



Photo: UN Women/Ryan Brown

WOMEN COUNT PHASE II LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The issue

Since 2022, the Women Count regional programme in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) has contributed to addressing the following key challenges to the production, use and promotion of gender statistics in the region:

- Data gaps hinder the ability of local governments to develop and implement evidence-based public policies addressing critical gender-related issues, such as violence against women (VAW), gender and the environment, women's political participation (WPP) and women's economic empowerment (WEE).
- LAC countries have significant disparities in institutional production capacities and the availability, quality, use, communication and dissemination of gender statistics. There is a need to improve monitoring systems, resource allocation for gender equality, and to integrate gender perspectives in national planning tools.
- Challenges persist in incorporating the gender perspective within national statistical systems (NSSs), and gender data dissemination remains a significant challenge.

Our response

The LAC regional programme, in partnership with the Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS), aims to:

- **Create an enabling environment:** Identify gaps in the planning, production and use of gender statistics; boost the technical capacities of governments, civil society organizations (CSOs) and key actors; establish or strengthen national coordination mechanisms; contribute to the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA) and continue working with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).
- **Increase data production:** Improve gender data production and analysis by modernizing

statistical processes; promote rapid gender assessments of socioeconomic impacts and/or VAW; support innovation, using existing information systems while leveraging non-traditional sources of information to produce statistics on strategic topics, including by using big data, geospatial information systems (GIS) and citizen data.

- **Improve data accessibility and use:** Increase the dissemination and use of gender data through user-producer dialogues and events; promote gender data analysis and use in policymaking; create knowledge products to support evidence-based decision-making; develop a dashboard consolidating key gender indicators in the region; produce an annual Regional Gender Snapshot; develop regional and national communications plans; and produce various communication materials showcasing gender data and programme results.

Where we work

The regional project focuses on: Argentina, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Mexico and Uruguay, and coordinates with CEGS and Colombia's Women Count project. Additionally, **33 countries and territories** have benefited from training, meetings, scholarships and technical support.

Thematic Priorities

- **Women's economic empowerment:** Develop CARICOM-specific guidance for measuring SDG 5.4.1 (proportion of time spent on unpaid care and domestic work), to support the valuing and costing of this work through satellite accounts, in cooperation with ECLAC and CARICOM; generate knowledge products on care and geospatial analysis, alongside CEGS, UN Women Mexico and Mexico's Ministry of Women.¹
- **Violence against women:** Provide technical support on VAW administrative statistics, supported by CARICOM; disseminate the [Statistical framework for measuring the gender-related killing of women and girls \(femicide/feminicide\)](#) alongside the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and CEGS, prepare a regional methodological guide on its implementation and pilot it in at least two countries.
- **Gender and the environment:** Develop and disseminate guidance on data collection and methodologies in geospatial analyses; and introduce innovative processes (i.e., big data, GIS, etc.) to produce gender, climate change and environment statistics.
- **Governance and participation:** Strengthen the leadership capacities of women in NSSs in seven countries through a Women in Leadership Programme; and increase data production on SDG 5 via the Regional Gender Snapshot, by including governance and WPP indicators and analysis at regional and country levels

Results in 2024

Creating an enabling environment

- **National statistical offices (NSOs), gender machineries, academia and CSOs in LAC now have comprehensive guidelines to systematically integrate a gender perspective throughout statistical production.** In 2023–2024, NSOs engaged in dynamic high-level discussion, critical reflection and knowledge-exchange, resulting in the *Guidelines for Mainstreaming the Gender Perspective into Statistical Production* (see [short](#) and [long versions](#)) published in November 2024. Developed under the SCA Working Group on [Tools for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production processes](#), with

UN Women and ECLAC support, these guidelines have become a key regional instrument for integrating gender perspectives across all phases of statistical production. To operationalize these guidelines, the UN Women Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO), in collaboration with ECLAC and INEGI (Mexico's NSO), collected close to 276 tools contributed by 16 NSOs across the region, which will be uploaded to a microsite. Ten virtual sessions with 32 participants from NSOs and gender machineries featured simultaneous interpretation to ensure broad participation from English-speaking Caribbean countries. Several participants said they are already using these guidelines to shape their regular statistical processes. Directly informed by these regional guidelines, the Dominican Republic's NSO developed a [Manual for the Mainstreaming of the Gender Approach in its NSS](#) in 2024, a significant step towards institutionalizing a gender perspective in processes and decision-making.

