Data2X	Participant	New York, United States	March
62 nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women	Interactive Expert Panel "Innovative data approaches for measuring progress on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls"	UN Women (as Secretariat of CSW)	Secretariat role, including organizing and preparing official Chair's summary report	New York, United States	March
IAEG-SDGs Annual meetings	7 th meeting of the IAEG-SDGs	UNSD	Presented an update of methodological work on Tier II indicators	Vienna, Austria	April
PARIS 21 Annual Meetings	Revisiting Capacity Development to deliver on the SDGs	PARIS21	Presented an update on Women Count project with PARIS21 to the PARIS21 Board for approval	Bern, Switzerland	April
Regional Workshop	Africa Regional Consultation Meeting on Gender Statistics	AfDB, UN Women and UNECA	Co-organizer and presented the Women Count Africa Regional project	Dakar, Senegal	May
Annual Meeting	Data2X Advisory Board Meeting	Data2X	Board Member	Washington D.C., United States	July
Technical workshop	The Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data first annual meeting	UK National Statistical Office	Panellist, discussed the need for gender, ageing and age disaggregated data, how UN Women aims to support the TCG and contribute to UN Statistical Commission report	Chichester, United Kingdom	June
Annual gender statistics meeting	XVIII International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Aguascalientes, Mexico	INEGI, INMUJERES, UN Women Mexico, ECLAC	Panellist presented Women Count programme and an update of methodological work on Tier III indicators	Aguascalientes, Mexico	September
Launch of the Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics	High level launch of CEGS and the Global Forum on Gender Equality and the Measurement of Unpaid Care and Domestic Work	UN Women, INEGI and the Government of Mexico	Lead organizer and moderator of several sessions of the Forum	Mexico City, Mexico	September
Annual Meeting	32 nd Session of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities	UNSD	Participated and presented the Women Count programme to members of the CCSA	Vienna, Austria	September
Annual Meeting	Inter-secretariat working group on household surveys	UNSD	Participated in annual meeting and UN Women became an official member	Vienna, Austria	September

Event	Name	Organizer(s)	UN Women's Role	Location	Date
UN General Assembly	Global Business and philanthropies leaders SDG-5 forum	UN Women	Lead organizer	New York, United States	September
Annual Conference	16 th Conference of the International Association of Official Statistics	OECD and IAOS	Participant in annual sessions	Paris, France	September
OECD DAC-GenderNet	Annual meeting of the OECD DAC-GenderNet	OECD	Participant in annual sessions	Paris, France	October
United Nations World Data Forum	2 nd UN World Data Forum	UNSD and the Government of the UAE	Participant	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	October
IAEG-GS Annual Meetings	13 th meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert group on Gender Statistics	UNSD	Panellist, presented Women Count programme and an update of methodological work on Tier II indicators	Tokyo, Japan	November
7 th Global Forum on Gender Statistics	Side event 'Addressing gender data challenges to monitor the SDGs: What have we learned after two years?'	UN Women	Lead organizer and presented about Women Count and moderated session on lessons learned in gender data challenges	Tokyo, Japan	November
	Side event: Asian Development Bank-Hosted Cocktail Reception	ADB	Panellist to present the joint ADB and UN Women report on gender equality and the SDGs	Tokyo, Japan	November
Training	High level training workshop for Data Producers at National and County Level	UN Women	Lead organizer and trainer to present Women Count Kenya project as it relates to time use activities and monitoring the SDGs	Nairobi, Kenya	November
6 th OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy	Seminar: Strengthening the links - Putting a spotlight on gender data to promote women's well-being in Asia and the Pacific	UN Women	Organizer and panellist to present the Women Count Asia and the Pacific project	Incheon, Republic of Korea	November
1 st United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress	Plenary and parallel sessions on Measuring and monitoring the SDGs using Geospatial Information Systems (GIS)	UNSD	Participant to learn about the benefits of GIS and how to advance research on gender data for Women Count and CEGS	Deqing, China	November

TABLE 3.

Articles, reports and journals that referenced Women Count in 2018

Media Type	Author	Title	Reference to Women Count	Publication Date
Blog	Women Deliver	A Q&A with Oulimata Sarr, UN Women's Regional Director a.i. for West and Central Africa	Women Count Africa regional project	January
News Article	Pakistan Today	UN Women to enhance Kenya's ability to report on SDGs related to gender	Women Count Kenya project	February
News Article - Devex	Sophie Edwards	Progress on gender equality 'unacceptably slow': UN Women	Women Count programme and reference to UN Women SDG report "Turning Promises into Actions"	February
News Article	Daily Nation	Big 4: Game Changer for Gender Parity	Women Count project in Kenya	March
Blog	Women Deliver	Making Girls & Women Count: A Q&A with Phumzile Mlambo-Ngucka, Executive Director of UN Women	Reference to UN Women's gender data work, Women Count global project	June
Report	Worldwide Web Foundation	Is open data working for women in Africa?	Women Count Cameroon project	July
Report	PARIS21	Partner Report on Support to Statistics – PRESS 2018	Reference to UN Women partnership with PARIS21 on NSDS	October
News Article	UN Gender News	"Making Every Woman and Girl Count – Kenya to Implement UN Women's Global Programme on Gender Statistics"	Women Count project in Kenya	October
Announcer	UN Women	Sweden partners with UN Women to improve gender data	Reference to Sida joining Women Count Programme	November
UNESCO SAGA project, book chapter	UN Women	Improving gender relevant data for SDG monitoring: towards a gender data revolution	Women Count programme	November
IISD SDG Knowledge Hub Article	Nathalie Risse	PARIS21 Reports on International Support to Statistics	Reference to UN Women partnership with PARIS21	November
Report	OECD	Development Cooperation Report 2018 – Joining Forces to leave no one behind	Women Count programme	December
News Article	IPP media	NBS to partner with UN Women on gender programme	Women Count United Republic of Tanzania project	December
Blog	UN Women	Measuring beyond outcomes: understanding gender equality, for OECD Development	In context of partnership with PARIS21	December
Article	About Her	Alwaleed Philanthropies Joins the UN's Global Initiative to Close Gender Data Gaps	Reference to Alwaleed Philanthropies joining Women Count Programme	No date
Academic Article	Sarah Bradshaw, Sylvia Chant and Brian Linneker	"Gender and Poverty: What we know, don't know and need to know for Agenda 2030?" – in Gender, Place and Culture Journal	Women Count programme	No date

4. MONITORING, LEARNING AND EVALUATING RESULTS

Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation (MLE) is a key component of the programme. The MLE plan includes three key objectives: (i) Measuring effectiveness of the approach, (ii) Learning through diversity of experiences and (iii) Monitoring sustainability.

To achieve these objectives, the programme has allocated a budget of two per cent of its total cost towards MLE activities. The following are some examples of MLE efforts in 2018:

- Following recommendations from the 5th Steering Committee meeting in 2017, the Results Framework was revised and approved by the Steering Committee in March 2018. Subsequently, UN Women developed a fully-fledged MLE plan, including a core set of outcome and output indicators which are common to all projects and therefore facilitates monitoring of progress towards objectives (see Women Count Progress Dashboard on pg. 12). In addition, corresponding indicator methodological notes, including indicator statement and description of concepts, computation method, type of indicator, frequency data collection and purpose of indicator, were produced to guide project monitoring.
- UN Women produced and shared quarterly updates with all donors showing progress on activities implemented across all projects and held regular calls with donors by request.
- UN Women started planning for the midterm review of the programme meeting (see Ch. 5 – plans for 2019).

Biannual Donor and Steering Committee meetings held

In March and November 2018, UN Women held the 4th and 5th meetings of the Donor Committee (DC) and Steering Committee (SC) in New York and Paris respectively. The Donor Committee meetings reviewed the structure and content of the 2017 Annual Report, the funding status of the programme, including key opportunities identified for resource mobilization in the year ahead, and reviewed lessons learned following the first year of full implementation.

The SC meetings provided updates and lessons learned on the implementation of the programme; discussed resource mobilization and presented plans for 2019. UN Women experimented with a new format by sharing all documents up to two weeks in advance, including all relevant background documents and presentations. It was expected that this new format would allow more time for a richer and more substantive discussion. However, during the SC meeting, members encouraged UN Women to continue to further explore ways to ensure the meetings are dynamic, informative and maximize the use of the members time and expertise. Building on these recommendations, UN Women will consult partners to inform preparations of the next Steering Committee and Donor Committee meetings in 2019.



Members of the Women Count Steering Committee gather in Paris, France at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for its Fifth meeting to discuss updates on the implementation of the programme and future plans.

REFLECTIONS ON CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

During 2018, and as an ongoing effort expected to take place throughout the life of the programme, UN Women has documented lessons learnt and shared them with members of the Donor and Steering Committees. A paper documenting the lessons learnt from the national assessments was presented to the Steering Committee at its 5th meeting in November 2018.³⁵

Challenges remain in linking better gender data with high-level development results

Overall, after conducting national assessments and developing project documents in five countries, UN Women has found that the three outcomes in the Women Count global framework provide enough flexibility to organize all conceivable programmatic activities related to the production and use of gender data. However, some challenges remain to find effective ways to promote and document effective use of data but also to show a positive and direct link between better gender data and better development outcomes for women and girls. Part of the reason lies with the fact that the Women Count programme is still quite recent, with most projects at national level starting less than a year ago. Therefore, some time is needed to strengthen institutional mechanisms, including monitoring mechanisms for gender equality policies, to identify and help close gender data gaps and to conduct relevant research and analyses to inform policies and programmes and track their impact. Furthermore, policy and legislative cycles (e.g. changes in laws) tend to take longer, meaning that

possible high-level impacts may only materialize in the long run.

However, short-term direct impact is possible – such as the role of the Women Count project in **Georgia** – and needs to be documented whenever it occurs. Furthermore, the qualitative story of how the programme is helping to build gender-responsive national statistical institutions also needs to be documented. For example, in countries where the gender statistics assessments that were conducted and the full women count strategy is being integrated in the national statistical strategies (e.g. Kenya and Senegal in 2019), national ownership is demonstrated, and long-run sustainability is more likely. Women Count projects will try to strengthen monitoring by improving the way we track changes in the policy environment as well as capture how gender data is used, particularly at country level.

Increased demand for support by countries on gender data and calls by UN agencies to collaborate

As the Women Count programme becomes better known, the demands for gender data interventions are increasing. In 2018, 22 UN Women country offices in non-pathfinder countries requested support from global and regional projects to conduct national assessments, develop project documents, hold consultations related to gender data with government officials, and produce and/or analyse data.³⁶ Within the UN system, proposals for increased technical and financial collaboration with UN Women have come from UN Regional Commissions (e.g. UNECA to collaborate as part of the Africa Gender Statistics Programme) as well as specialized Agencies such as UNSD on gender and data disaggregation,

UNICEF to improve gender analysis of the Multiple Indicators Cluster Surveys, FAO to support data production for SDG indicator 5.a.1 on land ownership, ILO to work together on unpaid care and domestic work measurement through labour force surveys, UNDP for the 2020 Africa Data Revolution Report (gender data is the proposed theme), and UNCTAD to improve gender and trade data.

While these trends are positive and denote a wider uptake of the gender data agenda, they also pose a challenge for the Women Count programme. With the current technical and financial resources available, accommodating these new demands could stretch Women Count resources too thin, ignoring them may result in lost interest from those stakeholders. The midterm review planned for 2019 will provide an opportunity to discuss with donors and partners ways to respond to demands while ensuring that UN Women continues to deliver on its current portfolio. These factors should also be accounted for when designing future iterations of the Women Count programme starting in 2020.

Administrative delays at country level posed significant challenges

While the experience of conducting the national assessments and developing action plans that are country-owned and directly respond national priorities is largely positive, it is not without challenges. Some of the main challenges encountered include administrative delays in signing contracts and Letters of Agreement (LOA), which regulate any contractual agreements and transfers of funds between UNWomen and government agencies, fragmentation (and political sensitivities) at country level which has direct implications on contracts and project implementation and acute partners' capacity challenges. All three factors have led to critical delays in project implementation in Bangladesh, Morocco and Nepal.

- In **Bangladesh**, the need to coordinate with the Statistics and Informatics Division, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs means that the LOA is only scheduled to be signed in 2019, which will mark the official start of the project.

- In **Morocco**, due to the complexity of the national assessment and other previously planned activities by HCP, including the violence against women survey, the assessment took longer than planned and will only be completed in the second quarter of 2019.
- In **Nepal**, a change in government and a new focus on transitioning to federalism, coupled with capacity challenges in the Central Bureau of Statistics, mean that as of December 2018, the MoU with the Government was delayed for signature and as a result, the initial plans for Women Count may need to be scaled back. In 2019, these projects will continue to be monitored and will be revised as needed.

