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**Report on progress made on the implementation of the African
programme on gender statistics**

I. Introduction

The importance of gender statistics in the improvement of gender equality and women empowerment has increased demand of gender at national, regional and global levels. As such statistics contribute to strengthen the overall statistical system. It also provides decision makers with evidence based information needed to adequately take into account gender issues in the planning and implementation of development policies and programmes. Gender statistics are also required to monitor and evaluate policies, programmes and projects, and to provide the evidence base for research.

In recognition of this fact, African countries and the continent gender statistics stake holders have given increasing attention to promoting the production and use of gender statistics. Tremendous efforts have been deployed to increase awareness and enhance capacity of member states in the areas in order to improve the production, dissemination and use of gender statistics in the continent. To improve coordination and harmonization needed to address challenges related to the lack of gender statistics in the continent, they have also established the working Group on Gender Statistics called African Group on Gender statistics (AGGES), with the UNECA as the secretariat of the AGGeS, at the first meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa (STACOM-Africa) in 2008, with the mandate to support and advise on gender statistical issues, needs and challenges poverty reduction strategies and global development agendas such as MDGs, SDGs etc..

These efforts have contributed to achieving much progress in the area of gender statistics in Africa, both at the regional and national levels. These include particularly the improved collection of data on gender issues through censuses and surveys in many countries, increased awareness raising about the need to integration of gender perspectives into the national statistical systems. However, sustained efforts are vital to the achievement of accelerated improvement in gender statistics in Africa. As most countries still have difficulty in generating timely and comparable accurate gender statistics. In addition, efforts to improve gender statistics in Africa at national and regional levels were mostly project-based, ad hoc in nature and were mainly un-coordinated, resulting in duplication of efforts.

To address these issues, the African Group on Gender Statistics has developed in 2012 an umbrella regional programme on gender statistics called the African Programme on Gender Statistics (APGS). The APGS is a five-year regional programme aiming to improve the availability of accurate gender statistics at the national, regional and international levels in Africa.

It brings together under one umbrella programme initiatives aimed at the development of gender statistics that need to be undertaken by regional organizations, international agencies and other institutions at the regional level. The Programme was endorsed by the Statistical Commission for Africa at its third session in 2012, which requested the Working Group on Gender Statistics to coordinate the implementation of the Programme and to report on progress made at in each of its sessions. ECA is also the Secretariat for the APGS

The first of the programme (Phase 1) covered the period 2012-2016 while the second phase (phase 2) is from 2017 to 202. This later has been aligned to SDGs data and methodological issues requirement.

The present report is a summary of activities undertaken by the member institutions of the African Group on Gender Statistics in accordance with the above-mentioned plan of action for the period 2018–2020.

II. Implementation of the African programme on gender statistics

A. Regional partnerships and coordination

1. Making Every Women and Girl Count (Women Count) programme

UN Women data and statistics activities in the Africa region is driven largely by the [Making Every Women and Girl Count \(Women Count\) programme](#), UN Women's leading programme on gender data. A regional assessment on gender statistics in Africa was conducted in 2018 to kickstart the regional Women Count project, revealing several inter-related challenges: Poor or non-existing normative frameworks governing statistical production and use on the continent; the quality and comparability of statistical production on the continent; a lack of clear and harmonized concepts, definitions and methodologies were cited as impeding the production of data at the national level; data gaps for gender specific indicators such as Violence against women or time use; limited uptake and use as well as dialogue between users and producers of statistics within countries.

The Africa regional project is providing technical and financial support on gender statistics to several pathfinder¹ countries in the region, including: Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal and Cameroon and 6 non-pathfinder countries: Rwanda, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Ivory Coast. UN Women Ethiopia obtained an independent grant for the development of a gender statistics project, largely influenced by Women Count.

Two regional Statistics Specialists were appointed in July/August 2019. They are respectively for East and Southern Africa (based in Nairobi) and West and Central Africa (based in Dakar). Their role is to improve regional coordination and provide technical support services to the pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries.

The [Women Count Africa regional project](#) is crafted around three primary objectives:

- **Creating an enabling environment:** Creating an enabling environment: Regional coordination is being improved, working with organizations such as the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), and countries are being supported to identify and address institutional, legal and financial constraints to mainstream gender into national statistical systems and establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system for the SDGs.
- **Increasing data production:** Technical capacities of national statistical systems are being strengthened and quality data on violence against women, unpaid care work, gaps in access to decent work and pay, participation in public life and decision-making, and access to/use of information and communications technologies produced to improve SDG monitoring.

¹ The Women Count programme is first being rolled in so called pathfinder countries where through the implementation process, the program is developing methodologies that can be replicated as south-south learning to countries that are showing an interest in strengthening their work on gender data and statistics.

- Improving data accessibility and use: Capacities of users are being strengthened to conduct gender data analysis, accessibility of gender statistics to all users is increased through better reporting, capacities to communicate gender data are increased through training, and data and metadata sharing encouraged to facilitate data flows, including to regional and global SDG-related databases

2. Meeting of the Africa working group on gender statistics

A meeting of the Africa working group on gender statistics was held in Côte d'Ivoire on 28 September 2018. The meeting was attended by gender focal points from the national statistics offices of more than 25 African countries, members of the working group (i.e., from the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, South Sudan and Uganda) and representatives of training institutions. Representatives of UN-Women, ECA (i.e., the African Centre for Statistics and the African Centre for Gender) and AfDB also attended.

The main objectives of the meeting were the following:

- (a) Review and validate the report on the implementation of the African programme on gender statistics for the 2018 meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa and decide on a way forward;
- (b) Review and validate the first draft of the report on best practices regarding statistics on monitoring violence against women developed by ECA;
- (c) Review and validate a new minimum set of gender indicators that takes into account the demands of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and that are in line with the revised global minimum set of gender indicators;
- (d) Review and validate phase two of the African programme (2017-2021);
- (e) Discuss institutional issues, including the functioning, coordination and rotation mechanism of the African Group on Gender Statistics and the revision of the terms of reference of the African Group to reflect the new demands contained in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and of the new African programme;
- (f) Discuss the establishment of an Africa expert group on gender statistics, including the possibility of reviving the Kampala city group, to focus on methodological aspects in relation to gender statistics and to provide a forum in which African stakeholders and partners can discuss issues relating to the development of gender statistics.

3. National assessments of gender statistics

UN Women supported six countries to undertake national assessments of gender statistics to respond to national priorities and strengthen country ownership. Women Count is also strengthening the capacities of six countries to conduct assessment of their gender statistic system. An initial review of the situation of gender statistics in 6 non-pathfinder countries (Mozambique, Malawi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast) carried out in November 2019 during a training workshop held in Dakar, revealed extremely different conditions from one country to another. The workshop was attended by three delegates from each country: one representative from UN Women,

one from the NSO and one from the Ministry of Gender. DRC and Cote d'Ivoire have already undertaken their assessments of the gender statistic systems in their countries, but Cote d'Ivoire is yet to finalize their report. In DRC, the main finding is that it is necessary to first totally revamp the national statistic system before being able to act specifically in the gender statistical system. A project document along with a list of activities to reach this dual objective have been developed by UN Women along with a resource mobilization plan. Similar studies are currently being planned for Malawi and Mozambique. The findings will be used for planning and resource mobilization around the strengthening of these systems as well as the production and use of gender statistics.

4. Network of gender data focal points

In March 2019, ECA, in partnership with Data2X has initiated a project aimed at improving the production and use of gender data within African National Statistics Systems through the creation of the Africa Gender Data Network. Its overarching goal is to create a network of technically able gender data experts who can have an immediate positive impact on the work of their organizations, to equip them with the tools to make rigorous arguments for filling gender data gaps, the production and use of gender data, and to raise their profile and the profile of gender data as a whole.

