Accelerating progress towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics

Africa Gender Statistics Forum

7-11 November 2023

Casablanca, Morocco.

United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

المملكة المغربية
المندوبية السامية للتخطيط
HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AU PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report reflects the exemplary efforts of the organizing committee comprised of William Muhwava, Fatouma Sissoko, Gonzaque Andre Rosalie, Edna Akullq, Pamela Nabukhonzo Kakande of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, Isabella Schmidt of UN Women East and Southern Africa (ESA), Michka Seroussi of UN Women West and Central Africa (WCA), Marc Koffi Kouakou of the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Meriem Ait Ouyahia of PARIS21.

The local organizing committee was led by Jamal Ait Mouha (High Commission for Planning, Morocco). The event management team was led by Conrad Mudibo (UN Women ESA), with on-site support from Sylvia Maina (UN Women ESA) who conceptualized and headed all strategic communications, supported by Rokhaya Ngom (UN Women WCA), Zekariyas Mintesnot (UNECA), who was responsible for the virtual meeting room, livestreaming and overall sound and interpretation systems. Hiwot Debebe Kebebe (UNECA) who ensured that all accommodation and other logistical arrangements for the participants were in place and provided significant support.

It would be an omission not to recognize the sterling contributions of the logistics and communications point persons from the respective conference partners towards amplifying the emerging messages and calls to actions as part of the push to raise the profile of gender data and statistics on the continent. These comprise Hiwot Debebe Kebebe (UNECA), Jamal Ait Mouha (HCP Morocco), and Brenda Wawaka (UN Women ESA) and Diop Khadidiatou (UN Women WCA). Conrad Mudibo (UN Women ESA) provided final graphic designs for all the Conference branding and communication materials as well the moderation for the forum.

We take this opportunity to also recognize all the delegates who graciously agreed to serve as rapporteurs for the respective sessions and provided meticulous reports articulating the critical issues and key messages summarized in this report. Pamela Nabukhonzo Kakande (UNECA) collated and edited the various session reports compiled by the rapporteurs, before writing this workshop report product.

Finally, we are grateful to all the individuals and institutions who provided support and expertise towards the resounding success of the fifth Africa Gender Statistics forum and who continue to spearhead the gender statistics agenda in Africa. We apologize for any inadvertent omissions in this acknowledgement.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADF   African Development Fund

AfDB   African Development Bank

AGGES Africa Group of Gender Statistics

AGI   Africa Gender Index

APGS   Africa Program on Gender Statistics

AU   African Union

AUC   African Union Commission

CBGenSMS   Capacity Building on Gender Statistics and Monitoring System

COVID-19   Coronavirus disease 2019

CR   Civil Registration

CRVS   Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

CSOs   Civil Society Organizations

D4H   Data for Health Initiative

DHS   Demographic and Health Survey

EOC   Equal Opportunities Commission

ESA   East and Southern Africa

FAO   Food and Agriculture Organization

FGM   Female Genital Mutilation

GEB   Gender and Equity planning and Budgeting

GEWE   Gender equality and women's empowerment

GBV   Gender-based violence

GDN   Gender Data Network

GDP   Gross Domestic Product

GIS   Geo Information System

GRB   Gender Responsive Budgeting

HCP   High Commission for Planning-Morocco

ICBT   International Cross Border Trade

ICT   Information Communication Technology

ILO   International Labour Organization

IUCN   International Union for Conservation of Nature

MDAs   Ministries, departments, and agencies

NSDS   National Sustainable Development Strategy

NSO   National statistical office

NSS   National statistical system

PARIS21   Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st century

REC   Regional economic community

SDGs   Sustainable Development Goals

SIGI   Social Institutions Gender Index

SHaSA   Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa

STATAFRIC   Pan-African Institute for Statistics

TFVAW   Technology Facilitated Violence Against Women

TFV   Technology Facilitated Violence

TUS   Time Use Survey

UN   United Nations

UNECA   United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

UNEP   United Nations Environment Programme

UNESCAP   United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UNSD   United Nations Statistical Database

UNDRR   United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

VAW   Violence Against Women

VAWG   Violence Against Women and Girls

VNR   Voluntary National Report

WAEMU   West African Economic Monetary Union

WCA   West and Central Africa

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The inter-agency Africa regional workshops on Gender Statistics held annually since 2017 purposed to provide a platform for harmonizing and strengthening the collection, dissemination, and use of gender statistics in the region along thematic areas.

This year marked the fifth Africa Gender Statistics Forum. It was jointly organized by AfDB, UNECA, UN Women, PARIS21 and the Moroccan High Commission for Planning (HCP). The Forum was held from 7 - 11 November 2023 in Casablanca - Morocco. The forum was attended by 220 participants (110 in physical attendance and 110 online) from 42 Africa member states, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and France. These were mainly statisticians and gender experts from national statistical offices (NSO) and the country gender machinery. The sessions were facilitated by representatives from the following institutions: AfDB, UNECA, UN Women, STATAFRIC (AUC), PARIS21, Open Data Watch and Data2X.

The fifth regional gender statistics forum aimed to give an opportunity to all institutions implementing the Africa Programme on Gender Statistics (APGS) to work in synergy by discussing gender issues in the continent, sharing their work program, activities and strategizing accordingly. It creates an opportunity to report to the upcoming Africa Statistics Commission and the 9th global forum on gender statistics as well as make better use of limited resources and time, through sharing best practices and developing common strategies to rationalize, harmonize and improve the measurement and use of gender statistics in Africa. The specific objectives include to:

   Take stock of progress made in gender statistics for implementing development frameworks at the global, regional, and national levels.
   Disseminate the latest methodological developments and best practices in the production, communication, and use of gender statistics.

The forum covered a wide range of topics, including:

   Updates and progress on the SDGs, gender statistics work at STATAFRIC (AUC), UNECA, AfDB and UN Women.

   Progress with important international and continental agreements Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063, Beijing platform for action and Maputo protocol.

   Ongoing methodological work on emerging topics such as cross border trade, technology facilitated violence, gender and the environment and gender data in humanitarian settings.

   The findings, recommendations, and road map prior of activities to be undertaken prior to the launch of the Africa Gender Index (AGI) 2023.

   Sharing country experiences and recent developments on the care economy and time use surveys, uptake and use of gender data and measurement of technology facilitated violence and civil registration.

   Ongoing work and the importance of health and civil registration related work.

This report captures key messages and discussions from the forum held through the joint efforts of the conference partners.

Chair: Ayach Khellaf, High Commission for Planning- Morocco

OPENING SESSION

KEY MESSAGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The forum registered the following achievements:
A draft of the "Casablanca Declaration on the Fifth Session of the Africa Gender Statistics Forum on "Accelerating progress towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics". This was drafted based on the conclusions that arose from the daily sessions.
A press release on the forum was drafted and shared with the various communication offices.
A new set of elected members for the Africa Group on Gender Statistics (AGGES)
Agreed that the sixth gender statistics forum will be held in Gaborone, Botswana in June 2024.

KEYNOTE REMARKS

Ms. Linnet Miriti, Africa Development Bank

The AfDB representative in her address thanked Morocco for hosting the workshop and stressed the recognition, aspiration, and commitment of gender equality as a prerequisite for assessing progress of the 2030 and 2063 agendas, especially in relation to SDG Goal 5 and Aspiration 4 of the African Agenda. She emphasized that SDGs and agenda 2063 commitments recognize that the promotion of gender and the empowerment of women and girls is a human right concern.

Gender statistics are essential as a barometer to better assess progress; however, the quality of statistics is not balanced. The statistics focus more on social issues, unlike for the economic and environmental sectors, for which gaps remain to be filled for some areas. Called on participants to identify the data gaps. Halfway to the 2030 deadline, Africa is unfortunately not on track to achieve these goals. She highlighted the activities that the AfDB program is involved in terms of regional partnership, capacity building, development of methods and tools to support NSOs, the AGI, Africa Statistical program and the gender data portal among others. She looked forward to available evidence that shifts policy towards acceleration of SDGs and Agenda 2063.

Ms. Isabella Schmidt, UN-WOMEN

She represented UN Women and encouraged participants to listen to the video recording from Mr. Papa Seck, Chief Research & Data Section, UN Women, which was unfortunately not available at the time of the official opening, due to technical problems. The representative of UN Women is delighted that participants are gathered to exchange experiences, learn, and monitor progress on gender statistics, but also gender data and capacity gaps that will need to be filled through a strong partnership and inclusive and collective collaboration as we move forward to achieve 2030 and Agenda 2063. As a collective we have made significant progress since 2016 in promoting the production and use of gender data and statistics on the continent. The immense interest in this event as well as the exciting line up of speakers will yet again not only enrich networking amongst data producers and users, but hopefully also spur us and our work to greater heights.

Mr. Johannes Jütting, PARIS21

In his remarks, he highlighted the challenging global context we are working in to achieve the 2030 agenda, the COVID19 pandemic, inflation, and conflicts, which have had a negative impact on the emancipation and empowerment of women and girls. It is therefore important to monitor and measure the impact of these events on the monitoring of the SDGs. He also spoke about the improvement in terms of gender awareness and information. He highlighted two successes in awareness and innovations in measurement such as in VAW, TUS, care economy, women's economic contribution beyond GDP: and tools such as satellite accounts and Big Data. Partnerships have been strengthened through GDN with UNECA, Open Data watch, Data2X and with its network of partners in sharing, learning and exchange on a technical level. PARIS21 will be happy to report back on its data lab initiative He also drew attention to the importance of exploring emerging themes such as: gender and climate change, gender, and generative artificial intelligence.

Mr. William Muhwava, UNECA

The representative of UNECA reiterated that it has a unique role of ensuring the international good practices recommended at the global level by the UNSD are applied to Africa and gender statistics is one of the areas to monitor gender equality.   He presented the main thrusts of ECA's programme on transformation and modernization of statistics, which focuses mainly on supporting member countries to strengthen their capacities and on gender equality issues. He also drew attention to the use of new technologies such as "cell phones" to notify and track births, their registration and recognition (good practice in Ghana), and drones for mapping and enumeration (census of Senegal) to improve the coverage rate. He encouraged continued partnership with UN WOMEN, AfDB, PARIS21, Data2X, etc. to support African countries and honour commitments in the implementation of the African Gender Statistics Programme 2022-2026 and translate it into success, connecting, formally or informally, participants to expand and strengthen this network.

Mr. Ahmed Lahlimi Alami, High Commission for Planning - Morocco

He welcomed the participants and thanked the partners and organizers for their efforts to organize the workshop. He also praised the choice of Morocco to host this workshop. In addition, he highlighted efforts, built capacities, shared experiences, and continued consultations to fill gender data gaps for better use, by policies, gender budgeting to monitor achievements and honor African countries' commitments to the 2030 and 2063 agendas. Shortcomings concerning, among other things, the measurement of unpaid domestic work, carried out mainly by women, and its contribution to GDP, and in relation to the care economy. He also spoke about the HCP's initiatives in terms of programming (GBV, TUS, others), modernization and digitalization (collection, platforms, database, tools, etc.) of gender statistics (production, analysis, and dissemination) to make them accessible to different users and inform public policies. He stressed the need and importance to establish an African portal dedicated to dissemination of statistics and gender studies. He encouraged participants to take initiative and explore the use of new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Big Data for production and use of gender statistics. He reiterated the need to continue the implementation of the African agenda for more harmonized, disaggregated, regular, open, interoperable gender statistics for improved lives for African women and girls. Noted that gender statistics are pivotal in monitoring progress towards achieving gender equality.