Adequate human resources are a persistent challenge for the Women Count programme

Recruitment has been one of the biggest challenges the programme has faced. Women Count requires staff with a very specialized profile (a combination of experience in statistics, gender, preferably with NSO experience and good programme management skills). In addition, with project funding, UN Women can only issue short-term contracts and are therefore relatively less secure in terms of contract types. These factors have seriously limited the candidate pool and have contributed to delays in recruitment processes.

Importantly, the human resources challenge faced by the programme mirrors the one faced by national statistical systems in terms of their ability to attract and retain skilled gender statisticians. Indeed, even if quality staff are recruited, capacity can be lost through staff turnover or rendered obsolete by technical and computing advances. This means that staff's capacity needs to be constantly built and updated. Therefore, UN Women believes that any long-term and sustainable solutions to improve gender data production and use will require setting up robust training and capacity building programmes, including at national level.



5. PLANS FOR 2019



At global level, in addition to regular technical support for countries and regional offices, activities will include collaboration with PARIS21 to develop the NSDS guidelines and support pilots in five countries; development of UN Women's gender data portal, advocacy and resource mobilization and monitoring and reporting of programme implementation.

At regional level, the Africa project document will be finalized, and fully-fledged implementation will start, including recruitment of regional statistics specialists in ESARO and WCARO. ECARO and APRO will also continue to implement their respective projects. Key activities for all regional projects include: providing direct technical and financial support to pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries, implementing the workplan of the sub-group on gender statistics training (APRO and ECARO), supporting data production for SDGs monitoring, and working with regional commissions and relevant agencies to improve coordination.

At country level, the remaining pathfinder countries (Albania, Colombia, Cameroon, Jordan, Senegal and Sierra Leone) will conduct national assessments, develop project documents and begin implementation. Institutional mechanisms will be strengthened in two countries, with two NSDS strengthened from a gender perspective and two coordination mechanisms set up. In terms of data production, at least four surveys, including on violence against women, time use

or other specialized surveys will be supported, data reprocessing will be supported in seven countries, with at least 450 producers trained. To improve data use, three national reports will be produced, improved dialogue between users and producers will be supported in all pathfinder countries and close to 800 users will have their capacity to use gender data strengthened.

Finally, as the programme approaches its third year, and as agreed with Steering Committee in November, UN Women will conduct a midterm review (MTR) of the programme during the Fall of 2019. The objectives of the MTR are to assess the effectiveness of the programme's approach and strategy; assess progress of programme implementation and make proposals for adjustments to ensure that the programme is on-track to achieve its intended results; and reflect on recommendations, lessons learnt, and good practices. Preparations will continue leading up to the MTR and more information will be shared with the DC and SC throughout the year.

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ANNEX I.

Detailed budget 2018

Budget Women Count Programme*	2018 Total	Percentage (%)
Budget by Outcome		
Creating an enabling environment	\$3,044,570	60%
Increasing data production	\$1,140,458	22%
Improving data availability and use	\$801,054	16%
Learning, monitoring and evaluation	\$120,745	2%
Total Direct Costs	\$5,106,827	100%
Total Support Costs	\$1,043,466	–
TOTAL	\$6,150,293	

Budget by Category		
Salary Costs – National Programme Staff	\$22,609	0%
Salary Costs – General Service Staff	\$36,015	1%
Salary Costs – International Professional Staff	\$1,283,984	21%
International Consultants	\$312,443	5%
Local Consultants	\$291,701	5%
Contractual Services - Individuals	\$76,811	1%
Travel	\$382,643	6%
Contractual Services - Companies	\$113,330	2%
Grants	\$1,457,670	24%
Information Technology Equipment	\$14,831	0%
Professional Services	\$25,000	0%
Audio Visual & Printing Costs	\$110,965	2%
Facilities & Administration	\$1,043,466	17%
Training, Workshops and Conferences	\$556,680	9%
Salary Costs – Temporary Appointment/IP	\$46,042	1%
Other Costs	\$376,104	6%
TOTAL	\$6,150,293	100%

*Note: Includes budget for the following projects: Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Nepal, Bangladesh, Morocco, Eastern and Southern Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and Central Asia, and the Global project.

IN BRIEF: GLOBAL

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

Data and statistics are indispensable tools for devising evidence-based policies to achieve gender equality, assessing their impact and promoting accountability.

With 17 goals, 169 targets and 232 indicators (of which 54 are gender-specific), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a historic global commitment to achieve gender equality by 2030. However, the challenges for gender-responsive monitoring of the SDGs are daunting. Currently, 14 of the 54 indicators, (increase of 4 since 2017) can reliably be monitored at the global level. Established methodologies exist for another 31 indicators (increase of 6 since 2017) but country coverage is insufficient to allow for global monitoring. The remaining 6 indicators (decrease of 12 since 2017) still require some conceptual elaboration and/or methodological development and 3 indicators are considered multi-tiered (see Figure 1).

1. Creating an enabling environment

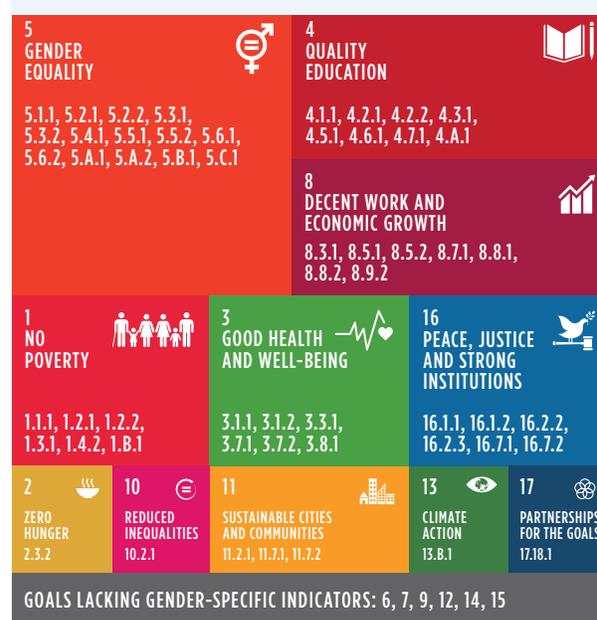
At global level, the challenges for gender statistics are related to the limited funding for gender data production and use, lack of internationally accepted standards in many areas of critical importance for gender equality and women’s empowerment, lack of guidance on the integration of gender statistics in national statistical strategies and businesses processes of national statistical systems, and low levels of technical capacity and data literacy that prevent the use of gender data in international reporting, including to international treaty bodies and similar mechanisms. These challenges are exacerbated by the lack of coordination at the global level, particularly by development partners that provide support for

statistical capacity-building, which means that the already meagre technical and financial support for gender statistics being provided to countries is often highly fragmented and, in some cases, duplicative.

FIGURE 1

Gender data across the SDGs

54 Gender-specific Indicators Across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals



Note: See UN Women. 2018. Transforming Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Women Count response: In response to these challenges, UN Women will develop guidance to integrate gender statistics in national strategies for the development of statistics (in collaboration with PARIS21), provide operational, programmatic and technical guidance to UN Women's national and regional offices to develop and implement Women Count projects and advocate for increased funding for the production and use of gender data.

2. Increasing data production

Due to resource and technical constraints in most developing countries, the production of gender statistics is still quite limited and gender data gaps are pervasive. This is particularly true in areas that are sensitive or where the technical and financial requirements are significant (e.g., violence against women and time-use surveys) and in new and emerging areas where significant methodological work is needed in order to develop innovative measures and internationally accepted standards for the measurement of gender equality and women's empowerment (e.g., gender and poverty, gender pay gaps and women's participation in decision-making).



Women Count response: UN Women will support monitoring of the SDGs through methodological work, data compilation and dissemination and working with partners, such as the World Bank, ILO, and WHO, to improve data on unpaid care and domestic work, violence against women and other relevant thematic areas.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Gaps in gender statistics are compounded by the low dissemination and communication capabilities of the NSS to make the existing data available in user-friendly formats. Failure to build the capacity of policy makers and other stakeholders to use the data to inform evidence-based advocacy in decision-making exacerbates this problem.



Women Count response: UN Women will develop a gender data portal to serve as a unique entry-point for all things related to gender equality and the SDGs, produce statistical briefs and brochures on gender statistics in various thematic areas and organize/participate in panel discussions on gender statistics for decision making during major global and regional events.

4. Monitoring, learning and evaluation

In addition, a key component of Women Count is monitoring, learning and evaluation. Activities include measuring effectiveness, documenting lessons and learning through diversity of experiences and measuring sustainability of the Women Count approach.

Key Achievements in 2018

- Through technical, programmatic and operational support, five pathfinder countries (Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Nepal) and three regional offices in Africa, Europe and Central Asia and Asia and the Pacific conducted gender statistics assessments, developed detailed strategies and began implementation of activities. In addition, five other pathfinder countries (Cameroon, Colombia, Jordan, Morocco and Senegal) were also supported to begin conducting national assessments. The Women Count global programme's reach beyond the current pathfinder countries was enhanced through UN Women's support to non-pathfinder countries such as Egypt, Ethiopia and Georgia, leading to those countries developing and implementing projects inspired by the Women Count model.
- An assessment framework and guidelines to identify gaps in gender statistics at the national level was developed in collaboration with PARIS21. The gender statistics assessment tool is intended to provide a comprehensive framework to review different dimensions of gender-sensitivity within national statistical systems, thereby generating information that makes it possible for an NSDS to integrate a gender perspective.

- Completion of methodological work for SDG Indicator 5.1.1 on legal frameworks, which means that all three Tier III indicators for which UN Women is custodian or co-custodian have now been reclassified as Tier II and data compilation for SDG monitoring for all three indicators will be reported for the first time in 2019 in the UN Secretary-General’s annual report, contributing to the global SDGs review process.
- Global monitoring of gender equality was further enhanced through data compilation to monitor SDG indicator 5.4.1 (time spent on unpaid domestic and care work), new data for 88 countries on labour force participation by sex and marital status was produced through a collaboration with ILO, and data on poverty by sex produced in 2017¹ were updated to include more countries and further disaggregation. The findings will inform the forthcoming edition of UN Women’s flagship report “Progress of the World’s Women: Families in a Changing World”, to be launched in June 2019.
- UN Women significantly contributed raising global awareness about the importance of gender data and organizing or participating in 20 global events, regional workshops and trainings to present the Women Count programme and promote work on gender data at global fora on statistics, gender and development.

FIGURE 2
Measuring Progress in 2018



Progress made at the global level was driven by strong technical and operational support to all Women Count projects however there was some delay in the development of UN Women’s gender data portal, now expected to be launched in 2019.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, the Women Count global project activities will include:

Enabling environment

- Continued provision of technical, programmatic and operational support to pathfinder countries and regions to develop and implement Women Count projects;
- Developing guidance and support establishment of gender statistics units and national statistical coordination mechanisms; and the development of national sets of gender indicators and National Strategies for the Development of Statistics;
- Organizing and participating in user-producer events including the CSW63 Expert Data Panel and relevant events at the High-Level Political Forum and Women Deliver.

Data production

- In partnership with the World Bank, assess household surveys and census questionnaires for six pathfinder countries using the new Gender Data Navigator assessment framework with SDG gender-relevant questions;
- SDG monitoring, including data collection and reporting on indicators for which UN Women is custodian, and contributing to the 2020 global review of SDG indicators;
- Collaborating with international agencies, including the UN Statistics Division, World Bank, ILO and UNICEF to improve the analysis and disaggregation of existing gender data to address the “Leave no one behind” principle of the 2030 Agenda.

Data accessibility and use

- Build, manage and launch the UN Women gender data portal and produce periodic data stories and country fact sheets;
- Producing gender data-related print material for major events such as CSW and the High-Level Political Forum.

ENDNOTES

¹ UN Women. 2017. “UN Women and the World bank unveil new data analysis on women and poverty.” <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/11/news-un-women-and-the-world-bank-unveil-new-data-analysis-on-women-and-poverty>



IN BRIEF: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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The Women Count regional project implemented by UN Women’s Asia and the Pacific regional office (UN Women APRO) aims to provide quality, comparable and accessible evidence to inform policy making, project development and implementation, and monitoring and accountability. The regional project contributes to the results of other projects managed by UN Women APRO, including on ending violence against women, strengthening women’s resilience to climate change and natural disasters (EmPower project) and women’s economic empowerment and will facilitate making the case for investing in national and regional initiatives that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. UN Women APRO uses its coordination mandate and takes advantage of its presence in 24 countries in the region and wide network of partners, including governments, multilateral agencies and civil society organizations, to bring actors together to ensure an effective implementation of this initiative.

