



# SOUTH SUDAN NATIONAL GENDER STATISTICS ASSESSMENT







# South Sudan National Gender Statistics Assessment

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March 2022



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This assessment is the result of a collaboration between the South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW) and UN Women South Sudan Country Office. It was executed as part of UN Women's gender data and statistics programme "Women Count" and authored by Isabella Schmidt (UN Women regional Gender Statistics Specialist) with technical and operational support from Dunstan Mubangizi (UN Women South Sudan Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Specialist).

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# Executive Summary

## Background and methodology

South Sudan has been in a state of conflict and civil war for decades with only a brief respite of approximately three years after the declaration of independence in January 2011. Most women, men, girls, and boys live in extreme poverty and have some of the poorest health outcomes globally, and more than 7 out of 10 children do not attend school<sup>1</sup>. According to the UNHCR<sup>2</sup>, 2,341,621 South Sudanese can be classified as refugees and asylum seekers. The continued violence has resulted in an estimated 1.6 million South Sudanese being internally displaced. Three quarters of them reside in host communities with the remainder accommodated in refugee camps or equivalents<sup>3</sup>. Amid all these challenges the quality of governance, revenue collection and fiscal responsibility of the Government of South Sudan continues to decline. This has given international aid agencies and CSOs a disproportionate influence in day-to-day governance of the country as well as key cross-cutting enabling elements such as statistical production.

Since 2017, UN Women has been supporting the production and use of gender statistics globally through its flagship global program 'Making Every Woman and Girl Count' (Women Count). UN Women considers an assessment of a gender statistics system an essential and systematic way of identifying the data and capacity gaps in a country. As part of Phase I of the Women Count project, UN Women partnered with PARIS 21 to develop a framework that can be used to assess gender data and capacity gaps<sup>4</sup>. This framework was adapted to local circumstances and partially used for this assessment.

The assessment was carried out as a partnership between UN Women, South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), and the Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare, and Religious Affairs (MGCSW). Its primary goal is to assess gender statistics data and capacity gaps in the context of the humanitarian crisis. The findings of the assessment can be used by NBS, MGCSW, UN Women, and other partners in support of improved coordination, expansion, and further development of the gender statistics system in South Sudan.

More specific objectives of the assessment include:

1. Checking on the availability of legal frameworks or laws pertaining to gender statistics.
2. Identifying the extent to which gender issues and statistics have been integrated in the various ministries and government entities.
3. Reflecting on gaps in the production, analysis, and use of gender statistics in NBS and ministries that produce gender data.
4. Identifying capacities and knowledge gaps among the producers, analysts, and users of gender statistics.
5. Compiling a list of challenges and barriers that prevent the gender statistics system from functioning optimally.
6. Proposing policy recommendations and interventions on how to enhance the production and use of gender statistics.

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<sup>1</sup> More details and data sources are cited in Chapter 2 of the report.

<sup>2</sup> UNHCR Operational data portal. <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan>

<sup>3</sup> UNHCR 2021 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response plan. Available from <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85444>. Accessed 7 December 2021.

<sup>4</sup> Assessing data and capacity gaps in gender statistics. <https://paris21.org/node/3286>

The assessment used a mixed methodology consisting of a review of secondary sources, the completion of selected PARIS21 framework questionnaires, and key informant and focus group discussions. The overall participation of ministries and other entities in the assessment process was lower than expected, but most of the key departments that are currently using and producing gender statistics participated actively and provided substantive reflections on what is currently working and not working at the individual, organizational, and system level.

Conceptually, gender data and statistics work can be grouped into three main activity streams, which have been used to broadly summarize the key findings of the assessment. These are:

- i. Environment of gender data production
- ii. Gender data production and availability
- iii. Gender data uptake and use

## **Environment of gender data production**

Statistical production and particularly the production of official statistics is difficult in a non-conducive production environment. The assessment identified the following normative framework gaps: the absence of a comprehensive national statistics act; an outdated National Statistics Development Strategy (NSDS) (2014-2020) which, due to political turmoil and resource constraints during most of its lifespan, remained largely unimplemented; lack of Quality Assurance Frameworks (QAF) and systems; lack of up-to-date statistical concepts and definitions and other statistical production standards and guidelines. Officials at NBS operate under difficult circumstances. Some of the problems they face include staff salaries that go unpaid for months at a time; no operational funds being received from the Government; limited staff numbers; attrition of key and capacitated talent to UN agencies and civil society organizations (CSOs); lack of office furniture and computers; and office spaces gradually being demolished by termites.

The MGCSW, the primary user of gender statistics in South Sudan, also has problems with insufficient staff numbers, budget allocation, and unresponsiveness of data producers situated across Government when data is needed for reporting purposes. This problem is even more pronounced when it comes to state-level data production and data flows between the state and national level. Consequently, national reporting is sometimes done only based on statistics collected in Juba.

Overall, statistical coordination in the country is weak and international and local agencies and CSOs pretty much produce data as and when they want. Within this context, there is also currently no gender statistics specific coordination mechanism resulting in fragmentation, duplication of efforts and unnecessary data gaps both in terms of what is measured as well as where these measurements take place.

## **Gender data production and availability**

South Sudan has very real and significant gender data and quality gaps. According to the UN Women global database<sup>5</sup>, the country could only report on 33% of the 122 SDG indicators considered gender-responsive. This is partly because no large-scale household questionnaire surveys (the most common source for most of these indicators) have been executed since 2017 (the World Bank-supported High-Frequency Survey). Besides the Nutrition and Food Security Monitoring Survey (last conducted in 2019), available survey data from the high frequency survey was not designed to adequately address even a fraction of the gender imperatives of Agenda 2030. Currently, limited official statistics are being produced and where produced they are old or produced irregularly.

The recent Population Estimation Survey conducted in 2021 will yield very important data for planning purposes. Questionnaire survey gaps that need to be filled from the gender equality and

<sup>5</sup> Underlying database of the UN Women SDG Dashboard December 2020. Available on request. Also refer to <https://data.unwomen.org/data-portal/sdg>



women's empowerment agenda include a GBV prevalence survey, time use survey (or publish the 2019 GNV survey report), economic participation and asset ownership, particularly land ownership, access and use, and women's and girl's health and well-being survey.