- **In the Caribbean, new regional and national guidelines are advancing the measurement of VAW and the care economy.** Women Count supported the development of [CARICOM Guidelines and Protocols on the Collection and use of Administrative Data on Violence against Women and Girls](#), which were endorsed by the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians, CARICOM's highest statistical decision-making body. This endorsement led to Grenada adopting the guidelines as a model to develop its national framework on VAWG data.
- **The integration of gender-responsive climate and environmental statistics has been strengthened through synergies between CEGS and the Luxembourg-funded project *Scaling Up Climate Change and Environmental Policies and Programmes*.** These efforts have advanced discussions on labour market data production and user engagement, particularly through [workshops such as "Towards the Development of Gender, Environment, and Climate Change Indicators"](#). Building on UN Women's leadership in the Expert Group on Gender and Climate Change Indicators and its ongoing work in Asia-Pacific, this initiative aims to standardize indicators across countries, ensuring a replicable, data-driven approach to gender and climate analysis.
- **The creation of two inter-agency coordination mechanisms in 2024, and support for two existing groups, is enhancing the production and use of disaggregated gender statistics and supporting gender mainstreaming:**
 1. The SCA Working Group on [Tools for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production processes](#), led by INEGI, with UN Women and ECLAC as co-secretaries, has fostered collaboration among 16 NSOs² through [monthly meetings](#) enabling the systematic exchange of tools and best practices to integrate a gender perspective into statistical production. Thanks to this working group, the NSOs of Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico collaborated to develop recommendations for each phase of statistical production, with examples of how their NSOs have applied gender mainstreaming. INEGI has allocated staff to identify tools for mainstreaming the gender perspective within its organization and to provide guidance to other NSOs.
 2. The SCA Working Group [on Recommendations for Strengthening Official Environmental Statistics Systems](#) is integrating a gender perspective into environmental data frameworks. Participating NSOs were invited to reflect on and contribute to [recommendations](#) for strengthening gender in official environmental statistics systems. UN Women and CEGS supported a related workshop on gender, environment and climate change indicators in Aguascalientes, Mexico, where key discussions and actions were facilitated to further advance this through coordinated work.
 3. Through its membership on the SCA [Advisory Group on Gender Mainstreaming](#), UN Women provided recommendations and contributed to mainstreaming a gender perspective in the proposals and first progress reports of SCA working groups,

including on [Recommendations for incorporating small area estimation methodologies into the production of statistics](#) and a [Manual on the integration of administrative data on children and adolescents](#).