The Network seek to foster gender data expertise, facilitate cross-country learning, enable capacity building and training, enhance coordination mechanisms and crucially provide a platform for members to raise and solve issues they face. The collective actions by the network members, could be used as a basis for advocacy, skills building, and fundraising at the national, regional and international levels.

The Network is open to gender data experts at National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and line ministries but to start with, it is initially piloted in selected African countries. Currently, it includes representatives from NSOs of the following countries: Botswana, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The Network works mainly through webinars/online meetings. Members can also interact through the African regional online platform, called the African Statistical Knowledge Network. A sub-section for the Gender Data Network has been developed and is used to share trainings, research and other materials emanating from the various institutions at national, regional and global levels.

Key achievement of the project include among other: (i) Online meetings on various gender statistics issues such as the one that focused on identifying gender data gaps in Network member's countries based on the Bridging the Gap Report prepared by Open Data Watch for Data2X; (ii) One-on-one online meetings organised during the months of July to September 2019 to follow up with countries on the Gender data gaps study; (iii) The first in-person meeting of the AGDN that took place in November 2019 in Accra, Ghana. The meeting was combined with other regional meetings that were organised in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB), UN-Women and PARIS21 to provide opportunities for members to connect with a wider audience and ensure that every African region was represented. The aim was to provide a platform for face-to-face interaction of the Network members; deepen their appreciation of the differences and commonalities in each other's challenges in producing and using gender-based statistics; identify and prioritise the main data gaps and challenges in the production, dissemination and use of gender related data and statistics at national, regional and global levels, and determine possible innovative solutions. The second in-person meeting of the network members was planned to take place on the side-lines of the Global Forum on Gender Statistics and the United Nations World Data Forum in October 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a virtual meeting is being organised instead and is scheduled for 13-14 October 2020. The virtual meeting will consist of two parts: a private meeting of only members and invited speakers and a public-facing webinar geared towards relevant topics for the members.

The objectives of this convening include:

- Raise the profile of the Network and its members and seek support for its continuation through 2021/2022;
- Collect feedback from members on what would be useful from the Network going forward;
- Identify with members the priority skills and methods that they need to acquire to adapt to new challenges such as new data collection methods, higher non-response rates and maintaining time series, as well as better use of existing data and capacity building for achieving increased uptake of data by policymakers;
- Identify collaborative solutions and opportunity for coordination. Countries' challenges will diverge due to local circumstances, but there are commonalities that require collaborative solutions that are relevant, methodologically robust and adaptable and fulfil the opportunity to modernise national statistical systems; and
- Discuss activities for the Network bey

5. Meeting of the African Group on Gender statistics:

The African Group on Gender Statistics (AGGeS) was strengthened, providing a platform for regional action on gender statistics. UN Women worked closely with UNECA and AfDB during 2019 in planning and executing the Gender Data network meeting in Accra as well as planning the 2020 Regional Gender Statistics Workshop. The AGGeS was reconvened in November 2019 after a period of more than a year of inactivity and an analysis of the bottlenecks they face was made. It is envisaged that the next meeting scheduled for 2020, will result in substantial progress with regards to the further conceptualization and implementation of the Africa Gender Statistics Plan II. During work on the Citizen Generated Data Guidelines a close working relationship was established with the international CSO, Data4SDGs. This new project will be nurtured further during 2020 in joint projects.

6. A regional roster of experts on gender statistics

A regional roster of experts on gender statistics was established and is being used by countries to source specialists to carry out gender statistics activities. A roster of gender statistics experts was developed by UNWomen during 2019. The roster is available to pathfinder and non-pathfinder countries as a resource if they need to contract the services of gender statisticians. The experts on the roster will also be included in consultative processes related to gender statistics where needed. The roster includes areas of specialization within gender statistics, preferred geographic area of operation as well as association or not with NSOs and consultancy status.

7. A Community of Practice (COP) on Data and Statistics

A Community of Practice (COP) on Data and Statistics was started in the ESA region in 2020 is facilitating greater learning and exchanges of experiences. The overall goal of the COP is to create an enabling environment for learning and coordination around gender data and statistics in the region and it essentially creates a formal forum for south-south learning. Two meetings have taken place thus far. The draft Terms of Reference was discussed and finalized and it was decided at this meeting to limit the core members to representatives from UN Women country offices, NSOs, Ministries of Women and representatives from regional bodies and UN agencies. Guests from the gender machinery and academia will be invited to attend specific meetings depending on the theme for that particular meeting. Meetings will be held quarterly and the next meeting is planned for November 2020..

7. Assessment of the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on Africa's national statistical offices work on gender statistics

The Economic Commission for Africa is conducting a rapid review of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the gender statistics activities and operations of member states. The main objective of this review is to determine the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted the collection of gender data and statistics in the national statistical system. A questionnaire on the issue was prepared and sent to countries in August 2020. Data received from countries are being processed and analysed.

B. Capacity-building

1 - Training

o National training workshop with producers and users of gender statistics

A national training workshop was organized by ECA in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 11 to 13 September 2018. A similar workshop was undertaken in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 09 to 10 October 2018 and in Cairo, Egypt, from 30 October to 1st November 2018.

The main objective of the workshops was to strengthen the capacity of national statistics offices to disseminate their data, in particular for selected indicators in the following Sustainable Development Goals to various user groups and to improve the gender statistics literacy of data users.

The workshops were also meant to expose participants to the fundamentals of producer-user dialogue in the production of gender statistics and provide them with the basis for mainstreaming gender concerns into various aspects of their work.

The workshops participants included statisticians, economists, sociologists, geographers, demographers, policy analysts, lecturers, environmentalists and gender experts from various institutions in the countries. They were from government departments, civil society organizations and academia that were engaged in some aspects of data development and management on gender issues.

o Regional workshop on gender statistics, 24-28 September 2018, Abidjan, cote d'Ivoire.

The ECA in partnership with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and UN Women organized a series of regional workshop on gender statistics in Abidjan, cote d'Ivoire from 24 to 28 September 2018. The main objective of the meetings was to enhance capacity of member states in various areas of gender statistics, including violence against women and Time use survey, . The series of meeting includes among others:

A Regional Training Workshop on Violence Against Women (VAW) and Time Use Survey (TUS);

An Expert Group Meeting to review and endorse the ongoing work in the areas of gender statistics in Africa, including the preliminary results of the first edition of the joint AfDB-ECA Africa Gender Index; the reports on Best Practices in Gender Statistics, and the regional minimum set of gender indicators initiated by UN Women;

A Meeting of the Africa Group on Gender Statistics to review the report on the implementation of the African programme on gender statistics (APGS) 2017-2018 and discuss the second phase of the APGS 2019-2021 as well institutional issues that are preventing the development of gender statistics in Africa, including the functioning, coordination and rotation mechanism of the African Group on Gender

Statistics and the revision of the terms of reference of the African Group to reflect the new demands contained in the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and of the new African programme.

The workshop brings together about 70 representatives from 54 Member states, sub-regional, regional and international organizations, ECA, UN Women, ILO and AfDB).

- **Series of Workshops and meetings on Improving Availability and Coordination Mechanism of Gender Statistics in Africa**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa African Centre for Statistics, in partnership with UN-Women, African development bank and Data2X, organized four events back to back, a Regional Workshop on Coordination Mechanisms of Gender Statistics, an Expert Group Meeting on Gender Statistics in Africa, the first in person meeting of the Gender Data Network (GDN) and the meeting of the African Group on Gender Statistics on the Minimum Set of Gender Statistics (MSGIA) for Africa. The meeting took place from 18 to 21 November 2019 in Accra, Ghana. The three meetings responded to the key recommendations of the various engagements over the last two to three years. The regional workshop was attended by 24 gender statistics experts of different African countries, including members of the African group on gender statistics, as well as UN-Women, the African Development Bank, Data2X, Open Data Watch and PARIS21. The first, “Regional Workshop on Improvement of Coordination of Gender Statistics in Africa” sought to forge a better understanding of the challenges facing countries; enhance capacity of member states in the production, dissemination and use of gender statistics; and facilitate the adoption of harmonized strategy in addressing challenges, particularly with regards to regional and national coordination. The second, on Expert Group Meeting (EGM) was to review and endorse various reports from the research undertaken by UNECA on gender statistics in Africa. The third meeting was a regional consultative meeting of the African Group on Gender Statistics (AGGeS) which brought together the major African gender statistics stakeholders to review a proposed list of indicators and recommend a minimum set for regional and national compilations to track the gender equality agenda in the region.