MAIN PROCEEDINGS

Progress towards the gender responsive SDGs in Africa

Chair: Abdeslam Nadah, High Commission for Planning- Morocco
Session Leads: Pamela Kakande and Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA

The representative from UNECA, Ms. Eman Aboaldahab Elsayed, in this session aimed at sharing the methodology of tracking progress towards the SDGs in Africa, progress towards achievement of SDG in Africa and a specific focus on progress in achieving SDG 5 in Africa as well as the data availability assessment of SDG 5. This was also a space to highlight the achievements, progress and challenges in achieving the SDGs in Africa at the continental, regional and national levels. UNECA uses the "Current Status Index" and the "Anticipated Progress Index" to measure progress of SDGs, the criterion for selecting indicators is based on the availability of two or more data points for more than 40% of the countries in the respective country grouping and the data source is UNSTATs database.

Overall, Africa has shown some progress in 13 of the 17 SDGs. However, they are insufficient to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Significant progress was made on women's leadership, the elimination of female genital mutilation and the availability of data on SDG5 in Africa. However, the following challenges need to be addressed as low disaggregation of data, weak integration of gender in monitoring and reporting of other SDGs compared to SDG5.

In conclusion, the assessment is based on the available data and results may change as more data is collected and compiled. There is a need to integrate different data sources such as administrative data, surveys, censuses, and Big Data to monitor the gender relevant SDGs Indicators. In addition, build the capacity of national statistical systems in the application of new data sources. Called upon all data producers to collect and disseminate their data in a sex-disaggregated format. UNECA is available to engage with countries to conduct specific country level assessments.

Cameroun's case: Mr. Tatsinkou Christophe (NSO) shared the state of implementation of SDG monitoring in Cameroun. Cameroun has an institutional set-up for monitoring and evaluation from the national to the local level. It produces reports on SDG monitoring, based on the Voluntary National Report (VNR) reports. Progress was noted in eradicating GBV and FGM and reducing rates of early marriage however the country will not be able to achieve all the SDG targets. It also endeavored to identify ways to accelerate targets on which action can be taken to boost the achievement of the other SDGs and identified interventions to accelerate the development of human capital and well-being. However, challenges in statistical production exist such as COVID19 that had a negative effect on progress in ending violence, lack of funding for gender statistics especially for data collection and capacity building.

Zambia's case: Ms. Emma Phiri (NSO) shared Zambia's experience in mainstreaming gender in SDGs monitoring and reporting She highlighted the efforts made to align and embed the SDGs into the NDP, as well as within the M&E Framework. She noted that Gender disaggregated data is the best practice for VNR Reporting because it helps evaluate how specific groups are performing in the various SDGs, Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). Monitoring of SDGs relies solely on "Official Statistics" that are either produced directly by Zamstats or by other recognized source and endorsed by Zamstats as official statistics. The results in the progress and monitoring of the SDGs in Zambia are mixed, with gaps in the availability of necessary data among the challenges. She pointed out the challenges to SDG monitoring in Zambia such as in sufficient up-to-date and well disaggregated data for some SDG indicators and targets that rely on periodical surveys, exacerbated by inadequate administrative data systems, low decentralization of data and statistical systems on SDG indicators, lack of information on financing of the SDGs.

Tanzania's case: Ms. Ramla Hassan (NSO) exhibited the state of Tanzania's progress towards gender responsive SDGs. She pointed out that the stakeholders' awareness of the global agenda for sustainable development is growing, alignment of SDGs and the with national priorities, but gaps still exist although some thematic areas already have data available at national level however, data disaggregation is still a challenge. The main challenge is limited financing for data production. The next steps include to harness administrative sources, build a more

comprehensive statistical database using modern technology, strengthen collaboration with non-state actors and the international data community, embrace dissemination platforms such as SDG Goal Tracker Portal for Tanzania.

Plenary discussions. This session focused on what should be done differently to achieve the SDGs within the remaining seven years, given that the pattern is similar in the progress made in countries in Africa. This posed a key issue for building a basis for reflection to have strong and aggressive measures to accelerate efforts to achieve gender equality. The participants highlighted the need for a learning curve to understand whether there exist coordination mechanisms between gender ministries and NSOs, and if there is political will to accelerate progress of SDGs. Participants appreciated the progress so far and noted the need to use alternative data sources (non-traditional sources) to fill gender data gaps as is the case in Zambia that uses administrative data.

Progress towards the gender responsive Africa Agenda 2063

Chair: Abdeslam Nadah, High Commission for Planning– Morocco
Session Leads: Pamela Kakande and Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA

A representative from STATAFRIC-AUC, Mr. Jose Awong Alene highlighted the AUC milestones to promote gender equality. Noting that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AU adopted the Second Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA 2) as a continental strategy for the development of statistics in Africa for the next 10 years, to support the planning, monitoring, and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. SHaSA 2 STG on Demography, Migration, Health, Human Development, Social Protection and Gender guidelines on gender statistics to be presented to the Conference of Director generals of Statistics meeting in December 2023 in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia for endorsement.

Morocco's case: Mr. Abdeljebar Salim (NSO) highlighted the existing monitoring mechanisms and the progress achieved in the implementation of the agenda 2063 as well as the challenges. The key strategies include reduction of social, territorial and gender inequalities, promoting the quality of the education system and ensuring gender parity at all levels of education, promoting sustainable economic growth that creates decent jobs, especially for women and youth, promoting women's participation in decision-making as well as accelerating actions to adapt to and combat climate change.

Mauritius's case: Ms. Bibi Naseem Ramjan (NSO) depicted the progress achieved and challenges in meeting the goals 17 and 18 and targets under Aspiration six of the agenda 2063. The presenter indicated that there are multiple initiatives that there were taken to address and prevent violation against women, for child protection and development and these leveraged progress towards achieving Agenda 2063.

Central Africa Republic's case: Mr. Denambona Morgan Peguy (NSO) noted that gender equality is not seen as an issue in the country's development, hence the need to strengthen national capacity for national assessment of the gender statistics system, address gaps and capacities to make gender more inclusive and participatory. The major challenges include the persistent insecurity, low resource mobilization for implementation towards Agenda 2063, weak national coordination of the gender statistical system, lack of a gender- database, lack of gender mapping, lack of funds for the empowerment of women and girls, weak national capacity building for girls' empowerment and GBV, lack of gender mainstreaming in formal and non-formal education programmes, weak institutional, political and legal frameworks, non-compliance of some national laws with international legal instruments ratified by the country on the promotion of human rights, women's and girls' rights, poor understanding of the gender concept especially in rural areas.

Plenary discussions. Participants raised the need to spell out the difference between the AU Gender Statistics guidelines being developed from the UN Guidelines on Gender Statistics and how the AU links with UNECA which has been empowered to ensure the global strategy on gender statistics implementation in Africa. The plan by STATAFRIC to create a gender unit and operationalization of the SHaSA gender subgroup should ensure collaboration with UNECA on gender statistics within its mandate issues. Noting that SHaSA has a subgroup on gender and that a gender unit at AUC will become operational this year.

Progress towards implementation of Beijing declaration 30 years after its adoption

Chair: Linnet Miriti, AfDB
Session Lead: Keiso Matashane Marite, UNECA

The representative from UNECA, Ms. Keiso Matashane Marite reaffirmed that within the mandate of UNECA as UN regional commission, it is trusted to support, implement, and review the Beijing declaration and platform for action in the Africa region. Almost 30 years after the landmark Beijing Platform for Action, Africa has made important strides in investing in the availability and use of gender responsive data to analyze and respond to gender issues. The joint AfDB-UNECA Africa Gender Indices, AUC Gender score card, the Africa gender statistics program and this annual joint Africa Gender statistics workshop are a few good examples.

However, the pace and path of progress are slow, and indeed uneven with several structural gender issues that have remained pervasive and the gaps in gender statistics also remain wide. For example, unpaid care work is higher in Africa than in the rest of the world. Multiple crises remain obstacles to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration. Women are underrepresented in sectors, including emerging sectors, particularly in technology and digital.

The presenter called upon member states to undertake comprehensive national-level reviews of the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. To collaborate with relevant stakeholders at all levels on the preparations for the 2025 review to benefit from their experience and expertise. To bring those who remain on the sidelines into the centre of a whole-of-government, whole-of-society effort. she closed with the strong recommendation to put in place aggressive and innovative measures to urgently advance the implementation of the Beijing Declaration.

Plenary discussion. It was noted that progress is not impressive, it is important to make visible the gaps through mechanisms in place and the institutionalization of gender statistics to harness data availability.

Getting to the 2030 finish line: Identifying and filling gender data gaps for inclusive development

Chair: Linnet Miriti, AfDB
Session Leads: Shaida Badiee, Open Data watch and Greg Maly Data2X

During this session, members of civil society presented tools and strategies to better identify and close gender data gaps. The representative of Open Data Watch, Ms. Shaida Badiee shared its "Gender data compass" tool. It is composed of five main pillars to be evaluated to show a better visibility on gender statistics in countries. Ms. Jahanara Saeed of Open data Watch presented its other tool is "the BRIDGE Tool" which helps to assess the national system on gender statistics in terms of governance frameworks, technical capacities, financial resources, stakeholder coordination and instruments. In addition, the representatives of Ghana and Kenya highlighted the importance of partnerships between countries to better develop gender statistics in their countries.
Ms. Shaida Badiee further clarified that it has been found with the BRIDGE Tool, that in Africa: "Data is available even if there is still work to be done. But these are not accessible and financial resources are limited." Prioritizing the availability of disaggregated data, allocating funds to strengthen gender statistics systems, and capacity building are essential to explore existing opportunities to advance efforts to achieve the SDGs, particularly gender equality, on the continent.

Mr. Greg Maly of Data2X moderated a panel discussion to discuss country experiences with the work of the Gender Data Network (GDN), that was started in 2019 to support improvements in gender statistics through networking and learning from other countries.

Ghana's case: Ms. Gloria Akoto-Bamfo from Ghana Statistical services said GDN has provided an opportunity for peer-to-peer learning and leveraged on other country experiences and guidelines. She also emphasized that the open data watch tools should be used in other sectors besides gender statistics especially the government machinery and that the tool can be used as an assessment and recommended other countries to use it.

Kenya's case: Ms. Caroline Gatwiri Mutwiri from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics pointed out that Kenya has learned from the experience of other countries to improve gender statistics and appreciated the capacity building obtained from GDN. She also pointed out that Kenya piloted the BRIDGE Tool and demonstrated how to ensure sustainability of production of gender statistics. She noted that stakeholder mechanisms are important since there is a missing link on how to apply the tool to other sectors of statistics. She also encouraged participants to use the tool to update their five-year sector strategic plans.

Plenary discussions. Open Data Watch supported the importance of partnerships to reduce data gaps and strengthen learning through membership to the GDN, where partners are brought together through a network facilitating exchanges and the sharing of experiences, capacity building, the sharing of tools and guidelines. It also encouraged countries that are interested in using the BRIDGE Tool to reach out to them for technical assistance from Kenya. AfDB looks forward to collaborating more closely with the tools, especially in supporting the fragile countries.

Conclusions day one

Based on the deliberations from the sessions held on day one, the following conclusions were drawn:

1) Promote the production, communication and use of quality data and ensure that the work and monitoring on gender equality and women's empowerment is backed up by quality data and evidence in Africa.

2) With improved coordination on the continent and capacity building we can move this agenda significantly forward.

3) Funding for gender statistics, especially from Governments of member states, needs to be addressed by highlighting the importance of investing in gender data.

