Measuring what we value
gender statistics for an informed care economy

Conclusions of the
9th Global Forum on Gender Statistics
Johannesburg-South Africa

Thursday, 31 August 2023
Key themes explored during the Forum

1. Gender equality and the care economy
2. Measuring time use and unpaid work
3. Gender mainstreaming efforts of the National Statistics System
4. Innovations to close gender data gaps
5. Violence against women and girls
6. Legal identity and gender equality
7. Gender statistics and data management in Africa
8. Use of gender data - From data to evidence-based policy
Let’s celebrate progress!

• Gender statistics are **more firmly established** in the NSS than a decade ago.
  • 85% of countries have a focal point or desk
  • Half of countries have a coordinating body
  • More countries with **laws** governing gender statistics (92% of countries)

• The production of gender statistics has become **more regular** than a decade ago for traditional themes
  • VAW, Morbidity, Satellite account on unpaid household work

• **“New” themes** that are also being explored from a gender perspective
  • Business and trade, climate change

• A wider **variety of data sources** are being used for the production of gender statistics
  • Admin data (**tax records, civil registration records**), non-traditional sources (**social media, mobile phone data,...**)

• **Statistical standards and guidance** available
  • Classifications (**ICATUS 2016**), recommendations, guidelines, tools (**time-use modules**)
  • VAW (**older women**); asset ownership from a gender perspective (**EDGE**), feminicides;..
...though we are still facing:

- **Increased demands** from policymakers, researchers and citizens for relevant data
  - Call for more frequent, more timely and more disaggregated data (intersectional approach)

- **Tight resources/fiscal environments**

- **Persisting gender data gaps** in traditional and emerging topics (*SDGs*)
Therefore, we need to make the best of what we have:

### Mainstream gender into existing statistical processes
- Close gender data gaps in traditional areas *(economic empowerment, power and decision-making, education, poverty, health, VAW)*
- Unveil gender gaps in emerging areas *(climate change, business and trade)*

### Secure resources
- Ensure gender-sensitive statistical budgeting *(gender component in all NSO budget rubrics)*
- Enforce legislation to protect the gains and ensure progress *(law mandating to collect time-use surveys, penalties specified for failing to comply with law, calendared statistical activities)*

### Improve traditional data sources
- Implement statistical standards for higher quality overall
- Census
- Overcome household surveys decreasing response rates
- Increase quality of admin data
Therefore, we need to make the best of what we have:

**Integrate data sources**
- (admin records, sample surveys, censuses geospatial information,..)
- Micro linkages
- Interoperability and access to data among NSS
- Georeferenced data

**Innovate and modernize**
- Open data, modern data collections and light solutions
- Digitization of systems both in NSO and line ministries (*e.g. Civil registration*), IT data infrastructure, technical capacities (*HR expanded skill set*),
- Identify scalable and replicable solutions

**Research and experiment**
- Non-traditional data sources (*e.g. Citizens Generated Data*)
- Look into new areas (*Perceptions and experience of men, LGBTQ+, TF-VAW*)
- Projections and simulations
Therefore, we need to make the best of what we have:

**Collaborate and break silos**
- Identify stakeholders within and outside government
- Raise awareness on gender issues and statistics within NSO and NSS (trade authorities, civil registration authorities, ...)
  - Joint outputs and shared costs

**Communicate and elevate the role and value of gender statistics**
- Invest time and resources on the last stages of the data value chain
  - Share data and show value of data
  - Products for targeted audience
  - Light and visual/dynamic products
Care and time-use data offer a way forward to more inclusive measures of progress

- Care as an overarching policy concern
- Statistical framework for care
- Strong data infrastructure and governance

Gender
Labour market
Human rights
Education
Health
Migration
Environment
Disasters
Economics

Understand building blocks
Statistical standards and definitions
Multidisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration

Complementary data sources
Improve and modernize time-use and other data sources
Interoperability of data

Care and time-use measurements to complement GDP

Time-use indicators
National Time Transfer Accounts
Satellite/extended accounts
Projections and simulations
...
National and regional contextualization

Opportunities

• **Increased value on gender statistics** from policymakers, researchers and citizens
• **NSOs have introduced** gender thematic reports and publications
• **Design inclusive systems** to purposively and widely share data
• **Normalise producing administrative reports** based on gender statistics
• **Sensitise the relevant stakeholders** on the value of the CRVS
• **Legislation that promotes** – (gender+/ sex disaggregated)
• **Promote administrative data** to different stakeholders
National and regional contextualization

Challenges

• Systems for registration of marriages are **not integrated** resulting in **under-reporting**
• **Completeness** of the CRVS still a challenge
• Under-reporting due to **Geographical locations**
• Countries reported **gender disparities** in civil registration reporting
• **Fiscal constraints** (mainly no funds for Time Use Surveys)
• Persisting gender data gaps in **traditional and emerging topics**
National and regional contextualization

Recommendations

• Need to strengthen Gender mainstreaming in all our surveys administrative data.

• Different source of data should be considered for producing gender statistics

• Increased partnership and use can assist in augmenting gender statistics

• Dissemination of the information available on genders to inform policy and increase awareness.

• Data gaps in Time Use Survey can be addressed by considering including time use modules in other surveys.

• There is a need for further research on sexual orientation and gender identity
Our Forum

- Brought together a more diverse audience
- We have bridged communities
  => And we are starting to break silos

We hope to see you again in **2025** and celebrate together the **10th UN Global Forum on Gender Statistics**