Specific objectives of the meetings were to:

- a) Identify and prioritise the main data gaps and challenges in the production, dissemination and use of gender related data and statistics at national regional and global levels.
- b) Determine current resource and capacity gaps in network countries, as documented by Open Data Watch (ODW) and other assessments on the issues.
- c) Identify and explore innovative solutions to the challenges of the network countries in improving the production, dissemination and use of gender data and statistics.
- d) Build solid working relationships between producers and other stakeholders of gender statistics, towards improvement of national coordination mechanisms in the production, dissemination and use of gender statistics.
- e) Facilitate the adoption of a minimum set of gender indicators in Africa.

- **National Workshop on Communicating Gender Statistics to Enhance Data Use and Policy Relevance**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in partnership with by Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) organized a National Workshop on Communicating Gender Statistics to Enhance Data Use and Policy, in Accra on 25-26 November 2019. It brought together persons responsible for gender

issues, statistics and policy from selected line ministries, producers and users of gender statistics from planning and statistical units, and gender advocates from Civil Society Organizations and other key stakeholder institutions.

The national gender statistics workshop sought to contribute to accentuating the responsiveness of the national statistical system (NSS) to gender issues and concerns. The specific workshop objectives were to:

- a) Initiate a dialogue between data users and producers for enhanced appreciation of each other's needs and requirements in the context of the National Gender Policy
 - b) Familiarise data producers with gender issues and concerns in the design of policy interventions
 - c) Introduce data producers as well as users to the fundamentals in communicating gender data
 - d) Expose gender data users to some basic considerations to advocate for gender issues
 - e) Identify ways of making gender statistics more widely available and promote an enhanced use of gender statistics
- o **Organization of Webinars 2020**

Within the framework of the implementation of the gender data network, ECA in partnership with data2x and Open Data Watch organized a series of webinars were in 2020 to ensure external engagement, and address internal and methodological issues identified by the network members.

- The first webinar “Methodological Research on Approaches to Gender Data Collection”, was held on March 31st 2020 and had 62 participants. It was organised with speakers from the World Bank and the International Labour Organisation. It highlighted the latest ICLS standards on work statistics and share key guidance in survey design and data analysis to shed light on gender issues, as well as fieldwork experience and preliminary findings. It has contributed to sustaining the momentum behind better gender data collection in support of SDGs.
- The second webinar “Building a Business Case for Disaggregated Data”, was held on May 7th 2020 and had 76 participants. It had speakers from the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, UK Office of National Statistics and PARIS21. We also invited a member of the AGDN to set the scene and share the challenges she faces in the production and dissemination of gender data. The purpose was to share best practices and success stories in support of national statistical offices to mainstream data disaggregation in their programs.
- A third webinar was planned for July 2020 to discuss the challenges associated with data use for decision making, the role and challenges of opening and sharing data and how to better use existing data in general but also in the current pandemic context, when reliable data are needed quickly to make critical decisions. However due to the total internet shutdown in Ethiopia in the month of July, the webinar was cancelled.

- **UN Women support to countries to produce COVID-19 gender data.**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UN Women 2 regional offices in Nairobi (ESARO) and Dakar (WCARO) is spearheading the implementation of a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) Rapid Gender Assessments across the continent, in partnership with UNICEF, OHCHR, UNFPA and in some countries International NGOS's (e.g. Irish Aid in Sierra Leone). National authorities are systematically part of the technical committee supervising the full operation and in most countries, UN Women and its partners collaborate with, but not limited to, the NSO and the Ministry of Gender. In WCARO, a standard questionnaire has been developed and proposed to countries for adjustment to the COVID-19 specific context. The survey is currently being implemented in Kenya, Ethiopia, Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire, Central Africa Republic. Planning for similar surveys in Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, DRC, Sierra Leone, Mali are at various stages of completion. The UN Agencies who partnered with UN Women on this project are also interested to expand its implementation in countries where UN Women does not have a presence neither a program. Authorization to use the current LTAs for these additional countries was granted and preliminary contacts have already been taken with national authorities of Togo and Guinea.

- **Training to Improving data accessibility and use**

At regional level there was limited activities around the uptake and use of data and statistics during the reporting period. An online training course on communicating gender data and statistics was developed during quarter two and presented to 26 UN Women staff members from countries in East and Southern Africa. The trainees included users and producers of gender statistics and communication specialists. The experience gained during the training is being used to refine the materials and will then be presented during a regional training seminar including representatives from NSOS and Ministries of Women during the final quarter of 2020.

2. Technical and advisory services

- **Technical assistance aims to assist Zimbabwe**

A regional Development Account (DA) project is being implemented by ECA to further the support to member states in producing and using gender statistics for better development outcomes. As part of this, a two-day advisory mission was undertaken delivered in Zimbabwe from 11 to 12 October. The purpose of the mission was to conduct consultations and provide technical advice on addressing gaps in gender statistics. The technical assistance aims to assist Zimbabwe in its efforts to produce relevant gender statistics on selected Tier II indicators, on violence against women or time-use, in line with international methods. The mission enable to discuss and provide guidance on the followings; (i) The enabling environment for gender statistics; (ii) The main producers of gender statistics ; (iii) coordination mechanism for gender statistics; (iv) capacity building activity undertaken in the country; (v) Availability of gender-related data ; (vi) Data accessibility and use; (vii) Key challenges in the production of gender statistics

- **Country-level technical and financial support**

Making Every Woman and Girl Count is being implemented initially between 2016 and 2021 through pilot projects at the country level and regional technical projects, supported by global level policy and technical support, with regular monitoring of the achievement of the Sustainable Development

Goals. In 2018, national gender statistics assessments have been conducted in Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

3. Training materials

- **Guidelines on citizen-generated data developed to encourage use of alternative data sources to fill gender data gaps.**

UN Women developed regional guidelines on how NSOs can harness the potential of citizen-generated data (CGD) to improve the quality of the statistics to track progress on the SDGs. The guidelines will contribute to strengthening the capacity of National Statistical Systems to utilize non-official data sources for SDGs monitoring and will be used to strengthen collaboration between NSOs and civil society organizations in the region to develop country specific CGD plans. As a result of the inclusive process of developing the guidelines, UN Women is partnering with Data4SDGs to further expand on these guidelines.

- **Regional guidelines on COVID-19 pandemic and gender**

COVID-19 pandemic two sets of regional guidelines were produced to inform gender related research during this time. These are: Guidelines on engendering socio-economic impacts assessments (link) and guidelines on conducting qualitative research during COVID-19 (link). These guidelines provide practical ideas and strengthened the ability of UNWomen country offices and other users to engender their data collections as well as adjust their research methods to the limitations created as a result of movement and social distancing restrictions during the pandemic.

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C. Knowledge generation and information-sharing

1. Knowledge-sharing and information-sharing platform

Following the recommendation made by the members of African programme on gender Statistics at its meetings held in 2017 in Dakar, Senegal, ECA has developed a regional knowledge-sharing and information-sharing platform in Africa. The platform is aimed at promoting and improving the exchange and sharing of information on gender statistics issues among partners and member countries of the African Programme on Gender Statistics. It provides a platform for sharing research and other materials emanating from the various institutions at the national and regional levels with regard to their activities. The platform was launched at the regional workshop on gender statistics organised by ECA, AfDB and UNWomen organised in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from 24 to 28 September 2018. It was endorsed by Statcom-Africa at its 6th meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Thematic and methodological research on gender issues

1. Methodological research

B.