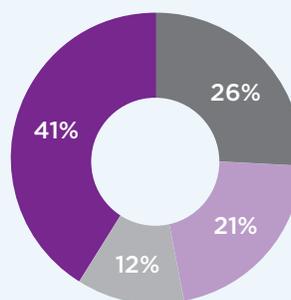
The Women Count project is guided by a regional assessment conducted in 2017-18 as well as the

FIGURE 1

Gender data gaps are pervasive

Proportion of gender-related indicators (85 relevant) by data availability level in Asia-Pacific, 2018

Widely available
 Somewhat available
 Moderately available
 No data
 Widely (at least 2/3 of the region), Moderately (at least 1/3) and Somewhat (Less than 1/3)



Source: ADB and UN Women. 2018. Gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Baseline and pathways for transformative change by 2030.

regional report “Gender Equality and the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: Baseline and pathways for transformative change by 2030” published by UN Women and the Asian Development bank in 2018.

1. Creating an enabling environment

The regional assessment found that there is weak policy, legal and financial environments due to limited political will and understanding of the importance of quality gender statistics. Only about a quarter of the countries in the Asia-Pacific region have a law on gender statistics or gender statistics is explicitly covered in a general statistics law. Although many countries have a localized set of SDG indicators, priority gender indicators have not been identified in most countries. As a result, data collection for gender statistics, including sex-disaggregated data, has not been given priority in some countries. In other countries, gender data is collected but not in a timely or comprehensive manner (e.g., ad-hoc surveys or modules), with limited scope for gender analysis and sometimes without the use of internationally agreed definitions and classifications. Notably, the world’s region with the lowest availability of gender data is the Pacific, which lacks data points for more than 50 per cent of the gender-related SDG indicators.



Women Count response: Key interventions include working with intergovernmental bodies to improve coordination on gender statistics, including working towards the creation of an

Intergovernmental Group on Statistics on Gender and the Environment; on-demand technical support to countries in the region to localize the SDGs from a gender equality perspective and to select a set of priority gender indicators; engaging with national governments and partners, including the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Pacific Community, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), to establish a roadmap for the production and use of gender data in the Pacific subregion. As co-chairs of the thematic working group on gender equality and empowerment of women and a sub-thematic working group on gender and statistics, UN Women APRO and ESCAP will build upon this existing regional mechanism to improve coordination and implement various activities in partnership with UN agencies, development banks, and inter-governmental organizations.

2. Increasing data production

Although most Asia-Pacific countries produce census data every 10 years and survey data more frequently, significant gender data gaps exist in the region, with only 26 per cent of 85 gender relevant SDGs indicators available for more than two-thirds of the countries (see Figure 1). Specialized surveys or modules in important areas, such as time use, are not carried out regularly in most countries in the region, either due to limited financial resources, lack of technical skills or both. Similarly, disaggregation by sex and at multiple levels of these data are not consistently carried out and civil registration and vital statistics remain limited due to lack of sex-disaggregated and missing gender-relevant information in most national registries.



Women Count response: Interventions include supporting new surveys in key priority areas such as time use and supporting data reprocessing and analysis, including multi-level disaggregation to monitor the 2030 Agenda’s principle to leave no one behind. In addition, since the region benefits from the existence of several quality training institutions, including the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), joint work on gender statistics curriculum development and training on methodologies will be prioritized.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

The data dissemination and communication capacities of national statistical systems are often limited, as is the ability of governments, women’s machinery and other stakeholders to utilize and advocate for gender statistics to inform decisions, research, advocacy, policies and programmes.



Women Count response: Enhanced dialogue between producers and users of data, including government, academic institutions, the media and civil society, has been identified as crucial in this regard, and efforts will be focused towards promoting both dialogue and data use. In addition, training will be delivered to data producers to enable seamless data exchanges and thus enhance dissemination and to build their communication skills. Given that other development partners are already working

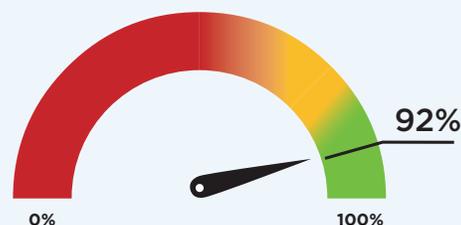
in Asia-Pacific towards a better dissemination and use of SDG statistics, UN Women will work with these partners to leverage synergies, including with ESCAP's policy-data integration project and with UNSD's project to promote the use of SDMX, and ensure that gender statistics are fully mainstreamed throughout these initiatives.

Key achievements in 2018

- UN Women gained official membership to all the thematic workstreams of ESCAP's Committee on Statistics. This means that UN Women attends and provides inputs to the work of all these workstreams and is able to mainstream gender across other areas of statistics. Results in some of these areas, such as improving gender and disaster statistics, are already starting to materialize, as UN Women and ESCAP are jointly developing new methodologies by using data integration techniques and geospatial analysis to assess disaster risk from a gender perspective.
- A sub-group on gender statistics training was established under UN SIAP's Network for Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. Under the proposal endorsed by the ESCAP Committee on Statistics, the sub-group provides a space for South-South cooperation and knowledge sharing in Asia-Pacific and is tasked with enhancing the availability and quality of gender statistics, including through the design of training to produce gender data in areas of particular relevance for the region.
- The gender data production and dissemination skills of 200 national statisticians and data users were enhanced through a series of trainings. This was achieved through design and implementation of a training module on multi-level disaggregation and multiple deprivation (in partnership with SIAP), two national trainings in Nepal and China on gender statistics more broadly, and a regional training on the use of SDMX for gender data and metadata exchanges in partnership with the UN Statistics Division. As a result of these training initiatives, some of the participants are already using these skills to produce and disseminate gender data in their own countries. For instance, Fiji requested for technical support from UN Women on how to conduct multi-level disaggregation and to prepare national factsheets on gender statistics.

FIGURE 2

Measuring Progress in 2018



Significant progress was made in Asia and the Pacific as a result of forging a strategic partnership with UNESCAP and successfully establishing inter-governmental coordination mechanisms on statistics.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, the Women Count Asia-Pacific regional project will focus on furthering the work and activities of some of the groups and mechanisms established in 2018, continuing support for the implementation of the project in pathfinder countries (Nepal and Bangladesh) and beginning work on a new set of activities, including:

Enabling environment

- Leading efforts to establish a Pacific Roadmap on Gender Statistics to promote the coordinated production and use of gender data across the subregion;
- Conducting a Needs Assessment survey, developing two repositories (training resources and experts on gender statistics), and further developing a regional Training Curriculum on Gender through the Sub-group on Gender Statistics Training;
- Organizing at least one expert group meeting on gender and environment statistics, as a first step towards the full establishment of the Inter-governmental Group.

Data production

- Organizing, jointly with UNSD, ESCAP, WHO, UNESCO and ADB, an international workshop on SDG data disaggregation and help prepare a booklet with data-disaggregation guidelines;

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- Finalizing data analysis jointly with ESCAP, on data integration for gender-related disaster-risk assessment;
 - Commencing a partnership with the International Labour Organization for the finalization of methodological development and roll out of Light Modules on 'time use' in select Asia-Pacific countries;
 - Providing hands-on support to select countries in the region for gender data reprocessing with multi-level disaggregation to produce estimates that speak to the promise of Leaving No One Behind.
 - Organizing advocacy events to communicate the importance of using gender data for decision-making, such as a side event in the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development co-organized with Individual Deprivation Measures and the Government of the Philippines;
 - Organizing and facilitating a regional event on Communicating Gender Data Efficiently, jointly with ESCAP, on building gender data stories and social media, visualizing data and preparing data-driven publications.

Data accessibility and use

- Rolling out the "Using gender data" series, a series of events co-organized with national universities and statistical offices to teach university students what gender data is, where to find it, how to analyse it and how to create data dissemination/communication products;



IN BRIEF: EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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In Africa, work on gender statistics aims to ensure that commitments to international and regional conventions, treaties and protocols, including Africa's Agenda 2063 and its First 10-Year Implementation Plan and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, are well monitored and gender equality policies are informed by evidence. The Women Count Africa regional project focuses on the three main outcomes of the Women Count global programme, taking into consideration the specific context of the African region. The goal of the project are twofold: i) to provide technical assistance on gender statistics to UN Women's country offices in order to foster a gender-responsive national SDG monitoring; and ii) to strengthen regional-level coordination and collaboration with key partners to help contribute to regional-level monitoring of the 2063 Agenda and the SDGs.

To inform the development of the regional project, an assessment of the gender statistics initiatives of key stakeholders in the region was conducted between

July and September 2017 to ascertain the region's current ability and practices to produce and use gender statistics. The assessment helped to identify gaps and challenges, existing opportunities and entry points for UN Women's two regional offices (covering East and Southern Africa and West and Central Africa) to support member states and other regional partners to advance gender statistics in the region. The project is also informed by a regional workshop that brought together users and producers organized by UN Women, the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in November 2017 (see the [2017 Annual Report](#)).

1. Creating an enabling environment

The production and use of gender data, in some regions, is affected by social norms, cultural background, religious beliefs, and attitudes towards gender equality. This is especially the case with regards to culturally sensitive themes such as unpaid care and domestic work, violence against women,

women's participation in decision making, access to health services, and maternal health care and family planning. At national level, inadequate technical expertise and the limited number of gender specialists are compounded by acute funding constraints for gender data collection and use, inadequate technical capacity among regional development partners, and weak communication and coordination among actors supporting gender statistics. Regional stakeholders articulated the need for UN Women to support countries to identify and address institutional, legal and financial constraints to ensure mainstreaming of gender statistics into the national statistical system (NSS) and to establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system for the SDGs and the 2063 Agenda.



Women Count response: In close collaboration with regional actors, particularly UNECA and AfDB, partnerships and coordination of strategic guidance will be enhanced, advocacy for better gender data will be conducted, and training and capacity-development strengthened. Regional coordination will also be improved by strengthening technically and financially the African Group on Gender Statistics (AGGeS), which was established by the Africa Statistical Commission to guide the development of gender statistics in the region. As the region with the most pathfinder countries (six in total), fostering learning and south-south collaboration is a key priority for the region and will be facilitated through the collection, codification and dissemination of best practices.

2. Increasing data production

National statistical offices (NSO) interviewed for the assessment highlighted the following problems that affect gender data production: poor appreciation of the importance of gender statistics among both policy makers and statisticians; lack of clear and harmonized concepts, definitions and methodologies for producing gender statistics; inadequate staffing/gender statisticians and poor technical capacity of statisticians to produce gender statistics; paucity of surveys that concentrate solely on gender issues (e.g. standalone violence against women and girls surveys), and poor integration of gender statistics into ongoing statistical activities, such as census or large scale multi-purpose

surveys. Another critical challenge in the region is the fragmentation of gender data production across sectors and poorly developed administrative data systems. Where data exist, they either do not contain most of the required gender-sensitive indicators and most often analyses conducted by countries do not consider all possible and relevant gender indicators that could be generated from such data. Many of the regional actors attributed this worrying situation to the fact that data collected are not thoroughly analysed because of inadequate staffing or poor technical capacity as well as poor funding.



Women Count response: Priorities for addressing gender data gaps in Africa include producing data on violence against women and girls, unpaid care work, gaps in access to decent work and pay, participation in public life and decision-making, and access to and use of information and communications technologies. Efforts to improve data production will be structured around the three tier levels of the SDG indicators. Strengthening national capacities to produce national Tier I indicators with the appropriate level of disaggregation will be the top priority, followed closely by supporting new data collection activities to produce Tier II indicators and methodological development.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Due to the on-going challenges in gender data production, evidence-based reporting on progress made in the implementation of regional and global frameworks developed with the aim of improving gender equality and women's empowerment is weak. Even when the data is produced, accessibility remains a major challenge, with patterns of dissemination varying greatly among African countries. While some use a range of dissemination mechanisms (e.g. website, reports, dissemination workshops, electronic media publications), many sporadically produce only a "women and men" report, which may be available in hard copy but inaccessible online or through dedicated Gender Information Systems. While a vibrant civil society community that works on data exists in the region (particularly in Eastern and Southern Africa), there is very little interaction between them and data producers, further limiting data use.



Women Count response: Interventions include supporting countries to make gender statistics accessible to all users, including governments, civil society, academia and the private sector

through the provision of advocacy materials to encourage increased dissemination of data and microdata and assisting countries to facilitate data flows to regional and global SDG-related databases. In addition to supporting analysis of gender data to inform research, advocacy, policies and programmes, and to promote accountability, developing the capacity of NSSs to communicate gender statistics and to better understand users' needs and developing methods such as infographics, data visualization and narratives will be prioritized.