More recent work done to improve the District Health Information System (DHIS), Education Management Information System (EMIS), and trade and industry data systems are positive moves in the right direction. The support provided in this respect by the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to the relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) is appropriate and will advance the strengthening of these systems as well as the production of gender data. Other key administrative data sources that need additional support include the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and gender-based-violence as sourced from Ministry of Justice (MJ) and security cluster as well as the higher education information system (HEMIS) data system. The data is not always reported on in a form that is disaggregated by sex, but this can be done on request.

Agencies not specializing in research sometimes do not adhere to basic ethical guidelines when collecting data among vulnerable groups and/or gender-sensitive data as reflected in the absence of or poorly formulated informed consent forms. This weakens the reliability of the data collected and violates the basic principles of the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to data.

## **Gender data uptake and use**

During the assessment, some problems have been identified with data accessibility, existing data that is not being analyzed from a gender perspective, and statistical reports being presented in an easily-accessible and understandable way for non-statisticians. Official statistical reports on women and men are not currently being produced. This is considered as an important gap since in most countries such reports form the basis of gender evidence for policy and decision-making.

MGCSW, the primary user of gender data, has not been served well by most producers; more needs to be done to bridge gender data gaps in the national strategic framework, and improve the responsiveness of MDAs when data is requested for national, regional and international reporting purposes.

## **Recommendations**

The key recommendations of this assessment with regards to normative frameworks and the gender statistics production environment are that:

- MGCSW strengthens the existing national indicator framework associated with its current gender strategy and to which all relevant MDAs need to commit and contribute data. This indicator framework should be based on national priorities and should not only reflect data that is already available, but also include indicators that best reflect progress on a particular issue even if not measured currently.
- The national MGCSW should consider building the capacity of their state-based offices to improve the coordination of data collection at the state/county level.
- Future planning and project development around gender statistics be done in close collaboration with both MGCSW and NBS.
- NBS and MGCSW provide the necessary technical support to strengthen the statistical capacities and outputs of MDAs at national and state level and address capacity gaps that are not currently being filled.
- General training and capacity-building on gender statistics be carried out at all levels of government and for all actors in the gender data ecosystem.

- All heads of departments (HoDs) at the national, state, and county level increase their accountability to mainstream and monitor gender outcomes in a more coordinated and purposeful manner in all their performance agreements, workplans, and activities.
- MGCSW and NBS strengthen their working relationship around gender statistics with clear delineation of roles and responsibilities to improve overall coordination and bridge the gender data gaps identified during this study. These initiatives should also include a focus on strengthening the working relationships between the various producers as well as between users and producers of gender statistics.
- Mechanisms be put in place to address staff shortages, poor physical infrastructure, and access to computers and essential office equipment in NBS and key ministries producing gender data.
- NBS be involved and consulted as per their mandate when national questionnaire surveys are being conducted by MDAs and other entities.

With regards to gender data gaps the study recommends that statistical work should focus on increasing the availability and use of key Agenda 2030 indicators. Within this context, priority should be given to allocating resources to a GBV prevalence survey, time use survey/module, economic participation and asset ownership, particularly land ownership, access and use, and women's and girl's health and wellbeing surveys.

These data gaps will be difficult to overcome given the ongoing humanitarian crisis and high levels of instability and insecurity in the country. The gender statistics system in South Sudan will benefit from the analysis, mining, and packaging of existing sex-disaggregated data to better highlight specific gender patterns and outcomes. Additionally, it is recommended that non-traditional data collection methods be used under the leadership of NBS and MGCSW. One possible approach could include forming a gender data coalition among interested CSOs and UN agencies to coordinate and harmonize questionnaire survey execution. In that way, multiple surveys across all states can be combined to form a large sample that qualifies as official statistics and meets both local and national planning, resource allocation, and reporting requirements.

Furthermore, consideration should also be given to build on the citizen generated data (CGD) system pioneered by Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) in various states. Such a system could form the basis for creating a hybrid national survey/management information system (MIS) mechanism that could fill important data gaps but also carve a space for CGD in the gender data ecosystem in South Sudan.

With regards to administrative data sets, it is recommended that appropriate agencies partner with NBS, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MHEST), and the security cluster to see how existing systems can be strengthened to improve both the quality and completeness of these data sets.

It is important that official publications on the statistics of women and men be produced once the necessary data becomes available.

Problems around data accessibility and use can be addressed by improving the usability of the NBS and MGCSW websites and creating regular updates related to gender data and statistics. Consideration should also be given to using the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) platform as a portal for communicating about and sharing gender statistics, research reports and data. Accessible and user-friendly data products and policy briefs that support and encourage evidence-based decision-making across all sectors should be prioritized. User-producer dialogues need to be institutionalized as a mechanism to increase the relevance and uptake and use of gender data and statistics. Mechanisms also need to be developed to encourage data sharing for use by all producers and users in the gender data ecosystem. This will enhance uptake and use and enable others, who may not have been involved in the specific survey, to mine existing data from a gender perspective.

# Abbreviations and Acronyms

APP	Annual Performance Plan
ASS	African Statistics System
AU	African Union
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interview
CAWI	Computer-Assisted Web-based Interview
CEPO	Community Empowerment for Progress Organization
CGD	Citizen-Generated Data
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
	Ceasefire & Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring & Verification Mechanism
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
ICP	Integrated Food Security Phase Classification
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
MAFS	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
MARF	Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries
MCA	Members of the County Assembly
MCII	Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MDA	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MDVA	Ministry of Defense and Veterans Affairs
MED	Ministry of Electricity and Dams
MEF	Ministry of Environment and forestry
MFAIC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
MFEP	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
MGCSW	Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare
MGEI	Ministry of General Education and Instruction
MHADMD	Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management
MHEST	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
MHPPE	Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MICTPS	Ministry of Information, Communication Technology and & Postal Services
MIWR	Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MLPSHR	Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
MOU	Memorandum of understanding
MPM	Ministry of Petroleum and Mining
MRB	Ministry of Roads and Bridges
MTR	Ministry of Transport and Roads
MWT	Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism

NBS	South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics
NDS	National Development Strategy
NSDS	National statistics development strategy
NT	Finance/national treasury
NTLI	National Transformational Leadership Institute
OVP	Office of the Vice President
SLA	Service level agreements
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNMISS	UN Mission in South Sudan
UNOCHA	United Nation's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UOJ	University of Juba
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Program
WHO	World Health Organization

