

# Innovations to Close Gender Data Gaps: The LGBTQ+ Opportunity

9th United Nations Global Forum  
On Gender Statistics  
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# Beyond the Binary - LGBTQ+

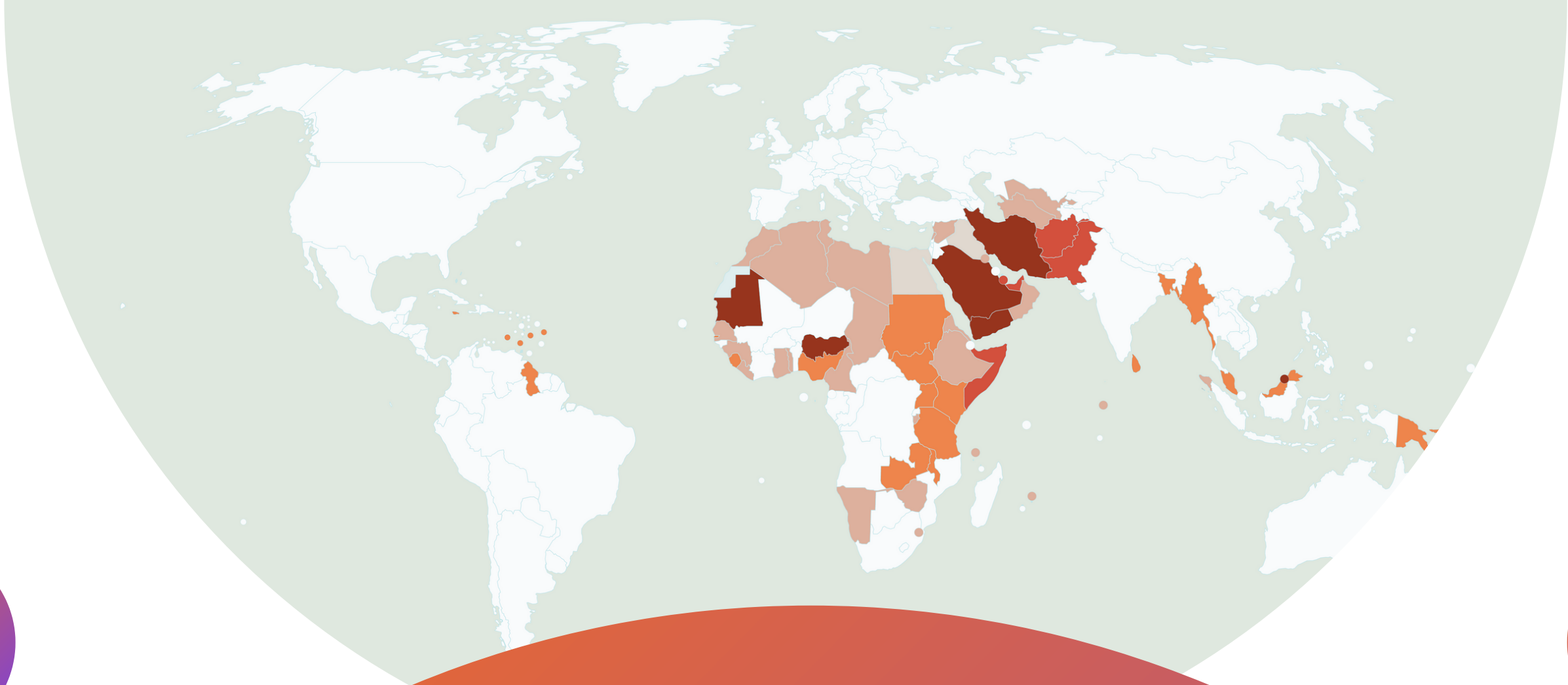
Economic development institutions are articulating gender equality that is inclusive of LGBTQ+ people

- World Bank Group, Draft Gender Strategy 2024 - 2030
- Inter-American Development Bank's ESPF Standard 9
- Asian Development Bank's GESI Strategy, South Asia
- USAID's LGBTQI+ Inclusive Development Policy