4. And **Mexico** has strengthened national standards on gender statistics through a revitalized [Specialized Technical Committee on Information with a Gender Perspective](#). Chaired by INEGI and the Ministry of Women, and supported by UN Women and CEGS, this committee now integrates gender perspectives into Mexico's [National System of Statistical and Geographic Information](#). By advancing new data-collection methods and guidelines for producing disaggregated gender data in areas such as education, health and employment, this mechanism is driving the standardization and dissemination of gender statistics at the national level, contributing to their [future use in the National Development Plan and Sectoral Plan for Gender Equality](#). The guideline to [Incorporate the Gender Perspective in the National Statistical and Geographic Information System](#) outlines how to generate statistics and how state units can request assistance.
- **More than 1,500 data producers and users from 300 institutions in 29 countries and territories³ in LAC strengthened their gender statistics expertise through training, scholarships and technical support in 2024.** Participants now have specialized skills on VAW data, the care economy, environmental statistics, forecasting methodologies and gender mainstreaming, enabling them to drive gender data initiatives in their institutions and across the region. Besides the SCA Working Group trainings, these initiatives, led by UN Women and partners, reached:
 - 121 professionals who strengthened their expertise in 2024 through the [Higher Diploma on the Measurement of VAW and Femicide-Feminicide](#), which was supported by LACRO, ECLAC, the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and included Women Count-supported scholarships for participants from 20 countries and territories.⁴
 - 887 representatives of NSOs, gender machineries, international organizations, academia and CSOs across the region reinforced their ability to produce and analyse gender statistics to inform policymaking at the [XXV International Meeting on Gender Statistics](#) in **Mexico**. Co-organized by UN Women, ECLAC, INEGI and the Ministry of Women, it focused on enhancing expertise on measuring the care economy, unpaid work, VAW and using big data.
 - more than 50 professionals learned how to apply the Guidelines for Mainstreaming the Gender Perspective in Statistical Production, in a [training session](#) led by UN Women, ECLAC, and the NSOs of **Colombia, Dominican Republic and Mexico** at the UN World Data Forum in **Colombia**.
 - 260 data users and producers were trained through the regional project “Scaling Up Climate Change and Environmental Policies and Programmes by Integrating Gender Perspectives”. This includes 120 academic and governmental data producers in **Mexico** who took part in a training led by INEGI and the Ministry of Environment in [May 2024](#). Another 140 specialists from **eight countries⁵** took part in a training led by LACRO and the CEGS in [September 2024](#), which reinforced the capacity of policymakers to integrate gender in environmental and climate policies for a more inclusive approach to sustainable development. These initiatives bolstered regional inter-agency coordination on gender-sensitive climate and environmental data.
 - 36 people from nine government institutions in the **Dominican Republic**, enhanced their technical skills on gender data production and analysis, through a training led by UN Women, in partnership with ECLAC and the NSO, using resources from the Women Count Gender Statistics Toolkit.
 - 11 specialists from **Brazil's** NSO enhanced their technical skills through a workshop on measuring SDG indicator 5.c.1 to improve data-collection, monitoring and evidence-based policymaking.
 - 67 specialists strengthened their skills through technical workshops on forecasting

population by age and sex in the **Mexico City Metropolitan Area**, led by CEGS, UN Women and CLACSO.

- 30 participants from seven countries⁶, including academics, members of the Latin American Population Association and government officials with an interest in care issues, received specialized training on gender statistics audiovisual resources and demographic research at the School of Demographic Analysis on Care, co-organized by the CEGS, El Colegio de México (COLMEX), and Universidad Externado de Colombia.
- More than 20 CSOs participating in a training-of-trainers co-led by CEGS, COLMEX and the Ministry of Women now know how to leverage geospatial data from Mexico's Care Map to inform advocacy and programming.

