

ADVANCES IN MAINSTREAMING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO ALL STATISTICAL AREAS¹

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 55TH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

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¹ Prepared by UNSD

Introduction

In 2020, at the 51st session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the global statistical community requested that a gender perspective be adopted and integrated into all the agenda items of the Commission (decision [51/115](#)). To respond to this mandate, the Statistics Division has been analysing how gender issues were considered at each session of the Commission, encompassing official reports, background documents, decisions, and side events.

The 55th session of the Statistical Commission showed important advances in mainstreaming a gender perspective. The consideration of gender issues appeared more frequently in the discussions of the Commission across the three pillars of sustainable development: social pillar, economic pillar, and environmental pillar, as well as cross-cutting areas, such as open data and data stewardship. This shows that a gender perspective has gained relevance in a wide range of statistical domains and enhances the potential of a gender-sensitive and intersectional analysis beyond the data disaggregation by sex, reflecting more comprehensively the society, economy, and environment.

List of Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DISD	United Nations Division for Inclusive Social Development
EG-TUS	Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAOSTAT	Food and Agriculture Organization Corporate Database for Substantive Statistical Data
FISW	Framework for Measuring Inclusive and Sustainable Wellbeing
FoC	Friends of the Chair
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GGPI	Global Gender Parity Index
GIST	Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training
GSNI	Gender Social Norms Index
HDI	Human Development Index
IAEG-GS	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics
ICATUS 2016	International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Study
LMICs	Low- and Middle-Income Countries
NSO	National Statistical Office
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NTA	National Transfer Accounts

PARIS21	Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
SF-MST	Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism
SGDs	Sustainable Developing Goals
SNA	System of National Accounts
SPSS	System of Population and Social Statistics
TT-BDBDE	Task team on business dynamics, business demography and entrepreneurship
UNCEBD	United Nations Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
VAW	Violence Against Women
TF VAW	Technology Facilitated Violence Against Women
WG-SS	Washington Group Short Set on Functioning
WEI	Women's Empowerment Index
WHO	World Health Organization

Efforts to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of the Statistical Commission as reported during the 55th session of the Statistical Commission

The importance of including gender statistics in the 3 pillars of sustainable development was highlighted in various agenda items.

Cross-cutting areas

Items	Description of gender mainstreaming initiatives
Agenda item 3(a) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics For discussion and decision	The Report of the Secretary-General on Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics summarises the decisions of the Commission at its fifty-fourth session regarding the Fundamental Principles, including the establishment of an independent advisory board, accountable to the Commission, to address non-implementation and non-compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The proposed terms of reference for the independent advisory board highlight that the composition of the Board shall take into account geographical and gender balance.
Agenda item 3(b) Working methods of the Statistical Commission For discussion and decision	The Note by the Secretary-General on the Working methods of the Statistical Commission provides updates on the efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in the work of the Statistical Commission including the development, under the leadership of the IAEG-GS of two guidance notes on identified priority areas: mainstreaming a gender perspective into these two priority areas: business and trade statistics and environment and climate change. In decision 55/102, the Commission noted efforts of gender mainstreaming among other initiatives under the scope of the Bureau of the Commission.
Agenda item 3(c) Data and Indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development For discussion and decision	The presents recent work of the High-level Group related to the United Nations World Data Forum, the realignment of the Cape Town Global Action Plan, and the financing for data and statistics. Among global efforts in financing for data and statistics, the Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data stands out by offering insights into the financing landscape for gender data spanning the last decade. It helps stakeholders understand how investments in gender data align with the broader funding initiatives for development data and statistics, identifying areas where financing for gender data may be lacking.
Agenda item 3(d) Data Science For discussion and decision	The Report of the 10-year review on the use of Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics outlines the process and outcomes of the review conducted by UNCEBD, along with the resulting recommendations. It emphasizes the dynamic integration and application of big data and data science by NSOs and international organizations across diverse fields. This integration is

