Turning Promises into Action:
Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda
THE REPORT CALLS FOR GENDER RESPONSIVE ACTIONS

- Integrated, rights-based approaches to implementation
- Improving gender data, statistics and analysis to monitor all SDGs
- Prioritizing investments, policies and programmes
- Strengthening accountability through processes and institutions to ensure integrated implementation, follow-up and review
ACCOUNTABILITY

Chapter 1:  Turning promises into progress: Prospects and challenges

DATA

Chapter 2:  Making women and girls visible: Data for gender equality
Chapter 3:  Monitoring gender equality in the 2030 Agenda
Chapter 4:  Beyond the averages: Who is being left behind?

POLICIES

Delivering transformative change: The role of gender responsive policies

Chapter 5:  Eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls
Chapter 6:  Recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care and domestic work

In focus: Creating fiscal space for gender equality investments

Moving forward: Strategies for action
Making women and girls visible: Data for gender equality

Gaps in gender data and the lack of trend data make it difficult to assess and monitor the direction and pace of progress for women and girls.

To achieve gender equality across the 2030 Agenda we need to make every woman and girl count. This will require a revolution in gender statistics and democratic accountability.
Availability of gender indicators for global SDGs monitoring
Gender-based discrimination—deeply rooted and present across all countries—threatens to undermine the transformative potential of the 2030 Agenda in real and measurable ways.

In this chapter we undertake a goal-by-goal review and show with new data and new analysis that gender inequalities remain pervasive in each and every dimension of sustainable development.
FIGURE 3.2

PROPORTION OF PEOPLE LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY, BY SEX AND AGE, 2009-2013

Note: Data refer to the most recent available during the period specified for 89 developing countries.
1. NO POVERTY
   Globally, women and girls are over-represented among the poor: 330 million women and girls live on less than US$1.90 a day, that’s 4.4 million more than men.

2. ZERO HUNGER
   In nearly two thirds of countries, women are more likely than men to report food insecurity.

3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
   Globally, 303,000 women died from pregnancy-related causes in 2015. The rate of death is declining much too slowly to achieve Target 3.1.

4. QUALITY EDUCATION
   15 million girls of primary-school age will never get the chance to learn to read or write in primary school compared to 10 million boys.
The 2030 Agenda promises to put an end to barriers that prevent women and girls from realizing their full potential. But significant challenges lie ahead:

5.1 In 18 countries, husbands can legally prevent their wives from working; in 39 countries, daughters and sons do not have equal inheritance rights; and 49 countries lack laws protecting women from domestic violence.

5.2 1 in 5 women and girls under the age of 50 reported experiencing physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner within a 12-month period.

5.3 Globally, 750 million women and girls were married before the age of 18 and at least 200 million women and girls in 30 countries have undergone Female Genital Mutilation.

5.4 Women do 2.6 times the unpaid care and domestic work that men do.

5.5 As of September 2017, women hold just 23.7% of parliamentary seats, an increase of 10 percentage points compared to 2000 – but still way below parity.

5.6 Based on data from 45 countries, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa, only 52% of women aged 15–49 who are married or in a union make their own informed decisions about sexual relations and the use of contraceptives and health services.

5.a Globally, women are just 13% of agricultural land holders.

5.b The benefits of internet and technology are accessible to men at a much higher rate than women, leaving women behind in Internet access and mobile phone ownership. Women are less likely than men to own a mobile phone, and their internet usage is 5.9 percentage points lower than that of men.

5.c More than 100 countries have taken action to track budget allocations for gender equality.
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<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</strong></td>
<td>Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 80% of households without access to water on premises.</td>
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<td><strong>AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</strong></td>
<td>Indoor air pollution from using combustible fuels for household energy caused 4.3 million deaths in 2012, with women and girls accounting for 6 out of every 10 of these.</td>
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<td><strong>DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</strong></td>
<td>Globally, the labour force participation rate among prime working-age women (aged 25–54) stands at 63% compared to 94% among their male counterparts. The global gender pay gap is 23%.</td>
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<td><strong>INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</strong></td>
<td>Women represent 28.8% of researchers worldwide. Only about 1 in 5 countries have achieved gender parity in this area.</td>
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<td><strong>REDUCED INEQUALITIES</strong></td>
<td>Up to 30% of income inequality is due to inequality within households, including between women and men. Women are also more likely than men to live below 50% of the median income.</td>
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The global population is becoming more urban, with opportunities and risks for women and girls: More than 50% of urban women in developing countries live in conditions where they lack at least one of the following: access to clean water, improved sanitation facilities, durable housing or sufficient living area.

Investment in public transportation yields large benefits for women, who tend to rely on public transport more than men do.

Climate change has a disproportionate impact on women and children, who are 14 times as likely as men to die during a disaster.

The contamination of freshwater and marine ecosystems negatively impacts women’s and men’s livelihoods, their health and the health of their children.

Between 2010 and 2015, the world lost 3.3 million hectares of forest areas. Poor rural women depend on common pool resources and are especially affected by their depletion.

In times of conflict, rates of homicide and other forms of violent crime increase significantly. While men are more likely to be killed on the battlefield, women are disproportionately subjected to sexual violence and abducted, tortured and forced to leave their homes.

In 2012, finances flowing out of developing countries were 2.5 times the amount of aid flowing in, and gender allocations paled in comparison.
Who is being left behind?

Looking beyond the averages

Even within the same countries, different groups of women and girls often inhabit parallel realities.

Women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination fare worse than all other groups in key SDG-related dimensions.
Gender-based discrimination will often intersect with other forms of discrimination to create acute forms of disadvantage.
INEQUALITIES IN SDG-RELATED OUTCOMES BETWEEN DIFFERENT GROUPS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, NIGERIA, 2013
FIGURE 4.16

PROPORTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AGED 15–49 IN NIGERIA WITH ONLY SIX YEARS OF EDUCATION COMPLETED OR LESS, BY LOCATION, WEALTH AND ETHNICITY, 2013


Note: In the left-hand graph, all groups are shown and ranked from most to least deprived, only groups with insufficient sample size are not shown (n<100). The bar charts to the right present results for a selection of these. For full group disaggregation, see Annex Table 3.
Turning promises into action

Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development