Historical gender programming has not included LGBTQ+ people, nor captured the impact of homophobia or transphobia

Going beyond the traditional binary leads to stronger outcomes in development





# Great Challenges

**Criminalization of same-sex acts, gender identity**

**Few legal protections**

**Social stigma**

**Violence**

**Labor market discrimination**

**Poverty**

**Limited financial resources**

**Exclusion from Development**

# LGBTQ+ Data Needs are Significant

Large quantitative gaps, constricting knowledge and contributing to invisibility

Data-driven policy and impact evaluations on current interventions are limited

Few nationwide data collection efforts, even fewer by NSOs

Research predominantly led by LGBTQ+ NGOs - i.e. citizen generated data





# Program Logic Model

## 1 Data

Baseline assessments, often citizen-generated, showing extent of problem

## 2 Roundtables

Culling all data, bringing together and sensitizing all stakeholders, develop policies and interventions

## 3 NSO Data

Partnering with NSOs, designing nationwide & rigorous diagnostics, producing knowledge

## 4 Scale-up 1-3

Mainstreaming and targeted programs, better policies, utilize new mechanisms



# Methods and Results



## Quantitative 1

Survey of LGBTQ+ people in Caribbean as well as diaspora. Capturing challenges in family, school, health, work, housing, violence, justice, brain drain  
**n = 2,167**

## Quantitative 2

Survey of prospective tourists to the Caribbean. Capturing link between perception of LGBTQ+ issues & likelihood to travel  
**n = 1,435**

## Qualitative

In-depth interviews with business leaders, across sectors. Capturing occupation segregation, labor market discrimination  
**n = 21**

## Macroeconomic Modeling

Using World Bank model, estimated lost costs associated with lower human capital, health, labor, violence, and tourism  
**Cost: around 2.1% GDP**

# Honing in on the data

1

**Family:** **46% LGB and 57% trans sample** faced exclusion, 18% of non-LGBTQ+ sample



**Schools:** **57% LGB and 68% trans sample** faced persistent bullying from peers & teachers



**Employment:** **19% LGB and 26% trans sample** faced discrimination, 11% of non-LGBTQ+ sample. Wage gap: **LGBTQ+ 11% less** than general population



