

Time for Growth: Making Time Use Data Work for Economic Decision-Making

Wednesday 4 March 2026 | 7:30-8:00 AM Breakfast; 8:00-9:30AM Event
UN Women; 19th Floor

Registration [here](#).

Overview

Co-hosted by Open Data Watch, UN Women, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the Kenya State Department of Economic Planning, and the Gates Foundation, this session will convene policymakers and data experts to show the value of integrating time use data into core growth and sectoral diagnostics and to strengthen the synergies between policy needs, TU data and policy outcomes.

The session builds on the forthcoming “Nairobi Action Plan (NAP) on the Value of Time Use Data in Informing Policy,” a collaborative initiative that seeks to position micro-level evidence on how people allocate time to inform macroeconomic and sectoral policies as well as to upend conventional practices of data production originating separately from data usage and policy needs.

Grounded in the strong commitment of founding national and international partners, the first phase of the NAP draws on country experiences in Africa to illustrate practical pathways for institutionalizing time-use data within regular statistical production and decision-making. A central focus of the session is dialogue between policymakers and national statistical offices (NSOs) on sustaining both the production and the effective use of time-use statistics.

The session will include three components: (1) presentation of the draft NAP framework to set the scene and invitation for feedback; (2) country illustrations of how TU data contribute to measuring aggregate economic activity and informing the broader “[Beyond GDP](#)” discussion; and (3) an open exchange on implementation pathways between policy makers and data experts and institutional commitments.

Speakers

- Introduction:
 - Papa Seck, Chief, Research and Data Section, UN Women
 - Wainaina Muigai, Director of Microeconomic Policy and Research, State Department of Economic Planning, Government of Kenya
- Short Presentations:
 - Megan O’Donnell, Gates Foundations

- Focus: The importance of time-use data for policy
 - Shaida Badiee, Managing Director, Open Data Watch
 - Focus: Global trends on time-use data and the Nairobi Action Plan
 - Benjamin Muchiri, Manager, National Accounts, KNS
 - Focus: Kenya's household satellite account
 - Nompumelelo Radebe, International Monetary Fund (TBC)
 - Moderator
- Panelists:
 - Alice Nantaba, Head of Gender and Equity Unit, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Government of Uganda (by video; TBC)
 - Samuel Annim, Director, African Centre for Statistics, UN Economic Commission for Africa
 - Lisa Kolovich, Senior Economist, Gender and Inclusion Unit, International Monetary Fund (TBC)
 - Jessamyn Encarnacion, Inter-Regional Advisor on Gender Statistics, UN Women
- Panel Moderator:
 - Mayra Buvinic, Senior Fellow, Data2X and Center for Global Development
- Interventions from the Floor
 - MacDonald George Obudho, Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (TBC)
 - Rafael Diez de Medina, Director, Department of Statistics and Chief Statistician, ILO (TBC)
 - Nompumelelo Radebe, International Monetary Fund (TBC)
 - Representative from African Development Bank
 - Representative from civil society organization in Kenya or South Africa
- Closing Remarks
 - Shaida Badiee, Managing Director, Open Data Watch

Format

This 90-minute interactive panel discussion will feature structured audience interventions and will be preceded by a 30-minute breakfast and registration period. The event will be held in a hybrid format and recorded. Registration is required.

Agenda

Time	Action	Speaker(s)
7:30-8:00AM	Breakfast and registration	N/A
8:00-8:05AM (5 mins)	Welcoming remarks	Papa Seck, UN Women
8:05-8:30AM (25 mins)	Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Latest on time-use data for policy - The Nairobi Action Plan - Country Experience: Kenya's National Household Satellite Account 	Moderator: Nompumelelo. Radebe, IMF Megan O'Donnell, Gates Foundation Shaida Badiie, Open Data Watch Benjamin Muchiri, KNBS
8:30-9:05AM (35 mins)	Panel discussion: Linking Data and Policy Communities	Moderator: Mayra Buvinic, Center for Global Development Alice Nantaba, Government of Uganda Samuel Annim, UN Economic Commission for Africa Lisa Kolovich, IMF Jessamyn Encarnacion, UN Women
9:05-9:25AM (15 mins)	Interventions from the floor	Moderator: Shaida Badiie, Open Data Watch
9:25-9:30AM (5 mins)	Closing Remarks	Shaida Badiie, Open Data Watch