# 1 Introduction and Methodology

## 1.1 Background

Since 2017, UN Women has been supporting the production and use of gender statistics globally through its flagship global program ‘Making Every Woman and Girl Count’ (Women Count). The Women Count Africa regional project is crafted around three primary objectives:

- **Creating an enabling environment:** working with organizations such as the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), regional coordination is being improved and countries are being supported to identify and address institutional, legal, and financial constraints to mainstream gender into national statistical systems and establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system for the SDGs.
- **Increasing data production:** Technical capacities of national statistical systems (NSSs) are being strengthened and quality data on violence against women, unpaid care work, gaps in access to decent work and pay, participation in public life and decision-making, and access to/use of information and communications technologies produced to improve SDG monitoring.
- **Improving data accessibility and use:** Capacities of users are being strengthened to conduct gender data analysis, accessibility of gender statistics to all users is increased through better reporting, capacities to communicate gender data are increased through training, and data and metadata sharing encouraged to facilitate data flows, including to regional and global SDG-related data systems.

During the first phase of Women Count, the UN Women East and Southern Africa (ESA) regional office focused activities and resources on work in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, as well as Ethiopia through a separate funding stream in the latter. Limited work and small-scale activities were also supported in Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Sudan, and South Sudan. These activities will be expanded during Phase II of the project. The UN Women Country Office in South Sudan as well as Central Bureau of South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Ministry of Gender, Child, and Social Welfare (MGCSW) expressed an interest in collaborating on this work on identifying gender data and capacity gaps that need to be addressed through the gender statistics .

Diagram 1 summarizes Women Count’s gender data and statistics work in the region which contributes towards the overall strategy for the harmonization of statistics in Africa and is executed under the auspices of the Africa program on gender statistics as coordinated by UNECA. The diagram shows the flow of gender statistics support activities typically executed at the national level as part of Women Count in a process that typically starts with an assessment of the gender statistics system. If a gender statistics framework or plan is not already in place, support is provided to develop one.

UN Women considers an assessment of a gender statistics system as the starting point for a data and capacity gaps assessment which will help to identify how the production, availability, access, and use of gender data and statistics can be improved.

As part of Phase I of the Women Count project, UN Women partnered with PARIS21 to develop a framework that can be used for the assessment of gender data and capacity gaps<sup>6</sup>. This framework formed the basis of this assessment in South Sudan.

<sup>6</sup> Assessing data and capacity gaps in gender statistics. <https://paris21.org/node/3286>

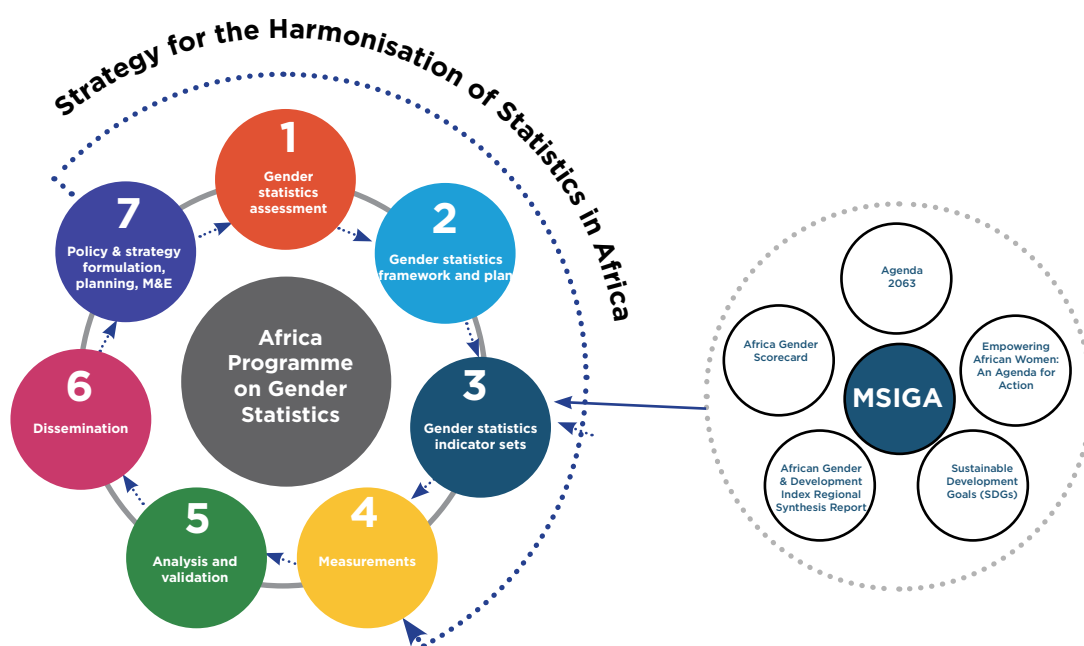


Figure 1: Generic process flow of Women Count gender statistics advocacy and support work

## 1.2 Key concepts and definitions

Although the words sex and gender are often used interchangeably, they mean different things and it is important to choose the correct term when discussing sex/gender in the context of statistics.

**Sex** refers to the biological differences between women and men, while **gender** relates to the socially constructed differences in attributes and opportunities associated with being a woman or a man and to the social interactions between women and men<sup>7</sup>.

**Gender statistics** are defined by the sum of the following characteristics<sup>8</sup>:

- (a) Data is collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification
- (b) Data reflects gender issues
- (c) Data is based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives
- (d) Data collection methods consider stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data

**Gender equality**<sup>9</sup>

Gender equality refers to equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men, and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but their rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether their sex at birth.

Gender equality is not just a women's issue but should concern and fully engage men as well as women. Gender equality directly correlates with increases in productivity, health, and standards of living that positively affect all women, men, girls and boys in society. Many developing countries today are striving for gender equality because they see empowering women as a way to fight poverty and lift up the whole country.

<sup>7</sup> UN Women Gender Statistics Curriculum. Available from: <https://data.unwomen.org/resources/gender-statistics-training-curriculum>. Accessed 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

<sup>8</sup> Assessing data and capacity gaps in gender statistics. <https://paris21.org/node/3286>

<sup>9</sup> UN Women gender statistics training curriculum. Available from: <https://data.unwomen.org/resources/gender-statistics-training-curriculum>. Accessed 24/03/2022.