4) Weak integration of gender in the mechanisms for monitoring and documenting all SDGs and not only SDG5. Effective gender interventions are not possible without significant disaggregation and intersectional analysis. Low data disaggregation for many countries needs to be addressed.

5) Member states are encouraged to undertake comprehensive national-level reviews of the progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

6) STATAFRIC to create a gender unit and operationalization of the SHaSA gender subgroup.

Care economy and measuring time use

Session lead and Chair: Isabella Schmidt, UN Women

The session provided an overview of the meaning of the care economy and how it is connected to Women's Economic Empowerment, in addition to the childcare related work done by the World Bank in Africa. As well as the ways to measure the care economy and how those measurements are used for policy decisions. Time use survey (TUS) is an excellent tool that can be used to understand other gender roles that men and women play in society above and beyond their conventional economic contribution to nation building.

Moreover, three countries presented their work on measuring the care economy through the time use surveys, namely Morocco, Kenya, and Senegal. Key findings on TUS by Kenya, Senegal and Morocco include that women spend a lot more time (in all countries, more than 3 hours more) than men on unpaid domestic and care work. The burden of unpaid domestic and care work extends to girls and elderly women who should be benefiting from it rather than directly participating. The risk of child labour among girls in Kenya should be explored, as they spend up to 25 hours per week on unpaid domestic and care work, which is more than the recommended 24 hours a week. Time use between women and men is driven by a strong culture component.

Initiatives are being taken to make better use of these results to guide decision-making to better rebalance the use of time and value of unpaid work. In Morocco, the integration of kindergartens into the social system was a policy resulting from the dissemination of the survey to policy makers. There is further utilization of TUS like Morocco and Senegal developed satellite accounts on unpaid domestic and care work from the Time Use Survey data, while Kenya has embarked on the process. In Kenya, the TUS data is being used in development of the National Care Policy, alongside a National Care Assessment. The information was specifically used in determining the most affected populations, and in advocacy for the Policy by the University of Nairobi for further research.

The ILO as the global standard setters for labour force surveys has developed a TUS module that can be used in conjunction with labour force surveys and the piloted newly developed module has been presented and adopted at the 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians held in October 2023. It has been designed to increase the visibility of women's work in national labour force statistics and build on the 19th ICLS definition of work and more particularly own use production of work as it related to unpaid domestic and care work. The new module is aligned to requirements of the SNA (2008), ICATUS-16 and SDG indicator 5.4.1.

The ILO time use module has the following features:

Bar on proxy response for the time use module.
The (probabilistically sampled) individual(s) must respond directly for the time use module.
May increase the number of re-visits required to obtain response.

Inclusion of "time dimension" in the sample design for the time use module.
Time use sample designs probabilistically assign response units to a designated "diary" day to:
i.   Achieve a representative sample of days of the week.
ii. Avoid selection bias ("convenient day" may systematically differ from other days)
iii. Permit probabilities of selection to be calculated.
Strict adherence pits high response rates against inflated survey costs and complexity. Strategies for the recovery of pending interviews can resolve this tension (together with weights)
Probabilistic sampling of respondent(s) within households
Minimum of one respondent per [selected] household probabilistically selected to respond to the time use module.
May increase the number of re-visits required to obtain response.
Balance between analytical goals, survey costs, and statistical efficiency of the survey design

Plenary discussions. The main discussion, recommendations and way forward came up during this session including:

Social-cultural norms, systems, and mindsets.

Unpaid work is economically important, it prohibits women from entering or fully participating in the labour force.

Effective policies focus on the 5R strategy: recognize, reduce, redistribute unpaid work as well as reward and represent unpaid care workers. Redistributing unpaid work from women to men is an important component of the 5R strategy. Working on addressing the risk while calculating the unpaid work to concern the low paid work and the informal work. possibly consider including another R which will focus on Researching. One of the risks that has associated with

unpaid care work is the assumption that development partners support the creation of non-decent jobs.

The social system plays a critical role on the work on unpaid care work particularly on redistribution under the 5Rs strategy. How this will be tackled majorly the effects on social-cultural norms, systems, and mindsets.

Measure the economic value and contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

One take away from this session is accounting unpaid care work to a Nation' GDP. It is noted that the contribution could be significant, but the methodology carefully explored and agreed on all stakeholders.

Integrate all activities into the GDP so that the national account integrates it. For instance, it is mainly the work of women in the agricultural sector (market gardening, short-cycle livestock farming, etc.) which represents almost 50% of household income. This work is not listed. It is necessary to do more official study in this area and valorise the work of these women who live in rural areas.

Statisticians should come in to develop and improve methodologies to consider this. Recognise the gender gap in unpaid domestic and care work conduct more research on this topic and measure the impact of the unpaid work, low paid work, and informality to the GDP. There is need to update the classification to address the migration status and the informality.

Legal and Policy environment

Enhance legal and institutional frameworks, and there is a need to define the equal pay for work of equal value legislation and practices as well as legislation on securing the right to organized collective action and effective social dialogue mechanisms.

Reduction and redistribution of unpaid care work through national- and regional-level legislation and policy coordination on the care economy. Changing the mentality and the social aspects even before starting interventions.

Increase of the demand for care services insufficiently covered by public supply leads to reliance on informal/migrant labour of domestic care workers and leads to further inequalities if rewarding and representation are not adequately addressed.

Rewarding through compensation of unpaid care work through social transfers such as payments for childcare or elderly care wages, or social security coverage for full-time homemakers

State intervention and investment allow for better rewarding care workers who are usually low paid and providing low quality services consequently.

Data and statistics.

It is evident there is data on unpaid care work however this is not easily accessible. There was a call to connect this data with open data for better peer to peer reporting and learning and make the public use files of the microdata available for research purposes.

Inclusion of unpaid work in national statistical systems for exploring linkages to other variables such as labour force participation rates, GDP, inequality, and poverty. Strengthen coordination and management of gender statistics production and utilization.

Some key discussions that were inconclusive and need further deep dive include (i) A multi-tasking woman that is working on different tasks- how can their time be accounted for during a time use survey? (ii) A poorly paid domestic workers can their time be properly accounted for. (iii) The time use survey trends on estimates of the share of the unpaid care economy in the extended GDP show similar trends in developed nations vis-a-vie developing countries. Therefore, what does this translate to policy makers in developing countries, ILO has developed a module on Time Use for incorporation in Labour Force surveys - Two light diary tools that are scheduled for roll out in Malawi and incorporation of time use measurement in more regular surveys such as the Labour force survey is helpful given that regular Time Use Surveys are not feasible due to funding gaps, iv) A recommendation that more research is needed on the impact of recommended 5 R policy changes on society and women. This was subsequently rephrased as a need to consider adding a sixth R to the 5R policy. The sixth R could be called 'Risk' to make provision for unintended consequences that may be negative for women.

Household satellite accounts

Session lead and Chair: Isabella Schmidt, UN Women

This session focused on the creation of household satellite accounts. Morocco and Senegal have developed Satellite Accounts from their Time Use Survey data. These accounts are computed to quantify the value of domestic work; highlight household domestic production; analyse the productive role of households; assess the contribution of households to the national economy; present an extended measure of living standards. Noting that there four pillars that were used namely: nomenclature, valuation, estimation of intermediary consumption and fixed capital and calculation of Production.

Senegal's case: Mr. Mahmouth Diouf (UN Women) explained how it computed its household satellite accounts in four steps 1) Elaboration of the CSPM nomenclature, 2) Valuing unpaid work, 3) Estimation of intermediate consumption, final consumption and CCF, 4) Calculation of production.

Morocco's case: Ms.Yattou Ait Khellou (NSO) also illustrated the methodology that was used to generate household satellite accounts as well as the results obtained and advised countries wishing to build a satellite account as follows: to conduct a time use survey, the survey must cover women and men, recommended to include a reduced sample of children, use the international time use classification (ICATUS 2016), produce the satellite account for a year where data on household expenditure and labor remuneration is available.

Gender budgeting: Expenditure analysis

Session lead and Chair: Isabella Schmidt, UN Women

This session covered gender responsive budgeting (GRB) which is a comprehensive approach that involves gender analysis throughout the planning and budgeting cycle and can be applied in all public financial management systems. It requires an integrated, cross-sectoral, multi actors' approach within governments, with the involvement of other stakeholders including parliament and civil society. Moreover, Implementing GRB is a long process supported by a wide range of tools. Strengthening the legal framework, reporting on the gender budget, gender-sensitive objectives and performance indicators are developed and ministries are supported to integrate them, capacity development, gender analysis, knowledge management and communication. Methodology developed to identify and monitor gender-sensitive budgets in the gender marker system. Morocco and Uganda are implementing Gender and Equity Budgeting (GEB).

Case study of Uganda. Ms. Leila Ssali from the Ministry of gender said GRB in Uganda is made possible through the existence of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) a constitutional body, that assesses the National budget vote and local government Budget Framework Papers and Ministerial Policy Statements to establish the level of compliance with gender and equity provisions. Increased funds are allocated to most MDAs that primarily provide social services to the most vulnerable, including women, girls, children, persons with disability, older Persons, the poor, and youth. The Commission has undertaken capacity building for technical staff and political leaders in Gender and Equity planning and Budgeting (GEB). The EOC aligned gender and equity assessment tools to the National Development Plan III and the new planning and budgeting structure for the Programme Based Budget Framework Papers. In addition, the EOC developed a gender and equity assessment tool. The Gender and Equity Management Information System (GEMIS) was upgraded and aligned to the National Development Plan III. The upgrade provides for online assessment for compliance with gender and equity.

Plenary discussions. The main discussion, recommendations and way forward came up during this session including:

- Reinforce the commitment of Top Management / Senior Leadership and strengthen the dialogue between program managers and gender focal points.

- Improve communication around the concept to remove ambiguities and disseminate the tools.

- Systematic institutionalization of Gender Units and Gender Focal Point / GRB focal point in line ministries and build capacity at central and decentralized levels.

- Investment in capacity development for gender analysis

- Work towards participatory and inclusive budgeting, with a key role for institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society.

- Closer involvement of audit institutions to ensure accountability.

- Develop information management systems to collect (sex-disaggregated) data for the indicators, while guaranteeing data quality and reliability.

- South- South cooperation and exchange is essential to enable countries to learn and identify GRB practices to be applied in their context.

GRB is not just related to budgeting, but it is a mechanism for gender mainstreaming throughout the political decision-making cycle, starting with its integration from the planning stage and the use of gender statistics as evidence to inform planning. Efforts should be made to strengthen the capacities of member states to implement this approach and invest more in gender statistics and mainstreaming gender across the whole planning and budgeting cycle. GEB is a good practice that other countries are encouraged to adopt. It is important to share progress and such best practises for Africa on the road to 2030, and not only share failures and bad practices.

Whereas the planning has been done greatly, there is a gap in implementation, the analysis and actual use of the data generated through GRB. There is need to involve supervisory bodies by creating awareness, training, monitor implementation and hold Governments accountable for the use of finances to avoid corruption and ensure the target populations are reached. The Ministry of Finance is an important stakeholder in this area their role should be clarified.

The road to impact: Opportunities and challenges in gender data use

Chair: Linnet Miriti, AfDB

Session lead: Sophie Kenneally, PARIS21

This session was presented by Ms. Sophie Kenneally of PARIS21 and focused what can be learned about the opportunities and challenges in gender data use at country level and why this is important. The presenter explained how we can use gender data to drive and inform meaningful policy and programming change. The presenter outlined PARIS21's ongoing research into the determinants of gender data use in policymaking, currently being conducted in Rwanda, Kenya, the Maldives, and the Dominican Republic. Four emerging insights from across the country studies were shared with the participants, including: the need to exploit skills from across the gender data ecosystem through meaningful collaboration; the value of complementing official statistics with qualitative research to better understand root causes and consequences of gender issues; the importance of social, political, cultural and other contextual factors in influencing gender data use; and the criticality of taking the needs of all data users into account when communicating gender data.