Increasing data production

- **Barbados now has nationally representative data on unpaid domestic and care work, strengthening the evidence base for policymaking and investment.** Through a partnership between the Barbados Statistical Service and UN Women Caribbean Multi-Country Office, [data collection on SDG indicator 5.4.1](#) was piloted, marking a significant step towards closing gender data gaps in care work. The findings were compiled into a [report](#) to guide future policy actions. This prompted the Government to commit to permanently [integrate SDG 5.4.1 questions](#) in the Labour Force Survey, ensuring sustained measurement of unpaid care work.
- **The pilot implementation of The Statistical Framework for Measuring Gender-Related Killings of Women and Girls (Femicide/Feminicide) in Ecuador and the Dominican Republic has generated key insights, with efforts underway to improve processes.** Conducted by UN Women LACRO, in collaboration with the UNODC-INEGI Centre of Excellence and CEGS, both NSOs now understand the importance of having inter-institutional coordination mechanisms with a formal legal mandate, diverse institutional representation, expertise and regular meetings led by the NSO to improve effective collaboration, data-sharing and coordinate responses to femicide across sectors. In **Ecuador**, institutions involved in the pilot are now working to improve how they produce femicide data, to expand the indicators they capture. "It allowed us to see that there were variables we were already collecting, although we didn't know that they could be used to measure the gender-based murders of women ... But thanks to the technical advice we received, we've identified how to do it," says Verónica Cuzco, an Analyst with Ecuador's National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC) who leads the Special Commission on Statistics on Security, Justice, Crime and Transparency (see [impact story 2](#)).
- **In Mexico, national surveys and consolidated care data are enhancing the scope of gender-responsive policymaking at national and local levels.** Improved local-level data now provide essential tools for developing effective and equitable gender-responsive care policies. By integrating diverse data sources, decision-makers can comprehensively analyse care service supply and demand, assess costs and returns, and identify caregiver profiles. In Monterrey, Mexico, UN Women and the CEGS supported data consolidation, and a home-based care survey adapted from the National Care Survey (ENASIC), establishing a model that is spurring discussions on scaling this approach to additional municipalities. UN Women and CEGS also contributed to INEGI's public consultations on the 2025 [Intercensal Survey](#) and the 2024 National Time-Use Survey by ensuring the inclusion of strategic gender analysis and questions on care. Such robust data are empowering local authorities and CSOs to design targeted policies and programmes [that address the care economy and advance gender equality in care responsibilities](#).

Improving data use

- **UN Women research informed analysis of Uruguay's employment programmes, with recommendations being taken up by the National Employment Directorate of the**

Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MTSS). LACRO analysis, entitled Scenarios for Women's Economic Empowerment – Uruguay, was instrumental in shaping recommendations to reshape a number of key programmes with a gender perspective, to better support women's employment. The 2024 research provided a critical view of the situation of women based on three scenarios: sticky floors, glass ceilings and broken stairs. Among its key findings, also captured in an [infographic](#), are that most women in Uruguay are in the “sticky floor” scenario, with 30% dedicated exclusively to household care and domestic work, 25% unemployed, 60% informally employed and 30% ‘underemployed’. The analysis substantially informed a consultancy commissioned by the MTSS, which is now taking these scenarios and recommendations into account in its reorientation of existing projects and programmes. Some adjustments have already been announced, for instance, a gender perspective and empowerment scenarios will be explicitly included in the Ministry's Productive Investment Programme (see [impact story](#) 5).

- **LAC now has a dedicated podcast that promotes gender statistics to diverse audiences in an accessible and engaging way.** *Descifrando* was launched to amplify the voices of women in the field of statistics and foster leadership on gender data. The podcast has expanded the conversation on gender statistics, reaching over 16,000 users through social media posts and generating approximately 60,000 impressions⁷ with its first two episodes. These episodes and four previews were released and promoted across UN Women's social media platforms. “For Latin America and the Caribbean, having gender statistics will help not only in the creation of public policies, programmes, and projects, but also in empowering citizens,” said Miosotis Rivas Peña, Director General of the Dominican Republic's NSO, who co-hosted the [first episode](#) alongside LACRO Statistics Specialist Andrea Llerena. The [second episode](#) focused on why gender statistics are important, with guests from UN Women and Colombia's NSO. “The more we capture, the more realities and problems are reflected (...). For example, we know that a large part of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, is not reported, which means we still have many hidden statistics,” said Cecilia Alemany, LACRO Deputy Regional Director.
- **Gender statistics reached over 107,000 individuals across web platforms, social networks and key events, fostering awareness and driving engagement.** Mexico's Care Map ([MACU](#)) played a crucial role in bridging knowledge gaps, responding to over 12,000 queries, with social media amplifying insights. Some 74,000 users interacted with [posts](#) highlighting findings from [The Regional Gender Snapshot](#). More than 4,000 users accessed knowledge products developed by Women Count on the [LACRO webpage](#). Nearly 1,500 people participated in courses, training, workshops and international events on gender statistics. Adding the 16,000 *Descifrando* podcast listeners, the total number of users reached 107,000. In addition, the [#EstadisticaDeGenero](#) campaign gained visibility at the International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Aguascalientes, Mexico, reaching 121,180 impressions, reinforcing the role of gender data in shaping policies and public debate.
- **Ten regional gender statistics publications offered data-driven insights into gender gaps and inequalities, with analysis of critical issues providing key inputs for evidence-based recommendations.** These knowledge products, some aforementioned, cover areas such as gender-sensitive statistical production, VAW, WEE, barriers to women's professional advancement, financial inclusion and gender-related SDGs. These resources are equipping governments, CSOs and researchers with the evidence needed to drive change. They include:
 - [The Regional Gender Snapshot](#) provides an overview of gender-related progress in the region, presenting key SDG gender-specific indicators that reflect progress and challenges on gender equality. In 2024, this inter-agency product was used as a reference in other UN Women and UN agency publications, such as the [Bulletin on Femicidal Violence in Figures Latin America and the Caribbean](#) (by ECLAC),