	exemplified by ESCAP's extensive research on environmental and gender relationships in the Asia-Pacific region.
Agenda item 3(m) Regional statistical development For discussion and decision	<p>The Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on statistical development in Asia and the Pacific provides updates on activities aimed at strengthening national statistical systems in line with regional frameworks and highlights challenges faced by national statistical systems in the region. Leveraging the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP organized a series of SDG statistics clinics to enhance the capacity of resident coordinator offices and UN country teams in supporting national statistical systems, covering various topics including gender statistics.</p> <p>Acknowledging the unique challenges faced by women heads of national statistical offices, ESCAP established an informal peer support network to foster women's leadership and facilitate the development, compilation, and enhancement of information resources to strengthen women's leadership and professional network. Additionally, ESCAP collaborated with PARIS21, Data2x, and Open Data Watch to expand the gender data network, promote knowledge-sharing among members, and advance interregional engagement and peer learning relating to gender data and statistics.</p>
Agenda item 4(c) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development For decision	<p>The Report of the Secretary-General on the work on the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals outlines the efforts made to prepare the annual report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and update the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database. It highlighted various UNSD reports and publications including The Gender Snapshot 2023, prepared jointly with UN-Women, which provides the latest evidence on gender equality across all 17 Goals, revealing a concerning lack of progress towards achieving gender equality, thereby underscoring the increasing challenge of attaining this goal.</p> <p>Additionally, the Data for Now initiative has made progress in supporting members of the national statistical systems to collaborate more effectively with different stakeholders in the use of new data solutions. Notably, in May 2023, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, one of the core partners of the initiative, launched the first training program with support from data.org to transform the data science landscape within the civil service by enhancing skills and promoting gender and minority diversity.</p> <p>Facilitated by cooperation within the Data For Now Initiative, the World Bank Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS) is conducting research that investigates whether the data from the online surveys that are conducted on the Facebook platform in low-income countries can be calibrated for representative insights, through integration with national sample survey data.</p>

	<p>Research is implemented in collaboration with Meta to strengthen the Gender Inequality at Home Survey.</p> <p>The Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST), established to address the data demands of the 2030 Agenda and the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, has been working to foster training in key areas of official statistics and identified the “Using Gender Statistics: A Toolkit for Training Data Users” as one of the three most popular e-learning courses at the unsdglearn.org.</p>
<p>Agenda item 4(f)</p> <p>Open data</p> <p>For decision</p>	<p>The Report of the Secretary-General on open data provides an overview of UNSD’s work in 2023 concerning open data, covering advancements in methodologies, data dissemination efforts, and capacity-building initiatives related to official statistics. The report highlights that gender data systems still lag behind from other types of data in terms of availability, completeness, and openness. It was emphasized that additional support is needed to identify priority data sets, address methodological challenges for sex-disaggregated data, and ensure that data are published with additional levels of disaggregation to reflect their intersectional nature. In November 2023, Open Data Watch launched the Gender Data Compass, a tool aimed at providing such support.</p>
<p>Agenda item 5(j)</p> <p>Data stewardship</p> <p>For information</p>	<p>The Report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship delineates progress made by the five established workstreams. In 2024, the equity and inclusion workstream will delineate precise research questions to illuminate the thematic and sectorial dimensions of equity and inclusion throughout the data value chain, including gender, indigenous communities, and an intersectional approach. These research questions aim to support national statistical offices in crafting their stewardship strategies, ensuring relevance by meeting users’ expectations which is a cornerstone of statistical quality assurance.</p>
<p>Agenda item 5(k)</p> <p>Coordination of statistical programme</p> <p>For information</p>	<p>The Joint report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities provides an overview of the collaborative efforts between these committees aimed at coordinating the activities of international organizations involved in official statistics. Notably, the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System, the UNSD, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime spearheaded an initiative to explore the practices currently utilized by United Nations entities concerning the compilation of data on gender identity from Member States, dissemination of these data to the public and integration on this topic into technical assistance and capacity-building activities.</p>

Social pillar

Items	Description of gender mainstreaming initiatives
<p>Agenda item 3(j) Social Statistics For discussion and decision</p>	<p>The Report of the Friends of the Chair Group on Social and Demographic Statistics provides an overview of the activities of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics since its establishment by the Commission in 2023 including summary of the preliminary results under the three workstreams prioritized by the group. The full reports of each workstream are available as background documents: Workstream 1: Mapping and reviewing the collective global and regional work in the area of social and demographic statistics, Workstream 2: Promising Practices for Social and Demographic Statistics, Workstream 3: Communication Strategies for Social and Demographic Statistics. The Group analyzed work of currently active groups reporting to the Commission and regional statistical bodies in the area of social and demographic statistics, and found that there is a relatively higher focus on gender-related statistics. The Group identified five key building blocks for social and demographic statistics: people, outcomes, relationships, places, and time. The report touched upon gender and time-use (such as unpaid work, work-life balance and leisure) as key components of these building blocks, particularly associated with people and outcomes.</p> <p>In decision 55/111, the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsed the proposed work priorities and activities of the Group, in particular the research towards an overarching conceptual framework for social and demographic statistics, in line with the Group’s objective of formulating strategic; recommendations for strengthened social and demographic statistics that better reflect society and its connections with the environment and the economy; • Commended the review of national practices for improved timeliness, frequency, disaggregation and granularity in social and demographic data, that will also facilitate an intersectional approach to the analysis, as well as the work done on communication strategies to elevate the role of social and demographic statistics in the eyes of users and producers; and • Agreed on the need to integrate a wide range of data sources, including geospatial information and administrative data.
<p>Agenda item 3(k) Gender Statistics For discussion and decision</p>	<p>The Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics provides a summary of recent activities undertaken under the Global Gender Statistics Programme by the UNSD and the IAEG-GS aimed at strengthening gender data to support progress towards gender equality and SDGs monitoring. In particular, the report introduces the updated Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use, and</p>