- **A Minimum Set of Gender Indicators for Africa (MSGIA)** was developed – an important step towards harmonizing gender statistics on the continent. In collaboration with UNECA and AfDB, UN Women led a continent-wide consultative process with National Statistics Offices (NSOs), Gender Machineries, UN Agencies, Civil Society Organizations to inform the development of the MSGIA. The consultation resulted in the identification of 52 indicators across six domains economic structures (16 indicators), participation in productive activities and access to resources, health and related services (8 indicators), education (11 indicators), human rights of women and the girl child (8 indicators), public life and decision making (6 indicators) and environment and climate change (4 indicators), aligned with the global Minimum Set of gender indicators agreed to by the UN Statistical Commission in 2013. The MSGIA, which will be submitted in September 2020 to the Africa Statistical Commission for formal adoption, will make a significant contribution towards the harmonization of gender statistics and indicators across the continent.

2. Thematic Methodological research

- **Study to examine the potential of administrative systems in Africa**

UN Women study shows how administrative data can be used to produce gender statistics for monitoring SDGs. UN Women produced a study to examine the potential of administrative systems in Africa to filling gender-specific SDG data gaps looking at the experiences of three pathfinder countries (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda) and three non-pathfinder countries (Ethiopia, Malawi, Rwanda) in East and Southern Africa. The findings will inform UN Women's support to countries to overcome challenges in producing relevant gender indicators in SDG monitoring framework from administrative data.

- **UN Women is supporting countries to produce COVID-19 gender data.**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UN Women 2 regional offices in Nairobi (ESARO) and Dakar (WCARO) is spearheading the implementation of a Computer Assisted Telephone Interviews (CATI) Rapid Gender Assessments across the continent, in partnership with UNICEF, OHCHR, UNFPA and in some countries International NGOS's (e.g. Irish Aid in Sierra Leone). National authorities are systematically part of the technical committee supervising the full operation and in most countries, UN Women and its partners collaborate with, but not limited to, the NSO and the Ministry of Gender. In WCARO, a standard questionnaire has been developed and proposed to countries for adjustment to the COVID-19 specific context. The survey is currently being implemented in Kenya, Ethiopia, Senegal, Cote D'Ivoire, Central Africa Republic. Planning for similar surveys in Uganda, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, DRC, Sierra Leone, Mali are at various stages of completion. The UN Agencies who partnered with UN Women on this project are also interested to expand its implementation in countries where UN Women does not have a presence neither a program. Authorization to use the current LTAs for these additional countries was granted and preliminary contacts have already been taken with national authorities of Togo and Guinea.

- **Report on best practices update on gender statistics in Africa**

ECA has undertaken a study on lessons learnt and best practices in different aspects of improvement of gender statistics in Africa in the view of their promotion and replication. The document presents an update on gender statistics in Africa, lessons learned and best practices. It provides an analysis of the status of gender statistics in the continent and identifies key issues in mainstreaming gender perspective into national statistical systems. It builds on the work done in 2012 to measure progress provided in the

Compendium of Gender Statistics in Africa (UNECA, 2016) and provides up-to-date examples that can be replicated and adapted across the region.

- **Report on Measuring Violence against Women in Africa: Progress and best practices in statistics**

In light of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, ECA developed a report on Measuring Violence against Women in Africa: Progress and best practices in statistics. The report provides an timely overview of measuring violence against women (VAW) in Africa, lessons learned and best practices. The report explains the link between violence against women and sustainable development, drawing on existing research. It also summarises the efforts to date to measure national prevalence of partner and non-partner violence against women through household surveys, and how this aligns with international best practice; Explores needs and capacities of the national statistical systems in the area of VAW; Provides best practice examples of how administrative data is being collected, analysed, disseminated at the national level to monitor reported incidents of violence against women; and Provides best practice examples of how survey and administrative data are being used to adopt legislation, raise awareness, increase services and change behaviour.

- **Narratives on Women in Politics and Decision in Africa for the World's Women 2020 trends and Statistics**

ACS in partnership with GEWES of GPSP Division of ECA contributed o the World's Women 2020 trends and Statistics by drafting a narrative on Women in Politics and Decision in Africa. The storyline highlights the situation and trend of women in politics and decision making in Africa, including parliament, cabinet of ministers and senior managerial position. The narrative also highlights the role of positive discrimination in the improvement of the participation of women in politics and decision making as well as challenges to the increased participation of women in political and public life in the continent.

D. Reporting, storage and dissemination

1. Gender data portal

2. Knowledge-sharing and information-sharing platform

The African group on gender statistics developed a regional knowledge-sharing and information-sharing platform in Africa. The platform is aimed at promoting and improving the exchange and sharing of information on gender statistics issues among partners and member countries. It provides a platform for sharing research and other materials emanating from the various institutions at the national and regional levels with regard to their activities. It was launched in September 2018 in Abidjan at the meeting of the African group on gender statistics

D. Advocacy and communication for the development and implementation of the African programme on gender statistics in member States

III. Conclusion

Since its inception in 2012, the African Group on Gender Statistics has constituted the main framework for the collaboration and harmonization of efforts among various stakeholders working on gender statistics at the global, regional and national levels. Various consultations between members, under the leadership of UN-Women, ECA and AfDB, have enabled them to increase their support for the improvement of gender statistics on the continent. African member States have been provided with valuable support in the form of technical assistance, including methodological work, training materials, training, funding, advocacy and logistics.

These initiatives have contributed to enhancing the capacity of experts in member States in various areas of gender statistics. Notwithstanding these advances, significant challenges remain, both at the regional and the national levels, in the production, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics. An assessment of gender statistics in Africa conducted by UN-Women in 2017 showed that challenges remained. They included the lack of an enabling environment, including poor legal frameworks, a lack of harmonization and poor technical capacities. In addition, data accessibility, including poor open data policies and programmes, were widespread and constituted a clear impediment for gender statistics.

The UN-Women assessment also revealed other challenges: a lack of appreciation of gender statistics; the lack of clear and harmonized concepts, definitions and methodologies; poor technical capacity and the lack of specialized staff; a weak policy environment; inadequate funding; the lack of gender-specific surveys and the poor integration of gender statistics into ongoing statistics work; poor administrative records; and ineffective and outdated dissemination approaches.

IV. Points for discussion

The following are some areas to be discussed for further action:

- (a) Endorse a minimum set of gender indicators for Africa;
- (b) Accept the revision of phase two of the African programme on gender statistics in order to align it to Covid-19 methodological and data requirement.

ANNEX: UN Women Data and Statistics Work in Africa RESULTS

1.1 Creating an enabling environment

Country specific achievements

Kenya

- Gender statistics is now included as a key priority in Kenya's national development plans, including Kenya's third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III).
- Government spending on gender equality can now be regularly monitored.
- Coordination on gender statistics continued to be strengthened through the Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee (IAGSTC).

Tanzania

- The Statistics Act was amended to remove restrictive provisions on data production.
- Two Gender Statistics Technical Working Groups (GS-TWGs) are improving reporting on gender statistics in Mainland and Zanzibar.
- Gender statistics are now fully integrated in Tanzania Statistics Master Plan (TSMP II) and for the Zanzibar Strategy for Development of Statistics (ZSDS).
- Action plan for integrating gender data national development plans finalized to improve SDG monitoring in Zanzibar.
- Five-Year National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children now commits to strengthen gender data collection, analysis and reporting.

Uganda

- Review of national development plans reveals gender mainstreaming needs to be strengthened.
- Coordination on gender statistics continues to be strengthened through the Technical Working Groups.
- Gender data informed the revision of Uganda's public procurement policy.