Morocco's experience: Mr. Khalid Soudi, Morocco HCP explained how the Government of Morocco implemented GRB and the benefits accrued. She noted that UN Women initiated the project on "Analytical State of Gender Sensitive Statistics in Morocco" aimed at developing a roadmap to ensure systematic and rigorous monitoring of the implementation of the "Taking into account every woman and every girl" programme. The presenter presented the approach used, achievements and the main barriers to the production, analysis, and use of gender sensitive statistics in the context of SDGs in Morocco.

Uganda's experience: Ms. Leila Ssali from the Ministry of gender highlighted the fact that the Government of Uganda has made use of gender statistics in designing policies, programs, and services to address the needs and challenges of all genders under the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development and mentioned some of the policies that have been developed. Pointing out how gender statistics producers engage with policy makers/ statistics users before elaborating the challenges faced, opportunities, and strategies for improving collection and use of Gender Statistics.

PARIS21 then chaired a panel discussion, discussing experiences from country studies in Rwanda and Kenya. Mr. Edouard Munyamaliza, civil society representative and national consultant for the Rwandan country study shared a perspective on how civil society actors can contribute to gender data use in policymaking and explained some of the emerging findings from Rwanda. Ms. Caroline Gatwiri Mutwiri, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, provided participants with an NSO perspective on contributing to the uptake of gender data in policymaking, as well as some of the specific challenges and opportunities at county level, building on Kenya's experiences in the gender data use study.

Conclusions day two

Based on the deliberations from the sessions held on day two, the following conclusions were drawn:

- Unpaid work is economically important, it prevents women from entering or fully participating in the labour force. There is a significant gender gap in unpaid domestic and care work and the contribution of unpaid care work to the GDP.

- Effective policies should focus on the 5R strategy: Recognize, Reduce, redistribute unpaid work as well as Reward and Represent unpaid care workers. There is a need to consider a sixth R focusing on risk and research.

- More research is needed to understand the dynamics of the care economy in different settings better.

- Expert group work on TUS should be submitted to the UN Statistics commission in 2024.

- Consider inclusion of unpaid work in national accounts for exploring linkages to other variables such as labour force participation rates, GDP, inequality, and poverty.

- Advocate for state intervention and investment allow for better rewarding of care workers who are usually low paid and hence providing low quality services consequently.

- Consider more work towards participatory and inclusive budgeting, with a key role for institutional mechanisms for gender equality and civil society. This also includes closer involvement of audit institutions to ensure accountability.

- Embrace South- South cooperation and exchange because it is essential to enable countries to learn and identify GRB practices to be applied in their context.

- Invest in understanding how gender data is transformed into meaningful policy change data at country level, to better overcome existing obstacles and upscale good practices in data-driven action.

Africa Gender Index 2023 Process and key findings.

Session Lead and Chair: Koffi Marc Kouakou, AFDB

The presenter from UNECA, Mr. Gonzaque Rosalie explained the purpose of the Africa Gender Index (AGI) as a response to gaps in gender-sensitive data, an advocacy tool to support policy actions towards greater positive change in the lives of women and girls, a tool for planning, formulating, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating evidence-based policies and programmes, and to support the achievement of an equitable transformation of African economies. Noting that AGI is a measure of results and Social Institutions Gender Index (SIGI) for laws, social norms, and practices of gender inequality in Africa. The AGI is composed of indicators grouped to measure dimensions of equality in social development, economic opportunities, empowerment, and representation as well as indicators on ICT, environment, climate, and women specific. In the areas of ICT, environment and climate, data is collected but is not integrated into the AGI because there is a lack of evidence in these sectors.

The presenter from the AfDB, Ms. Roza Mamuye Bora presented the process of developing the AGI outlining the various activities and timelines including the inter and intra-country data validation that was undertaken as well as the lessons learned from the data collection process.

Preliminary AGI findings. Mr. Marcus Cox for AfDB presented the preliminary results of the 2023 Africa Gender Index were presented and revealed that there is a real need for current data to be available for all its dimensions so that the AGI indicators can be useful for all the countries. Overall, 32 countries have improved their AGI score, including Gabon, Comoros, and Mauritius, but regressions are noted in 19 countries like Guinea Bissau among others. The regression is general for the economic dimension: 22 countries improved their economic and business score between 2019 and 2023 while 29 countries regressed in their score over the period; on the other hand, there was an increase in the social dimension score. The dimension on empowerment and representation scored lower than in the other dimensions but increased between 2019 and 2023. Despite existing efforts, there are still very large gaps for sex-disaggregated data across sectors in terms of collection, accessibility, frequency, and regularity. The AGI website was also showcased to the participants.

Recommendations. The presenter from AfDB made summary recommendations based on the 2023 AGI findings as follows: 1) the terms of debt relief packages should exempt women-focused services from spending reductions and encourage gender-responsive approaches to reducing debt pressures. 2) Accelerate the development of gender-sensitive, shock-responsive social protection systems, with a focus on inclusion of female- and child-headed households and displaced populations. 3) Increase the focus on gender in national agricultural and food strategies, to better mitigate the impacts of food insecurity in women. 3) Ensure that food-security data is disaggregated by sex, age, and disability status, to build a deeper understanding of the different impacts of crises. 4) Undertake data collection research and analysis into the causes of boys' underperformance in higher levels of education and introduce policy measures to ensure that they are not left behind. 5) Recognise the important role of women in community-level adaptation, and strengthen their voice in decision-making, for increased resilience. 6) Increase the focus on identifying and responding to the needs of women and girls in humanitarian emergencies and mass displacement.

AGI Panel discussion on emerging patterns and policy recommendations

Chair: Meriem Ait Ouyahia, PARIS21
Session Lead: Koffi Marc Kouakou, AFDB
Moderator: Barbara KY, WAEMU Commission
Panelists: Amadou Diallo - Mali, Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and Family, Gwatura Priscilla - Zimbabwe, Ministry of Gender, Keiso Matashane Marite - UNECA, Linnet Minrit - AfDB

This was a panel discussion to review the recommendations made based on the AGI findings. Mr. Amadou Diallo from Mali, Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and Family appreciated the inclusion of the recommendation to focus on identifying and responding to the needs of women and girls in humanitarian emergencies and mass displacement given that the country has faced a war crisis, and the government budget has been apportioned more on this.

Ms. Gwatura Priscilla of the Zimbabwe, Ministry of Gender focused on the recommendation to aaccelerate the development of gender-sensitive, shock-responsive social protection systems, with a focus on inclusion of female- and child-headed households and displaced populations. She acknowledged the effect of shocks and disasters on women and girls and highlighted that the country is aligning the GBV policy to incorporate such emerging issues and work with cultural leaders, embraced male involvement, building a one stop centre for GBV response. In terms of women empowerment, Zimbabwe provides economic resilience and empowerment for women in informal sector including a community development fund. In terms of education, they provide scholarships, meals at school, etc.

Ms. Keiso Matashane Marite of UNECA noted that gender equality is highly politicized with low uptake and moderate data production. She emphasized that there is a need for partnerships to produce data and ensure transformational development. UNECA is working on digital skilling of women and must undertake a mapping of existing evidence (gender statistics) to target interventions and change livelihoods and to follow up with monitoring and evaluation with strong institutions and systems for observatory purposes to build resilience in times of shock. AGI is therefore a good step forward.

Ms. Linnet Minrit AfDB reiterated that the root cause of gender inequality is known and encouraged countries to address them and demonstrate this through data. What needs to be done to leverage finances for gender after the shocks that diverted funds and encouraged countries to embrace gender responsive budgeting. Countries need to measure their commitment to gender equality through their budget. Gender inequality needs to be at the highest level of the country like it is the case in Zambia. Countries need to provide evidence through data to demonstrate gender equality in times of shocks, climate change, technology, and setbacks.

Top priorities for policy measures and investments to promote Gender Equity. This was an open discussion focusing on the quality of data on gender equality in Africa and identifying top priorities measures and investments to promote gender equity in Africa. The guiding questions included: What are the key trends in gender equality in your country, What examples can you share of successful policies and initiatives to promote gender equality? What recommendations would you like to see included in the AGI Analytical Report?

Plenary discussion. A lot of data and policies on gender equality have been produced but this forum is not addressing how to tackle the mindset, attitude and causes as well as how to obtain the political will to allocate more resources to gender to realize change. Countries need to use small area statistics to pinpoint, locate the problem and address gender equality because the current picture may not be the same across a country hence target interventions based on detailed data disaggregation. For instance, how can the AGI be customized to a given country. Countries should focus more on data dissemination at the strategic government levels to ensure its utilization. Countries also need to consider multiple sources of data to fill gender data gaps. There is a need to build capacity on climate change issues in addressing gender equality.

Participants took keen interest in understanding AGI methodology especially in computation of the AGI model and data scores, knowing whether sensitivity analysis was undertaken for the AGI computation and whether confounding of indicators was considered to ensure its robustness and confidence intervals for comparison. Participants were encouraged to look at the AGI methodology that is published.

Data for Health Initiative in gender integration

Chair: Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA
Session Lead: Pamela Kakande, UNECA

Ms. Joan Sara Thomas of the Data for Health Initiative (D4H) at Vital Strategies made a presentation on integrating gender equity focusing on lessons learned from mainstreaming gender equity into CRVS Systems. The key takeaway messages include the fact that routine data are readily available and an important source when doing gender data analysis. Triangulating data with other sources provides a more comprehensive health picture given that there are many repositories and portals for gender data, but they need to be interpreted appropriately. Gender data analysis is a prerequisite to the strategy of gender mainstreaming however, sustained leadership and commitment is required for gender-transformative CRVS system strengthening that addresses the many issues that arise throughout the life-course of an individual.

Noting that CRVS systems are a foundational data source available to all governments and strengthening them is a worthy investment given that of the 54 explicitly gender-related SDG indicators, 34 are derived from CRVS data. The presenter outlined some lessons learned by D4H from mainstreaming gender equity into CRVS Systems. The critical considerations undertaken in eight African countries by D4H include 1) need to have systematic review of the legal and regulatory frameworks, 2) strengthen inter-agency coordination mechanisms 3) Conduct a comprehensive assessment of CRVS systems to understand current processes and identify gender biases and root causes of gender inequity 4) Strengthen capacity of CRVS stakeholders and health workers on Medical Certification of Cause of Death and International Classification of Disease coding to properly identify variations and causes of death of concern to shed light on the often invisible burdens of violence many times suffered by women. 5) Incorporate gender lens in the production of routine analytical vital statistics reports for improved policy making.

Gender in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Session Lead: Pamela Kakande, UNECA
Moderators: Pamela Kakande and Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA
Panelists: Rosalie Ndjonkam, Cameroun NSO, Mbene Lo, Senegal NSO, Moyo Xolani, Zimbabwe NSO, Mariam Kitembe, Tanzania NSO

This session aimed at creating an understanding of gender mainstreaming strategies in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system improvement. The aim was to explore gender issues in CRVS system improvement and how countries can mainstream gender sensitive approaches in CRVS business processes as well as explore ways that countries can use vital statistics to bridge data gaps for monitoring progress of SDGs as they draw nearer to the tail end of agenda 2030. Therefore, a panel discussion was set up with four countries to 1) explore knowledge levels on gender equality and the importance of understanding the role of gender in ensuring equal opportunities. 2) articulate challenges that countries are facing in mainstreaming gender and opportunities for building synergies with gender statistics. 3) propose important gender considerations while targeting gender actors and policy makers for strategy and policy formulation. 4) draw recommendations from experiences and lessons learnt by countries with CRVS systems that have successfully mainstreamed gender.