## Gender parity<sup>9</sup>

Gender parity is a numerical concept concerning the relative equality in terms of numbers and proportions of women and men, girls, and boys. Gender parity is often calculated as a ratio of the values of a given indicator of women-to-men.

## Gender gap<sup>9</sup>

This refers to any disparity between women's and men's condition or position in society. It is often used to refer to a difference in average earnings between women and men, e.g., "gender pay gap". However, gender gaps occur in many areas other than pay.

## Gender mainstreaming<sup>10</sup>

The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action including legislation, policies, or programmes in all areas and at all levels. Gender mainstreaming is a strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic, and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated. The ultimate goal of gender mainstreaming is to achieve gender equality.

### 1.3 Purpose and scope of the assessment

The aim of this assessment was to assess the state of gender statistics in South Sudan and use the results to further integrate a gender perspective in national strategic planning for statistical production, use, and dissemination.

More specific objectives of the assessment include:

1. Checking on the availability of legal frameworks or laws pertaining to gender statistics.
2. Identifying the extent to which gender issues and statistics have been integrated in the various ministries and government entities.
3. Reflecting on the gaps in the production, analysis, and use of gender statistics in NBS and other ministries that produce gender data.
4. Identifying capacities and knowledge gaps among the producers, analysts, and users of gender statistics.
5. Compiling a list of challenges and barriers that prevent the gender statistics system from functionally optimally.
6. Proposing policy recommendations and interventions on how to enhance the production and use of gender statistics.

The outcomes of the project are envisaged to enhance linkages between normative and technical work on gender statistics at the regional and national levels in South Sudan in the three inter-related key areas of work: i) Building a supportive policy and institutional environment for the localization and effective monitoring of the SDGs; ii) Increasing the quality, comparability, and regularity of gender statistics to address national data gaps and meet reporting commitments; and iii) ensuring that gender statistics are accessible to users in governments, civil society, academia, and the private sector to strengthen adequate demand for their production.

<sup>10</sup> Coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system. Available from: <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/pdf/ECOSOCAC1997.2.PDF>. Accessed 24/03/2022.

## 1.4 Methodology

### 1.4.1 Overview and institutional arrangements

The assessment was done as a partnership between UN Women, NBS and MGCSW. Overall coordination of the assessment was led by a team from NBS which comprised of officials from the Demographic Statistics Directorate. The technical part of the assessment as well as the compilation of the report was led by UN Women.

### 1.4.2 Assessment methodology

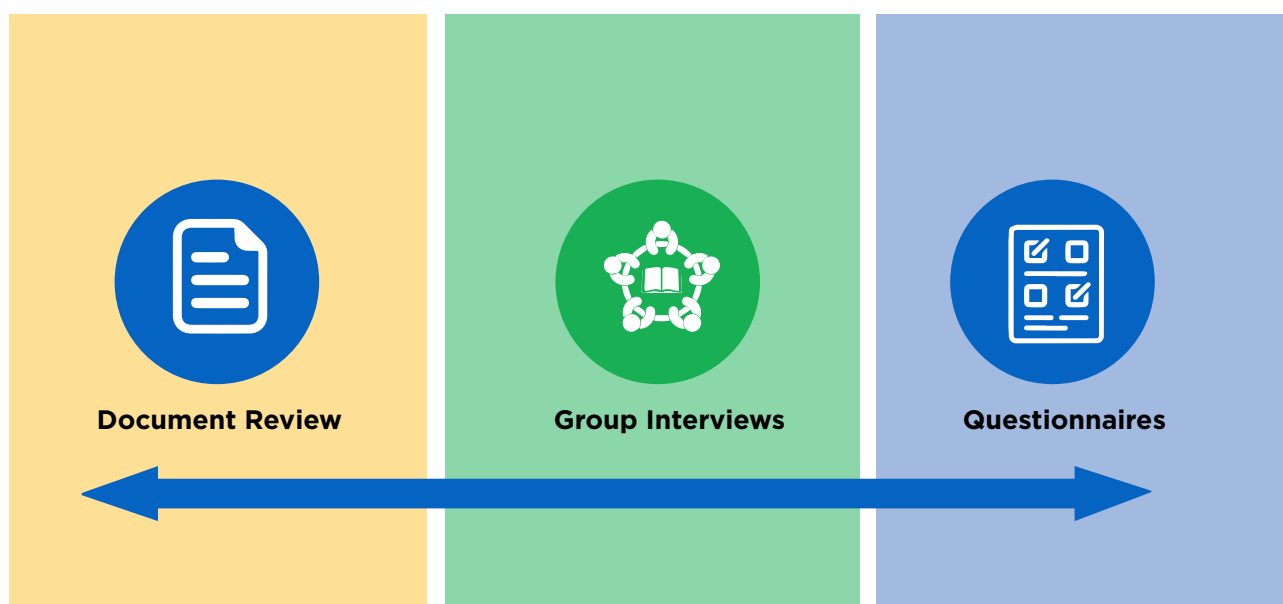
The assessment methodology was adapted and partially based on the PARIS21 methodological framework for identifying gender data and capacity gaps and included a desk review of secondary information, distribution, and completion of questionnaires as well as group interviews with key MDAs that are producing and using gender statistics. In addition to distributing the PARIS21 Framework<sup>11</sup> prototype questionnaires (Annex A) to a selected group of ministries and other stakeholders that have been adjusted to the South Sudan context, additional questions on COVID-19 were used to assess gender statistics and capacity gaps of the NSS and to prepare Chapter 3 of the report.

Questionnaire A (Annex A.1) - Main assessment tool for the gender focal points in NBS.

Questionnaire B (Annex A.2) - Short module for individual capabilities designed for the gender focal points in the various ministries;

Questionnaire C (Annex A.3) - Short module targeted to other line ministries producing statistics. It aims to obtain information about their data collection, gender statistics production, coordination, and use by the Government.

Questionnaire D (Annex A.4) - Short module for key users of gender statistics beyond the ministries (parliamentarians, journalists, CSOs, private sector, research, and academia).



*Figure 2: The primary data sources of the assessment*

<sup>11</sup> The Framework and accompanying Implementation Guidelines present the methods, tools, and steps for assessing gender statistics at the national level. This document offers a set of organizing principles for identifying gaps in data and NSS capacity related to production, coordination, communication, and use of gender statistics.