Senegal

- Gender statistics are now a top priority in Senegal's national development strategy.

Cameroon

- Improved coordination resulted in increased investments in gender data.
- The National assessment on gender data finalized in early 2019, has been used to strengthen monitoring of the National Gender Policy.

Ethiopia

- The 10-year perspective development plan, that took gender related SDG targets and indicators relevant to the Ethiopian context into account was developed with financial and technical support from UNWomen.
- Existing national indicators relevant to gender (from GTP II), gender relevant SDG targets and indicators, and minimum set of gender indicators relevant to the Ethiopian context were identified, compiled and shared with key stakeholders. The minimum set of gender indicators for Ethiopia will be finalized during 2020.

- Consultative and validation workshops held on the ‘Assessment of the status of gender mainstreaming in the national system and statistical act of the CSA’, increased understanding of gender data gaps and programmatic actions that can be taken to overcome these gaps.

Other countries in the region:

- In [Zimbabwe](#) the Gender Sector Statistics Committee has been revitalized (August 2020), leading to enhanced cooperation and integration of activities of the users and producers of gender statistics the gender data ecosystem in Zimbabwe.
- The national monitoring and evaluation guidelines produced by the Government of Zimbabwe is gender sensitive.
- Assessments of the gender statistics systems were completed in [Sierra Leone](#) and Democratic Republic of the Congo. The outcomes of these assessments will form the basis for national strategies for the development of gender statistics as well as project documents aimed at obtaining funds for the study.

1.2 Increasing data production

Country specific achievements

Kenya

- County Gender Data Sheets ushered in new laws. The Council of Governors, in collaboration with the KNBS and UN Women, developed and launched 10 County Gender Data Sheets providing new baseline data to track progress on gender equality at the county level.
- New data on women’s access to finance leads to revision of the Agriculture Finance Corporation (AFC) gender policy.
- Reprocessing existing data is resulting in new data on women’s economic empowerment to improve SDGs monitoring.
- The Kenya Population and Housing Census was carried out in 2019, from a gender perspective.

Tanzania

- The skills of over 60 data producers have improved to produce and analyse gender data.
- Results of the 2017-2018 Household and Budget Survey (HBS) were launched, providing the first estimates of unpaid care work in Tanzania.
- In Zanzibar, reprocessed existing gender data resulted in improvements of SDGs’ reporting.
- Two national minimum sets of gender-related SDG indicators, one each for the mainland and Zanzibar, were developed and finalized.

Uganda

- 140 National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) were adopted to improve to measure progress on gender equality.
- Training strengthened the capacities of data producers to improve production of violence against women data.
- Uganda’s first time use survey launched and the results are influencing national development plans.

Senegal

- UN Women is partnering with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to conduct the first Violence against Women Survey.

Cameroon

- UN Women trained over 141 data producers, strengthening their capacities to mainstream gender in key census and surveys.

Ethiopia

- Training of 46 users on improving data literacy enabled the Central Statistics Agency (CSA) to better engage with users of gender statistics about their needs
- Training of 54 producers of statistics on data mining, data analysis, report writing and monitoring skills required to mainstream gender in the statistical system empowered decisionmakers on how to more effectively use statistics to make informed policy decisions.

Other countries in the region:

- Inclusion of Gender Based Violence (GBV) module in [Rwandan](#) Demographic and Health Survey will help monitoring the prevalence of GBV.
- UN-Women [Malawi](#) provided technical assistance and training to 70 NSO employees to further strengthen the data collection, analysis, utilization and dissemination of gender disaggregated statistics.

1.3 Improving data accessibility and use

Kenya

- Student research grants bolster gender data analysis.
- GROOTS Kenya and UN Women team up to encourage civil society organizations to use gender data for advocacy.
- UN Women and UNICEF in Kenya also provided technical and financial support to KNBS and the Council of Governors for the development and publication of the Women Empowerment Index and a comprehensive poverty report with 47 detailed county poverty profiles.

Tanzania

- New web platforms help improve access to gender data in Tanzania and Zanzibar.
- Data publication produced to show the state of gender equality in Zanzibar.
- Students were supported to use data to advocate for inclusive sustainable development.

Uganda

- UN Women and Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) teamed up to mentor statisticians to improve their data analysis skills.
- User-producer dialogues at the 3rd Annual Gender Statistics Forum (AGSF III) raise awareness on women's unpaid care work.

Senegal

- Training strengthened national planning capacities of data producers and users.

Ethiopia

- Supporting the national statistical office to publicize and disseminate data on GTP II and SDGs monitoring provides detail on the progress towards a wide range of GTP II and SDGs indicators at regional level helps decisionmakers to track progress of the implementation of the gender and women's empowerment agenda.
- Development of a national dashboard in collaboration with the SDG Center for Africa to increase access to SDG data.
- The development of a website in collaboration with the Peace and Development Centre (PDC) to publicize and disseminate performance reports, progress on the implementation of the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) II, GTP III and SDGs monitoring (such as reports, innovative data visualization, data briefs, policy summaries etc.).

Cameroon

- Strengthened collaboration improved the quality of national reporting on gender equality commitments.
- A network of journalists was established to improve how gender data are communicated in Cameroon.
- User-producer dialogues strengthened government's commitment to engage more data users.

Other countries in the region:

- UN Women Rwanda conducted **statistical advocacy through an infographic competition in the production and use of gender statistics**. A total of 258 entries were made, 45 of which were shortlisted. The work of the students and other available NISR gender data was showcased at the 2019 African Statistics Day celebrations held at the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR) in November 2019. The competition as well as the African Statistics Day celebration served to showcase the gender statistics available in Rwanda as well as promote its uptake and use.

ANNEX: MORE DETAILED RESULTS

A: Creating an enabling environment

Kenya

- **Gender statistics is now included as a key priority in Kenya's national development plans, including Kenya's third Medium-Term Plan (MTP III)**. During the drafting process, the Monitoring and Evaluation Department within the State Department of Planning received technical guidance from UN Women, which resulted in gender being mainstreamed within the National and County Reporting Indicators Handbook 2018–2022 (MTP III). Launched in 2019, the handbook is designed to increase accountability and transparency and tracking the economic, social, and political performance indicators. This accountability includes tracking progress on gender equality and women's empowerment commitments in Kenya's Vision 2030 and key flagship projects under its social pillar.
- **Government spending on gender equality can now be regularly monitored**. The National Treasury updated the Standard Chart of Accounts and government officers were trained to track and make public allocations for gender equality and produce data for SDG indicator 5.c.1, after technical assistance from UN Women and UNICEF. The National Treasury convened a workshop to finalize both the Standard Chart of Accounts Manual and its Codes. An extended reporting segment was added and approved, and gender will be one of the areas to be reported on, as well as climate change and HIV/AIDS.
- **Coordination on gender statistics continued to be strengthened through the Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee (IAGSTC)**. Meetings of IAGSTC resulted in the

review and approval of the biannual workplan for the activities implemented by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), including the institutional arrangements and roadmap required to undertake a time-use survey in 2020. The IAGSTC also provided a space for discussion of the Kenya Census of Population and Housing 2019 which included for the first time the enumeration of intersex population. The key to the success of coordination in Kenya has been the leadership of KNBS and the inclusion of different stakeholders, including line ministries such as the State Department of Gender Affairs (SDGA), CSOs and academic institutions.