Tanzania's experience. Ms. Mariam Kitembe (NSO) outlined the extent to which institutional and legal frameworks are supportive to the civil registration process and access to legal identity documents for men and women. The current CRVS System in Tanzania is regulated by various sectoral policies and laws that govern matters of registration of births and deaths; the Law of Marriage Act that governs matters of marriage and divorce. Tanzania conducted CRVS assessment and a comprehensive review of the birth and death Act, that provided the following improvements 1) decentralized registration offices, which greatly increased access to registration services and increased registered of events at the place of occurrence 2) fees for first-time registrations were eliminated and certificate provision improved. 3) use of innovation in capturing data via smart phones improved timely availability of data.

Zimbabwe's experience. Mr. Moyo Xolani (NSO) stressed that there is insufficient incorporation of gender considerations and vulnerable populations in the CRVS improvement system in Zimbabwe to reduce gender data gaps. The civil registry does not provide disaggregated data to facilitate gender analysis. Registration of birth of children born out of wed lock is complicated by stigmatization and cultural barriers to the births, however the extent of the problem can be measured from administrative data if completeness in registration is achieved. Some girls drop

out of school because they do not have birth registration documents and registration of their birth is not known but can be obtained from Civil Registration (CR). In addition, there isn't sufficient information on registration of traditional/customary marriages in the CRVS system. Noted that gender mainstreaming is still a challenge. Registration of deaths resulting from cultural mal practices such as illegal female genital mutilation and unprofessional male circumcision can be obtained from law enforcement offices and not in the CR.

Cameroun's experience. Ms. Rosalie Ndjonkam (NSO) highlighted how and when gender considerations are incorporated into the development of CRVS business processes. She said this is possible during the process of compiling vital statistics, the applicants complete a declaration form where the sex of the beneficiary (child or deceased), this then forms the gender component in vital statistics. In Cameroun, the family is patriarchal therefore vital events are generally declared by men therefore when fathers have no interest in declaring the birth of a girl, the birth certificate will not be issued. The registration of children at birth is the first step in securing their recognition before the law, protecting their rights, and ensuring that any violation of these rights does not go unnoticed.

Senegal's experience. Ms. Mbene Lo (NSO) mentioned that the civil registration system in Senegal is mainly faced with low registration of events for instance, more than 60% of deaths occurring are not declared and there is no mention of the causes of death in the death registers. The censuses and surveys carried out by the INS do not provide any vital statistics. However, the Ministry of Education identifies and regularizes children in schools who do not have a birth certificate to identify and respond to issues of teenage mothers. There are efforts to modernize and digitize the Civil registration Directorate.

Plenary discussion. Increase the quota of female civil registrars and raise awareness among women to register births. For births outside hospitals, traditional birth attendants must be trained to facilitate declaration and registration. CRVS in Africa has not been concentrating on the demand side by advocating and sensitization for birth and death registration and there is need for Africa to concentrate on this aspect especially among mothers who are the gate keepers. The supply side of ensuring the CR systems are working is doing well so when we work on the gender issues to ensure the CR is fully achieved. Need to understand who is missing in the registration process and then these can be targeted. It was emphasized that if countries can focus on CR, they can attain data for several SDG indicators and emphasize the role that women must play in this.

Coordination and lack of capacity in CR is a challenge in many countries depending on the realities, it is ideal to integrate the various systems that carry out registration of persons to create population registers. Concern was about the utilization of data from CR for SDG reporting given the low coverage and completeness level, in this regard UNECA emphasizes computation of coverage and completeness in compiling vital statistics reports. However, the challenge is with the denominator which is the unprecise projected population. UNECA also recommends that a vital statistics report must be written regardless of the completeness level to address other challenges with the CR process,

Question was raised about the possibility of countries utilizing the population and housing census undertaking to increase CR during enumeration. It was noted that the census can be used to track and link the birth in the census to the CR data to establish the births that are not registered. The censuses therefore should have questions to establish registration levels.

In **summary**, countries need to harness the existing innovative approaches on integrating gender into the CRVS improvement system. The legal and institutional reviews show that there is minimum non-discrimination in CR in Africa. There is need to utilize nontraditional data sources as well as digitize, modernize, and transform the CR systems to ensure continuous recording and incorporate GIS in CRVS to identify those who are left behind. Strengthen stakeholder and partner involvement in all CRVS stages including capacity building. Finally following the recommendation of the sixth conference of ministers responsible for civil registration, countries need to undertake CRVS assessments to identify what needs to be done to improve and understand the synergies, and document lessons learnt and best practices.

Conclusions day three

Based on the deliberations from the session on the AGI, it was concluded that the regional entities should embrace a reward and recognition model for the best performing countries. Countries were encouraged to adopt south to south cooperation to enhance learning for instance Morocco is good in GRB, Namibia is excelling in coordination of gender equality AfDB team was requested to showcase emerging lessons and good practices from different countries using the AGI. Strengthen partnerships especially between ministries within a country in times of crisis in order not to lose the gains made in gender equality.

Some of the quick wins and key recommendations arising from the panel discussion on gender and Civil registration include.

Countries should set priorities to remove gender gaps in CRVS and adult legal identity documentation coverage by increasing birth registration given its potential role in protecting girls from trafficking and early marriage. In addition, prioritize all adult women to have access to legal identity documentation to ensure access to services including political participation. Ensuring that all marriages and divorces are registered, and widows have their husbands' death certificates taking into consideration the different types of marriages Increasing death registration coverage (including cause of death) should be a priority in countries that have already achieved complete registration of births, marriages and divorces and have health systems capable of identifying underlying causes of death reliably.

Strengthen the capacities of actors involved in CRVS; establish multi-sectoral partnership with all producers of vital statistics. Train stakeholders on the approach to raising awareness among the population to declare vital events.

To ensure gender responsive vital statistics, the following was proposed:

National Statistics Offices, Civil Registration offices and the gender machinery should work together especially in designing the registration forms to adopt the UN Principles and recommendation for Vital Statistics Systems which allows registration of both sexes and intersex or undefined. Having data from Civil Registration will enable NSOs to compare and validate with the Population Census.

Produce vital statistics thematic reports that mainstream gender including data from other major population censuses and surveys.

Use spatial data analysis to map and use the coordinates of households to identify hotspots (households that report that they did not register vital events) and direct interventions towards them.

Establishment of NSO support system to the Central Registry's employees who work on CRVS at national and subnational levels to ensure that the data is checked and validated at lower levels before submission to the head office of the NSO for completeness. In addition, work together in data analysis, report writing and dissemination to ensure gender responsive vital statistics and leave no one behind.

Document and publish the benefits of eliminating gender gaps. Credible evidence on the benefits of eliminating gender gaps in CRVS and access to adult identity documentation is needed to justify the allocation of the resources needed to eliminate them.

Landscaping gender statistics in Africa

Chair: Linnet Miriti, AfDB
Session Lead: William Muhwava, UNECA and Linnet Miriti, AfDB

This session focused more on gender statistics in fragile states and countries in transition. and how they can build resilience towards vulnerability in times of disaster (both climatic and insecurity) as well as the link between gender statistics and humanitarian settings.

Capacity Building for Gender Statistics and Monitoring System Project. Mr. William Muhwava of UNECA presented the implementation progress report of the Capacity Building on Gender Statistics and Monitoring System (CBGenSMS) Project. The project is implemented by the African Centre for Statistics & Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) Section of UNECA in Burundi, Mozambique, South Sudan, and Zimbabwe. The project's expected outcome is that 1) the statistical systems of the statistical offices to produce quality, comparable and regular gender statistics to address national data gaps and meet policy and reporting commitments under the SDGs for countries in transition and, 2) monitoring and reporting mechanisms of the republic of Burundi integrate gender indicators across sectors.

The project components include component I on capacity building on gender statistics in Mozambique and Zimbabwe, component II: Gender statistics monitoring and reporting system in all four countries, Component III: Mainstreaming Gender in the National Statistical Development Strategy (NSDS). The presenter showed the project progress and highlighted challenges including budget gaps that delayed the Time Use Surveys to be undertaken, delayed submission of completed tools for the NSDS and CBGenSMS situational analysis reports. The proposed way forward is fusion of experience and innovation, partnerships, South to South Cooperation and address the scandal of invisibility because it is the major source of exclusion and inequalities.

Country experiences in collecting and compiling gender statistics in countries in recovery from crisis, with climatic disaster, economic sanctions situation. **Central Africa Republic** has been in crisis, Mr. Jonas Dieudonné Ngouadede emphasized that the countries utilized partnerships to ensure data production including post trauma counselling. **Burundi** is recovering from crisis; Ms. Priscille Munezero noted that the country needed to strengthen coordination among ministries and the NSO and dissemination of gender statistics from areas that have been inaccessible. Mr. Mazive Elisio (NSO) noted that **Mozambique** is faced disaster situations from floods and cyclones cyclically and has no systematic way of compiling data but has now agreed on new relevant indicators that will be compiled in a sex disaggregated manner. Mr. Moyo Xolani (NSO) stressed that **Zimbabwe** is having economic hardship based on global sanctions that led to failure to complete data collection activities e.g. raising inflation midway a survey leading to an insufficient budget, development partner funded activities are halted midway. The resilience mechanisms include readjusting the sample size and design to fit the budget. In conclusion, studies can be done on new areas such as the effect of inflation on gender equality.

UN Women provided additional thoughts about data collection in humanitarian settings including its current efforts. UN Women became part of the Inter Agency Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG- GS) developed a strategy for gender in humanitarian settings to which it had not paid attention to and adopted a community of practice specifically aimed at how gender statistics informs work processes and if there are any tools in place to fill data gaps. Together with UNOCHA and World Food programme, and CSOs. UN Women plans to undertake an in-depth analysis of existing humanitarian data well as develop a toolkit on the production and use of gender data in humanitarian settings. In the case of countries with chronic emergency and insecurity, there is debate on how to build resilient statistical system eg in Somalia, a completely different approach is needed in sudden onset emergencies such as for example Sudan, where existing established systems become dysfunctional within a short period of time. In humanitarian settings, countries must be innovative e.g. alternative means of data collection such as the use of motorbikes with simple forms, use of citizen generated data and the use of community organizations.

Selected countries also gave their experiences and proposals on what can be done to produce gender statistics in emergency and crisis situations, fragile states. **Niger**, which is currently in war against terrorism and armed groups, developed a communication strategy to advocate for the use of statistics which has facilitated dissemination of gender statistics and its implications including the use of security escorts during data collection, use of the residents

in the affected areas as enumerators however due to security concerns digital data collection is not allowed by the government. Niger also presented its preliminary results from a study undertaken by UN Women on the impact of the ECOWAS restrictions after the coup d'état. **Mali** also adopted a similar strategy as Niger to collect data during insecurity and have developed a data collection strategic document. Similarly, **Burkina Faso** is in the same situation and has taken on the approach used by Niger for data collection and the inability to use and integrate gender statistics. **Malawi** was faced with a heavy cyclone and various organization came with unharmonized data collection tools, the NSO therefore developed a harmonized tool.