Group discussions with key individuals involved in the production of gender data and statistics were held to either complement or replace the questionnaire in instances where the ministries preferred not to complete a questionnaire. The interviews and completion of the questionnaires took place between August and December 2021. An additional group interview was also conducted with representatives of CSOs at the beginning of March 2022. Organizations represented included: ACDF, Consortium Medical Care, Handicap International, Oxfam, Plan International, PLDRA, World Vision, WUSC.

### 1.4.3 Validation workshop

A validation workshop was held in February 2022 with users and producers. The validation workshop was attended by 50 partners including representatives from the MGCSW, NBS, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management (MHADM), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Office of the Vice President (OVP), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), University of Juba (UOJ), Ceasefire & Transitional Security Arrangements Monitoring & Verification Mechanism (CTSAMVM), National Transformational Leadership Institute (NTLI), Members of the County Assembly (MCA), Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MoHEST), UN Women, EU, Plan International, (UNOCHA), Titi foundation, National Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration Commission (NDDRC), Ministry of Justice (MJ), UNESCO. Subsequent key informant interviews were also conducted with NBS, UNFPA and United Nation's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA).



*Picture 1: Keynote address by the Chairman of NBS*



*Picture 2: Officials in attendance busy with group work*

**Table 1: Ministries and other entities approached for the assessment and response status**

Participated in group or key interview and/or completed questionnaire	Approached but with no response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Sudan National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)</li> <li>• Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS)</li> <li>• Ministry of Health (MoH)</li> <li>• Ministry of General Education and Instruction (MoGEI)</li> <li>• Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MoHEST)</li> <li>• Ministry of Justice (MoJ)</li> <li>• Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</li> <li>• United Nations Development Program (UNDP)</li> <li>• United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</li> <li>• United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency (UNFPA)</li> <li>• United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</li> <li>• United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)</li> <li>• UN Women</li> <li>• World Food Programme (WFP)</li> <li>• ACDF</li> <li>• Consortium Medical Care</li> <li>• Handicap International</li> <li>• Oxfam</li> <li>• Plan International</li> <li>• PLDRA</li> <li>• World Vision</li> <li>• WUSC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries (MARF)</li> <li>• Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MoCYS)</li> <li>• Ministry of Defense and Veterans Affairs (MoDVA)</li> <li>• Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MEF)</li> <li>• Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment (MHPPE)</li> <li>• Ministry of Information, Communication Technology and Postal Services (MICPTS)</li> <li>• Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)</li> <li>• Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources (MoIWR)</li> <li>• Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development (MLPSHR)</li> <li>• Ministry of Petroleum and Mining (MPM)</li> <li>• Ministry of Roads and Bridges (MRB)</li> <li>• Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment (MCII)</li> <li>• Ministry of Transport and Roads (MTR)</li> <li>• World health Organization (WHO)</li> </ul>

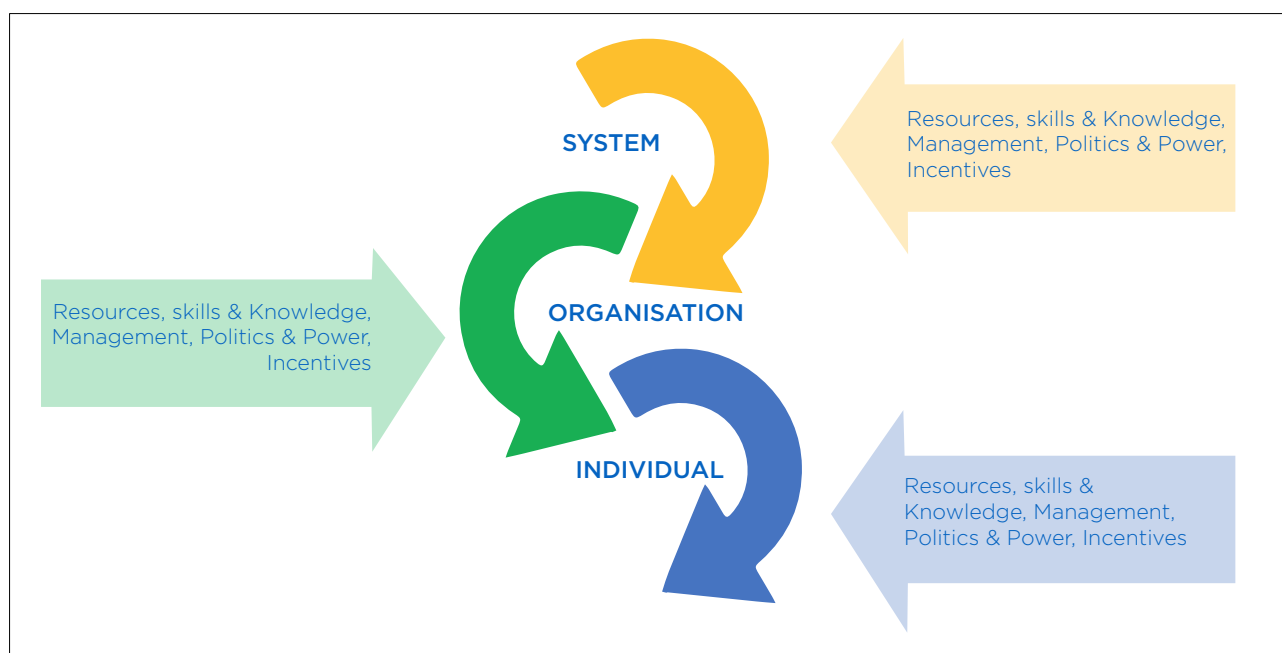
The PARIS21 framework for identifying data and capacity gaps with regards to gender statistics is based on the organization's own CD4.0 conceptual framework<sup>12</sup> developed in 2017 and which focuses on statistical capacity of the NSS (with its associated organizations and individuals) to collect, produce, analyze, and disseminate high-quality statistics and data to satisfy users' needs.