[Regional Gender Equality Profile](#) (by 15 UN agencies), and UN Women publications on the [Local care agenda](#), [Feminist foreign policy solutions](#), [Care and the business sector](#) and [Democratizing political party financing](#). Prior to the [68th Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW68\)](#), the *Regional Gender Snapshot* was presented to ministers and high-level authorities from gender machineries across the region at a [briefing, reaffirming regional commitments](#) and ensuring that regional perspectives and challenges were discussed.

- Two publications analysing gender data in **Argentina** highlight the intersection of economic empowerment and unpaid care work; while another on [Glass Ceilings and Sticky Floors: Analysis of Competitive Selection Processes for Magistrate Positions in Argentina](#) examines the barriers women face in judicial careers.
- The monitoring of gender equality commitments and the formulation of evidence-based policies in **Mexico** have been strengthened through [La Agenda 2030 para el Desarrollo Sostenible: indicadores de género de México a 2024](#). This knowledge product provided insights for the Country Common Analysis (CCA), in preparation for the 2025–2030 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework between the United Nations and the Mexican Government, which includes gender as a cross-cutting axis and a direct outcome. The UN Resident Coordinator's Office used gender-disaggregated data to formulate the contextual analysis, SDG tracking, outcomes and action lines. Data on gender gaps in labour force participation, unpaid care work, human mobility, climate change and VAW were also integrated into the CCA's situational analysis. Key stakeholders – including the [Civil Society Advisory Group](#), embassies and women's mechanisms – have also leveraged this resource in cooperation roundtables to strengthen the gender perspective in the CCA.
- **Through technical assistance and gender statistics support, UN Women and CEGS have contributed to shaping policies that enhance access to formal caregiving services and promote the recognition of care work, with a [proposed law to implement the National Care System](#) currently under discussion in Mexico's Senate.** Evidence generated through national surveys, such as the Time-Use Survey (ENUT), provided key inputs on the unequal distribution of unpaid care work, helping to inform the public debate and support the proposed National Care System law currently under discussion in the Senate. The President has expressed interest in strengthening implementation through the National System for Integral Family Development, the Ministry of Women and the Ministry of Welfare. The Academic Forum on Care, co-convened by LACRO with the Ministry of Women in 2024, fostered synergies based on gender-sensitive indicators and statistics. At the local level, working with local governments in Monterrey to implement the local survey on caregiving needs and consultations with caregivers informed the development of Monterrey's Integrated Care System. The survey findings provided critical insights into gaps in care services and guided policy decisions, such as the expansion of public daycares, and the formal recognition of unpaid care work through the formulation of the Municipal Care System.
- **Mexico's [MACU](#) – a powerful interactive platform with data, maps and indicators on the supply and demand of care services – is increasing the availability of statistics and supporting evidence-based policymaking.** With technical and financial support from UN Women and CEGS, the MACU was developed as a tool to enhance care-related data accessibility. In collaboration with the Ministry of Women, it now incorporates new variables related to accessibility (sidewalks, ramps and traffic lights) and distance to facilities (walking distance and availability of transportation services). The Care Map has established itself as a best practice. Since its launch, it had received 21,182 visits by late 2024. The Ministry of Women has used MACU data to [strengthen its activities under its Institutional Programme and the National Programme for Equality between Women and Men](#) (PROIGUALDAD). Specifically, MACU contributed to the development of a public policy tool, via the Care