Key Achievements in 2018

Due to limited funding in 2018, the Women Count Africa project only undertook a limited set of activities. Funds secured towards the end of 2018, mean that full-scale implementation of activities and the recruitment of two regional statistical advisors (based in Dakar, Senegal and Nairobi, Kenya) will take place beginning in 2019. Despite these financial constraints, several achievements can be cited in 2018:

- In addition to supporting pathfinder countries in the region, UN Women's East and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) supported three non-pathfinder countries (Rwanda, Ethiopia and Mozambique) to develop gender statistics plans. In Ethiopia, the result was the development of a project that is aligned with the Women Count approach and over \$1.5 million secured for its implementation.
- UN Women ESARO co-organized (with UNECA and AfDB) in September 2018 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, a Regional Consultative Workshop on Gender Statistics to enhance the capacity of Member States on gender statistics. The workshop led to the review and endorsement of the work on gender statistics in the region by African member states, including the Women Count Africa project and the AfDB-ECA Africa Gender Index as well as to the revival of the

AGGeS. The workshop also provided an opportunity to review the Africa Programme on Gender Statistics (APGS) 2017-2018 and 2019-2021 workplan and to train participants on topics related to violence against women and girls (VAWG) measurement and time use surveys, both of which are regional priorities. ESARO facilitated the participation of 31 workshop participants (close to half of the total) from NSOs, Ministries of Gender and UN Women offices.

- UN Women commissioned an assessment of the kinds of programmatic and citizen-generated data (CGD) that exist in the region to support the generation of gender statistics, assess their quality and establish minimum requirements for collecting such data. The report, which will be peer-reviewed and finalized in 2019, will serve as a key input for the planned dialogue between national statistical offices and non-official data producers, including civil society organisations. A partnership with the Africa Monitor is producing a 10-country citizen generated data report which will present actual data collected by citizens on selected SDGs.
- UN Women signed an MOU with the SDGs Centre for Africa with an aim of increasing gender statistics for reporting on the SDGs. A dialogue forum, organized in collaboration with SDGs Center brought together officials of national statistical offices and data producing civil society organizations discussing the use of complimentary data in national reporting and policy making. This dialogue led to commitments by three pathfinder countries – Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda - to consider the use of complementary data.
- Co-organized by UN Women and the Governments of Uganda and of Ethiopia, a side event was held at the 62nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, "Harnessing 'Citizen Generated Data' for Effective Monitoring and Reporting of SDG Goal 5 and Other Gender-Related SDGs Indicators: Challenges and Opportunities." The side event created awareness on working with non-state actors to produce, analyse and use gender statistics to inform policies, programmes and to track progress on gender equality.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Africa project activities will include:

Enabling environment

- Recruiting staff and revise the regional project document to reflect new developments in the region;
- Providing technical and financial support to countries that are undertaking national gender statistics assessments and mapping data needs for SDGs monitoring (e.g. Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe);
- Participating in the meetings of the AGGeS and develop joint annual work plans aligned with activities of key partners on gender statistics;
- Building regional partnerships through UN Women participation in the meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM-Africa) and the Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa (SDG-Africa) to identify opportunities to implement and align Women Count activities with the work of other agencies;
- Supporting NSOs to mainstream gender in statistical business processes, including through compilation and/or harmonization of toolkits and training resources;
- Supporting the development of tools and guidelines for using CGD and programme data for SDGs monitoring;
- Facilitating South-South cooperation, including through organizing an international study tour for pathfinder countries.

Data production

- Providing technical assistance and coordination support to Women Count pathfinder countries and to non-pathfinder countries;
- Partnering with UNECA and the AGGeS to contribute to the development of a Minimum Set of Gender Indicators for Africa for submission to the Africa Statistical Commission;

- Supporting data collection in areas identified as priorities by countries, including time use survey and violence against women and girls and identify suitable data sources and provide technical and financial support to collect SDGs Tier I and II indicators in several countries, including Cabo Verde; Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe;
- Partnering with UNECA to support training of data producers in specific gender statistics domains, including on violence against women and girls, unpaid care work, gender gaps in access to decent work and pay, participation in public life and decision-making, and access to and use of information and communication technologies (Cabo Verde, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Malawi).

Data accessibility and use

- Providing technical support for the strengthening of reporting mechanisms by national statistical systems to regional and global level databases (through the use of technological tools and platforms such as the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) and national and regional data portals);
- Working with regional actors to develop strategies for disseminating and communicating gender statistics to policy makers, and develop regional advocacy materials to increase accessibility and use of gender statistics;
- Organizing regional visibility events within inter-governmental processes (e.g. Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development /AU Summits etc.), to promote the use of gender statistics and to improve financing for gender statistics in Africa;
- Supporting to use gender data in policy planning and monitoring and regional and national training workshops to increase data literacy and users' capacity to analyse gender statistics (Cabo Verde, Malawi, Rwanda and Zimbabwe).



IN BRIEF: EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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In line with the global Women Count programme, UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (ECARO) developed a project that is specific to the context of the region. The regional project aims to provide technical support to UN Women offices at the country level on gender statistics and to strengthen regional-level collaboration with key partners in order to better contribute to SDGs monitoring at the country and regional levels. To prepare for the development of the project, an assessment was conducted during 2016-17 to summarize ongoing initiatives by other actors and identify key gaps, challenges, opportunities and entry points for UN Women ECARO in the area of gender statistics.¹

1. Creating an enabling environment

While all 17 SDGs, and a large majority of their corresponding 169 targets, are being addressed in one way or another by Europe and Central Asia

BOX 1

Gender data gaps in Europe and Central Asia

- Currently, over half of ECA countries regularly produce gender statistics on power and decision-making, but that percentage drops to 42% for unpaid work, 41% for violence against women (VAW) and a mere 7% for satellite accounts of household production.
- Out of 40 UNECE member countries with data, only 13% have legislation requiring the NSS to conduct specialized gender-based surveys and only 8% have a regular dedicated budget for gender statistics.
- Furthermore, the reviews also indicated that only 22% of UNECE countries have a coordinating body for gender statistics.

Source: United Nations Economic and Social Council. 2013. Report of the Secretary-General on Gender Statistics. E/CN.3/2013/10.

(ECA) countries² – which are at varying stages of nationalizing and assessing current capacity to produce and use the statistics needed to monitor SDG progress – gender-responsive SDGs prioritization and monitoring continue to be a challenge in the region. Part of the challenge is related to the fact that ECA’s national statistical systems (NSS) range from the more advanced and open statistical systems found in countries such as Serbia, Moldova and Albania, to the relatively closed, politicized and under-resourced systems found in Kosovo, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The low priority afforded to gender within national statistical systems, evident in the weak organizational structures (e.g. single gender focal point), limited or no budget allocation, and absence of a strong commitment to gender monitoring and reporting in national statistical strategies and plans, also constitutes a significant barrier for gender statistics.



Women Count response: UN Women ECARO will support countries in partnership with regional stakeholders, such as UNECE and others, to identify and address institutional, legal and financial constraints to ensure gender mainstreaming in the NSS and to establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system for the SDGs. Activities include strengthening national capacity to integrate gender statistics in strategies to address gender equality and women’s empowerment and to strengthen monitoring and evaluation framework to report on SDGs and national priorities. Improving regional inter-agency coordination and cooperation on gender statistics is also a key priority, including through joint initiatives with the Issues-Based-Coalition on Data and participation in UNDG and Regional Coordination Mechanisms, including Gender Theme Groups.

2. Increasing data production

Technical challenges limit the effective and efficient production of gender statistics. Although data production is relatively strong in the ECA region (current

data availability shows that all countries, except Turkmenistan, can produce more than two thirds of the UN minimum set of gender statistics), ongoing concerns related to data sensitivity and transparency result in necessary data either not being collected or not being released. Increasing demands for monitoring and reporting on progress towards the SDGs reveal a scarcity of disaggregated data, in addition to sex, by age, ethnicity and disability.



Women Count response: Interventions include supporting efforts at the national and regional level to improve data availability to report on national and international commitments on gender equality and women’s empowerment, by strengthening the technical capacity to design, collect, reprocess and analyse data from different data sources. Financial and technical assistance to design and conduct gender related survey aligned with internationally agreed standards including for time use surveys (Georgia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) and violence against women surveys (Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Moldova) will be provided. Countries’ capacities will also be enhanced through a series of workshops on data collection and methodologies for Tier I and Tier II SDG gender-related indicators, including on women’s economic empowerment and violence against women, in collaboration with interested UN and non-UN partners.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

The assessment found that the lack of effective use of gender statistics is the most problematic issue for gender monitoring and reporting in the ECA region. While production is relatively strong, and dissemination of data and microdata is improving, gaps in the capacity to access and use that information persist. One of the key challenges in the region is that the demand for support to improve dissemination, communication and use of data seems to significantly outweigh the supply of funding and technical assistance in this area.



Women Count response: Promoting greater access to and use of timely and high-quality data are therefore key priorities of the regional project.

Activities include technical and financial support to countries to improve the regular dissemination and communication of gender statistics through development of demand-driven and user-friendly publication (e.g. Belarus, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Tajikistan); developing a gender data visualization portal regional framework and support at least two countries (e.g. Kyrgyzstan and Belarus) to customize it; organizing national and regional capacity building activities on dissemination and communication strategies and promoting the use of data through the development of regional and national thematic analytical reports, briefs and factsheets on gender equality and the SDGs.

Key Achievements in 2018

The ECARO project kicked-off officially in May 2018.

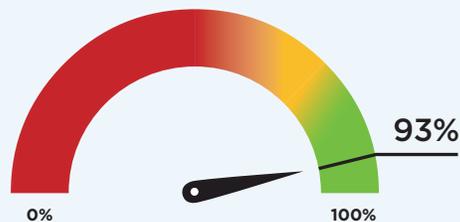
- One of the key advances in 2018 is in the production of new data on violence against women (VAW). In Georgia, UN Women supported the analysis and dissemination of the 2017 National Study on VAW. The study generated data on sexual harassment as well as baseline data for SDG indicators 5.2.1 and 5.2.2. This data, which has been formally communicated to the SDG Secretariat in the Prime Minister's Office, is being used by gender equality activists to advocate for new legislation addressing sexual harassment in public spaces (the new law was subsequently passed by Parliament in May 2019). This successful experience is being shared with other countries from the region that are planning to conduct similar surveys in the future.
- In Albania, UN Women, in collaboration with UNDP, provided financial and technical support to conduct the third national VAW prevalence survey, using an internationally recognized methodology. The survey results are expected in 2019 and will provide the first-ever collected data on incidence of dating violence, sexual harassment and stalking. As a result, this will boost Albania's NSO (INSTAT's) capacity to provide the data needed for its national policy and

report on violence-related indicators (5.2.1 and 5.2.2) under SDG 5 and will inform national action plans and strategies to protect women and girls from all forms of violence.

- UN Women has contributed significantly to peer learning and improved regional coordination and collaboration, resulting in gender statistics being more intentionally integrated in country level UN Support. Through participation in the Issue-Based Coalition on Data for the SDGs (IBC-SDGs Data), synergies between ongoing and planned work by UN agencies on SDG data at the regional and national level were identified. Consequently, UN Women was able to contribute to the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) exercise undertaken by UN agencies to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the five countries where MAPS was conducted (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Montenegro).
- Through advocacy and a stronger partnership with UNECE Steering Groups on Gender Statistics and Statistics for SDGs, it was agreed that UN Women ECARO will co-organize the Workshop on Gender Statistics for Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries, to be held on 13-14 May 2019 in Neuchâtel, Switzerland and a session organizer on institutional mechanisms to support gender statistics during the Work Session on Gender Statistics (15-17 May 2019). This provides an opportunity for UN Women to support the participation of policy makers and gender specialists, to ensure that a diverse group of stakeholders is represented and benefits from this forum.
- Training workshops for national statisticians and other data producers from selected countries in the region, such as Albania, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan were jointly organized by UN Women and relevant national stakeholders and UN partner agencies. In particular, training sessions in Kyrgyzstan were carried out in partnership with UNODC and included 97 participants from the National Statistical Committee and Ministry of Internal Affairs. They focused on new data-collection methods on VAW and human trafficking. In pre- and post-training evaluations, 94 per cent of participants reported improved knowledge that will "enhance their capacity to collect and report accurately data on gender-based crimes".