According to this framework, capacity development when approached comprehensively and holistically includes five main targets:

- i. Resources
- ii. Skills and knowledge
- iii. Management
- iv. Politics and power
- v. Incentives

Resources include the human, physical, financial, and legal means necessary for the production of statistical outputs, while skills and knowledge combine the cognitive and non-cognitive abilities to execute activities as well as the extent to which regulations or procedures are known and used. As part of the management component, the combination of skills, knowledge, and other resources to

<sup>12</sup> PARIS21 (2018a), Proposing a Framework for Statistical Capacity Development 4.0, [http://www.paris21.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/CD4.0-Framework\\_final.pdf](http://www.paris21.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/CD4.0-Framework_final.pdf).



**Figure 3: Dimensions of the PARIS21 CD4.0 conceptual framework and assessment methodology**

produce an output are considered. Politics and power encompass the formal or informal interactions among individuals and organizations, which reflect the dynamics of the system. Finally, incentives, which comprise the motivations driving interactions and actions of individuals and organizations in the system, are considered.

During analysis, these five targets are evaluated on three levels: individuals in a statistical organization, statistical unit, or a focal point within the organization; organizations that produce official statistics; and the system as a collection of individuals and organizations interacting to collect, process, and disseminate official statistics.

The intersection of levels and targets of the CD4.0 is currently populated by 46 (non-exhaustive) capabilities. Table 1 provides a conceptual matrix of the CD4.0 including the intersections of levels and targets.

## 1.5 Limitations of the study

During the planning phase, an exhaustive list of potential producers and users of gender statistics were identified. Most of the key ministries involved in gender-related work and/or who are producers or users of statistics were willing to contribute towards the assessment either in the form of a group interview or by completing a questionnaire. However, it also became evident that some Ministries and other entities, which are not currently overtly producing gender statistics or who do not see themselves as an entity concerned with gender issues, were reluctant to participate and thus difficult to convince to become involved in the study. There is a direct relationship between interest/willingness to participate and the extent to which gender data is produced and used in the various MDAs and entities approached for the study.

The restrictions and remote working conditions prevailing during much of the assessment period compounded the problem; some officials were overwhelmed by the vast number of virtual meetings they had to attend, assessment group interviews were often delegated to in-experienced officials or those not working directly with statistics, and, in some instances, poor accountability and coordination within MDAs resulted in requests for meetings and/or completion of the questionnaires falling through the cracks. The team also found that the questionnaire format often made it difficult for groups of officials to complete one questionnaire per ministry as most ministries have different directorates responsible for different aspects of their work and each of them would have their own registers and/or areas of responsibility with regards to gender.

# 2 Contextual Analysis

## 2.1 Introduction

South Sudan's hard-fought-for independence proclaimed in 2011 started a brief period of development and reconstruction, which was crudely interrupted by the eruption of violence in Juba in December 2013. This quickly spread throughout the country with a return to civil war in 2014.

In the same year, the Republic of South Sudan became the 195th state to ratify the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This important step clearly demonstrated a commitment towards gender equality and ending discrimination against women and girls. This was also a significant achievement for MGCSW, which since its foundation in 1994 was not functioning under the auspices of a signed CEDAW convention. The Ministry was originally called the Secretariat of Gender and Child Welfare and transformed into the Ministry of Gender, Social Welfare and Religious Affairs in 2005 following the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). MGCSW's current portfolio was created in 2010. Some of the Ministry's first normative framework achievements included the development of a National Gender Policy in 2013 and a National Action Plan (NAP) (2015 to 2020).

The NAP prioritizes several interventions and programs<sup>13</sup> aimed at empowering women and girls. This includes job creation and sustainable growth, economic empowerment of women through work with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), informal business, and women's cooperatives; increasing women's access to education especially in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM); improving women's health by focusing on reducing maternal mortality rates; addressing high levels of HIV and AIDS, gender-based violence (GBV), femicide and intimate partner violence among young women, among others

## 2.2 Gender equality in South Sudan in the regional context

South Sudan has not been performing well in various global and regional indexes that measure gender development and inequality. The country achieved a UNDP gender development index score of 0.842 for 2020, which is well below the global value of 0.943<sup>14</sup>. This is based on a 2019 Human Development Index (HDI) score of 0.384 for women and 0.456 for men. The Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) ranks South Sudan second last of 54 countries in 2019 (53rd) with a score of 20.7 out of 100.0<sup>15</sup>. The index's gender dimension scores South Sudan 36.0 against an average of 50.2 on the continent with a 3.6 percentage point decline between 2011 and 2019. The third most important continental gender index, the Africa Gender Index (AGI) 2019 could not be computed for South Sudan due to lack of data.

## 2.3 South Sudan at a glance

The prolonged instability and armed conflict in South Sudan continues to have a marked negative impact on its population. The Jica 2017 Gender Equality Report found that South Sudanese women have been socially, economically, physically, and psychologically impacted by the war. One of the most direct ways in which women are being affected is through sexual violence as it is being used

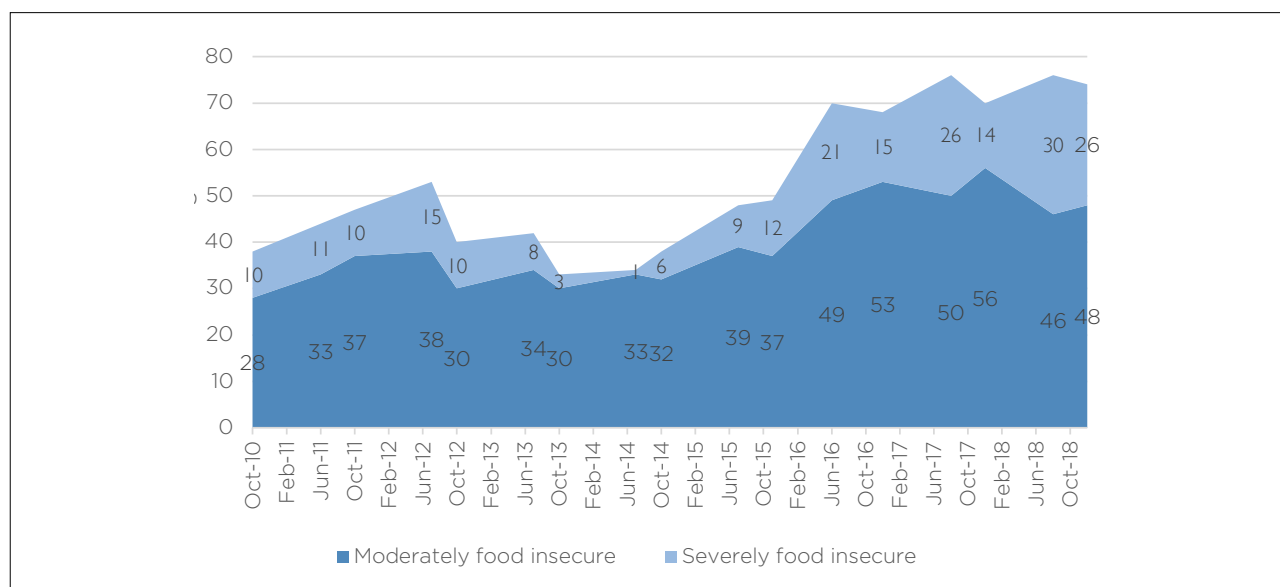
<sup>13</sup> South Sudan's report on the progress made on the implementation of the Beijing platform for action 2014-2019. Available from: <http://www.women.gov.za/images/Final-National-Beijing-25-Report-2014-2019--Abridgeged-.pdf>. Accessed on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