Plenary discussion. Participants raised concerns about how best to copy with data collection in countries in transition or fragility and how to address gender statistics gap and build resilience in fragile situations. Can the Africa group on gender statistics develop new harmonized data collection tools for use in emergency and crisis situations, fragile states including new indicators to ensure comparability. Can this meeting recommend some capacity building on how the statistics can be used in such situations to inform policy. A participant recommended the use of big data to capture and analysis the situation during a disaster. Capacity building is needed to address how a gender approach can be integrated into a resilient statistical system and build a resilient state and address climate change.

Women Count programme. The presenter from UN Women highlighting existing efforts to move from data to impact in Africa including the African programme on gender statistics. The Women Count program goal is to increase policy use of gender statistics by creating an enabling environment for, increased production of and improved access to gender statistics for delivering Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. The presenter highlighted its achievements since 2017 as well as the implementation models, priorities, and the major partners.

Gender mainstreaming in NSDS and gender statistics assessments in Africa
Chair: Egidia Rukundo, AfDB
Session Lead: Meriem Ait Ouyahia, PARIS21

The presenter from PARIS21 emphasized the fact that the National Statistical Development Strategy (NSDS) is a key entry point to advance gender equality. Because it guides the priorities for data production, dissemination, and use for the National Statistical System (NSS), as well as overall statistical capacity development and is government led. The main entry points for gender data in the NSDS lifecycle include identifying and engaging with stakeholders, assessing the current state of gender statistics, and developing strategies to improve gender statistics. The presenter also shared that according to PARIS21 NSDS Status Report, Africa is leading in terms of countries who have or are implementing an NSDS, compared to Latin America and Asia-Pacific regions. Finally, some online resources were shared including the gender statistics NSDS module guidelines, the gender statistics assessment guidelines, and the findings from gender statistics assessment in nine countries.

A UN Women consultant outlined the importance of assessing gender statistical systems and shared the key elements of the assessment implementation process. He also shared the lessons learned from his experience in supporting countries to assess gender statistics. He highlighted that 1) NSOs must be the one providing the leadership in the production of gender statistics, 2) the country should support structuring, institutionalization, and capacity building for gender statistics, 3) there should be coordination of donors' interventions in gender statistics, 4) setting up of statistical structures in ministries responsible for gender issues; 5) promotion of statistical products that enhance gender statistics; 6) the NSDS should include a gender lens, with a special attention to GBV statistics, time use etc.
Senegal's experience. Ms. Mbene Lo from the Senegal NSO shared the evaluation of integrating gender into the NSDS III as well as the challenges for the upcoming NSDS IV. Regarding the NSDS III, the insufficient human and financial resources as well as the COVID19 pandemic has limited its implementation. For example, the production of social statistics and certain surveys and censuses were available but disseminated late. Furthermore, sex disaggregated data from surveys and censuses were not used for analysis. Some remaining challenges for the implementation of the NSDS IV are : the setup of an integrated information system on gender statistics, involving state structures, donors, local authorities and civil society; the development and implementation of a national gender communication plan; the systematic collection of sex-disaggregated data in all sectors, and production of a gender bulletin or directory; the development and implementation of a national plan for monitoring gender mainstreaming in public programs; technical capacity-building for elected representatives and local authority technical staff in the production of tools and methods for collecting and analyzing gender-related data.

Plenary discussion. Some countries would like to be supported to mainstream gender and develop their NSDS. Participants appreciated the work done by PARIS21 and UN Women to support gender statistics assessments and gender mainstreaming into their NSDS.

Draft continental ICBT data collection methodology

Chair: Conrad Mudibo, UN Women
Session Lead: Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA

A representative from UNECA made a presentation of the draft continental International Cross Border Trade (ICBT) data collection methodology. Highlighted why countries need to collect ICBT data given that it contributes 30-70% of formal trade and therefore must be monitored using a common methodology to avoid underestimation of intra Africa trade estimates and allow for comparability. Most of the traders here are women constituting about 70% making it important to analyze and inform gender equality issues. Development of the continental methodology for IBT involved Regional Economic Commissions (RECs), NSOs, multilateral institutions and cross boarder institutions starting with an agreement of the definitions. One of the drivers of informal cross border trade is that customs officers ignore goods in small quantities and women tend to move smaller quantities due to various reasons. The next steps include that the methodology will be piloted in selected countries, will be adopted by the AU member states, and institutionalize ICBT data collection.

Plenary discussion. It was noted that there is need to institutionalize the data collection methodology for measurement of ICBT in Africa given that it involves women as the majority.

Environmental data and gender

Chair: Roza Mamuye Bora, AfDB
Session Lead: Michelle Seroussi and Isabella Schmidt, UN Women

Mr. Mitra Sadananda from UN Women Tanzania explained how to use existing data to understand the gender-climate nexus e.g. merging of pre-existing datasets using unique identifiers from geospatial information with the latest available estimates for both GIS and Demographic and health survey data as well as big data. The presenter also showcased survey tools that can be used to measure the nexus between gender and the environment from a survey developed by UN Women in close consultation with FAO, ILO, IUCN, UNEP, UNDRR and UNESCAP.

Tanzania's experience. Ms. Mariam Kitembe from Tanzania NSO explained how the country was able to produce a report on environmental data and gender from the population and housing census data. She pointed out the environment related questions in the household and community questionnaires to be used for analysis as well development of an environment related establishment master plan for subsequent surveys. Some of the challenges in production of environmental statistics include 1) lack of capacity in production of Gender related environments statistics, 2) the study needs more observations and in different seasons, 3) needs to have qualitative survey to compliment Quantitative, 4) some indicators such as land degradation can be identified by GIS technology system to allow visual display of statistics in map-based layout which sometimes may not be easily accessible.

Plenary discussion. It was noted that there is need to focus methodology and generate standardized data on gender issues regarding environment and climate change to inform the demand from the blue economy. The geospatial analysis done in Tanzania showed more women in the arid areas and why this should appeal to policy makers to utilize the data availed by the NSOs to target interventions. Kenya identified the hot spots for vulnerability associated with gender and climate change from which lessons can be picked.

Technology Facilitated Violence Against Women.

Chair: Keiso Matashane-Marite
Session Lead: Raphaelle Rafin, UN Women

The presenter from UN Women presented the global methodological developments since 2022 to fill in measurement gaps for Technology Facilitated Violence Against Women (TF VAW) including the future work in 2024. The session also aimed to establish what contributions can be made from the Africa region and some experiences of its measurement were shared.

Benin's Experience: Mr. Nassirou Kassoumou of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Microfinance/Observatory for the Family, Women and Children presented the measurement of technology-facilitated violence as part of a household

survey on Gender based violence (GBV). He highlighted difficulties in identifying GBV victims/survivors for the qualitative interviews, refusal and/or reluctance of some police officers to grant interviews, difficulty in conducting some interviews due to the complexity of the subject and the fact that the perpetrators are usually in proximity. The Ministry of Social Affairs, with the support of the NSO, conducted a process of updating the gender indicators, which resulted in the identification of online violence in the data collection system that is completed each month at the level of all the municipalities and departments of the country.

Uganda's experience: Ms. Diana Byanjeru of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics explained the measurement of technology-facilitated violence as part of a household survey on violence. In which the following changes were experienced: limited collection of additional information (such as device/means, platforms and digital spaces, frequency/repetition of the violation, impacts/harms suffered, and reactions to/reporting of TF VAW), because it was not a standalone survey. There was limited exploration of the causes and effects of exposure to violence, due to the cross-sectional design of the survey. Whereas a qualitative study was conducted to support interpretation of the quantitative findings, information was not collected on TF VAW.

Some of the lessons learned from Uganda's survey include rigorous interviewer training that contributed to disclosure. The participatory approach used contributed to the good quality of data, and effective implementation of the study. It further created a link to the policy process and ensured a wider ownership and interest in the study results at the country level. Emphasis on ethical and safety concerns also contributed to the quality of the data, and to the effective implementation of the Study. Whereas efforts towards strengthening of administrative data on GBV were not specific to TF VAW, a solid foundation was laid for measurement of the same, as an emerging issue

Morocco's experience: Ms. Siham Zarrari of Morocco HCP explained how the country collected data on TF VAW. A similar approach to what was used in Uganda and the challenges experienced include underreporting and stigma, lack of standardized concept of TF VAW to ensure comparability (defining target population - women using or having used ICTs, TF VAW a form or context of violence, complexity to divide TF VAW into different forms of violence (psychological, sexual...), inability to balance detail and survey complexity, failure to ensure regularity.

Plenary discussion. Participants recommended for a call for partnerships through cooperate responsibility with technology institutions like the Global System for Mobile Communications to track trends and pattern to facilitate ending Technology Facilitated Violence against women. This is part of corporate accountability.

Recommendation. There is need to promote the use of diverse data sources, capacity building, need to raise awareness in families and schools about the risks associated with technology facilitated violence against women, adopt multidisciplinary approach in handling of digital aspects, need to enhance partnerships to monitor and evaluate this phenomenon. In addition, there would be benefit from qualitative studies, and in-depth further analysis of the survey data. Further suggestions include to develop standard collection tools, methodological aspects; for instance in this context, Benin has developed experience in tools that integrate online violence into the administrative data collected.

Innovations to close gender data gaps

Chair: Keiso Matashane Marite, UNECA
Session Lead: Isabella Schmidt, UN Women

Gender statistics from Censuses. Ms. Pamela Kakande of UNECA made this presentation focused on how gender statistics can be utilized from censuses giving a flash of Africa's population and housing census programme in the 2020 round including ECA's innovative census digital tools before delving into an overview of the census communication and dissemination toolkit and dashboard- a system to easy dissemination of disaggregated census results with features to explore disaggregated census data to fill gender data gaps such as management of microdata, dynamic visualizations and data stories, enables storage and presentation of census-related tables and reports, a census metadata page and allows for alerts, sending messages to individuals or groups, and making announcements.

Population censuses provide a comprehensive picture of the population and addresses gender data gaps through inclusion of gender-related questions about gender identity and expression, gender data disaggregation to provide a more nuanced understanding of various population groups. She noted that census data can capture the intersectionality of gender with other social categories such as race, ethnicity, age, disability, and socioeconomic status. Census data can be analyzed geographically to identify regional variations in gender-related issues. Census data collected over multiple years allows for longitudinal analysis, which helps track changes and trends in gender-related indicators over time.

Communicating data and the use of data stories. Ms. Sylvia Maina of UN Women ESA focused on providing a broader understanding of the rationale for communicating statistics, contemporary concepts of communicating data, identifying opportunities and tools for moving away from long narrative to more digestible and engaging products. She pointed out the special considerations for communicating gender data such as the ability to distill, synthesize and simplify the messages, high focus on visualization, not to perpetuate stereotypes, use of women and girls vs. female and men and boys vs. male.

Conclusions day four

Based on the sessions held on day four the following conclusions were arrived at:

- There are significant methodological and system gaps in the measurement of gender data in humanitarian settings which therefore warrants a need to develop appropriate harmonized methodologies and tools for humanitarian settings and promote south to south learning with countries who are experiencing instability and insecurity.

- Noted the need to build further the use of citizen generated data and big data in emergency situations.

- It was noted that some progress is being made in developing tools to measure cross border trade and once it is ready as many countries as possible should participate in its use and further refinement.

- There is a need for increased measurement on the continent of the nexus between gender and the environment and climate change.

- Census data can be shared with other relevant stakeholders, such as researchers, policymakers, and civil society organizations. By making census data accessible to a wide range of users, collaborations can be fostered to conduct further analysis, validate findings, and develop evidence-based policies and programs. The census results dissemination toolkit and dashboard is a useful and innovative tool to enhance population census data dissemination to fill gender data gaps.