FIGURE 1

Measuring Progress in 2018



Significant progress was made in Europe and Central Asia as a result of strong demand for support from pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries (e.g. Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) and increased coordination with UN Agencies forging strategic partnership with UNECE to advance advocacy on gender statistics across in the region.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Europe and Central Asia project activities will include:

Enabling environment

- Supporting countries to mainstream gender into statistical business processes, including technical assistance to assess needs, identify gaps, establish national coordination mechanism on data exchange, and integrate gender statistics into strategic planning;
- Producing gender-related SDG factsheets as advocacy materials to be used for SDG nationalization and localization;
- Supporting countries to establish an effective monitoring and evaluation framework to report on national priorities and international commitments, including mapping gender-related SDGs indicators;

- Organizing and participating in user-producer events at the national and the regional level, in partnership with the UNECE, Eurostat and IBC–SDGs.

Data production

- Improving capacity-building for countries to produce Tier I and Tier II gender-related SDGs indicators, by conducting a gender survey (such as a Time Use Survey), and processing additional indicators from available data at the national level (Labour Force Survey, Household Budget Survey, Enterprise surveys, etc.);
- Supporting countries to assess and explore the administrative data relevant for producing gender-related indicators;
- Supporting user-producer dialogue by organizing national, sub-regional and regional workshops and forums on Data for SDGs (Conference on Gender Data for SDGs/Georgia, B+25 Regional Review/Session on Data, Summer school on data for CSOs from Central Asia countries, etc.).

Data accessibility and use

- Developing a Beta Version of Gender Data Visualization Platform and supporting at least two countries from the region to customize and operationalize it;
- Promoting the use of data through developing regional and national thematic analytical reports, briefs and factsheets on gender and the SDGs;
- Supporting countries to improve statistical literacy by promoting new formats and tools to disseminate gender statistics, such as user-friendly publications, competitions to write human stories, hackathons, etc.

ENDNOTES

1 UN Women. 2017. Assessment of opportunities for UN Women to support the development of gender statistics in Europe and Central Asia. http://www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20eca/attachments/publications/2017/unw%20eca%20ro_assessment%20report%20gender%20stat%20sdgs_feb%202017.pdf?la=en&vs=5901

2 UNECE countries in Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.



IN BRIEF: KENYA

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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In Kenya, the 2030 Agenda coincided with the drafting of the Vision 2030 Third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III). The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) has indicated that out of the 128 SDG indicators, 34 gender-related localized SDG indicators in MTP III can be measured with available data or data that can be produced with minimal effort by 2019 (see Box 1). However, it is important to note that tracking SDG progress requires collecting, processing, analysing and disseminating an unprecedented amount of statistics at both national and county level.

To kickstart the project, an assessment was conducted between January and April 2018, using desk review and conducting key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders. The assessment was guided by core principles for nurturing the data revolution in Africa anchored on two strategic axes. First, building the enabling environment for the functioning of the statistical system and second, production of statistics

BOX 1

Gender data gaps in Kenya

Data availability of 34 gender-specific indicators in the Mid-term Plan III in Kenya:

- 24% are Tier I, indicating that established methodology exists, and data are already widely available.
- half are Tier II, indicating that methodology has been established, but data are not easily available.
- 26% are Tier III, for which an internationally agreed methodology has not yet been developed and data are not available.

to meet user needs, which are many and varied. The assessment found different types of challenges: general challenges related to the Kenya statistical system that affect the production of gender statistics and challenges that are specific to gender statistics.

The findings informed the development of the Kenya Women Count project.

1. Creating an enabling environment

The assessment found that there is a lack of alignment between the current policy and legislative arrangement and constitutional requirements regarding the use of data and information. A key challenge includes significant political and structural disablers of an enabling environment. At political level, current legislative arrangements, as specified in the Statistics Act of 2006, fail to encourage statistical participation by recognizing the roles of various groups of subnational entities in collecting and producing data. At devolved levels of government for example, county governments do not have a policy or legal framework to guide statistical activities, nor do they have the systems necessary to generate and use sub-national data. Yet there are constitutional requirements for these entities to generate data for their own planning.

In terms of structural challenges, concerns raised by the assessment include inadequate coordination and collaboration between data producers at national and county levels, lack of trust, siloed data communities and limited popular constituencies pushing for data-driven decision-making, all of which have hampered the production and use of gender statistics in Kenya.



Women Count response: In collaboration with the Kenya Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), interventions include the following: providing technical assistance to integrate gender statistics in the

Statistics Act; Establishing a coordination mechanism to improve collaboration among data producers; supporting Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs) and selected counties to systematically integrate gender statistics into national and county planning documents; providing technical assistance to integrate gender statistics in the monitoring and evaluation framework of the agriculture sector strategic plan and the Statistics Act; supporting policy dialogue forums to enhance budgetary allocations for statistical production and use at all levels and providing technical assistance to integrate gender-related SDG indicators in the Handbook of National and County Reporting Indicators for the MTP III.

2. Increasing data production

In terms of production of gender data, Kenya primarily relies on surveys to generate data. Most of the indicators selected for SDG monitoring are based on survey such as the Kenya Demographic and Health Surveys (KDHS) conducted every four years, which means that expectations of periodic monitoring of key SDGs indicators cannot be met. A critical finding is the lack of up-to-date data on economic empowerment of women and men. These include lack of gender statistics on informal employment - the key domains where women are overrepresented. Other dimensions in which there is complete lack of data include: access to land and land ownership, agriculture - especially small-scale farming activities, environment, homelessness, migration - especially trafficking and smuggling of persons, in some cases due to the lack of international standards for measurement. While labour market and agriculture data exist to a certain extent, it is largely outdated, meaning that there is an urgent need for new data to provide better and more current measures. Finally, the assessment also found that a number of recent surveys have relevant gender data to address some of these gaps, but the richness of data has not yet been exploited sufficiently for gender analysis, resulting in a lot of unused data.



Women Count response: UN Women will provide technical assistance to the KNBS and support skills development on the production of gender statistics. Several surveys will be supported, including on time use. In collaboration with FAO, technical assistance will be provided to the Agriculture Finance Corporation to carry out a baseline survey on the current status of agribusiness financing for women. Other priorities include supporting the re-processing of existing data to produce gender-related SDG indicators, supporting the review and improvement of routine data collection tools in the Agricultural sector and supporting the development of knowledge products such as county gender data sheets, metadata for the 34 SDG indicators, and gender dimensions census monograph (based on the 2019 Kenya population and housing census, in partnership with UNFPA).

3. Improving data accessibility and use

To improve access, data should be translated into information that is simple, understandable and relevant. Currently, among data producers, only KNBS have effective systems for communication, even though some of these need improvements, particularly to support visualization and to ensure that stakeholders are aware of data releases in advance. Most of the data dissemination still relies on use of traditional non-digital and centralized mode of distribution of printed material and therefore fall short of key principles on open data systems. Critically, the assessment found that in Kenya, statistical reports typically lack analytical depth and gender data is often not used or regularly requested by policy makers as basis for decision making. Low data literacy and capacity to access, analyse and use, which are partly the result of the lack of training and awareness-raising and collaboration between users and producers, were identified as some of the main factors behind inadequate demand and use of gender statistics by policymakers and other stakeholders.



Women Count response: UN Women will support the development and dissemination of a Women and Men booklet, a women's empowerment index and other gender statistics at national-level and in selected counties. The project will convene high-level biannual fora to discuss gender statistics-related issues with policymakers and other stakeholders; support annual research grants to academic institutions and CSOs to conduct analysis relevant to gender and the SDGs and support civil society organizations to engage in gender statistics dialogues.

Key Achievements in 2018

- The national gender statistics assessment was undertaken through the leadership of the KNBS and the State Department of Gender Affairs (SDGA). Subsequently, the project document articulating the priority areas was developed and approved and a partnership agreement was signed between UN Women and KNBS to deliver on three outcome areas for 2018-2020. A gender statistics advisor was

seconded to KNBS to provide technical assistance to strengthen the integration of gender statistics in the national statistical system.

- The Inter-Agency Committee for Gender Statistics (IAC-GS) Technical Committee was established, chaired by KNBS and co-chaired by SDGA. The committee is composed of Government of Kenya ministries, departments and agencies that are primary actors in implementing Women Count, two civil society organizations (GROOTS Kenya and the SDGs Kenya Forum – a consortium of more than 30 NGOs) and UN agencies. Part of its role is to provide oversight for the Women Count project's implementation.
- UN Women provided technical assistance to the National Treasury to update the Standard Chart of Accounts (SCOA) to include specific coding on gender equality and women's empowerment, nutrition, sanitation and child protection, as well as to train respective government officers on a system to track and make public allocations for gender equality and produce data for SDG indicator 5.c.1. In November 2018, a stakeholder consultation workshop shared the preliminary findings and recommendations of the Gap Analysis conducted by PriceWaterhouse Coopers (PWC). The gap analysis found that SDG-tracking was a major gap in the system, which has consequently weakened linkages between the MTP III and the Medium-Term Expenditures framework. Support will continue into 2019 and the updated SCOA codes and manual will be followed by a review of the systems, infrastructure, capacity-development and dissemination.
- The capacities of 60 data producers to produce and use gender statistics was strengthened through a high-level training workshop for data producers that was organized in partnership with KNBS to address capacity gaps and the increasing demand for gender statistics to monitor SDG progress. The training provided technical skills and advice to: develop new approaches in producing gender statistics, define the key issues, determine the statistics/indicators needed, analyse how to package gender information and data to suit different users and identify and bring on board key stakeholders to enhance the demand for gender statistics. As a result, a workshop/technical

working group for time use surveys will be held and KNBS will focus on producing more gender data to highlight key dimensions in agriculture statistics.

- UN Women in collaboration with the Council of Governors began developing County-Specific Gender Data Sheets for 10 select counties (Bomet, Kitui, Kirinyaga, Turkana, Kakamega, Baringo, Kilifi, Meru, Kisumu and Marsabit) in partnership with the KNBS, with the latter providing technical assistance for conceptualization and implementation. It is expected these data sheets will inform the mid-term review of the County-Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs 2018-2022).

FIGURE 1
Measuring Progress in 2018



Progress in Kenya is due to the high-level political buy-in from the government stakeholders. Some planned activities such as training of data users did not take place as planned and will be implemented in 2019 instead.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Kenya plans include:

Enabling environment

- Continue to support gender statistics coordination through the institutionalization of the IAC-GS;
- Providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture's Statistics Unit to review its routine data-collection tools;

- Providing technical assistance to integrate gender-related SDG indicators in the MTP III (2018-2022) and the monitoring and evaluation framework (National and County Reporting Indicators handbook);
- Supporting the development of the Kenya national strategy for statistics, including the integration of a gender perspective.

Data production

- Developing metadata/indicator information sheets for the 34 SDG indicators and other measures set out in CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action;
- Providing technical assistance to KNBS to undertake a time use survey;
- Producing gender data sheets in selected counties;
- Providing technical assistance to the National Treasury to update the SCOA on a system to track and make public allocations for gender equality and produce data for SDG indicator 5.c.1;
- Providing technical assistance to KNBS to undertake further analysis of existing data sets, including the Kenya Integrated Budget Household Survey (KIHBS 2015-16) and developing a comprehensive poverty analysis for children and women at the national level and each of the 47 county governments;
- Partnering with UNICEF to analyse the Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (KDHS 2014) to derive the first ever Women Empowerment Index.

Data accessibility and use

- Updating and disseminating the National Gender Data Sheet 2019 nationally and in select counties for gender statistics;
- Supporting annual research grants to academic institutions to conduct research and analysis relevant to gender and the SDGs;
- Disseminating the women poverty analysis and women empowerment index in partnership with UNICEF.



IN BRIEF: UGANDA

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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Following the launch of the Women Count programme in 2016, Uganda was the first country to implement a national project, with support from DFID, as part of its Strengthening Evidence Based Decision Making II Programme (SEBDM II), Output 4¹, which ends in March 2019. Support from the Women Count global programme, which started in May 2018, builds on those early efforts, including a national assessment of gender statistics conducted in 2016. The challenges identified in Uganda include the following:

1. Creating an enabling environment

Gender statistics are not adequately included in the legal and policy frameworks for statistics. Although a stand-alone strategy to produce gender statistics was developed in 2012, it is still not fully integrated into Uganda's Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD), currently in its second iteration. Thus, there has been inconsistent and unpredictable financial and technical support to produce gender data. Furthermore, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)

currently lacks enough gender-specialized human resources to provide continued liaison with and technical support to Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs), the efficient integration of the gender statistical system, as well as the process of validating gender data produced by MDAs data, which is essential to guarantee the quality of SDGs data, remain key concerns.

