Making Every Woman and Girl Count

Updates on the Women Count Programme

14th Meeting of the IAEG-Gender Statistics
3-4, 7 December 2020

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01

Updates on the Women Count Programme

WHERE WE WORK
Global Policy Support Project
Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics
Barbados, MCO
Colombia
Morocco
West & Central Africa
Senegal
Sierra Leone*
Cote d'Ivoire
Cameroon
Europe & Central Asia
Albania*
Kyrgyz Republic
Georgia
Tajikistan
Jordan
Egypt
Saudi Arabia
UAE
Ethiopia
East & Southern Africa
Uganda
DRC
Kenya
Rwanda
Tanzania
Malawi
Zimbabwe
Maldives
Nepal
Bangladesh
Mongolia
China
Cambodia
Viet Nam
Philippines
Asia & the Pacific
Fiji
Palau
Pathfinder countries
Non-pathfinder countries
Regional projects
Global projects
Direct technical support

Key Achievements: Creating an Enabling Environment

Statistical systems have become more responsive to the gender data requirements of national development plans

More than **11** countries integrated gender statistics in their national strategies for statistics

7 countries established coordination mechanisms to improve gender data production and use

A minimum set of gender statistics in Africa was developed resulting in greater harmonization of gender statistics across the continent.

Cameroon invested USD 700,000 on gender data to improve monitoring of its national gender policy

Kenya has made gender statistics a national priority and stakeholder engagement has resulted in several policy advances

In light of COVID-19 and in pursuit of continued statistical capacity development of national, regional, and global stakeholders and partners

- Monthly webinars on different topics, including unpaid care work, rapid gender assessments, Census, admin have attracted 900 participants from all regions

Promising Practice: Inter-agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee brings new players and more inclusive data in Kenya

Through the Women Count programme, a forum was established to bring together data users and producers and strengthen overall coordination of the Kenya national statistics system. As a result it led to a vast improvement on how gender data are produced and used:

- First-ever county gender data sheets for an initial 10 out of 47 counties in Kenya. The county gender data sheets have not only stimulated demand from other counties but **brought about three new women's empowerment-related legislations in Kitui County**.

- A **joint baseline study on women's access to agricultural finance in Kenya**, after which the commissioning agency (the Agricultural Finance Corporation of Kenya), revised its gender policy and financial commitments to address identified gaps in women's financing for agriculture.

- First-ever Gender and Empowerment chapter in the **Kenya Economic Survey in 2020,** an important tool in Kenya's economic planning process.

- **University of Nairobi students' use KNBS data to develop policy recommendations.** This has had a ripple effect, giving rise to more opportunities for the students to showcase and advance their work with national and global stakeholders.

Key Achievements: Increasing Data Production

SDG monitoring has improved as a result of methodological work and data collection and analysis

More data is now available to monitor the gender-responsive SDG indicators, up from **26% in 2016** to

31%

in 2019

14

surveys were supported, resulting in new data on unpaid care work and violence against women

New data on poverty (SDG 1), labour force participation (SDG 8), and gender and slums (SDG 11) have been generated through partnerships

Conduct of gender-specific surveys

- Time-use surveys (4): Bangladesh, Georgia, Kenya, and Senegal
- Violence against women (2): Uganda and Senegal

GLOBAL SDGs monitoring is improving as a result of inter-agency collaboration to produce new data

- **More data is now available to monitor how countries are doing on SDG 5**: Data are now available to measure women's political participation (SDG 5.5.1b) for 130 countries; 70 countries on gender responsive budgeting (SDG 5.c.1) and 53 on legal frameworks (SDG 5.1.1).
- **Catalytic partnerships with ILO and UN Habitat resulted in new data and analysis on women's economic empowerment.** Two new global data sets (SDG 8) and (SDG 11). As a result, both ILO and UN Habitat will continue to regularly update the databases as part of their regular work.
- **Gender snapshot brings together the latest data and evidence on SDGs**. In partnership with UNSD, UN Women produces an annual publication that showcases the latest available evidence on gender equality across all 17 Goals, underscoring the progress made, but also the progress interrupted, as a result of COVID-19.
- **Peer review of the Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics on two researches towards the improvement of the measurement of SDG indicator 5.4.1**. In collaboration with UNSD, researches produced by Jacques Charmes and Nancy Folbre were reviewed by the Expert Group.