<sup>14</sup> Human Development Index 2020. Available from <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/ZAF>. Accessed 29 November 2021.

<sup>15</sup> 2020 Mo Ibrahim index of African Governance. <https://mo.ibrahim.foundation/sites/default/files/2020-11/2020-index-report.pdf>

as a weapon of war<sup>16</sup>. Furthermore, there are some indications that South Sudanese women have also been mobilized as soldiers and for the provision of backup support to soldiers. According to UNHRC<sup>17</sup> 2,341,621 South Sudanese can be classified as refugees and asylum seekers. The continued violence has resulted in an estimated 1.6 million of South Sudanese being internally displaced. Three quarters of them reside in host communities with the remainder being accommodated in refugee camps or equivalents<sup>18</sup>.

The continued conflict has resulted in increased deterioration of the **food security and nutritional status** of the population in most parts of the country. The most recent food security and nutrition monitoring survey (2019)<sup>19</sup> found that 26% of the population was severely food insecure and 48% was moderately food insecure during the harvest season - the highest rates since monitoring started in 2010.



**Figure 4: Moderate and severe food insecurity amongst the population during harvest season (measured in 2018 and published in 2019)**

Nationally 11.6% of children under five suffered from global acute malnutrition and an estimated 18% are stunted<sup>20</sup>. The same study found that slightly more than a third (34%) had limited access to safe and secure water sources during both seasons.

In response to the food security needs in South Sudan, in 2021, WFP provided food and nutrition to 5.96 million people in the country - 53% of them women and 47% of them men. Of the 2.06 million individuals reached in January 2022, 1.47 million benefited from the WFP's emergency response and the remainder were targeted as part of the agency's Safety Net and Resilience-related activities. The latter can be further broken down into 600,000 people who received Food Assistance for Assets; school feeding to 445,000 students; 35,000 farmers benefiting from the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support Programme; and 99,800 provided with assistance as part of the Urban Safety Nets Programme in Juba, Wau, Aweil, and Rumbek. An additional 1,291,114 flood-affected and highly food insecure individuals in Jonglei, Unity, Upper Nile, Lakes, Warrap and Eastern Equatoria States would also have been supported.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Gender Equality Profile Report for South Sudan. Available from: [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anqj6-att/south\\_sudan\\_2017.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anqj6-att/south_sudan_2017.pdf). Accessed 28 November 2021.

<sup>17</sup> UNHCR Operational data portal. <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan>

<sup>18</sup> UNHCR 2021 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response plan. Available from: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85444>. Accessed 7 December 2021.

<sup>19</sup> South Sudan Food Security and Nutrition monitoring survey no. 23., 2019. Available from: [https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/fsnms\\_round\\_23\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/fsnms_round_23_report_final.pdf). Accessed 6 December 2021.

<sup>20</sup> South Sudan Food Security and Nutrition monitoring survey no. 23., 2019. Available from: [https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/fsnms\\_round\\_23\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/fsnms_round_23_report_final.pdf). Accessed 6 December 2021.

<sup>21</sup> WFP situation report #289. Available from: [https://api.godocs.wfp.org/api/documents/91e002a2525946e38c80378700acd96f/download/?\\_ga=2.240184069.780423237.1646881331-140715729.1638852827](https://api.godocs.wfp.org/api/documents/91e002a2525946e38c80378700acd96f/download/?_ga=2.240184069.780423237.1646881331-140715729.1638852827)



Due to the disruption of health services and high levels of poverty, South Sudan has one of the **worst health outcomes globally**. According to the WHO, South Sudan has a maternal mortality rate of 789 per 100,000 live births, and neonatal and under-five mortality rates of 39.3 and 99.2 per 1,000 live births<sup>22</sup>. Communicable diseases such as malaria, diarrhoea, and pneumonia are the leading causes of death and remain the primary health problems of children younger than five years<sup>23</sup>.

In this context of severe disruption, vulnerability and poverty, women are particularly affected because<sup>24</sup>:

- They are subject to deep-rooted gender roles and norms enforced in a patriarchal society.
- Customary laws, which usually rule in favor of men, are primarily used to adjudicate marriage, property, and inheritance disputes.
- Customary laws are not harmonized with statutory laws.
- High Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) in South Sudan can be attributed to women's low social and economic status and child marriages. Limited availability of health care and medical personnel coupled with gender discrimination limit women's access to medical treatment.
- During cattle raids and armed conflicts, women and children are targeted for sexual assault and abduction.
- Most women are engaged in agricultural subsistence production, vulnerable employment, or unpaid domestic and care work.

It is evident that limited sustainable development is likely to take place within a context characterized by instability, continued conflict, displacement, and humanitarian aid dependence. Various attempts have been made at brokering peace and putting an end to the violence. A variety of these efforts have included women as part of peace negotiation teams and in peacebuilding at the grassroots level<sup>25</sup>. This has had limited results so far.

At the national level, women's voices are becoming visible as nearly 3 in 10 National Assembly members are women. However, their decision-making power is still limited<sup>26</sup> and it is not clear whether they will be able to sway decision-making at the highest levels towards reconciliation and peace rather than the continuation of conflict.