With the support of UN Women, the Government of Uganda adopted and endorsed the National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEI) since 2016. The set of 106 indicators is being used to monitor progress on gender equality, including the National Development Plan II (2016-2020). With the localization process currently underway to identify the set of indicators that will be used annually to monitor and report on SDG progress, vigorous efforts are necessary to ensure that the selected indicators integrate and include NPGEIs as much as possible.



Women Count response: UN Women will focus on addressing gaps in legal frameworks, policies and practices that limit the sustained production and use of gender data at all levels and informing reforms and reviews underway, including revising the strategic objectives and activities for gender statistics in the Extended PNSD II. As a planning and monitoring tool, the NPGEIs will be key to mainstreaming gender within the national statistical system (NSS). Therefore, the project will continue to support efforts that are already underway to strengthen the capacity of UBOS and MDAs, including ensuring that the relevant indicators are integrated in sector workplans. The project will also continue to support coordination between data users and producers.

2. Increasing data production

The recent adoption and localization of the SDG framework and the NPGEI in Uganda have highlighted significant data gaps that need to be filled for periodic gender-responsive SDG monitoring and reporting. Gender data is quite limited (see Box 1) and even where it can be obtained from surveys, data is limited to national, regional and sub-regional levels and is not disaggregated at district level, limiting its usability. Furthermore, much of the available gender-related statistics in Uganda are descriptive, with little in-depth analysis done, including basic multi-level disaggregation. Finally, there are severe capacity gaps in most MDAs, including staffing levels, lack of appreciation of gender statistics and limited skills levels to produce gender data.



Women Count response: Interventions include supporting new surveys in key areas such as time use, violence against women and girls and governance peace and security where there are key data gaps; supporting MDAs to update data collection tools, methods and standards; periodically supporting the reprocessing of existing data to update the NPGEIs and supporting more in-depth data analyses of existing and upcoming surveys.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Uganda has made a lot of progress in improving data dissemination but significant barriers to access such data remain. Some stem from the fact that statistics are not processed and disseminated in a user-friendly manner, while others can be attributed to the lack of institutional, financial and technical capacity to validate and widely disseminate the data through online platforms. UBOS' coordination with and reporting to international statistical partners is critical to ensure that Uganda's gender statistics are in line with international statistical standards. However, the lack of capacity to report systematically and periodically to the international statistical system, leads to data discrepancies between national and international sources, undermining trust in official statistics.



Women Count response: Interventions include supporting the production of analytic reports on women and the NPGEIs/SDGs; disseminating SDG data through publications, including a Population Census Gender Monograph; institutionalizing various user-producer dialogues including the Annual Gender Statistics Forum (AGSF); supporting the wide dissemination of data, policy briefs and research and conducting tailor made trainings on gender statistics for data users and producers.

BOX 1

Gender data gaps in Uganda

- Baseline information is only available for 50% of the indicators in Tier I.
- while 15% can readily be obtained from reprocessing existing survey data.
- and 35% are not readily available.

Source: National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) updated in 2018 and published in 2019 (NPGEIs 2019).

Key Achievements in 2018

- UBOS developed a Strategy for the Development of Gender Statistics² that was integrated in the Extended PNSD II.³ Through UN Women's technical and financial support, UBOS assisted 29 MDAs and 16 local government entities to develop and implement statistical plans to increase the production and use of gender data, resulting in a complete mainstreaming of gender in the NSS.
- UBOS and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) harmonized the National Standard Indicators (NSI) framework with the SDGs and targets. The result was an increase in the number of NPGEI from 106 to 140, all of which are now integrated in the NSI and are routinely monitored. This was made possible by UN Women's support to create the national multi-sector SDG Data Technical Working Group to lead efforts by UBOS and OPM to validate and harmonize SDG indicators and identify data requirements and gaps. Future technical and financial support will focus on strengthening the capacity of 18 government sectors that have been clustered and aligned with each of the corresponding 17 SDGs.
- With UN Women's technical and financial support, UBOS conducted its first ever Time Use Survey in 2017-18. The results, expected in 2019, will be widely disseminated, including through policy dialogues and round table discussions.
- Following the National Governance Peace and Security Survey (NGPSS) conducted in 2017 by UBOS, UN Women supported the data analysis and publication of the report in 2018. The survey which produced data on topics such as democratic governance, peace and security, rule of law, human rights, transparency and accountability helped to inform and monitor the Government of Uganda's legal and administrative commitments to good governance and address key data gaps on SDG 16 indicators. As a result of UN Women's support and advocacy, gender equality concerns were addressed in this survey for the first time, including attitudes and perceptions towards: gender equality, paid and unpaid work, women's interest and participation in politics, and violence against women in public and private spheres.
- Through UN Women's support to reprocessing of data from recent surveys and administrative data systems, UBOS is now able to produce data for 57 per cent of the NPGEIs (80 of the 140 indicators), bringing the government closer to its objective of increasing the production and use of gender data in policy, planning and monitoring of gender equality.
- Building on the international capacity building programme pioneered by Statistics Sweden, 35 data producers are being supported by UN Women to improve their gender statistical skills. A similar training for 17 persons from civil society organizations also took place in 2018. In each case, the trainees are developing issue papers through a long-term mentorship programme. The results will be presented during the second phase of the training scheduled in February 2019.
- UN Women brought together over 80 users and producers by organizing the second Annual Gender Statistics Forum on 29 November 2018 in Kampala. The Forum was attended by UBOS, other representatives of Government, development partners, civil society organizations, researchers and academia. At the Forum, the gender module of the NGPSS 2017, along with three issue papers on policy implications of the findings, were presented and disseminated. The issue papers will feed into a national policy dialogue in 2019.

FIGURE 1

Measuring Progress in 2018



Progress was achieved in Uganda due to the successful collaboration with the Uganda Bureau of Statistics to conduct several surveys. However, some planned activities such as training of producers and users did not take place and several knowledge products slated to be published in 2018 will only be completed in early 2019.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, the Women Count Uganda project will focus on the following activities:

Enabling environment

- Providing technical support to review PNSD II and finalise PNSD III to align it with the National Development Plan III in 2020;
- Training gender statistics specialists in the NSS that provide technical support and facilitate liaison among sectors for the inclusion of gender components and NPGEI in strategies and the revised PNSD;
- Supporting improved coordination of gender statistics in the NSS.

Data production

- Supporting the review and updating of administrative data collection tools, developing metadata and methodologies for the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS);
- Conducting a stand-alone violence against women and girls survey to collect baseline prevalence data, including preparatory activities such as finalizing the

tool, methodology and pre-testing of the questionnaire to inform the design and conduct the main survey planned for 2020;

- Supporting data analysis and producing reports for Tier II indicator 5.c.1 on proportion of budget allocated to gender; and indicator 5.5.1.b on women in local government in Uganda, in line with global standards.

Data accessibility and use

- Providing technical and financial support to OPM to coordinate monitoring and reporting on the SDGs by ensuring the inclusion of gender-responsive data;
- Producing Sector Profiles (analysis reports) on Women and Girls aligned with NPGEIs and SDGs;
- Holding the third Annual Gender Statistics Forum during Statistics Week and arranging and advocacy symposium;
- Conducting tailor-made trainings on gender statistics for data producers and users on how to translate data into evidence.

ENDNOTES

- 1 UK Aid. 2019. "Strengthening evidence based decision making in Uganda II." Accessed 30 May 2019. <https://devtracker.dfid.gov.uk/projects/GB-1-200795/documents>
- 2 Uganda Bureau of Statistics. 2017. Strategy for the Development of Gender Statistics 2018/19 – 2019/20: Illuminating the path towards gender equality in Uganda.

- 3 Uganda Bureau of Statistics. 2018. Extended Strategic Plan for Statistics 2018/19 – 2019/20: Enhancing data quality and use. <https://www.ubos.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/UBOSExtendedSSPII.pdf>



IN BRIEF: UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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The United Republic of Tanzania (Tanzania hereafter) is aligning Mainland Tanzania’s Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP II) and Zanzibar’s Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUZA III) with the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework. This process presents a good opportunity for the Women Count programme to inform and influence the choice of indicators to ensure that the process is gender-responsive.

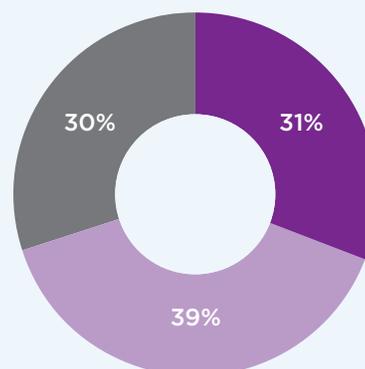
To inform the Women Count project in Tanzania, a national gender statistics assessment was conducted between February and June 2018 by using a desk review of available documents and conducting key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders in both mainland Tanzania as well as in Zanzibar. The assessment focused on understanding the enabling environment for the functioning of the statistical system, the production and use of gender statistics.

FIGURE 1

Gender data gaps in Tanzania

Proportion of the 54 gender-related (GEWE/SDG) indicators by data availability in Tanzania, 2018

■ Currently available
 ■ Easily feasible to make available
 ■ Strong effort needed to make available



1. Creating an enabling environment

While there are relevant statistical policies, the absence of a gender perspective and challenges in the implementation of existing policies mean that there is limited space to advance gender data. For example, neither national development strategies to achieve gender equality in Tanzania nor the Tanzania Statistical Master Plan 2009/10 and 2013/14 (TSMP) explicitly identify priority areas and interventions to improve the production and use of gender data, including in their monitoring and evaluation frameworks. Another significant challenge relates to coordination. Currently, Tanzania's two semi-autonomous statistics systems (in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar) have limited coordination, particularly in relation to gender statistics. Finally, one of the biggest concerns in Tanzania relates to the Statistics Act¹ which was passed in September 2018 and includes provisions that may result in significant fines, jail time, or both, for anyone questioning the accuracy of official statistics or producing figures that contradict it. Such restrictions go against the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics² and can have a negative impact on data quality and can erode public trust in official statistics, hence limit its use.

In response to these challenges, the Women Count project in Tanzania will be implemented in partnership with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Ministry of Finance and Planning, and the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC) in Mainland Tanzania; and with the Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS), Ministry of Labour Empowerment for the Elderly, Women, and Children (MLEEWC) and Zanzibar Planning Commission in Zanzibar.



Women Count response: Interventions include using the SDGs, FYDP II, and MKUZA III as organizing frameworks for determining the requirements of a well-coordinated and well-resourced gender statistical system by focusing on gaps relating to gender-specific priority indicators; make gender statistics visible in the national statistical system by ensuring that the National Gender Policy, TSMP and NSDS-Zanzibar explicitly includes a gender data action and financing plan; support the integration of gender statistics, including indicators related to social norms and institutions, in the monitoring of national and

sectoral strategies and/or action plans; and support strengthening of institutional capacities of key actors in the gender statistics system and inter-agency coordination mechanisms. The fact that between 2018 and 2020, both the national gender equality policy and the TSMP will be revised provides an excellent entry point for the Women Count programme to ensure that there is an alignment between these two instruments, further strengthening the production and use of gender data. Working with the UN System and the international community in general, UN Women will continue to advocate for a further amendment of the Statistics Act to address existing concerns and to ensure that its implementation integrates a gender perspective.

2. Increasing data production

There is existing capacity within the national statistical system to generate gender data and statistics to monitor the SDGs and other gender equality and women's empowerment commitments. However, there are numerous gaps. Currently, only 16 of 54 gender-specific SDG indicators are fully available in Mainland Tanzania, and 15 in Zanzibar. These account for less than 30 per cent of the total indicators needed (see Figure 1). Most of the indicators produced in Tanzania are disaggregated by sex but few have additional disaggregation. There is a lack of baseline data in unpaid care work (time-use) and violence against women and girls (VAWG). While some gender-specific data has been collected, in some cases, survey reports are not published, such as gender-based violence in the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS). Moreover, statistical methods and measures to address gender equality are lacking, particularly on social norms and institutions.



Women Count response: The proposed interventions include supporting the re-processing of existing data from censuses, surveys, and routine data systems to address gender data gaps; assessing sources for suitable data production to report on indicators at national and subnational levels; and producing new gender statistics on emerging concerns such as time use, poverty, social norms and institutions, asset ownership and the informal sector; and capacity building and training.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Both NBS and the OCGS have several web-based statistical databases. However, there is no one-stop-shop or comprehensive source for the latest sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics. This means there is currently no stand-alone database on gender data with both quantitative and qualitative information. Women and Men Facts and Figures is not regularly produced and presently depends on external support. Finally, user-producer forums on gender statistics are not regularly or systematically organized.