accompanying resource hub. The report also provides information on the main [results of the 2022 global survey on gender statistics](#), and the outcomes of the [ninth Global Forum on Gender Statistics](#) and conclusions of [sixteenth](#) and [seventeenth](#) meeting of the IAEG-GS, including on mainstreaming a gender perspective into the work of the Statistical Commission in the two areas prioritized, highlighting the development of the [note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade and business statistics](#) and the progress made on mainstreaming gender into climate change statistics. Furthermore, the report introduces methodological developments related to measuring technology-facilitated violence against women, jointly undertaken by the UN-Women, the WHO and the UNFPA, as well as plans for future work.

In decision 55/112, the Commission:

- **Highlighted the importance of time -use data for informing key policy concerns, such as gender equality, quality of life, people’s well-being and progress going beyond GDP, as well as for measuring unpaid domestic and care work and for compiling related extended national accounts;**
- **Endorsed the revised United Nations Guide for Producing Time-use statistics; took note of the interest expressed by countries in using the proposed methods; and requested the UNSD and partners to support countries in the implementation of the Guide;**
- **Commended the IAEG-GS for its work on integrating a gender perspective into the work of the Commission, in collaboration with other subject-matter experts; took note of the note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade and business statistics; and took note of progress made on mainstreaming gender into climate change statistics;**
- **Welcomed the progress made on measuring technology-facilitated violence against women; and requested UN-Women, WHO, UNFPA and other partners to (i) conduct technical consultations, testing and piloting, in close collaboration with national statistical offices; and (ii) to propose a statistical framework for standardized internationally comparable measures on the topic;**
- **Approved the work priorities of the UNSD and the IAEG-GS under the umbrella of the Global Gender Statistics Programme;**
- **Reiterated the need for capacity building and resources to support countries in the area of gender statistics, including on time-use and violence against women; and requested the UNSD and partners to support countries to that end; and**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed the organization of the tenth Global Forum on Gender Statistics; and took note of the countries who expressed interest in hosting it in 2025.
Agenda item 3(l) Population and housing censuses For discussion and decision	The Report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses presents a review of the 2020 World Programme including the activities carried out by the UNSD to support the Programme and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report also contained information on the ongoing work on the revision of the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses for the 2030 round. The population and housing census is recognized as the principal or sometimes the only comprehensive national data source for statistics on gender, children, youths, older people, and people with disabilities. The report encouraged countries to test and expand the use of various methods of data collection, including those achieved during the pandemic, and explore the potential use of administrative and other alternative sources of data to enumerate different population groups.
Agenda item 5(a) Demographic Statistics For information	The Report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics provides information on the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda outlining activities carried out by members of its Task Force to support Member States in advancing progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals target 16.9, as well as other activities carried out by the UNSD in the area of demographic statistics. Lack of legal identity marginalizes women and hampers progress toward gender equality, especially in countries where gender inequalities are most prevalent. Ensuring legal identity for all, underpinned by access to birth, marriage and death registration across the life course, is a crucial layer of protection against social exclusion. Civil registration is also a crucial data source for sex-disaggregated vital statistics.
Agenda item 5(b) Disability Statistics For information	The Joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics describes ongoing and planned activities on disability statistics carried out by the DISD, UNICEF, WHO and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. WHO launched the Global Report on Health Equity for Persons with Disabilities in December 2022, which presents new evidence on the global and regional prevalence of persons with disabilities. This report provides detailed prevalence data by sex, region, income group and age. The Washington Group on Disability Statistics has developed Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS) assessing difficulties in core domains of functioning to identify those at greater risk than the general population for participation restrictions in the absence of appropriate accommodations.
Agenda item 5(c) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data	The Report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated statistics provides an overview of the group's activities since March 2022 and outlined its plans for 2024. In September 2023, the Group organized a technical meeting in Geneva, where participants recognized the importance of applying gender lens to ageing-related and age-disaggregated statistics.