https://data.unwomen.org/publications/progress-sustainable-development-goals-gender-snapshot-2020

Key Achievements: Increasing Data Accessibility and Use

Improved data availability and use of gender data are informing evidence-based policies

Training has strengthened the skills of over

1735

data producers and

1171

users

Colombia analyzed time use data to inform the design of its national care policy

In **Morocco**, new data on violence against women is being used to strengthening advocates' call for reforms on existing laws

Promising Practice: Institutionalizing capacity development in gender statistics through partnerships in Asia and the Pacific

The **training curriculum on gender statistics** developed in Asia-Pacific under the Women Count programme is being ---

- **Integrated in existing training curricula or programmes of training institutions**
  - UN ESCAP and UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
  - Statistics Korea – Statistics Training Institute
  - Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC covers 57 member states in four continents)

- **Used in statistical capacity development of key actors within the national statistical system, particularly the NSO, Ministry of Women, as well as local governments**
  - Philippines (November 2020)
  - Azerbaijan (December 2020)
  - Indonesia
  - Pakistan

- **Integrated in universities' curricula**
  - Hong Kong (SAR) (January 2021)
  - Mongolia (February – May 2021)

- **Used to increase statistical literacy and appreciation of media, particularly journalists**
  - Kyrgyzstan (January 2021)

Promising Practice: Improved data on violence against women catalyzes advocacy and legal change in Albania, Georgia and Morocco

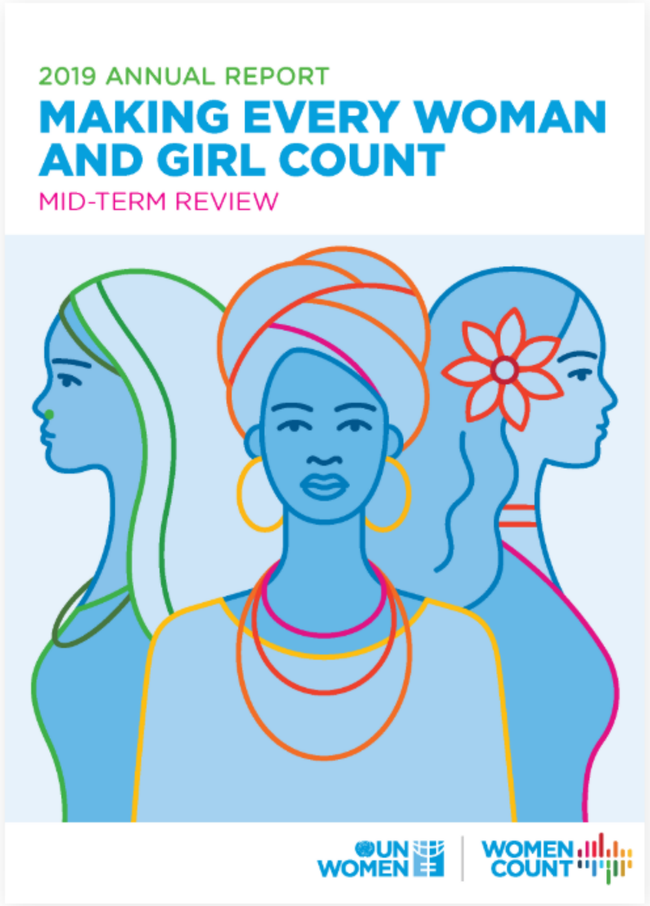
Through the Women Count programme, UN Women has supported national statistics offices in Albania, Georgia and Morocco to **collect new data on violence against women surveys** and **facilitate user-producer dialogues** to increase advocacy and spur concrete action on policies. Here are the results:

- In **Georgia**, violence against women study generated data on the prevalence of sexual harassment and stalking for the first time. This data was used for as a basis for strategic advocacy and dialogues with parliamentarians on the need for sexual harassment legislation. As a result, in May 2019 a sexual harassment law was passed.

- In **Albania**, improved data on VAW fueled advocacy efforts that resulted in amendments to laws and policies to recognize psychological violence and dating violence as a form of GBV and an expansion of services for victims of domestic violence including the establishment of the country's first rape crisis centre.