Observatory, and a Guide for the Installation of the National Care System, both of which are key elements in the country's strategy to advance gender equality in care policies.

Plans for 2025

1. **Create an enabling environment:** Support a new website compiling tools for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production; continue supporting SCA advisory and working groups; implement the High-Level Female Leadership in NSOs programme, in coordination with the community of female leaders from LAC NSOs, the Knowledge Transfer Network of the SCA and ECLAC; support a new edition of the Higher Diploma on measuring VAW and femicide and related scholarships; co-organize a side event on "Deciphering the Path to Women's Leadership in NSOs" at the UN Statistical Commission; co-organize the XXVI International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Mexico; continue working with CEGS to strengthen strategic partnerships, particularly with INEGI, the Ministry of Women and the Secretariat of Environmental and Natural Resources to ensure Mexico's leadership in gender statistics and climate change data; and expand UN Women LACRO's work to other countries.
2. **Increase data production:** Support VAW administrative data protocol work in Grenada; facilitate the adoption of innovative strategies in Mexico, including the use of GIS, citizen data, big data, artificial intelligence, satellite imagery, social media analysis, machine learning and econometric approaches to analyse gender inequalities across multiple domains, such as climate change, WPP, WEE and VAW, to generate insights and strengthen evidence-based policymaking; co-produce the *Gender Data Outlook* for LAC to assess progress and identify ways to enhance the production and use of gender data; complete the pilot of the statistical framework for measuring femicide, systematizing recommendations and analysis with CEGS and UNODC; contribute to the collection of indicator SDG 5.c.1 (Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality) data in the region, in coordination with WEE specialists.
3. **Improve data accessibility and use:** Expand access to and use of gender statistics through three gender data dashboards consolidating indicators from multiple sources and incorporating intelligent analysis to facilitate interpretation; complete the first season of the *Descifrando* podcast, with 11 episodes in total; contribute to knowledge products at the regional and country level; update, publish and disseminate the *2025 Regional Gender Snapshot* (second edition); support country-level Gender Snapshots for Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Uruguay; and publish six UN Women-CEGS reports. Use 'natural language processing' and sentiment analysis to develop a tool to track the emotional impact of LACRO speeches, to enhance effectiveness and audience engagement, and create a replicable methodology for evaluating future speeches, ensuring consistent and impactful messaging.⁸

¹ Formerly the National Institute for Women, INMUJERES.

² Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

³ Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Virgin Islands, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Netherlands, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela. The sum does not include the workshop at the UN World Data Forum, The School of Demographic Analysis on Care, and the "training for trainers"; it also excludes participants from countries from other regions.

⁴ Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

⁵ Colombia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico and Venezuela.

⁶ Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, and Peru.

⁷ Total number of views of posts.

⁸ These will focus on: 1) WEE and Care Systems: A Geospatial Knowledge Framework; 2) Quantifying care: Design and harmonization issues in time-use surveys; 3) Theoretical and Methodological Frameworks for Geospatial Analysis and Gender Statistics: Towards the Design of Gender Policies and Programmes; 4) Measuring time use: an assessment of the problems and challenges in the development of time-use surveys, with special emphasis on developing countries; 5) Femicide/Feminicide violence: A geospatial knowledge framework; and 6) Gaps and innovations in the production of geospatial gender indicators