For information	Additionally, the Group completed a gap analysis in 2023, highlighting the current state of work, the potential or desired state and the gap between the two. The analysis underscored the interconnectedness of gender equality and ageing within the context of statistical work.
Agenda item 5(d) Health Statistics For information	The Report of the World Health Organization on health statistics outlines WHO's recent efforts to strengthen statistical systems for tracking health-related SGDs. One significant initiative highlighted is the Global Health Estimates, which offers estimates for over 170 diseases and injuries since the year 2000, disaggregated by sex and by 20 age groups throughout the life course. These disaggregated data enable a more nuanced analysis of mortality and disability rates across different demographics, pinpointing specific causes of death and health loss in different populations. The report also highlights the importance of sex-disaggregated data in identifying and examining important differences in non-communicable diseases and exposure to risk factors, particularly in the context of SDG target 3.4 which aims for a one-third reduction in premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2030.

Economic pillar

Items	Description of gender mainstreaming initiatives
Agenda item 3(f) National accounts For discussion and decision	<p>The Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts on the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA outlines the recommendations to establish the revised international statistical standard for compiling national accounts, known as the 2025 SNA. The 2025 SNA will include recommendations for compiling extended accounts on unpaid household activities to address broader aspects of well-being and sustainability.</p> <p>The Background document to the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts elaborates further on the issues raised in the main report. It mentions activities undertaken in 2023 related to economic statistics and national accounts carried out by the Regional Commissions, including the working group of the Statistical Conference of the Americas on input-output tables with a gender perspective.</p>
Agenda item 3(g) Economic statistics For discussion and decision	The Completing the Statistical Architecture: Developing the System of Population and Social Statistics and the Framework for Inclusive and Sustainable Wellbeing - A Roadmap February 2024 outlines a proposed research agenda, indicative resource requirements, and a structure for launching a multi-disciplinary expert group comprising interested countries and agencies. This group aims to advance the completion of the Framework for Measuring Inclusive and Sustainable Wellbeing (FISW) and the System of Population and Social Statistics (SPSS). Inclusion is one of

	<p>the key aspects of FISW and can be considered through multiple lenses, such as gender, age, social status or many other characteristics which may result in unequal distributions of well-being. The document pointed out that the National Transfer Accounts (NTA), which integrate demography (age and gender) into National Accounts, could deliver complementary ways to analyze different questions relating to inequality and the distribution of consumption, income, saving and wealth, and help understand how demographic change affects the economy and public redistribution, how individuals at different ages are affected by economic change, and how the roles of men and women differ for public and private reallocations.</p> <p>In decision 55/108, the Commission endorsed the creation of a multidisciplinary expert group to take forward the recommendations presented in the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians (Network) and to develop the FISW; recognized the potential synergies between the Network and the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics and encouraged collaboration between the two initiatives.</p>
<p>Agenda item 3(i) Agricultural and rural statistics For discussion and decision</p>	<p>The Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on agricultural and rural statistics provides an update on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics, as well as actions and efforts undertaken by the FAO . Under the “50 x 2030” initiative, which is a multi-agency partnership that seeks to transform national agricultural data systems in 50 countries by 2030, FAO has been contributing to improving survey tools and instruments. Notably, one of its key focuses has been integrating a module for women’s empowerment metrics for national statistical systems. FAO provided comprehensive training and technical assistance, to enable country experts to adeptly collect, compile, and report on SDG indicators including indicators 5.a.1 (women’s access to land) and 5.a.2 (protection of women’s land rights).</p> <p>Furthermore, in 2022, FAO launched a new domain in the Corporate Database for Substantive Statistical Data (FAOSTAT), through which it disseminates structural agricultural data gathered from the past three completed census rounds (1990, 2000 and 2010). The new domain contains data on the sex of the holder, land tenure, the legal status of holders and farm labour.</p>
<p>Agenda item 4(a) Tourism statistics For decision</p>	<p>The Report of the World Tourism Organization on tourism statistics details activities carried out in response to the Commission’s decisions and next steps. UNWTO has carried out a series of capacity development initiatives on measuring the sustainability of tourism, including an introductory workshop on women’s employment data in tourism in 2022.</p> <p>The Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST): Final Draft framework offers a multipurpose and integrated approach to describing the main concepts, definitions, and data organization structures to guide the production of data on the economic, social</p>