**Violence:** **46% LGB and 59% trans sample**, physical or verbal violence, 5% of non-LGBTQ+ sample

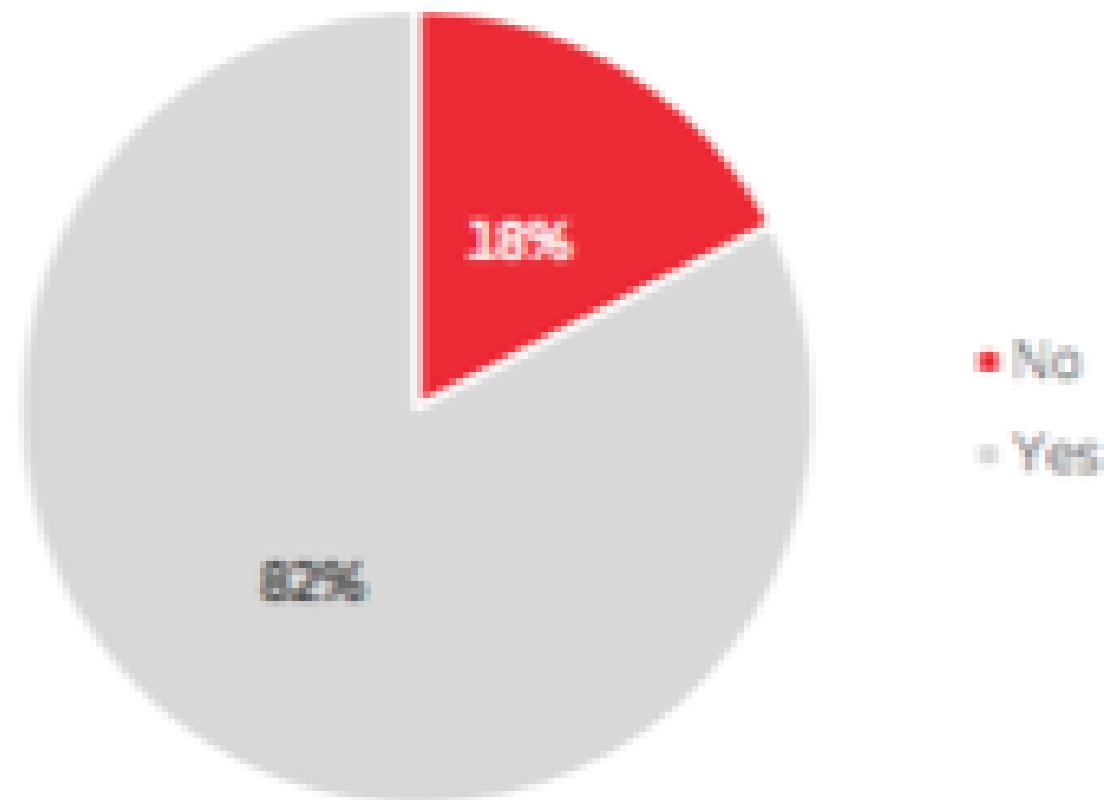




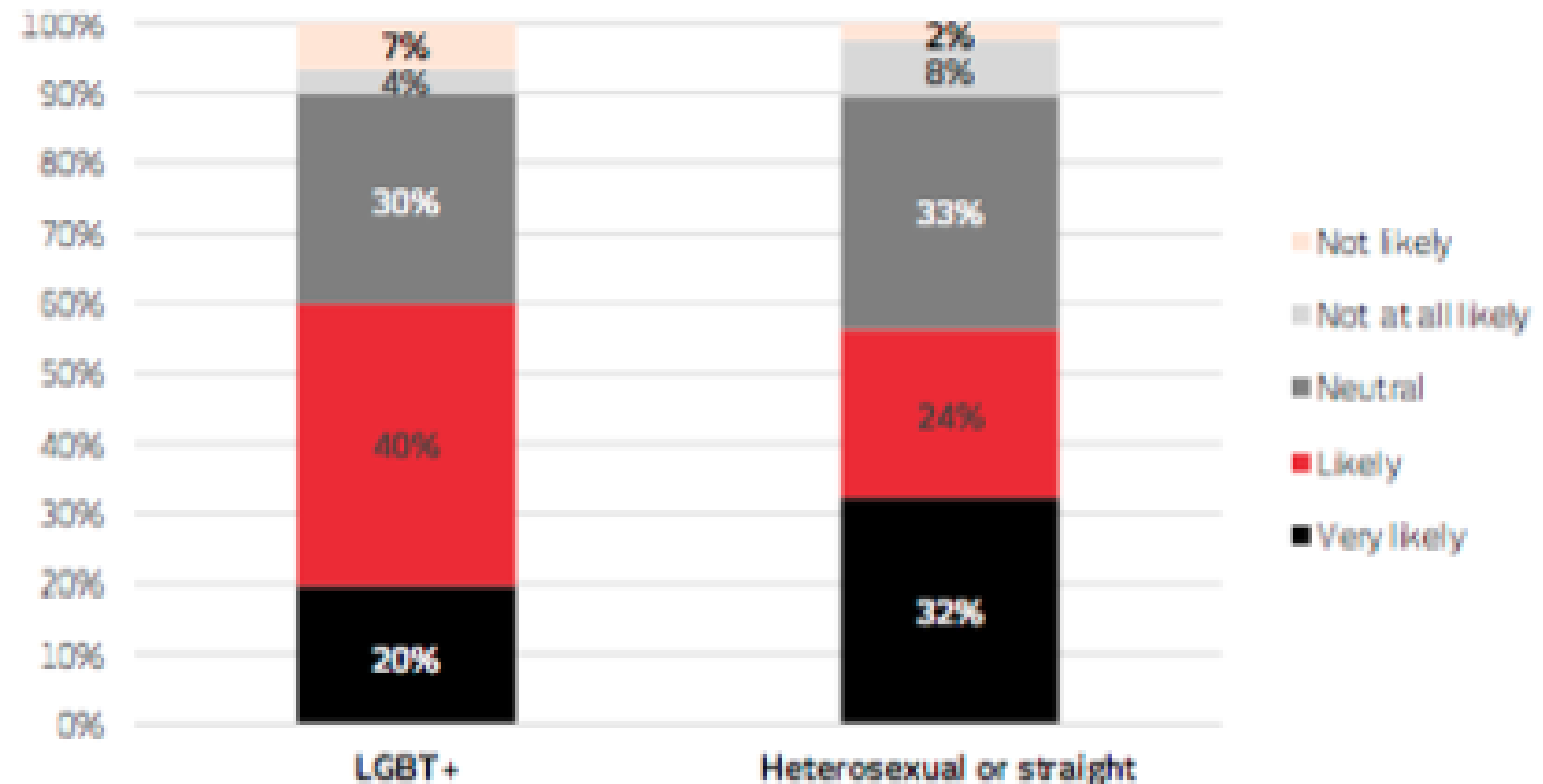
# Honing in on the data

1

**Would you consider visiting the Caribbean in the next 3 years?**



**Likelihood to travel only AFTER pro-LGBTQ+ policy is enacted**





# Data-Driven Policy Dialogue

2



## 4 organizations & UNDP

- 5 MPs across the region
- 2 Speakers of the House
- IACHR and UN IE SOGI
- Large companies and SMEs
- All levels of development

## The Caribbean Regional Dialogue on **LGBTQI+ D.A.T.A.**

*Roundtable*

DRIVING ANALYTICAL,  
TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION



# Working with NSOs – Belize and Beyond

Tripartite agreement with Statistical Institute of Belize, United Belize Advocacy Movement (UniBAM), Eolas Consulting - with support from the World Bank

Phase 1, a piloting of two different methods to effectively collect data on LGBTQ+ people (e.g. a module in an existing nationwide survey or a standalone survey) in the first year – in order to compare which is more effective in terms of reach and representativeness

Phase 2, the official data collection – culminating in a rigorous and first-ever endeavor for Belize, in the second year



# Our Target Future

4



4

## 2023 – 2024

Belizean diagnostic,  
Work with NSO in Belize,  
Nationwide data collection  
to Inform state action plan

## 2024 – 2025

Work with the World Bank,  
developing entry points for  
analytics, programs, lending,  