Tanzania

- **The Statistics Act was amended to remove restrictive provisions on data production.** Provisions introduced in 2018 required non-governmental entities to request permission to produce data and imposed significant fines and/or jail time for anyone questioning official statistics or producing contradicting figures. Working with the UN system and the international community, to lobby against these provisions, UN Women also contacted decision-makers bilaterally and provided technical feedback on clauses where amendments were necessary. This all contributed to their ultimate removal from the Statistics Act, which was amended in June 2019. The law now allows anyone to produce and disseminate statistics without criminal consequences.
- **Two Gender Statistics Technical Working Groups (GS-TWGs) are improving reporting on gender statistics in Mainland and Zanzibar.** With support from UN Women, these committees provided technical guidance on quality assurance for gender statistical activities and contributed to improving coordination within the NSS and advocated for gender statistics to be produced in sectoral ministries. As a result, members of different ministries, departments and agencies helped generate sex-disaggregated data on poverty and hunger, health, education, and decent work to inform Zanzibar's Progress Report on the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators. The Report is presently being used to facilitate reporting on the Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty's as well as to inform the next five-year development plan.
- **Gender statistics are now fully integrated in Tanzania Statistics Master Plan (TSMP II) and for the Zanzibar Strategy for Development of Statistics (ZSDS).** The Gender Statistics Strategy marks a shift as it addresses the data revolution and ecosystem, and includes data collection from non-traditional sources (such as citizen-generated data, data from private, non-official sources, and programme data) and from non-traditional actors (civil society organizations, private sector, among others). UN Women provided training to the core working group of 15 officials from the NBS and the OCGS on how to develop a gender statistics strategy with technical guidance and advice during the modules' development. Finalized and validated by NBS and OCGS, the Strategy will ensure more sustained gender data production and ensure that the National Gender Policy, the TSMP II and the ZSDS explicitly include gender data action and financing plans. The gender module will be fully integrated in 2020.
- **Action plan for integrating gender data national development plans finalized to improve SDG monitoring in Zanzibar.** UN Women provided technical guidance to the OCGS to design an action plan for integrating gender-related SDG indicators, adopted to monitor the Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUZAIII) and being subsequently used to inform the development of MKUZA IV and the next five-year National Development Plan III. Including gender-related SDG indicators in national planning documents will further enable the Government to track progress and assess the results on the ground towards achieving the SDGs from a gender perspective.
- **Five-Year National Plan of Action to End Violence Against Women and Children now commits to strengthen gender data collection, analysis and reporting.** The National Action Plan has not been possible to responsively track emerging trends on violence against women and

children in Tanzania. The lack of baseline data and reliable and consistent measurement systems has limited the responsiveness and impact of interventions. As a result of UN Women's advocacy efforts in Zanzibar, OCGS has mandated relevant ministries, departments and agencies, such as the police and judiciary, to start producing gender data – for example on reported cases of violence against children by district and sex, and the number of judges, court magistrates and court lawyers by sex. The Plan specifically seeks to increase baseline and target data for informed decision-making on violence against women and children from 24% (2016 baseline) to 85% by 2020.

Uganda

- **Review of national development plans reveals gender mainstreaming needs to be strengthened.** UN Women provided technical and financial support to the UBOS to commission the end Evaluation of the PNSD II and Mid-term review of the Extended PNSD II. The review established key achievements, challenges and emerging issues in the production of gender-responsive data, such as the need for more capacity-building efforts to strengthen the production of gender data across the NSS. The results will be used to inform the design of the third Statistical Plan (PNSD III) and align it with the third National Development Plan (NDP III), to be developed in 2020.
- **Coordination on gender statistics continues to be strengthened through the Technical Working Groups.** Meetings of the Technical working group resulted in improving the production of the national SDG progress report to ensure evidence based reporting and timely data was used to measure Uganda's progress on the SDGs from a gender perspective. Additionally, UN Women seconded an SDGs monitoring and evaluation officer to the Office of the Prime Minister to strengthen the Governments capacity to improve SDGs monitoring and reporting.
- **Gender data informed the revision of Uganda's public procurement policy.** Following the revision of the National Gender Policy 2017 and of the integration of National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) indicators in the National Standard Indicators framework, a revision of Public Procurement and Disposal of Assets policy has been initiated to improve the level of women's participation and benefits from public procurement.

Senegal

- **Gender statistics are now a top priority in Senegal's national development strategy.** The national assessment coincided with the development of Senegal's third NSDS (2019-2023) and provided a unique opportunity to integrate a gender perspective in long-term statistics plans. As a result, the NSDS now designates gender statistics as its first strategic pillar, and forthcoming action plans will aim to improve the collection of gender data through surveys and administrative systems, including civil registration, expanding thematic coverage of gender statistics in areas such as climate change, governance, and peace and security.

Cameroon

- **#Improved coordination resulted in increased investments in gender data.** During this first full year of implementation of Women Count in Cameroon, the improved coordination around gender statistic resulted in increased investments in gender data. A high-level Inter-ministerial Committee on Gender Statistics, composed of statistics directors from all 12 social ministries, statistical institutions and university statistics schools, as well as a Technical Committee on Gender Statistics, were established with UN Women's support. Co-chaired by the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Family (MINPROFF) and by the National Institute of Statistics

(NIS), these mechanisms provide the building blocks to strengthen coordination and to advance technical leadership in the production, dissemination and use of gender statistics. As a result, the Government included gender statistics in its 2020 Budget for the first time, resulting in USD 700,000 being granted to the MINPROFF to strengthen monitoring of the M&E framework of the National Gender Policy.

- **The National assessment on gender data finalized in early 2019, has been used to strengthen monitoring of the National Gender Policy.** UN Women and the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Family (MINPROFF), which is in charge of piloting the national gender policy, conducted an assessment on the gender statistics gaps for the implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework of the National Gender Policy and its Multi-sector action plan. The final validation is expected in 2020. This assessment will be the base for the development of the next National Gender Policy which is also to begin in 2020. Moreover, it will become an advocacy document for the Ministry and other development partners on the use of gender statistics and the need for the National Statistical System to pay a key attention to their production.

Ethiopia

The 10-year perspective development plan, that took gender related SDG targets and indicators relevant to the Ethiopian context into account was developed with financial and technical support from UNWomen. The report was launched in June 2020. The government unveiled the development plan under the theme ‘*Ethiopia: An African Beacon of Prosperity*’. During the occasion, H.E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, underscored that the ten-year plan would target “to bring quality based economic growth” and would be “women and youth” centered and guarantees private sector-led growth. The development plan has six strategic plans: ensuring quality economic growth, increasing productivity and competency, ensuring the reform of systems, making the private sector leader of the economy, ensuring fair participation of women and youths and building climate resilient green development.

- **Existing national indicators relevant to gender (from GTP II), gender relevant SDG targets and indicators, and minimum set of gender indicators relevant to the Ethiopian context were identified, compiled and shared with key stakeholders.** Subsequently, a consultative and validation meeting with key stakeholders was held on 22nd of October 2019 in Adama town. The validated indicators were then shared with PDC’s Evaluation and Monitoring Team responsible for the preparation of the 10 year perspective development plan’s Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
- **Consultative and validation workshops held on the ‘Assessment of the status of gender mainstreaming in the national system and statistical act of the CSA’, increased understanding of gender data gaps and programmatic actions that can be taken to overcome the gaps.** An assessment was done on how gender is conceptualized and framed in the policies, strategies, plans as well as of the performance of actors involved in the National Statistical System (NSS) enables to understand current status of gender statistics, gaps and areas of support. The first validation meeting was held in November 2019 and the second on February 06, 2020 in Addis Ababa, with the financial and technical support of UN Women. Current development and gaps observed in mainstreaming gender in the data collection, production, dissemination and utilization processes of the NSS were shared with the participants as part of user producer dialogues.

Other countries in the region:

- In Zimbabwe the **Gender Sector Statistics Committee** was revitalized by Zimstats with support from UN Women. **The Committee will enhance cooperation and integration of activities of**

the users and producers of gender statistics the gender data ecosystem in Zimbabwe. The first meeting of the committee took place in August 2020. The committee was also trained on basic concepts related to gender, gender statistics, the use of administrative data for SDG reporting and quality assurance when working with administrative data.