- It is necessary to ensure that the necessary legislation is in place to protect and support victims of TF VAW. Existing methodologies and tools developed by national institutions to measure TF VAW will be shared at the national statistics commission in 2024 to inform further development towards global (and regionally sound) standard measures.

Progress of the AGGES 2022-2026 work program

Chair: Koffi Marc Kouakou
Session Lead: Fatouma Sissoko, UNECA

The session lead, Ms. Fatouma Sissoko gave a background to the working group that was formed for a better coordination and harmonization in addressing challenges related to the lack of gender statistics. The Statistical Commission for Africa (STATCOM-Africa), in its first meeting in 2008, set up a working group on gender statistics called African Group on Gender statistics (AGGES). UNECA is the secretariat of the AGGES. The specific objectives were to 1) promote mainstreaming of gender into National Statistical Systems and the STATCOM -Africa specialized Working groups, 2) provide a forum for discussion between key users and producers of statistics, 3) promote coordination of initiatives and activities on gender statistics, 4) promote exchange of experiences and foster best practices on gender statistics; and 5) advocate for the development of a regional strategy on mainstreaming gender into national statistical system.

Mr. Jamal Ait Mouha, Chair of the AGGES presented the work of the group, highlighting that key elements of the program such as partnership, capacity building, data dissemination and advocacy. The difficulties encountered in implementing the program were also highlighted. Finally, he emphasized the prospects for the future, and in his view, the strengthening of cooperation is a key element. The harmonization of an African gender survey encompassing all African countries would be welcome, as would the creation of a data portal, the development of South-South cooperation and the modernization of National Statistical Institutions through the digitization of the production chain. He took the opportunity to express his special thanks to institutions member of the African program on gender statistics (UNECA, UNWOMEN, AfDB, Paris21, Data2x) for their technical and financial support to the program. He also expressed his thanks to the members of the African Group on Gender Statistics for the work accomplished during their mandate and wished every success to new members of the African Group on Gender Statistics.

He noted that in accordance with the statutory provisions, members of the AGGES must be regularly amended as the current members were elected in September 2018. Thus, the renewal of the membership composition of the AGGES is legalized. Hence there is a need to elect new AGGES countries, elicit nominations of individuals to serve on AGGES from relevant NSOs and support their functioning.

Election of the Bureau members: This was followed by the agenda items on the election of countries members of new bureau of the African Group on gender statistics. To this end posts to be filled were presented and discussed, as only the position of president existed in the previous bureau. It was felt that, given the importance of the group and its mandate, the president should be supported by a strong group composed of each sub-region. To this end, 4 positions had been proposed and are the following: the post of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Rapporteur. These positions must be renewable every 2 years, and a country may not serve more than 2 terms. It has also been proposed that each of the sub-regions will be represented by 2 countries, and these 10 member states representing their sub-region will sit on the board and represent not only their country but also their sub-region. In other words, they must work with the representative (nominated focal person) of the countries in their sub-region, in order to ensuring that their contribution is taken into account in the activities of the African Group on Gender Statistics (AGGS), and also solicit them for work related to the AGGS (not just between members of the group).

Discussions on the elections focused on people entitled to vote (only the delegates or all the participants). It was agreed that only delegates representing their country must vote. It was also agreed to have 5 positions instead of 4 so that each of the 5 sub-regions is represented, hence the proposal to create the position of second rapporteur. Following an internal consultation at the sub-region level, the member states of the 5 sub-regions agreed on the 2 countries to represent each of their sub-region, with the exception of North Africa which was represented by Morocco, the only country present at the time of the elections. The countries elected for this purpose are as follows:

        Central Africa: Cameron and Central Africa
        East Africa: Burundi and Kenya
        West Africa: Benin and Cape Verde
        South Africa: Zambia and Eswatini
        North Africa: Morocco

Following this consultation within the sub-regions, the 10 countries representing the 5 sub-regions consulted among themselves and agreed on the set up of the bureau, as follows:

Chair: East Africa Kenya
Vice-Chair: West Africa - Benin
Secretary: South African region - Zambia
Rapporteurs: Central Africa - Cameron and North Africa - Morocco

Given that the 2 rapporteurs are French-speaking countries, it was suggested to exchange one of the rapporteur positions with an anglophone countries. since there was no agreement on this proposal, it was suggested to have a third rapporteur country which should be anglophone.

Way Forward for the AGGES

Following the election of the new bureau, as secretariat of the AGGES, UNECA will send a letter to all countries informing them about AGGES Bureau which has been set up and the member countries that have been elected. Countries will also be requested to send the official name of the representative of their country who will take part to AGGS discussions with the sub-region representatives in the bureau as well as the official name of the representative of their country who will sit on the AGGS bureau (for those member of the bureau).
Once the group is formed, it must come with a TOR defining their responsibility and terms of reference. Since the AGGS already has a TOR, this one can be adjusted to take new developments in gender statistics into account. The AGGS must also come with an activity program and timeline. They have a mandate of two years, and the country which has sat twice, can no longer sit three times.

Next steps towards the accelerated implementation of the development agenda

Mr. Gonzaque Rosalie of UNECA presented the summary of the next steps towards the accelerated implementation of the development agenda in Africa. This culminated into a draft Casablanca Declaration on the Fifth Session of the Africa Gender Statistics Forum on accelerating progress towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics. The draft declaration is annexed to this report.

Based on the deliberations held during the forum, there should be plan to undertake an assessment of the status of gender statistics on the continent. It also committed that during the next two years develop or support the development of tools and methodologies for measurement of informal cross border trade, Technology facilitated violence, gender data in humanitarian settings and climate change and the environment. The participants also:

Acknowledge the progress made in the production of quality gender statistics, especially those related to the social sector, and the existing data gaps in the economic and environmental sectors.

Recognize that there is increased demand for gender statistics from policymakers, researchers, and citizens to measure, monitor and report progress towards gender equality. As well as increased interest in gender statistics by regional economic commissions, other UN and international organizations, agencies, and Civil Society Organizations to improve the production and use of quality gender statistics.

Concerned about 1) the persistent gender data gaps on participation in the economy, public and political life, and gender-based violence against women, and the need to increase production of gender data on emerging issues including informal cross-border trade, information, and communication technology (ICT), the environment and climate change, and technology facilitated violence. 2) limited financing of gender data by national governments and this requires more advocacy to address it. 3) lack of coordination between producers and users of gender statistics within countries, as well as between development partners working on gender statistics 4) low uptake of gender responsive budgeting and the limited investment of the Governments of member states in gender data and statistics. 5) countries in or recovering from conflicts, and countries facing economic, environmental, and political vulnerabilities face unique challenges in generating quality gender statistics.

Closing Remarks

Closing remarks were given by Koffi Marc Kouakou (AfDB), Michelle Seroussi (UN Women - WCA), Isabella Schmidt (UN Women - ESA), Jamal Ait Mouha (HCP-Morocco) and Keiso Matashane-Marite (UNECA). They recognized that discussions on gender statistics have been deeper and wider in this year's forum. This points to where the continent wants to go regarding achievement of the development frameworks based on the action document developed here. Therefore, data must lead to transformation, significant and resilient data systems in promoting sustainable development for the agenda 2030 and 2063. The forum discussed content, processes, communication, leadership, and coordination to harmonize and move forward and finalize action documents including the Casablanca Declaration so that the next meeting will focus on progress.

Appreciated the hospitality exhibited by the Moroccan government in hosting the fifth Africa gender statistics forum. Noting that SADC was the first regional economic commission (REC) to develop a gender statistics program, the next annual gender statistics forum will be held in Botswana in June 2024 in appreciation and honor of the REC's efforts.

Draft Casablanca Declaration

Casablanca Declaration on the Fifth Session of the Africa Gender Statistics Forum on "Accelerating progress towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics".

The Government of Morocco in partnership with the African Development Bank, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, PARIS21, and UN Women organized the fifth session of the Africa Gender Statistics Forum on the theme "Accelerating progress towards Africa's Agenda 2063 and the SDGs using gender statistics" in Casablanca, Morocco from 7 to 11 November 2023.

The objectives of the Forum were to take stock of progress made in gender statistics for implementing development frameworks at the global, regional, and national levels which will, to inform discussions at the Africa Statistics Commission in 2024, and disseminate the latest methodological developments and best practices in the production, dissemination, and use of gender statistics.

Recognizing the importance of quality gender statistics is paramount in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063, adopt the following Declaration:

The fifth session of the Africa Gender Statistics Forum,

- *Recalled* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action that calls for governments and its development partners to collect, compile, analyze and present quality gender statistics, for utilization in policy and programme planning and implementation, including by measuring and assessing the value of unremunerated work.

- *Guided* by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that called on countries to prioritize the mobilization of financial resources to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- *Reiterated* the importance of issues including age, geographical location, income, disability status and other relevant factors that intersect with sex to influence gender inequalities, to identify hard-to-reach population groups.

- *Acknowledged* the progress made in the production of quality gender statistics, especially those related to the social sector and the existing data gaps in the economic and environmental sectors.

- *Concerned* of the persistent gender data gaps on participation in the economy, public and political life, and gender-based violence against women, and the need to increase production of gender data on emerging issues including informal cross-border trade, information, and communication technology (ICT) and climate change.

- *Also concerned* about the lack of coordination between producers and users of gender statistics within countries, as well as between development partners working on gender statistics.

- *Recognized* the increased demand for gender statistics from policymakers, researchers, and citizens to measure, monitor and report progress towards gender equality.

- *Further recognized* that countries in or recovering from conflicts, and countries facing economic, environment and political vulnerabilities face unique challenges in generating quality gender statistics.

-

- *Understood* that a strong civil registration and vital system provides a strong basis for a comprehensive gender statistics system. Therefore, provides a means to assess progress towards gender equality and monitor development agendas in Africa.

- *Encouraged* countries to use digital and innovative ways to harness access to and use of gender statistics to inform efforts towards gender equality recognizing existing data sources like the population censuses and big data.

Here by we commit ourselves to work with our governments, counterparts, and strategic partners to ensure availability, use and dissemination of quality gender statistics by:

Enhancing the collection, analysis, and dissemination of comprehensive data, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, ethnicity, location and socioeconomic status, to facilitate an accurate assessment of the realization of gender equality in all aspects of the society, economy and environment covered by the international and regional development agendas.

Developing comprehensive gender statistics systems and administrative data sources like civil registration and vital statistics systems and integrate non-traditional data sources including citizen-generated data and geo spatial data analysis to complement traditional data sources to address gender data gaps, including to institutionalize informal cross-border trade, information, and communication technology (ICT) and climate change gender analysis methodologies.

Strengthen national coordination mechanisms with a view to institutionalizing efforts to improve the collection, analysis, and dissemination of quality gender statistics.

Contributing to the development of standardized measures and indicators on technology-facilitated violence against women including by facilitating and coordinating the collection of national practices and expert inputs, and by calling for partnerships through corporate responsibility with technology institutions (like GCMA) to track trends and pattern to end technology-facilitated violence against women and keep record.

Conducting more regular time-use surveys including using more recent lighter data collection instruments to improve the availability and frequency of time-use data.

Disseminating research and good practices on gender statistics and civil registration and vital statistics through South-South cooperation, knowledge sharing forums, capacity development and technical assistance.

Implement gender-responsive planning and budgeting tools and practices to address gender issues holistically, along with monitoring and auditing of such budgeting to ensure that it addresses gender data gaps in areas of strategic priority.