Women Count response: Improving access through a centralized online database on gender equality measures related to social norms and institutions, featuring both quantitative and

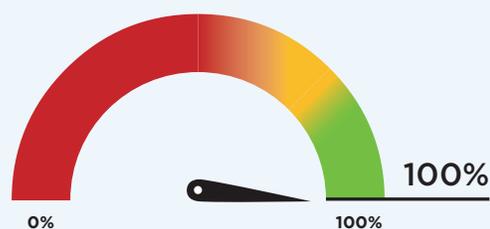
qualitative data is therefore a key priority of Women Count in Tanzania. The project will also support the regular publication of reports on gender across the SDGs as a means of developing capacity for gender statistics use and institutionalize user-producer dialogue mechanisms.

Key Achievements in 2018

- UN Women supported the NBS to conduct the 2018 national Household Budget Survey (HBS)³, meaning that Tanzania will be able to adequately monitor progress towards SDG Target 5.4. Similarly, Tanzania, for the first-time ever, will generate new data on monetary poverty, time poverty and the multidimensional poverty of women, all of which will inform the revision of the national gender equality policy in 2019. Additionally, given that the HBS was deliberately designed to address the data needs of at least 85 SDG indicators, the survey will allow Tanzania to address key SDG data gaps and enable further analysis of time use, through the construction of the first household satellite accounts of unpaid care and domestic work.

- A Technical Working Group on Gender Statistics (TWG-GS) was established for members of the NBS/OCGS, key government institutions, civil society organizations and development partners, led by UN Women. There will be one TWG-GS for the Mainland (to be co-chaired by the NBS and MoHCDEGC) and another for Zanzibar (to be co-chaired by OCGS and MLEEWC). This committee will oversee the quality production of gender data in Tanzania, advise NBS/OCGS to prioritize areas where more gender data is needed, and foster greater coordination between the two statistical offices.
- UN Women secured €400,000 in funding from the Government of Ireland (IrishAid), to conduct a Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) survey in collaboration with the OECD Development Centre in 2019–2020. The SIGI measures discriminatory social institutions such as unequal inheritance rights, child marriage, VAWG, and unequal land and property rights. It will provide a strong evidence-base for positive action on gender equality in Tanzania.

FIGURE 1
Measuring Progress in 2018



Progress in the United Republic of Tanzania was driven by the support provided to the National Bureau of Statistics to conduct the 2018 Household Budget Survey and a number of activities were initiated that will contribute to achieving the 2019 and 2020 targets.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Tanzania key activities will include:

Enabling environment

- Integrating gender strategies in the Second Tanzanian Statistical Master Plan;
- Integrating directives for gender statistics production in the Gender Statistics Policy in Tanzania;
- Developing a minimum set of Tanzania National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (TNPGEl);
- Developing guidelines to produce gender statistics and revise tools, including methods, standards and quality assurance frameworks.

Data production

- Supporting the reprocessing of Tier I and Tier II gender-specific SDG indicators from existing Census and survey data as well as routine data systems, including disaggregation at regional and district levels, where possible;

- Support OCGS to conduct a time use survey in Zanzibar;
- Supporting collection and analysis of SIGI data.

Data accessibility and use

- Designing and establishing a responsive database within NBS and OCGS websites, hosting national-level gender statistics to monitor global and national commitments, including on social norms and institutions;
- Producing gender statistics profiles and booklets, a publication addressing gender data gaps in Tanzania, a National Gender Profile and a Women and Men Booklet;
- Organizing the annual Gender Statistics Forum;
- Supporting NBS to conduct user-producer meetings to analyse and use the 2017-18 Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar HBS results and support the launch and dissemination of the OCGS's Women and Men Booklet.

ENDNOTES

1 The Statistics Act was passed in September 2018 after the national assessment was completed.

2 <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx>

3 In collaboration with the World Bank.



IN BRIEF: NEPAL

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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Through the development of a 15-year roadmap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Government of Nepal has demonstrated a strong commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The roadmap focuses on four areas: identification of Nepal's SDG priorities; decision on necessary policy interventions; estimation and investment of resources and institutional readiness. The report also updated the indicators for monitoring the SDGs in Nepal, identifying a list of 415 indicators.¹

To kickstart the project, an assessment was conducted between December 2017 and March 2018, using desk review and conducting key informant interviews with relevant stakeholders. The findings informed the development of the Nepal Women Count project.

1. Creating an enabling environment

Although there is political will to monitor and report on gender equality commitments, the implementing mechanisms for gender statistics are either weak

or lacking. The Statistics Act of Nepal mandates the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) to play a coordinating role within the national statistics system. However, due to ever-increasing demands for data and statistics and recent reforms, including the transition to a federal system, the mandate to produce statistics has been extended to several other institutions, rendering CBS less effective as a strategic leader and coordinator. Financial constraints also affect the operation of the statistical system. The CBS budget has gradually decreased since 2011/2012 and the situation for other ministries and government agencies is even worse, with many having no specific budgets for statistical activities and finding it difficult to even maintain their official records. Another key challenge in Nepal is that the most recent National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), developed in 2018 and expected to be approved in 2019, does not specifically mention gender statistics.



Women Count response: UN Women has identified a set of priorities to be implemented in partnership with CBS, the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MOWCSC), including supporting exploration of how local governments can generate and use data as part of SDG implementation and monitoring linked to local planning, budgeting and service-delivery; assessing the resources and capacities needed at local level; support coordination mechanisms among local governments and with provincial and federal levels, while ensuring that the implementation of the Statistics Act integrates a gender perspective and that the NSDS explicitly includes a gender statistics action and financial plan. The project will explore the possibility of establishing a coordination mechanism and build the capacities of dedicated gender statistics units in relevant offices.

2. Increasing data production

Nepal lacks mechanisms to generate data for many SDG targets, meaning that the availability of gender data to monitor the SDGs is relatively scarce (see Box 1). Most data for monitoring progress against the SDGs are extracted from national censuses and surveys which are undertaken only every 5 or 10 years, limiting their effectiveness. Census and survey results are usually disaggregated by sex but often not disaggregated to subnational levels and therefore not useful for subnational governments or for identifying pockets of poverty or inequality. Key data gaps have also been identified in important areas such as time use, violence against women and girls and nontraditional surveys such as perception surveys.



Women Count response: UN Women will support the processing of existing censuses and surveys to determine whether these sources can produce information on the same indicators at subnational levels of disaggregation; assess data sources for suitable data production to report indicators at national and subnational levels; and rationalize and examine consistencies in different data sets which need to be combined for particular gender-related SDG indicators, such as on violence against women

(VAW). The Government will be supported to conduct a time use survey and CBS' capacity to conduct a VAW prevalence survey will be strengthened.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Data accessibility is a key challenge for non-government users, which many of the stakeholders consulted as part of the assessment indicating that they rely on personal and informal contacts to access gender data. Even when data is available, there are difficulties in using it. Information like metadata may be missing, analytical capacities may be weak and data accesses unpredictable due to the lack of a data dissemination policy and up-to-date data release calendar by CBS.



Women Count response: UN Women will improve gender data dissemination through data portals; support the regular publication of statistical reports on gender across the SDGs to develop capacities for utilizing gender statistics; establish and institutionalize user-producer dialogue mechanisms; and promote the increased use of gender statistics by supporting gender-data-based research.

BOX 1

Gender data gaps in Nepal

- Nepal has data for only 37% of all gender-related global SDG indicators.
- Nepal has data for only 6 out of 14 indicators on SDG 5.

Source: Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission (2017). *Nepal SDG Status and Roadmap 2016-2030*.

Key Achievements in 2018

In Nepal, a change in government and a new focus on transitioning to federalism, coupled with capacity challenges in the Central Bureau of Statistics, mean that as of December 2018, the MoU approval with the Government and signature of the LOA was delayed and as a result, activities planned for 2018 have been significantly delayed. Nevertheless, several activities took place as part of the preparations for project implementation, including:

- The national gender statistics assessment and project document was completed and endorsed by several key government stakeholders including CBS and the NPC. The results were further validated at a workshop attended by 31 participants, including parliamentarians, NPC members, government officials and civil society representatives from seven provinces.
- UN Women and CBS initiated plans to conduct the first dedicated Time-Use Survey in Nepal in 2019. UN Women held several consultations with CBS and the NPC and helped to facilitate the Nepal Time Use Survey Workshop to advocate the importance of quality time-use data, currently missing in Nepal. Previously, Nepal collected time-use data in one of the modules of the Nepal Living Standards Survey. However, the module and stylized questionnaires had difficulty registering simultaneous activities, so a dedicated time-use survey will yield more accurate data, enabling the Government of Nepal to track SDG indicator 5.4.1 (time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location).
- Three CBS representatives were supported by UN Women to participate in several capacity-building workshops, including the Regional Workshop on Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) for Asian countries which was jointly organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in December 2018. The workshop reviewed requirements for developing common data repositories across national statistics systems and presented innovative software and tools for data and metadata sharing and exchange, with an emphasis on gender-related SDG indicators. As a result of CBS participation, the Government of Nepal will convene a country-specific SDMX workshop in 2019 to share lessons learned.
- UN Women partnered with the World Bank to facilitate session on global time use methodologies during the Nepal Time Use Survey Workshop, which was co-organized by the Central Bureau of Statistics and the World Bank. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to enhance their knowledge and skills on how to use global methodologies to conduct time use surveys, opportunities and challenges, and provided a platform for exchanging experiences on different data collection methods from different countries.

FIGURE 1

Measuring Progress in 2018



Some progress was made in Nepal, however, severe challenges persist caused by significant delays in finalising a Letter of Agreement with the Central Bureau of Statistics and MoU with the Government.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Nepal will focus on several key activities:

Enabling environment

- Helping CBS integrate gender statistics in the implementation of the Statistics Act, including by designating core/official gender statistics and providing budgetary resources to institutionalize functions related to gender statistics coordination, production, dissemination and use;
- Supporting the establishment of a coordination mechanism for producing and disseminating gender statistics;
- Assisting CBS, NPC and the MoWCSC to revise and adopt a minimum set of gender indicators as a guide for the federal, provincial and local production and compilation of gender statistics;
- Supporting systems-design to generate gender statistics from alternative sources, including citizen-generated, administrative and private-sector data. The project will support key agencies, identified via mapping, as well as provincial and local governments in developing and/or strengthening data production.

Data production

- Supporting the development of a capacity-building plan for the regular production of Tier I gender-related indicators from census/surveys and alternative data sources;

-
- Supporting data collection and production of VAW-related SDG indicators and time-use-related SDG indicators with disaggregation at provincial and local levels, where possible;
 - Supporting the reprocessing of Tier I/II gender-related SDG indicators from existing census/survey data with disaggregation at provincial and local levels, and publishing these for SDG reporting.

Data accessibility and use

- Providing small grants for the analysis and use of gender statistics, (on policy research, policy briefs and knowledge products produced from VAW and time-use surveys and other gender data);

- Supporting a capacity-development course for sub-national government units to integrate the use and analysis of gender statistics in their planning, budgeting, policymaking and decision-making, as well as preparing training curricula and training materials;
- Assisting the design of national and subnational web-based dashboards presenting a minimum core set of gender indicators and gender-related SDG indicators;
- Providing technical and financial assistance to CBS, NPC, and MoWCSC to design a database for storing and sharing a core set of national gender indicators and gender-related SDG indicators.

ENDNOTES

- 1 Government of Nepal. 2017. Nepal's Sustainable Development Goals Status and Roadmap: 2016-2030. <http://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/sites/default/files/downloads/policy-database/NEPAL%29%20SDG%20-%20Status%20and%20Roadmap%202016-2030.pdf>



IN BRIEF: BANGLADESH

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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The Women Count premise is that the gaps in gender statistics are linked to three distinct but inter-related problems:

- Weak policy space and legal and financial environments due to limited political will and understanding of the importance of quality gender statistics
- Technical challenges, particularly about sensitive, methodologically demanding or emerging areas; and
- A confluence of limited data dissemination and communication capacities of national statistical systems (NSS) and limited ability of governments and other stakeholders to utilize and advocate for gender statistics to inform decisions, policy research, advocacy, policies and programmes.

A national assessment of the status of gender statistics in Bangladesh was conducted between February and May 2018. The assessment aimed to provide answers to the key question: To what extent do the

BOX 1

Gender data gaps are pervasive

There are 54 gender-specific indicators in the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the SDGs in Bangladesh:

- 19 (37%) are readily available*
- 13 (24%) are partially available*
- 22 (40%) are not available

Note: Indicators 5.5.1(a) and 5.5.1(b) are counted as one indicator, as are Indicators 4.4.1(a) and 4.4.1(c).

abovementioned problems explain the status of gender statistics in the Bangladesh Statistical System (BSS)? The results of the assessment provide well-informed bases for the design of the Women Count project in Bangladesh, including the selection of priority outputs and activities.