- In **Morocco**, civil society organizations and the NSO worked in partnership to collect data on VAW. This generated greater ownership and build trust in the data among stakeholder. As a result the survey data was used by Moroccan CSOs to argue for measures to protect women against violence, particularly in the context of the COVID-19.

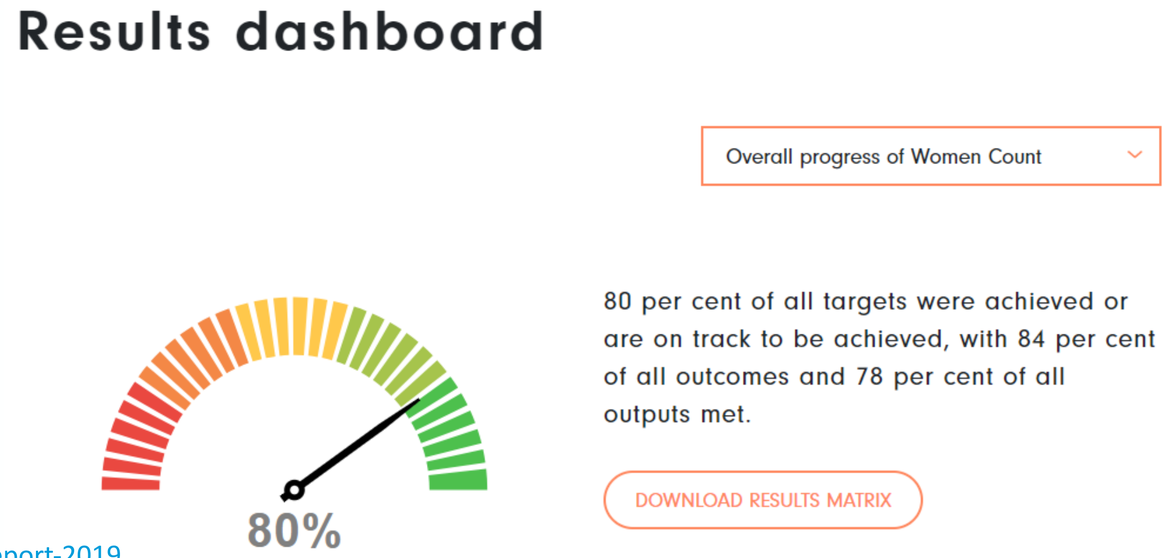
Women Count Annual Report 2019: Mid-term Review



https://data.unwomen.org/publications/women-count-annual-report-2019

How far have we come?

- This edition provided a global, regional and country analysis on progress, results and learnings since the programme's inception in 2016 and documents how the programme has been impacted by COVID19
- New features included **3 qualitative country case studies** that assessed the programme's impact on the ground
- **Digital launch** on the Women Count Data Hub included interactive features such as a results dashboard



02

Monitoring the impact of COVID-19

Women Count Programme's response to COVID-19

1. Responsiveness and adaptability

- Urgent need to identify country-specific gendered impacts of COVID-19
- Conventional data collection challenged by mobility restrictions ➔ Rapid gender assessments!
- Partnerships and collaboration with public *and* private sector partners

2. Coordinated and efficient response

- Guidance from global to regions to countries ➔ Coherent and coordinated efforts
- In less than six months, UN Women is partnering with almost 100 countries (almost 50 surveys completed) and another 50 planned or underway
- Modeling the impact of COVID-19 on poverty (with UNDP and Pardee Center)
- Publications on the impact of COVID-19 on gender equality
- Tracking countries' policy responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic (with UNDP)

3. Uptake by governments with strong sense of ownership

- Maldives: Income support for informal employed; OPM team created on safeguarding the rights of women & girls
- Jordan: Results informed UN Women's response in targeting cash assistance and GBV services
- Pakistan: RGA to design the country's gender-responsive COVID-19 policy response
- Ukraine: CIDA used RGA to extend financial support to integrate a COVID-19 response in existing project

3. Women Count Data Hub – Emerging gender data

data.unwomen.org/resources/covid-19

COVID-19: Emerging gender data and why it matters

- Dashboard on the health impact of COVID-19 (with WHO)
- **Rapid Gender Assessment Surveys** Common UN Dashboard on Covid-19 and gender monitor
- Monitoring how **gender equality is integrated in COVID-19 countries' fiscal and policy** responses (with UNDP)
- **Research, blogs** etc. on the impacts of COVID-19 with partners (e.g. SDG1, SDG3, SDG8)
- **Reports:** From Insights to Action; impact of COVID-19 on unpaid care work, Regional reports for Asia Pacific, Europe and Central Asia and Arab States