- UNWomen provided financial and technical support from a gender statistics perspective for the production of the national monitoring and evaluation guidelines produced by the Government of Zimbabwe. **These guidelines include a gender component as a cross cutting theme as well as a focus area in itself.**

B: Increasing data production

Kenya

- **County Gender Data Sheets ushered in new laws.** The Council of Governors, in collaboration with the KNBS and UN Women, developed and launched 10 County Gender Data Sheets providing new baseline data to track progress on gender equality at the county level. The data has been used so far in Kitui county to inform the design of its gender policy, an empowerment bill on women's economic empowerment and a bill that will ensure that all development actions by the county take into account gender including resource allocation. The Data Sheets will also allow counties to incorporate considerations in commitment and opportunities to integrate a gender focus when designing the County Integrated Development Plans.
- **New data on women's access to finance leads to revision of the Agriculture Finance Corporation (AFC) gender policy.** In partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the European Union, the baseline survey, covering 24 out of 47 counties, sought to better understand women's access to agriculture finance through the Governments' Women Affirmative Access Window (WAAW) project. As a result of this partnership, the AFC revised its gender mainstreaming policy to include enabling workspaces, with lactation rooms in all branches. The survey findings led AFC to pledge to mobilize 1 billion Kenyan Shillings (USD 10 million) to support women farmers in the country.
- **Reprocessing existing data is resulting in new data on women's economic empowerment to improve SDGs monitoring.** UN Women supported KNBS, in partnership with UNICEF, to reprocess existing data from different sources including Demographic and Household Survey and Integrated Household Budget Survey, which will be used to produce the first-ever Women Empowerment Index and Women Poverty Profiles at National and County Levels and will be used to inform monitoring the SDGs from a gender perspective.
- **The Kenya Population and Housing Census was carried out in 2019, from a gender perspective.** At both preparatory and actual enumeration stages, UN Women provided technical assistance on integrating gender within the Census monitoring guide, specifically ensuring gender balance of enumerators, sensitive delivery of trainings, and raising gender issues related to heads-of-household, reproductive health issues and wealth. The Census Volume I report was published by KNBS, detailing population distribution by sex, number of households and average household size, at national, county and sub-county levels. A specific gender dimensions monograph will be produced in 2020.

Tanzania

- **The skills of over 60 data producers have improved to produce and analyse gender data.** Five trainings were organized by UN Women to strengthen the capacities of data producers of the OCGS and the NBS on how to analyse new time-use data from the Household and Budget

Survey (HBS), on how to produce and analyse gender statistics, and on how to reprocess gender data using multi-level disaggregation. As a result, participants have since applied this knowledge to improve statistical production and reporting on the SDGs. The Zanzibar SDG gender indicators report was produced as a result of the training provided by UN Women and it was achieved by reprocessing existing survey data (see below).

- **Results of the 2017-2018 Household and Budget Survey (HBS) were launched, providing the first estimates of unpaid care work in Tanzania.** Building on UN Women's efforts in 2018 to integrate a time use module in the HBS, 30 new gender indicators in areas such as on time-use, unpaid care work, access to ICTs, asset ownership and others are now available to address key SDG data gaps. As a result, the same process is now being replicated to inform the HBS in Zanzibar, which will be completed in 2020.
- **In Zanzibar, reprocessed existing data resulted in improvements of SDGs' reporting.** Reprocessing existing surveys led to an increase on data available for 34 out of 54 gender-related SDG indicators (63%). Survey data from the HBS, the Demographic and Health Survey and the Integrated Labour Force Survey were reprocessed to generate statistics by sex, residence, region, district, age, education, disability, unavailable in previous reports. As a result, various dimensions were produced and included in Zanzibar SDG progress report which will be released in 2020.
- **Two national minimum sets of gender-related SDG indicators, one each for the mainland and Zanzibar, were developed and finalized.** The localized set of gender indicators for the mainland contained 106 indicators and the minimum set of gender indicator in Zanzibar 79 indicators. UN Women provided technical guidance to the NBS and the OCGS to develop these national minimum sets of indicators to ensure they are aligned with international gender equality commitments and national development priorities. As a result, the minimum set of gender indicators will improve monitoring progress of the SDGs from a gender perspective and are integrated into the national results frameworks to inform gender responsive national policies and development plans.

Uganda

- **140 National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs) were adopted to improve to measure progress on gender equality.** The indicators are anchored on the NDP II and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and have been integrated within the Government's National Standard Indicator Framework. UN Women supported the Government to compile the indicators to address SDG 5 **FIGURE 2 Measuring Progress in 2019** Significant progress in Uganda is due to successfully integrating gender in major initiatives in the coordination, production, dissemination and use of gender statistics. 0% 100% 100% monitoring requirements and emerging issues on Uganda's progress towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment. The NPGEIs increased gender data coverage from 6 to 12 sectors (out of 19) and the total number of indicators from 114 to 140.
- **Training strengthened the capacities of data producers to improve production of violence against women data.** UN Women supported the participation of members of the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, UBOS Director and Senior Statistician in charge of VAW and Social statistics, to attend a Regional workshop on the Planning and Implementation of Prevalence Surveys on Violence against Women held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 16-19 July 2019. The workshop provided participants greater technical and conceptual clarity around planning, designing, and implementing VAW surveys. As a result, a country action plan for undertaking a VAW survey pilot was developed and data collection is expected to begin in 2020.
- **Uganda's first time use survey launched and the results are influencing national development plans.** The 2017-18 Time-Use Survey revealed that women spend more time on

unpaid work, spending 6 hours on average compared to 4 hours by men, pointing to the need of policies and plans that improve women's economic empowerment. As a result, the UBOS and the National Planning Authority (NPA) have since integrated time use gender indicators in the NDP III, with support received from UN Women.

Senegal

- **UN Women is partnering with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to conduct the first Violence against Women Survey.** Within this partnership, UN Women is acting as the technical and financial partner for this survey, with UNDP as the lead manager. Planning and preparatory work began, including development of the methodological note and terms of reference. The survey will produce the first violence against women data collected at the household level; mapping of survivors and service-providers; and the first administrative data collection on support for survivors at police stations, courts and health services for the country.

Cameroon

- **UN Women trained over 141 data producers, strengthening their capacities to mainstream gender in key census and surveys.** Covering topics such as: gender statistics production (including from administrative data), communicating gender statistics, using gender data to plan and monitor public policies, and computing gender-related SDG indicators, these trainings contributed to build the capacity of national statisticians on gender statistics. Since then, they have been using the acquired skills to improve the quality of gender data produced in surveys and national censuses, including the General Census of Population and Housing, the General Census on Agriculture and Livestock and the Survey on employment and informal sector. As a result, special volumes on gender from the General Population and Housing Census and the General Census of Agriculture and Livestock will be produced.

Ethiopia

- **Training on improving data literacy enabled the CSA to better engage with users of gender statistics.** 46 participants (25 female and 21 male) were trained during 2019 on the duties and responsibilities of CSA on Data production and dissemination, the Basic concepts of gender, importance and basics of gender statistics, mainstream of gender in statistics, production of gender statistics from surveys and censuses, and how to use utilized CSA's website to access different data and compiled reports including gender statistics. The training provided an opportunity for a feedback mechanism between data users and data producers.
- **Training on data mining, data analysis, report writing and monitoring skills required to mainstream gender in the statistical system empower decisionmakers on how to more effectively use statistics to make informed policy decisions.** A total of 54 (13 Female and 41 male) CSA's national and branch office statisticians were trained. They were able to get technical skills on data mining and production of statistics with a gender perspective, styles of reporting data without compromising the gender dimension and the application of different statistical and info-graphic software in the production and reporting of statistical data.