	<p>and environmental sustainability of tourism at the global, national, and subnational levels. The SF-MST emphasizes the significance of tourism in generating employment, especially for those segments of the population with less access to labour markets, such as women, young people, immigrants, and rural populations, and in fostering inclusive economic growth and social development. In addressing the social dimension of tourism, the framework emphasizes the importance of collecting and reporting tourism employment data disaggregated by sex, encompassing formal and informal employment, pay gaps, entrepreneurship, education and training, leadership and decision-making, time use and work-life balance, which may be further extended to measuring other gender-related aspects.</p>
<p>Agenda item 4(b) Business and trade statistics For decision</p>	<p>The Report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics describes the progress made in the past year and the future activities aimed at improving the integration between business and trade statistics and addressing new priority areas. In close collaboration between TT-BDBDE and IAEG-GS, the guidance note on mainstreaming gender into business and trade statistics was developed. This note underscores the importance of such integration and offers an overview of international frameworks linking gender, business, and trade statistics. It will be incorporated in the Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics and Volume 2 of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics. This initiative aims to promote a more gender-inclusive statistical landscape and provide a foundation for informed policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation in the context of gender, trade, and development. The note also showcases country practices, some of which are included in an internal repository created by UNSD to consolidate efforts toward integrating a gender perspective in business and trade statistics. Furthermore, the report emphasized the importance of developing and strengthening statistical business registers to integrate different statistical domains and provide users with additional information on emerging topics such as gender, digitalization, geospatial information, environment, and social aspects.</p> <p>The progress in the revision of the manuals on international trade statistics offers insights into the advancements made in this endeavor by the Task Team on International Trade Statistics of the Committee. It outlines a list of research items aimed at revising the manuals to address emerging users' needs regarding the linkage between trade and gender, well-being, sustainability, globalization, and digitalization.</p> <p>In decision 55/116, the Commission approved the note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade and business statistics and encouraged the Committee to strengthen the ongoing</p>

	collaboration with the IAEG-GS and other relevant groups to advance the integration of gender and social perspectives into business and trade statistics.
Agenda item 5(e) Service statistics For information	The Report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics provides an overview of the Group's progress in addressing best practices in service industry output statistics, service industry price statistics, and service industry and product classifications. The Group has developed a considerable library of national level experience regarding 114 service industries as defined in the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), Revision 4, including those related to unpaid household service work.
Agenda item 5(h) Business registers For information	The Report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers outlines the Group activities and summarizes the proceedings of its twenty-eighth meeting, held from 2 to 6 October 2023 in The Hague. During session 6, participants discussed the opportunities and challenges associated with the use of new data sources and techniques for improving the timeliness, coverage, and quality of statistical business registers. It was noted that alternative data can play a pivotal role in the production of official statistics, aiding in expanding the coverage and broadening the analytical scope, including the integration of a gender perspective.

Environmental pillar

Items	Description of gender mainstreaming initiatives
Agenda item 4(d) Climate change statistics For decision	The Report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics presents updates on UNSD's work in this domain, in particular the development of implementation support tools for the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators. In response to the Statistical Commission's mandate to integrate a gender perspective into all its agenda items (decision 51/115), environment and climate change statistics were identified as initial priority areas for this integration. In collaboration with the Expert Group on Environment Statistics and the IAEG-GS, efforts have been undertaken to develop guidance note highlighting the relevance of gender statistics in understanding environmental challenges for both women and men and improving actions related to climate change and disaster risk. Recognizing the synergies between climate change and gender statistics, the report also pointed out that the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators can benefit from the methodological work on gender and climate change statistics, in particular the work carried by the IAEG-GS and UN-Women in the Asia-Pacific region. UNSD will work with these partners to continue to review the methodological advances and incorporate the corresponding updates into the Global Set as appropriate.

In decision 55/118, the Commission took note of the work undertaken to develop methodologies for prioritized topics, and encouraged the further integration of gender, health, disasters and other statistical areas with environment and climate change statistics.
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Efforts to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of the Statistical Commission as highlighted in the organization of side events.