dialogue, and more

## 2025 – 2026

Develop regional LGBTQ+  
economic agenda, with  
development, govts, the private  
sector - data, programs, policy

## Onwards

Seek to replicate around the  
world, generating data to  
work with NSOs, govts, and  
development

# The Role of Development

## 109 Billion per year

US Dollars



1 - 4

- Support to NSOs on statistical capacity, via Bank Budget or Trust Funds
- In-country, leveraging “symbolic messaging” in HQ to support implementation
- Partnering on safe data collection and its usage
- Identifying the most pressing needs, for the most vulnerable
- Dialogue to support coordinated strategy; how to increase “client demand”
- Capacity to officially access funding, programs



**"We need data. We are trying to make [our research] as academic as possible...We need support to get that data. In order to be able to provide good services, we need information on what the needs are"**

**- AJ, in Jamaica**



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# Eolas

CONSULTING

DATA & INCLUSIVE  
DEVELOPMENT



The background features a dark blue field with a pattern of thin, light blue lines forming a grid of squares that recede into the distance, creating a 3D perspective. Scattered across this field are several circles of varying sizes, each with a vertical gradient from orange at the top to purple at the bottom. The largest circle is in the top right corner, and another large one is in the bottom left corner. The text 'Thank You' is centered in the middle of the image.

**Thank You**