Other countries in the region:

- **Inclusion of Gender Based Violence module in Rwandan Demographic and Health Survey.** Training and data collection started in quarter 4 of 2019 and data collection will continue until the end of quarter 1 of 2020. This is the second time that the Rwandan DHS includes a GBV module. Data from the gender-based-violence module of the 2019/2020 survey will also be used

to track change since 2014/2015 and inform continued policy and strategy formulation in Rwanda related to violence against women. ESA provided funding for this activity.

- **UN-Women Malawi provided technical assistance and training to 70 NSO employees to further strengthen data collection, analysis, and utilization and dissemination of gender disaggregated statistics.** The trained officials will use the skills they obtained to produce regular analytical reports, based on the Fifth Integrated Household Survey (IHS5). Besides producing data for the Gender Equality index, Malawi has not been producing gender statistics on a regular basis. ESA provided financial support to this initiative.

C: Improving data accessibility and use

Kenya:

- **Student research grants bolster gender data analysis.** Implemented by the University of Nairobi in collaboration with KNBS, SDGA and UN Women, the student research grant seeks to promote access to and use of gender statistics for analysis related to gender and the SDGs. The 17 student grantees showcased their data-driven analysis of some of Kenya's most pressing gender equality issues at an ICPD 25 summit side event and at the Kenya Institute of Public Policy, Research and Analysis Annual Regional Conference. Their research further prompted commitments from KNBS to filling data gaps identified through their analysis, such as on femicide.
- **GROOTS Kenya and UN Women team up to encourage civil society organizations to use gender data for advocacy.** To commemorate Africa Statistics Week in November, UN Women in collaboration with GROOTS Kenya convened 35 women's rights organizations data used for advocacy to accelerate gender equality and women's empowerment. As a result, the organizations will produce and use citizen-generated data to monitor SDG 5 and contribute to Kenya's Voluntary National Report on the SDGs in 2020.
- **UN Women and UNICEF in Kenya also provided technical and financial support to KNBS and the Council of Governors for the development and publication of the Women Empowerment Index and a comprehensive poverty report with 47 detailed county poverty profiles.** These were published in August 2020. The first ever chapter on gender was included in the annual Economic Survey which was published in April 2020, UN Women provided technical and financial support to the State Department of Gender towards this study. All these studies increases the availability of gender data in Kenya and through close collaboration with stakeholders throughout the production process as well as the use of deliberate and well-conceived communication strategies their findings were brought to the attention of wide range of stakeholders and users.

Tanzania

- **New web platforms help improve access to gender data in Tanzania and Zanzibar.** UN Women supported the OCGS and the NBS in designing and setting-up a user-responsive database integrated within their websites to host national-level gender statistics to monitor progress on achieving gender equality. UN Women supported in creating a dedicated Gender Statistics page on the OCGS and NBS official websites which are now fully operational. The pages will be regularly updated to improve dissemination of gender statistics to data users, having reached monthly an average of 9000 users.
- **Data publication produced to show the state of gender equality in Zanzibar.** UN Women supported OCGS to develop the Women and Men in Zanzibar: Facts and Figures, aimed to

highlight gender issues; specifically inequalities between women and men, girls and boys in education, health, labor, employment, crime, good governance, and decision-making.

- **Students were supported to use data to advocate for inclusive sustainable development.** UN Women in partnership with the Tanzania Data Lab, University of Dar es Salaam, and the College of Information, Communication and Technology, organized a side event on the margins of the Data Tamasha, bringing together young students and raised awareness on the importance of gender statistics for evidence-based policy planning. The event led to new partnerships with the Tanzania Data Lab and the University of Dar es Salaam to explore how to further encourage young students with a background in data science to develop infographics using gender statistics.

Uganda

- **UN Women and Economic Policy Research Centre (EPRC) teamed up to mentor statisticians to improve their data analysis skills.** UN Women and EPRC organized a customized mentorship training in partnership with the Makerere University for 17 UBOS staff to improve their capacity for in-depth analysis of existing data, in order to increase the availability of gender data to inform programming, budgeting, research and advocacy on gender equality and women's empowerment and the SDGs. As a result of the mentoring process, the trainees developed and published five policy papers on how gender statistics can be used to inform policy and programming in the agricultural sector; sustainable modern energy; gender-based violence; women's empowerment in the land sector; information and communication technologies.
- **User-producer dialogues at the 3rd Annual Gender Statistics Forum (AGSF III) raise awareness on women's unpaid care work.** UN Women in partnership with UBOS and EPRC, organized the AGSF III on 28th November, which brought together over 220 participants from civil society organizations, ministries, academia and statisticians. Results of the time-use survey were disseminated, and policy implications of women's unpaid domestic and care work were discussed by an interdisciplinary panel. Three gender analytical papers based on the time-use survey, 2017 NGPSS and 2016 Uganda National Household Survey data were also presented revealing women's disproportionate share of unpaid care work and the extent of disempowerment among women and the simultaneous gaps or inadequacies experienced by the disempowered women at individual level.

Senegal

- **Training strengthened national planning capacities of data producers and users.** UN Women, in collaboration with PARIS21, organized a training session on the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT), a free cloud-based planning tool developed by PARIS21 to help National Statistical Offices and other data producers respond to policy-related data needs. About 40 participants discussed how to integrate a gender perspective into Senegal's third NSDS, providing an opportunity to promote co-operation between producers and users, including civil society organisations and the research community. As a result, more data users and producers are equipped to identify data gaps and to map gender data demand from global and national policies.

Cameroon

- Strengthened collaboration improved the quality of national reporting on gender equality commitments. For the first time, core statistical institutions – such as the NIS and the Central Bureau of Census and Population Studies (BUCREP) – were involved in preparing the Voluntary National Review and Beijing+25 report, led by the MINPROFF. As a result, relevant data and analysis were a key part of the reports. UN Women facilitated the coordination between MINPROFF and the NIS, which yielded an MoU between the two to expand their collaboration.

- A network of journalists was established to improve how gender data are communicated in Cameroon. The network's 37 members – which includes national journalists from 18 media organizations and communications staff from MINPROFF, NIS and BUCREP – are improving how gender statistics are communicated through various media, and one of the initiatives was the creation of a YouTube channel. Videos have been created in English and French, including to encourage people to participate in the recently launched COVID-19 rapid gender assessment.
- User-producer dialogues strengthened government's commitment to engage more data users. During the African Statistics Week, UN Women convened data users and producers from 29 civil society organizations, government bodies and UN agencies to discuss key areas where there are pervasive gender data gaps, including employment, violence and time use and challenges related to accessing data. As a result of the discussions, two civil society working groups were established: the Civil Society Organizations Working Group on gender and public policies in Cameroon (GTOG) and the Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG), which will support the Ministry of Women's Empowerment in advocacy efforts to ensure data is mainstreamed in policies and national plans.

Ethiopia

- **Development of a national dashboard supported in collaboration with the SDG Center for Africa to increase access to SDG data.** During 2019, the server with the required capacity to set up the national dashboard on the SDGs was procured 15 individuals (4 female and 11 male) who will be fully engaged in the set-up of the dashboard, took hands-on training at the SDG Center for Africa from 27-29 November 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda.
- **Support the development of a website so that the Peace and Development Centre (PDC) can publicize and disseminate performance reports, on Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) II, GTP III and SDGs monitoring (such as reports, innovative data visualization, data briefs, policy summaries etc.)** as per the annual work programme and without compromising the health and safety of its staff. The website is now in its final stage of development and is expected to be operational before the end of 2020.

Other countries in the region:

- UN Women Rwanda, through the Women Count ESA-RO provided financial support to the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR) in conducting **statistical advocacy through an infographic competition in the production and use of gender statistics.** A total of 258 entries were made, 45 of which were shortlisted. The work of the students and other available NISR gender data was showcased at the 2019 African Statistics Day celebrations held at the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR) in November 2019. The competition as well as the African Statistics Day celebration served to showcase the gender statistics available in Rwanda as well as promote its uptake and use.