The value of gender statistics and incorporating a gender perspective in the collection, process, analysis, and communication of official statistics was stressed during virtual side events on the Road to the Commission and in-person side events during Commission week as summarized below:

Event Title	Format	Date and Time	Link to agenda item	Key messages
Technology-facilitated violence against women: towards common methodologies for measurement	Virtual	12 February 2024	3(k) Gender Statistics	<p>Online spaces and technology play a crucial role in facilitating connection, networks and access to information and services for women and girls, fostering creativity, prosperity, and leadership. However, the growing access, use, and reliance on technology have led to a rise in violence against women (VAW) in digital and offline contexts. Evidence suggests that technology facilitated VAW (TF VAW) is a pervasive problem with disproportionate risks for some groups including young women and girls, women in politics, women journalists, and women activists. Despite its prevalence, the lack of agreed definitions and methodologies for measurement coupled with underreporting present challenges for understanding the true extent of TF VAW.</p> <p>In response to these challenges, global coordinated efforts were called for in March 2023 by the Statistical Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women. Building on initiatives and research conducted by NSOs, women's rights and civil society organizations, academics, researchers and other national data producers, United Nations specialized agencies and entities have been working on filling the</p>

Event Title	Format	Date and Time	Link to agenda item	Key messages
				<p>definition gap and rigorously assessing existing data and methods for measuring TF VAW.</p> <p>In the lead-up to the 55th UNSC, a landscape analysis of existing evidence and data sources on TF VAW was conducted, and regional consultations were held throughout 2023 with groups of gender statistics experts to disseminate global findings and gather their inputs on the development of methodological standards.</p>
Join the Conversation: Shaping the Next Edition of the United Nations Handbook on Household Surveys	Virtual	13 February 2024	—	<p>In the face of cascading and interlinked global crises, like COVID-19, climate change, and conflicts, investing more in data infrastructure is crucial. This investment helps target resources efficiently, anticipate future needs, prevent crises from escalating, and advance the 2030 Agenda.</p> <p>Despite the successes in adopting innovative approaches to respond to data demands, COVID-19 also revealed tremendous challenges that NSOs face. These include gaps in foundational statistical infrastructure, limited readiness in adopting innovative methodologies, lack of coordinated statistical systems especially on household surveys, and insufficient consideration and methods to ensure that the voice of marginalized population groups such as women, migrants, older persons and persons with disabilities are reflected.</p>
Urgent Action for Gender Equality in the SDGs: Accelerating Progress for Women	Virtual	13 February 2024	3(k) Gender Statistics	<p>The report: “Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2023” produced by UN Women and UNDESA presents the latest evidence on gender equality across all 17 Goals, including prevailing trends and gaps on the road to 2030. Recent setbacks, particularly among women and girls living in fragile or conflict-affected countries, and growing vulnerability brought on by human-induced climate change, are worsening the outlook of making gender equality a reality by 2030.</p> <p>Halfway to 2030, with only 7 years remaining, much more action is needed to substantially accelerate progress and keep the promise made to women and girls. The report calls for an integrated and holistic</p>

Event Title	Format	Date and Time	Link to agenda item	Key messages
				approach to advancing gender equality, including via greater multistakeholder collaboration and targeted and sustained funding in support of the gender equality agenda. Failure to scale up and invest in gender equality now will place the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in peril. Much more action is needed to deliver all 2030 Agenda promises to women and girls, in all their diversity.
Leveraging Data to Advance Human Development	Virtual	16 February 2024	—	<p>UNDP's Human Development Index (HDI) and human development data have been playing pivotal roles in monitoring global development progress and shaping policy decisions around the world since its launch in 1990.</p> <p>Over the past three decades, the HDI and human development data have been under transformation and expansion to ensure the newly available data and the latest methodology are used to leverage data to advance human development.</p> <p>In 2023, UNDP and UN Women jointly developed two human development indices: Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) and Twin Indices on Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality, in order to capture the multiple and interacting deprivations that women and girls are facing and enable policymakers to measure the progress in countries towards achieving women's empowerment and gender equality. The GSNI quantifies biases against women, capturing people's attitudes on women's roles along four key dimensions: political, educational, economic and physical integrity. The Twin Indices on Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality use a multidimensional framework to provide a comprehensive assessment of women's status globally. The first, the Women's Empowerment Index (WEI), focuses on measuring women's power and freedoms to make choices and seize opportunities in life. The second, the Global Gender Parity Index (GGPI) offers an assessment of the gender gap across four dimensions of human development: health, education, inclusion, and decision-making.</p>

