



Progress towards a statistical framework for measuring technology-facilitated violence against women

Side event to the 57th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

Concept Note

- **Date:** Wednesday, 4 March 2026
- **Time:** 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM (New York)
- **Hybrid event**
 - **In-person venue:** UN Women New York Global Offices, 220 East 42nd Street. [Register here for access to the building.](#)
 - **Virtual room:** Zoom, [registration link](#)

1. Context and Justification

The rapid proliferation of digital technologies has profoundly transformed societal interactions, creating new avenues for access to basic services including economic empowerment as well as the means for collective action and advocacy for women. However, the digital realm has also become the site for Technology-Facilitated Violence Against Women (TF VAW), which exacerbates existing forms of gender-based violence (GBV) and introduces new ones, such as non-consensual image-based abuse, doxing, and deepfake videos. TF VAW is a serious threat that severely impacts the psychological and physical health, livelihood, physical safety, and reputation of women and girls.

Despite growing global recognition and normative advances, TF VAW remains underreported due to a lack of identification and understanding of the issue as well as systematic data collection. The development of a robust statistical framework is critical as inconsistent legal definitions and fragmented national data collection efforts across different countries hinder the collection of comparable, gender-disaggregated data. Acknowledging these gaps, the Statistical Commission requested at its 55th session UN Women, WHO and UNFPA and other partners to conduct technical consultations, testing and piloting to propose a statistical framework for standardized internationally comparable measures on TF VAW.

This side event, held during the 57th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, will focus on the urgent need and recent progress for a harmonized statistical approach to capture the prevalence and impact of this evolving form of violence, which disproportionately affects women and girls, especially those with intersecting marginalized identities.

2. Objectives

The side event will aim to:

- **Share Progress:** Present and discuss the latest progress and consultative process towards developing a global statistical framework for measuring TF VAW.



- **Identify Challenges:** Highlight the technical and methodological challenges in collecting reliable, disaggregated, and comparable data on technology-facilitated violence, including issues with inconsistent legal frameworks.
- **Promote Collaboration:** Facilitate a dialogue among statistical offices and other data producers, UN entities, civil society, and technology experts on coordinated international and national efforts to implement the framework.
- **Showcase Best Practices:** Share examples of successful data collection mechanisms and good practices from evidence-based laws and policies that address technology-facilitated GBV at the national level.

3. Key Discussion Points

The discussion will be structured around, but not limited to, the following questions:

- What are the main definitional and conceptual gaps—such as the continuum between online and offline violence—that need to be addressed to ensure comparability of data across countries?
- What are the data sources to produce a comprehensive understanding of TF VAW drivers and impacts and the existing lessons learned from different methods?
- What are the critical components and proposed indicators of the statistical framework for TF VAW?
- How can national statistical systems integrate the measurement of TF VAW into existing surveys on violence against women while maintaining victim/survivor safety and data protection standards?
- What are the considerations regarding the safe and ethical use of technology for the purposes of data collection and use?¹
- How can data collection processes, which take time to establish, keep pace with the rapidly evolving types of TFGBV experienced by women?
- How will time series data on other forms of VAW prevalence be impacted and how can stable measures for TFVAW be established to allow for monitoring change over time?
- What are the necessary capacity-building needs for countries, particularly Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs), that need to be taken into consideration in the development of the statistical framework?

4. Format and Expected Participants

The side event will be a moderated panel discussion followed by a Q&A session.

- **Opening remarks:** Senior Official from the UN System and a, Government
- **Presentation:** Updates on progress for the development of the statistical framework on TF VAW
- **Panelists:**
 - Representatives from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) leading data collection efforts.

¹ WHO. 2001. Putting women first: Ethical and safety recommendations for research on domestic violence against women; UN Women and WHO. 2023. Technology-facilitated violence against women: Taking stock of evidence and data collection; UNFPA. 2023. Guidance on Safe and Ethical Use of Technology to Address GBV



- Academics, civil society and human rights experts working on TF VAW and digital rights.
- Experts on VAW data and TFGBV from the UN system.
- **Closing remarks**

Target Audience: Member States attending the Statistical Commission, statistical experts, policymakers, UN agency representatives, civil society organizations, and academic researchers.

5. Expected Outcomes

- Increased awareness and commitment among Member States to prioritize the systematic collection of data on TF VAW and support development and adoption of the statistical framework.
- Concrete recommendations on the adoption and pilot-testing of the statistical framework for measuring TF VAW.
- Strengthened partnerships for peer-to-peer cooperation for the collection and use of data on technology-facilitated violence for evidence-based policy making.