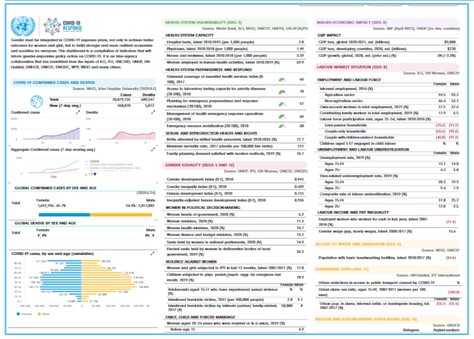
Programme updates - Rapid Gender Assessment Surveys (RGAs)

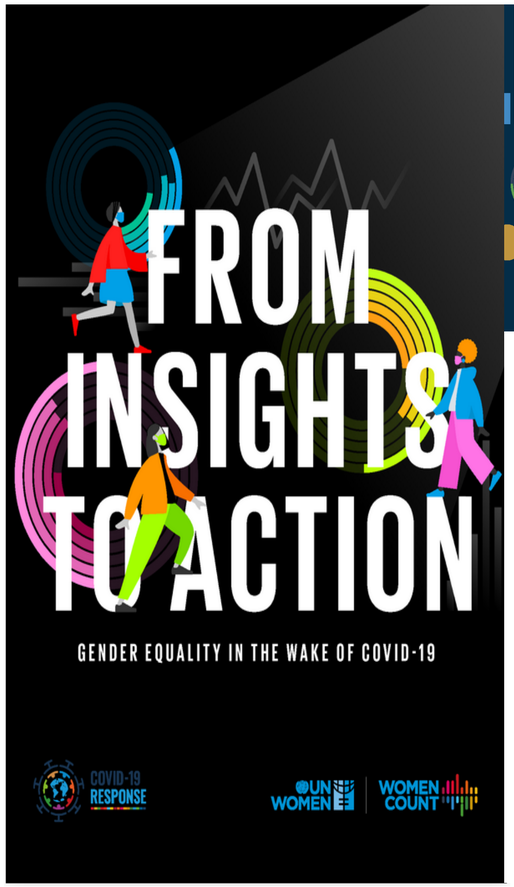
Region	Completed = 47 countries	Underway or planned = 23 countries
Asia and the Pacific	**11** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Thailand	**11** Kiribati, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands & Tonga, Plus six more countries to be determined by ADB
Europe and Central Asia	**16** Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey and Ukraine	**3** Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova
East and Southern Africa	**4** Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda & Tanzania	**4** Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa & Uganda,
West and Central Africa	**5** Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Cote d' Ivoire, Guinea & Senegal,	**4** Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Niger & Sierra Leone
Latin America and the Caribbean	**2** Chile & Mexico	**1** Colombia
Arab States	**9** Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia, State of Palestine & Yemen	

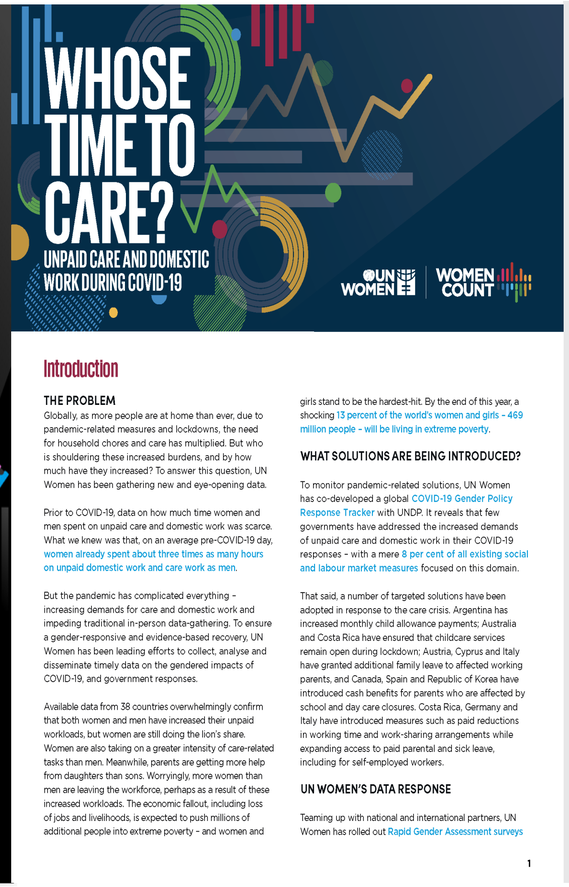
Key Achievements: An agile response to COVID-19