Event Title	Format	Date and Time	Link to agenda item	Key messages
Measuring Wealth in Household Surveys in Low- and Middle-Income Countries	Virtual	20 February 2024	—	<p>Wealth is recognized as one of the three constituents of household economic well-being, together with consumption and income, to which it is strictly linked. It can be used as collateral to access the credit market and provides individuals with the opportunity to buy a property or start a business. Although survey data collection on wealth is increasingly important to study vulnerability and the distributional effects of economic policies, it continues to be limited in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Of great importance is also the development of reliable methods for the collection and analysis of wealth data at the individual level, which sheds light on intra-household inequality and on the gender gap in wealth, and provides valuable information for addressing gender inequality within households. This involves understanding the formal ownership of physical and financial assets among household members, the actual control over the resources held, and the distribution of benefits tied to those assets.</p> <p>Discussions in this event raised awareness about the crucial role of wealth data, including data disaggregated by sex, in informing policies and programs in LMICs. The event also facilitated networking opportunities among participants from diverse backgrounds, including experts of gender statistics among others.</p>
Panel Discussion hosted by the Friends of the Chair Group on Social and Demographic Statistics: “Key data demands from policy makers in the	In-person	25 February 2024	3(j) Social Statistics	<p>The Friends of the Chair (FoC) Group on Social and Demographic Statistics is a group established in 2022 under the auspices of the Statistical Commission (decision 53/105) to review these statistical areas and provide recommendations for strengthened social and demographic statistics that better reflect society and its connections with the environment and the economy.</p> <p>The event stressed the necessity for high-quality, granular, and intersectional data to tackle complex social issues, emphasizing the critical role of data in understanding and addressing poverty, income inequality, and the multifaceted nature of social well-being. Conceptual</p>

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social and demographic space”				frameworks were highlighted as effective tools for identifying priority areas and ensuring data comprehensiveness and relevance in the broad field of social and demographic statistics. The discussions also acknowledged the importance of partnerships, innovative data collection methods, and engaging with non-traditional data holders to address complex and emerging data demands. It was noted that comprehensive stakeholder engagement in formulating national statistical programmes ensures that data production priorities align with evolving policy needs and available resources. Additionally, the event highlighted various strategies to elevate the importance and utility of social and demographic statistics, including the development of platforms to connect data users and producers, enhancing data access, and improving communication strategies.
Pathways for Empowering Women in National Statistical Office Leadership	In-person	26 February 2024	3(k) Gender Statistics	There is a global need to foster and promote gender equality in statistical leadership as well as ensure that women in leadership roles are empowered to fully contribute to the success of their organizations. Networking opportunities both formal and informal are critical for women in management roles to connect and share insights. Successful initiatives in the LAC region, such as the establishment of a Community of Women Leaders of NSOs, have provided a supportive environment for exchanging experiences, offering mentoring, and addressing challenges faced by female leaders in NSOs. Additionally, training programs for women in leadership roles, peer-to-peer support, and human resources frameworks promoting gender equality have proven effective in empowering women and driving cultural change within NSOs. NSO leaders face multiple pressures, however, female leaders often encounter greater obstacles, emphasizing the need to address specific challenges, including work-life balance, and foster an environment that actively supports and encourages female leadership within NSOs.

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Time-use data to go beyond GDP and reshape the way prosperity is measured	In-person	28 February 2024	3(k) Gender Statistics	<p>There is a growing recognition of the significance of time-use data in reshaping the way prosperity is measured and informing a broad range of public policies, including those required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Time-use data are increasingly acknowledged as a key component for assessing main policy concerns, including quality of life, in particular in the context of accounting for people's well-being to complement economic performance measures beyond GDP.</p> <p>Information gathered through time-use surveys enables analyses of the time spent on all forms of work and becomes essential to implement the resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, adopted by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians.</p> <p>In addition, care has been identified as an overarching policy concern on the rise within national policy agendas and time-use measurements are the best way to adequately account for unpaid domestic and care work, and to provide the data necessary for monitoring progress towards the achievement of SDG indicator 5.4.1 and other SDGs goals and targets. However, currently, only 92 countries report data on indicator SDG 5.4.1, on time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age, and location.</p> <p>The event provided a platform for sharing the experiences of NSOs and the most recent statistical advancements, including the production of a satellite account to the SNA and innovative approaches to integrating time-use data with other sources.</p>
Exploring the Risks and Opportunities of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing Gender Equality	In-person	28 February 2024	3(k) Gender Statistics	<p>Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rife with contradictions, while it has the potential to improve human existence, at the same time, it threatens to deepen social divides. Indeed, AI appears neutral, but it's made by humans, which means it internalizes all the same bias as we have - including gender bias. The gender bias reflects an outdated perception of women in our society that is not based in fact or equality. In addition, the problem stems from a lack of diversity within the industry that is</p>