Establishing national and regional observatories focused on data collection, knowledge-sharing, and capacity-development in relation to gender statistics and civil registration and vital statistics.

Strengthen the implementation of the Africa Programme on Gender Statistics 2022-2026 to coordinate the activities on gender statistics at the regional level, to avoid duplication of efforts, and optimize the use of available resources.

Undertaking a regional assessment of gender statistics programmes to be undertaken by the Economic Commission for Africa on the status of gender statistics in Africa.

Develop targeted and harmonised initiatives and programmes aimed at addressing the special gender data and statistics needs of countries in or recovering from conflicts, and countries facing economic, environment and political vulnerabilities as well as during emergencies and in humanitarian settings.

Meeting Recordings

Day 1 recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/4vEsQvT0G-AmrPMuZlyOnoqwkGlThgZQkemLV2I_CXmKNieN9al9NHs7QSQw2qs0.vwWll_v4wG0FzxOR?startTime=1699346431000

Passcode:0stf$PBz

link to Mr. Papa seck's opening remark video.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ckaq7hnTYLXpX0RhDQxl78eNzf0G5wzW/view?usp=sharing

Day 2 recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/JJBwRzlSNEj_
qfVs86rpFMA3zRb3rxA2sJzY8ivUqIVPXYITnTs0F8N2HMAmpXwA.58OUdRvk8R1X5t9x

 Passcode: 8MCC.R9#

Day 3 recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/c2lAL5Us3gpPOEppkAQepvT-U3qtNWxYrF6kkozARUyGIyMMlz68lgCP6oTndTpF.
oznRZlT0vCGiZWZE

Passcode: 1UfB7&Sw

Day 4 recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/8mgyAHfqWQRx5lHYh12oqICiUbt_jtTx_BGFREiDkDlRksjObgioi-GGs7EGlTos.
LiRjRox5M9HRp1m0

Passcode: s+.@1+7T

Day 5 recording:

https://zoom.us/rec/share/27tuXbRzvA_oJn7OHGrcoQyFAA1kys-xC6Y03AndUiZ82zLoxGNzK_owZ7JLqudy.
ZZULEPvcJ6ZNS9Ok

Passcode: xeB+XMW8

Agenda

Day One: Tuesday, 7 November 2023 Opening, Development Agendas in Africa		Chair
08h30-09h00	Registration	

09h00-10h00	Opening and welcome
	    Speakers:
	
	           Achraf Tarsim, AfDB
	
	           Papa Seck, UN Women (online)
	
	           Johannes Jütting, PARIS21(online)
	
	           William Muhwava, UNECA
	
	           Awattif Hayar, MSISF - Kingdom of Morocco
	
	           Ahmed Lahlimi Alami, HCP, Morocco
		HCP
		(Ayache Khellaf)

10h00-10h15	Workshop objective Speaker: Pamela Kakande, UNECA	
10h15-10h45	TEA BREAK	
10h45-11h00	Progress towards the gender responsive SDGs in Africa at regional, subregional, and country levels Speaker: Eman Aboaldahab Elsayed, UNECA	HCP (Abdeslam Nadah)

11h00- 11h45	Country experiences in mainstreaming gender into SDGs monitoring and reporting mechanism.
	    Speakers: Tatsinkou Christophe, Cameroun NSO
	          Emma Phiri, Zambia NSO
	          Ramla Hassan, Tanzania NSO	

11h45-12h00	Progress towards the gender responsive Africa Agenda 2063 at regional, subregional, and country levels: Speaker: Jose Awong Alene, STATAFRIC	

12h00-13h00	Country experiences in mainstreaming gender into Agenda 2063 monitoring and reporting mechanism.
	    Speakers:
	        Abdeljebar Salim, Morocco HCP
	        Bibi Naseem Ramjan, Mauritius Ministry
	        Denambona Morgan Peguy, Central Africa Republic NSO	

13h00-13h15	Discussion	
13h15-14h15	LUNCH	
14h15-14h45	Progress towards implementation of Beijing declaration 30 years after its adoption Speaker: Keiso Matashane Marite, Chief, GEWE OIC, UNECA	
14h45-15h00	Discussion	

15h00-16h00	Getting to the 2030 finish line: Identifying and filling gender data gaps for inclusive development
	    Speakers: Shaida Badiee, Managing director, Open Data Watch
	        Jahanara Saeed, Program director, Open Data Watch
	        Greg Maly, Program manager, Data2X
		AfDB

16h00-16h15	TEA BREAK	

16h15-16h45	Countries experiences in identifying and filling gender data gaps for inclusive development.
	    Speakers:
	        Caroline Gatwiri Mutwiri, Kenya NSO
	        Gloria Akoto-Bamfo, Ghana NSO
		AfDB

16h45-17h00	Discussion	

Day Two: Wednesday, 8 November 2023 Recognizing and valuing women's contribution to the economy		Chair

08h30-11h00	Care economy: Overview of the meaning of the care economy and how is it connected to Women's Economic Empowerment.
	  Speaker: *Mehjabeen Alarakhia,* UN Women, *(online)*
	Link between time use, unpaid care work poverty.
	  Speaker: *Barbara KY,* WAEMU
	How do we measure the care economy and how are those measurements used for policy decisions.
	  Speaker : *Jacques Charmes,* Independent consultant
		UN Women

11h00-11h30	**TEA BREAK**	

11h30-12h10	Measuring Time use - Mixed panel discussion
	  Moderator: Isabella Schmicht, UN Women
	  Panelists: Samantha Watson, ILO, *(online)*
	     Bouchra Bouziani, Morocco HCP
	     Caroline Gatwiri Mutwiri, Kenya NSO
	     Mahmouth Diouf, UN Women Senegal
		UNECA

12h10-12h30	Household satellite accounts.
	  Speakers:
	    Mahmouth Diouf, UN Women, Senegal
	    Yattou Ait Khellou, Morocco HCP	

12h30-13h00	Gender budgeting: Expenditure analysis
	  Speakers:
	    Sofie Lambert, UN Women
	    Leila Ssali, Uganda MGLSD	

13h00-14h00	**LUNCH**	

14h00-16h30	The road to impact: Opportunities and challenges in gender data use: participant perspectives in focus
	  Speakers:
	    Sophie Kenneally, PARIS21
	    Caroline Gatwiri Mutwiri, Kenya NSO
	    Edouard Munyamuzila, Rwanda
	    Ssali Leila, Uganda MGLSD
	    Khalid Soudi, Morocco HCP
		AfDB

16h30-17h00	Discussion	

Day Three: Thursday, 9 November 2023 Africa Gender Index and Civil Registration		Chair

08h30-10h00	Africa Gender Index 2023 Process and key findings.
	  Speakers:
	
	    Keiso Matashane Marite, Chief GEWE, OIC, UNECA
	    Koffi Marc Kouakou, Principal Gender Economist-Statistician, AfDB
	    Roza Mamuye Bora, Principal Statistician, AfDB
	
	    Marcus Cox, AfDB-AGI Independent consultant
		PARIS21

10h00-10h30	**TEA BREAK**	

10h30-12h00	AGI Panel discussion on emerging patterns and policy recommendations
	  Moderator: Barbara KY, Director of Gender Directorate, WAEMU Commission
	  Panelists:
	
	    Amadou Diallo, Mali, Ministry for the Promotion of Women, Children, and the Family
	    Gwatura Priscilla, Zimbabwe, Ministry of Gender
	    Keiso Matashane Marite, Chief GEWE, OIC, UNECA
	
	    Linet Miriti, Chief Gender Officer, AfDB
		PARIS21

12h00-13h00	Top priorities for policy measures and investments to promote Gender Equity in Africa. Quality of data on gender equality in Africa.
	  Moderator: Barbara KY, Director of Gender Directorate, WAEMU Commission
	  Open discussion : All participants	

13h00-14h00	**LUNCH**	
14h00-15h20	Data for Health Initiative in gender integration *Speakers:* *Joan Sara Thomas,* Technical Advisor & D4H GE Equity Focal Point Public Health Programs, CRVS & Global Grants Program	UN Women
15h20-15h40	**TEA BREAK**	

15h40-16h40	Gender in Civil Registration and Vital Statistics: understanding gender mainstreaming strategies in CRVS system improvement.
	  Moderator: *Pamela Kakande,* UNECA
	  Panelist: Rosalie Ndjonkam Niekou, Cameroun NSO
	    Mbene Lo, Senegal NSO
	    Moyo Xolani, Zimbabwe NSO
	    Mariam Kitembe, Tanzania NSO
		UNECA

16h40-17h00	Discussion	

Day Four: Friday 10 November 2023 Landscaping gender statistics in Africa	Chair
08h30 -11h00	Landscaping gender statistics in Africa focusing on fragile states in disaster, shocks, and recovery/transition. AfDB-UNECA: Capacity Building for Gender Statistics and Monitoring System Project. *Speaker:* *William Muhwava,* Chief DSSS, UNECA UN Women: Make every women & girl count. *Speaker :* *Michka Seroussi and Isabella Schmidt,* UN Women	AfDB
11h00 -11h30	**TEA BREAK**	
11h30 -12h00	Gender mainstreaming in NSDS and gender statistics assessments in Africa *Speaker: Meriem Ait Ouyahia,* PARIS21 *Alexandre Biaou,* UN Women *Mbene Lo,* Senegal NSO	AfDB
12h00-12h30	Draft continental ICBT data collection methodology. *Speaker: Laura Naliaka,* RITD, UNECA (*online*)	
12h30-13h00	Environmental data and gender Innovations in gender and environment data *Speaker: Michelle Seroussi,* UN Women The environment module included in Census 2022 *Speaker: Mariam Kitembe,* Tanzania NSO *Mitra Sadananda,* UN Women Tanzania	
13h00-14h00	**LUNCH**	
14h00-15h00	Methodologies used to measure technology facilitated violence using surveys, administrative and qualitative methods. *Speakers:* *Raphaelle Rafin,* UN Women *Nassirou Kassoumou,* Director General - OFFE, Benin *Siham Zarrari,* HCP, Morocco *Diana Byanjeru,* Uganda NSO	UNECA
15h00-15h45	Panel discussion on the way forward for the region on measurement of technology facilitated violence. *Moderator:* *Raphaelle Rafin,* UN Women *Panellists: Fatouma Sissoko,* UNECA *Nassirou Kassoumou*, Director General - OFFE, Benin *Siham Zarrari,* HCP, Morocco *Diana Byanjeru,* Uganda NSO	
15h30-16h15	Innovations to close gender data gaps: Census communication and dissemination toolkit and dashboard overview *Speaker: Pamela Kakande,* UNECA *Sylvia Maina,* UN Women	

Day Five: Saturday 11 November 2023 Building a common agenda for gender statistics in Africa.	Chair
09h00-10h00	Progress of the AGGES 2022-2026 work program *Speaker: Jamal AIT MOUHA,* AGGES Way forward for AGGES 2022-2026 and elections of new members *Speaker: Fatouma Sissoko,* UNECA	AfBD
09h00-10h00	Next steps towards the accelerated implementation of the development agenda in Africa *Speakers: Fatouma Sissoko,* UNECA	AfDB
10h00-10h30	**TEA BREAK**	
11h00-12h30	Consideration and adoption of meeting outcome document and consideration of recommendations and draft resolution. *Speaker : Gonzaque Rosalie,* UNECA	AfDB
12h30-13h00	Closing Remarks	
13h00-14h00	**LUNCH AND DEPARTURE**	

Photo Gallery

Photo: UN Women/Sylvia Maina