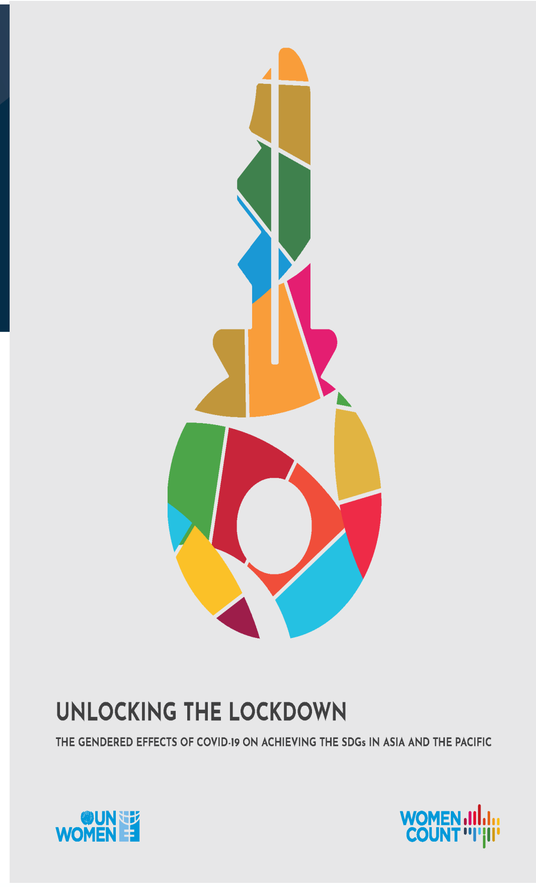
The Women Count Hub as a dissemination and communication tool

COVID-19 and gender monitor









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Programme updates – Examples of key activities planned in 2021

Country level

- Continue data collection and analysis, including violence against women and time use
- User-producer dialogues and capacity-building activities
- Produce data-oriented publications and analysis

Regional level

- Continue to provide direct technical support to pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries
- Continue working with regional commissions and relevant agencies to improve coordination

Global level

- Technical support to country and regional offices to support project closure Phase I
- Developed Guidance Documents for strengthening NSSs and developing gender statistics (PARIS21, RGAs)
- Continued outreach and advocacy activities during global events (i.e. UN Statistical Commission, CSW65, Generation Equality Forum etc.)
- 20-25 Violence against women rapid gender assessment surveys (with IPSOS)
- Commissioning the end-term evaluation of Women Count

02

Upcoming advocacy and outreach opportunities: Generation Equality Forum

Generation Equality Forum (GEF) and Action Coalitions (ACs)

- **Support use of data and evidence** to inform AC tactics: Support ACs to use data and research to drive decision making and choice of actions

- **Data as a key tactic within Action Coalitions**: including data as a key intervention within each AC; building on work that Data2X has already done https://data2x.org/resource-center/gender-data-for-generation-equality-a-brief-series/.

- **Post-GEF** – using data to track progress on ACs; connect with SDGs monitoring; possible monitoring using a customized version of the Policy Tracker;

- Monitoring & Evaluation to drive **program-led evidence** (e.g. working in partnership with relevant organizations)

04 Discussion

Discussion Points

For Member States:

- Given snapshots of country case examples presented, what “change or impact stories” are still needed so that other countries can benefit from either learning experiences or success stories of Women Count countries on:
  - Creating an enabling environment;
  - Data production; and/or
  - Data access and use.
- Any interest to partner with UN Women to conduct a rapid gender assessment surveys next year? See Methodological Guidance https://data.unwomen.org/publications/guidance-rapid-gender-assessment-surveys-impacts-covid-19

For everyone:

- What opportunities are there to leverage the Gender Equality Forum and Action Coalitions for advocacy and visibility of gender statistics?

Visit https://data.unwomen.org

THANK YOU