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				<p>reinforcing problematic gender stereotypes. Whether as developers, news editors or AI experts, women are largely absent from the AI world. Indeed, the systems are a reflection of broader gender disparities within the technology and AI sectors.</p> <p>In the context of machine learning, bias can mean that there's a greater level of error for certain demographic categories. Because there is no one root cause of this type of bias, there are numerous variables that researchers must take into account when developing and training machine-learning models, with factors that include an incomplete or skewed training dataset. Models developed with this data can then fail to scale properly when applied to new data missing some demographic categories. Better data can improve AI's ability to spot correlations but will not ensure fairness. Researchers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) recommend broadening the scope of research into the source of these biases to the broader societal factors that influence.</p>
Unlocking the Power of Data High Impact Initiative to accelerate progress	In-person	1 March 2024	3(c) Data and Indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	<p>In today's interconnected world, data have emerged as a cornerstone of modern society, driving progress, innovation and informed decision-making across all sectors. In the pursuit of sustainable development, data partnerships play a critical role in addressing multifaceted challenges and advancing collective goals. Sustainable development encompasses a wide array of interconnected issues, including poverty alleviation, healthcare access, environmental conservation, gender equality, and economic growth. No single entity possesses the comprehensive data necessary to tackle these complex issues alone which make data partnerships particularly relevant in our current context. Recognizing the urgent need to address these challenges and unlock the transformative potential of data, the High Impact Initiative on the Power of Data emerged as a new coalition to facilitate cutting-edge data partnerships building and leveraging commitment (and excitement) at the highest level of political leadership and to</p>

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				promote strategic investments in data, during the SDG Summit at the UN General Assembly (September 2023). The expanding initiative is currently composed of 15 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America, supported by the UK, and facilitated by co-leads including the Global Partnership, UNDP, UNFPA, UNDESA, UNICEF, CCS-UN and the World Bank.
Making Older Persons Visible in the Sustainable Development Goal's Monitoring Framework and Indicators	In-person	1 March 2024	5(c) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data	<p>The global indicator framework for the SDGs includes an overarching principle of data disaggregation. Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, which will enable analyses supporting the reduction of inequalities.</p> <p>However, gaps exist in monitoring SDG indicators inclusive of older persons at national and global levels. Sometimes data on older persons are included, but not disaggregated by age and sex, or other important characteristics. This prevents describing the context of older persons, the needs of different subpopulations, monitoring change, or providing inputs to interventions that should be targeted to or inclusive of older persons. Yet again, when age and sex disaggregated data exist, they can provide a nuanced understanding of the experiences of older persons and inform the development of policies to improve their lives.</p>
Towards achieving target 16.9 and legal identity for all – how far have we come and what's next?	In-person	1 March 2024	5(a) Demographic Statistics	As civil registration provides an official record of the existence of the person and the recognition of that individual before the law, it has been the fundamental means of granting legal identity. Moreover, civil registration is recognized as the ultimate source for production of comprehensive, regular and reliable vital statistics. An inclusive civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) system helps to ensure no one is left behind, protects human rights, empowers individuals, and promotes sustainable development.

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				<p>Although significant progress has been made throughout the world, universal registration of vital events is yet to be achieved and millions of people are born and die without any legal tender of their existence - the scandal of invisibility. Increasingly Member States initiate rollout of national ID cards and establishment of digital legal identity system as a part of Digital Public Infrastructure. The linkage between such initiative and CRVS needs to be ensured to develop a comprehensive and interoperable legal identity ecosystem.</p> <p>In this side event, Colombia shared experiences in recent population and housing censuses applying life-course and gender perspectives through the lens of addressing and assessing completeness via census and CRVS data.</p> <p>The Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems are essential for advancing gender equality and promoting fundamental rights, inclusion, opportunities, and prosperity for all. By enhancing these systems, governments can better protect women's rights, particularly in contexts where marriage and divorce registration can significantly impact their legal and financial standing.</p> <p>The event shared recent national experiences in assessing registration completeness and integration with census data to reveal subregional disparities in under-registration, emphasizing the importance of life-course- and gender-responsive CRVS systems, which play a pivotal role in ensuring that everyone's birth, death, marriage, and divorce are accurately recorded and recognized. These experiences are intended to guide ongoing efforts to shape international guidance on the statistical assessment of the inclusiveness of civil registration systems across the life course in the upcoming 2030 census round.</p>