1. Creating an enabling environment

In Bangladesh, while there are numerous laws, policies and plans to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment, systems for facilitating efficient production, access and dissemination of gender data are weak or virtually non-existent, including lack of information systems for gender-responsive budgeting and monitoring of the National Women development Policy (NWDP), lack of coordination mechanisms for gender statistics in the BSS, and limited integration of gender in the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). As a result, even though the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (MEFSDG), which is the national adaptation of the global monitoring and indicators framework, covers all 232 of the indicators and 54 gender-specific indicators, the availability of gender data and statistics are uneven in several aspects, including across sectors and topics, as well as in regularity and timeliness (see Box 1).



Women Count response: Working in partnership with the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), the Statistics and Informatics Division (SID) of the Planning Commission, the Ministry of Women and

Children's Affairs (MoWCA) and other key actors, the Women Count project in Bangladesh will support the BBS to address the gaps in the implementation of the Statistics Act 2013 and the NSDS. A Bangladesh Minimum Set of Gender Indicators (BMSGI) will be formulated as the organizing framework and basis to produce gender statistics and indicators that meet the various reporting and monitoring requirements on gender equality and women's empowerment. To strengthen the technical and coordination capacity of the BBS and working with other government bodies, a gender statistics coordination mechanism led by the BBS will be established and institutionalized.

2. Increasing data production

Key challenges include limited technical and financial capacity of the BSS, with many surveys and censuses still dependent on donor funding and technical and financial support from UN Agencies. While several rounds of censuses and surveys have already been

conducted by the BSS, most data collection activities continue to depend on this outside support, including for questionnaire and sample design and data processing and analyses. Therefore, BSS does not have a system of designated statistics, meaning that there is no assurance that a particular data collection will be resourced and carried out on a regular basis. As a result, methodological consistency and continuity, as well as, data quality and comparability over time continue to be acute challenges.



Women Count response: Women Count will strengthen the production of gender data, including through training and capacity building, by supporting data collection on priority data needs such as time-use, violence against women, and sex-disaggregated population statistics. Technical and financial support will be provided to the Bangladesh Statistical System to regularly generate, compile and disseminate data for the BMSGI, and a user-friendly database compiled from administrative and programme data will also be produced for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs in close collaboration with BBS.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

The BBS does not have a data dissemination policy nor an advance-release calendar. Access to statistics is not easy for non-government users and there is an inadequate capacity and management system. Furthermore, the Government usually lacks resources and the capacity for adequate data analysis, and it needs better-equipped staff as well as better data-management processes and systems.



Women Count response: To respond to these challenges, a digital system to facilitate data dissemination, communication and use will be supported, regular statistical and analytic reports on gender across the SDGs will be produced, user-producer dialogues will be institutionalized, along with customized trainings to improve users' capacities for gender data analysis.

Key Achievements in 2018

The Women Count Bangladesh project is awaiting formal approval by the Government (including signature of a Memorandum of Understanding and Letter of Agreement). As a result, activities planned for 2018 have been significantly delayed and will be prioritized once the required administrative agreements with the Government, expected during the first quarter of 2019, are secured. Nevertheless, several activities took place as part of the preparations for project implementation, including:

- Finalization of the Women Count Bangladesh project document (prodoc) in close coordination with the BBS and other stakeholders, led to a substantive agreement on the actions to be implemented jointly by the Government and UN Women. As a result, the prodoc directly responds to all needs of the BSS to institutionalize the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics in Bangladesh.
- UN Women supported the participation of BBS representatives to attend the 7th Workshop on Foreign Partners for Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific by the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) in September 2018 to present their efforts in strengthening gender statistics in Bangladesh. After the workshop, Bangladesh was invited to become a member of the new Subgroup on Gender Statistics Training established by UN Women and the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and Pacific (SIAP). The role of this subgroup is to: facilitate information-sharing on gender data production, dissemination and use; develop a framework for gender statistics training; promote coordination among gender-statistics training providers; and develop and improve training programmes. As a member, BBS will share and learn from the best practices of other national statistical agencies in the region to strengthen its training programme.

FIGURE 1

Measuring Progress in 2018



Significant administrative delays in finalising a Letter of Agreement (LOA) with the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics prevented the implementation of most activities in 2018.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Bangladesh planned activities include:

Enabling environment

- Supporting SID and BBS to formulate recommendations and a costed action plan for implementing the Statistics Act, to address the need for gender statistics in its implementation and a corresponding advocacy plan for its adoption;
- Supporting the General Economic Division, SID and BBS to formulate recommendations and a costed action plan to address the gaps in gender-specific indicators in the MEFSDG and corresponding data requirements based on a systematic review and assessment;
- Supporting SID and BBS in setting up a coordination mechanism for gender statistics across the BSS—an Inter-agency Committee on Gender Statistics (IAC-GS).

Data production

- Supporting BBS to process/reprocess existing data to generate gender statistics and indicators with further disaggregation not existing in current tabulations and publish results;
- Supporting the BBS and MoWCA to identify priority Tier II gender-specific SDG indicators, develop a methodology for data collection, conduct a pilot study on data collection and the production of indicators, and publish/disseminate the results;
- Supporting preparations for violence against woman and time use surveys to be conducted in 2020;
- Supporting MoWCA to develop and maintain a user-friendly database for gender data and statistics compiled from administrative, programme and other non-traditional data sources and formulating guidelines on data-sharing, data flows and system updating/maintenance;
- Providing technical and financial support to the BBS to compile available data and to publish (in its Gender Statistics Compendium) and disseminate the compilation.

Data accessibility and use

- Preparing a “Statistics Reports on Gender Across the SDGs” with subnational disaggregation;
- Supporting the development and use of an SDG gender web portal for disseminating gender-specific SDG indicators and tracking progress on associated targets;
- Providing financial support for user-producer meetings by BBS and UN Women at national and subnational (division) levels;
- Providing research grants and support for studies by academics, CSOs and other non-governmental actors for producing and disseminating policy briefs and other knowledge products that utilize gender statistics;
- Designing and implementing a capacity-development course for data users on gender statistics analysis and use in planning, budgeting, policymaking and decision-making.



IN BRIEF: MOROCCO

MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT

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Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Morocco organized a national multi-stakeholder consultation, which adopted a national roadmap on the SDGs whose fourth pillar explicitly calls for strengthening the capacities of the national statistical information system. The Moroccan Ministry of Governance, in partnership with several UN agencies, is currently working on a programme to align Moroccan public policies with the SDGs and monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

As part of the agreement to implement the Women Count project, with the support of UN Women, the High Commission for Planning (HCP) (Morocco's national statistical office) initiated in July 2018 a detailed national assessment of the production and use of gender statistics at both national and regional levels. The full results of the assessment, expected in the first half of 2019, will inform the set of activities to be implemented in Morocco. The intended results are

to improve Morocco's gender statistical system within its national statistical system (NSS). The initial draft of the assessment identified the following challenges:

1. Creating an enabling environment

Morocco's gender statistical system is highly fragmented with several institutions, including HCP, line ministries, independent observatories and the National Bank, producing gender statistics but with little coordination among them. Even though a Statistics Studies Coordination Committee (COCOES) exists, with the HCP as the secretariat, its role, mission and capacities are outdated, and several statistical producers generate gender-sensitive statistics without involvement from COCOES. At the regional level, while statistics offices have been established as part of decentralization efforts, they suffer from limited capacity and access to regional gender data produced at the national level. Furthermore, in Morocco, the production and dissemination of statistics is governed by

Law No. 370-67 of August 1968, which is outdated and does not mention the production and dissemination of gender statistics. There are also concerns related to the prioritization of gender statistics: Only two of the programme budgets (representing 13% of the budget submitted by the HCP as part of the State Budget of 2018) mentioned the production of gender data.



Women Count response: While the assessment is ongoing and may therefore result in additional priorities, it was proposed that interventions will include: strengthening Morocco's gender statistical system by establishing an inter-Agency mechanism composed of gender statistics focal points of the HCP, the Ministries, Departments, and Agencies as well as representatives of the COCOES; supporting the current reform of the Statistics Act to include gender statistics; contributing to awareness arising initiatives about the importance of adequate gender statistics for policy making; and providing technical support for the localization of the SDGs, particularly for SDG5 and other gender-related SDG targets.

2. Increasing data production

In Morocco, despite significant legislative and policy advances for gender equality in recent years, there are still pervasive data gaps to monitor the SDGs and other national commitments (see Box 1). Irregular production of gender data, including related to violence against women and girls (VAWG) and women's economic empowerment are particular challenges that are partly the result of the lack of financial capacity of the HCP.



Women Count response: The expected interventions include providing financial and technical support for the production and analysis of gender data, particularly in the field of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and women's economic empowerment; supporting capacity-building and facilitating peer-education exchanges for national and regional data producers, and mapping gender statistics produced and used at national and regional levels to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action and the gender-specific SDG indicators.

3. Improving data accessibility and use

Data users have limited understanding of statistical products in general which limits the use of gender data. Regional and national gender statistics producers and users also face a lack of skilled human resources, and vocational training and capacity-building programmes are limited. As part of the assessment, data producers have expressed the need for training on the requirements for sex-disaggregated statistics.



Women Count response: Expected interventions include strengthening the capacity of all users through training and technical assistance; working with partners, including national and regional research, training and academic institutions to support secondary data analysis and develop training materials on gender statistics that are made available to a broad range of stakeholders. Supporting user-producer dialogues to increase accessibility, quality and demand for gender statistics has also been identified as a priority.

BOX 1

Gender data gaps in Morocco

- 21% of the indicators¹ measuring the achievement of SDG 5 are not produced, available or updated.
- 25% of the statistics needed to measure women's economic participation (as defined by the UN Statistical Commission in 2013) are not available in Morocco.²
- 12% of public programmes included in the State Budget in 2018 have as one of their objectives the reduction of gender inequalities, either through facilitating women's access to basic services or through integrating the gender approach into public plans and processes.

Key Achievements in 2018

The national and regional gender statistics assessment, led by HCP, with the support of UN Women are still ongoing and will inform the full set of activities to be implemented through the Women Count project. Therefore, in 2018, in addition to the assessment, activities primarily focused on two key priorities:

-
- UN Women supported HCP to conduct the second edition of the National Survey on Violence Against Women. Following the adoption of a national law to prevent VAW in February 2018, the government expressed the need to have up-to-date prevalence to replace the 2009 figures currently being used to establish priorities, to inform the enforcement of the newly adopted law and to monitor progress against reducing VAW. UN Women provided HCP with: i) international benchmarks for conducting prevalence and costing studies; ii) specific trainings on the ethical and technical approaches for interviewing survivors of VAW; iii) and contributed to the review of the survey's methodology and questionnaire. The results of the survey will be available in 2019.
 - Twenty-one Moroccan national and regional statistics users have been trained in the production and use of gender data, strengthening their capacities. Training included skills to identify gaps in the production and use of gender data, gender-responsive SDG monitoring and using gender data to inform the design, monitoring and assessment of public policies and programmes.

Plans for 2019

In 2019, Women Count Morocco project activities will include:

Enabling environment

- Finalizing the national assessment; developing the project document; and recruitment of Women Count staff;

- Organizing national and regional workshops to present the key findings and recommendations of the national and regional assessment;
- Engaging and training Members of Parliament on advocating for a reform of the legal and institutional framework to foster coordination;
- Developing and supporting an institutional framework that allows both intersectoral coordination and national-regional coordination.

Data production

- Providing the NSO with technical support to produce key gender statistics, mainly related to VAW;
- Developing and implementing training sessions to increase the capacities of national and regional statistics producers to generate gender-sensitive statistics that are in line with international norms and standards.

Data accessibility and use

- Supporting HCP to produce infographics and user-friendly gender data related documents;
- Developing and implementing training sessions to increase the capacities of national and regional statistics users to both analyse gender-related statistics and use gender-sensitive statistics when developing, budgeting, monitoring and assessing public programmes.

ENDNOTES

1 Indicators 5.4.1, 5.5.2, 5.a.1.a

2 Cour des Comptes, ONDH, United Nations Statistics Commission

ENDNOTES

- 1 For example, SDG indicator 5.5.1 on Proportion of seats held by women has two components: (a) in national parliaments; and (b) in local governments.
- 2 Bangladesh, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania began implementation in 2018 and the remaining six countries (Albania, Cameroon, Colombia, Jordan, Senegal and Sierra Leone) will begin implementation in 2019.
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