The assessment of gender data and capacity gaps in South Sudan therefore takes place against the backdrop of a significant humanitarian crisis and an overall breakdown in governance. The resulting role of international agencies such as the UN and CSOs has become essential to ensuring that livelihoods are supported and the wellbeing of women, men, girls, and boys is improved.

22 WHO country cooperation strategy. Available from: [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/136881/ccsbrief\\_ssd\\_en.pdf;jsessionid=7168657BBE8591244B576F6149EAB823?sequence=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/136881/ccsbrief_ssd_en.pdf;jsessionid=7168657BBE8591244B576F6149EAB823?sequence=1). Accessed 6/03/2022.

23 IDEM.

24 Gender equality profile report for South Sudan. Available from: [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anjq6-att/south\\_sudan\\_2017.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anjq6-att/south_sudan_2017.pdf). Accessed 28 November 2021.

25 IGAD, Political Settlements and Peace building in South Sudan: Lessons from the 2018 Peace Negotiation Processes [https://www.kas.de/c/document\\_library/get\\_file?uuid=aa8118eb-flb8-5845-b628-606fd3c17361&groupId=280229](https://www.kas.de/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=aa8118eb-flb8-5845-b628-606fd3c17361&groupId=280229). Accessed 28 November 2021.

26 Gender equality profile report for South Sudan. Available from: [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anjq6-att/south\\_sudan\\_2017.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/gender/background/c8h0vm0000anjq6-att/south_sudan_2017.pdf). Accessed 28 November 2021.

# 3 Assessment Findings

## 3.1 Introduction

The assessment is focused on identifying current gender data and capacity gaps in South Sudan with the findings summarized in this chapter. The chapter starts off with an overview of the general statistical production environment. This is followed by an overview of the data gaps identified during this study (Section 3.3). This section considers both questionnaire survey and administrative data sources as well as specific indicators gaps. The final section covers capacity gaps at the sector, institutional, and individual level from a resources, skills and knowledge, management, politics and power, and incentives perspective.

## 3.2 General statistical production environment

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is the primary body legally tasked with the production of official statistics in South Sudan. NBS was preceded by the Southern Sudan Centre for Census Statistics and Evaluation (SSCCSE), which was initially established as the New Sudan Centre for Statistics and Evaluation in 2004, but then renamed and officially established under the provisions of the 2005 Interim Constitution of the then Southern Sudan. The first chairperson and deputy chairpersons of the SSCCSE were appointed by presidential decree in 2006<sup>27</sup>.

The establishment of the NBS and its associated mandate is governed by the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, which came into force at independence from Sudan on 9, July 2011. Part 14 of the 2011 Transitional Constitution<sup>28</sup> promulgates the NBS as ‘independent’ and describes its primary functions. The Transitional Constitution also determined that a presidential appointed board of directors, which governs and is the highest policymaking body of the NBS, should be established. The Constitution mandates the board to formulate policies and set its internal regulations, priorities, standards, and criteria for all the censuses and surveys conducted in South Sudan. The head (Director General) of the SSNBS is also appointed by the President. Even though the Constitution makes provision for the establishment of a board, one is yet to be appointed.

Inasmuch as the Transitional Constitution pronounces that the organization, structure, and powers of the NBS shall be regulated by law, no Statistics Act has been put in place yet. A proposed act, which was under development when the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics I (NSDS I) was being developed, was never finalized or adopted. The proposed act would have more clearly defined the role of the NBS and the role of official statistics among other provisions.

The overall goals and objectives of the NBS are aligned to its constitutional mandate and make the Bureau responsible for:

- Collecting, compiling, analyzing, and publishing all official statistical information on economic, social, demographic, environmental, and general activities, and conditions of the people of South Sudan.
- Conducting all censuses and surveys in South Sudan.
- Monitoring and evaluating the social impacts of public policies, projects, and programmes in South Sudan.

27 DEVEX, available from <https://www.devex.com/organizations/southern-sudan-centre-for-census-statistics-and-evaluation-ssccse-97645#:text=The%20Southern%20Sudan%20Centre%20for%20historic%20signing%20of%20the%20CPA>.

28 South Sudan Transitional Constitutions. Available from: [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/South\\_Sudan\\_2011.pdf](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/South_Sudan_2011.pdf). Accessed 22 January 2022.

- Monitoring progress of poverty alleviation and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals<sup>29</sup>.
- Establishing statistical standards and monitoring adherence by all producers of statistics.

More specific functions and roles of NBS<sup>30</sup> are to:

- Carry out census and relevant surveys in South Sudan.
- Promote and develop integrated socio-economic statistics pertaining to South Sudan and each region thereof and coordinate plans for integrating those statistics and keeping these plans under review.
- Establish statistical standards and their use by all producers of statistics to facilitate integration and comparison.
- Coordinate statistics and data collection activities to avoid duplication, ensure economic use of resources, and reduce the burden on respondents.
- Collect, compile, analyze, and disseminate statistics and related information on social, economic, demographic, and environmental activities.
- Maintain an inventory of available and relevant information in the South Sudan.
- Assist users of statistical information to obtain international statistics and information.
- Provide statistical and monitoring and evaluation services and professional assistance to official bodies, civil society, researchers, international institutions, and the public in general.
- Serve as the contact point for international organizations, researchers, international organizations, and foreign institutions in need of statistics and information on South Sudan.

The primary guiding principles<sup>31</sup> of NBS' functioning and operations largely correspond with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) principles of official statistics and emphasize: impartiality; the fulfillment of citizens' entitlement to public information; decisions made strictly on professional considerations, scientific principles, and professional ethics regarding the methods and procedures for collecting, processing, storing, and disseminating statistical data; and that choices about appropriate sources of statistical resources are drawn from various sources such as surveys or administrative records on the basis of quality, timeliness, costs, and the burden on respondents. Furthermore, NBS undertakes to ensure that individual records are kept confidential and only used for statistical purposes. The use of international concepts, standards and methods will be adhered as much as possible to increase the consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.

A review of the NSDS in South Sudan (2014-2020) and the development of the NSDS II are currently underway. None of the initial census and survey activities planned as part of the NSDS I have been implemented during the life of the NSDS due to increased insecurity and instability as well as limited fiscal allocations towards the operations of NBS.

As part of the World Bank (WB) project and based on training needs assessment and training plans, 557 staff from NBS and MDAs (out of which 110 are women) received training in statistics, ICT, leadership, and management. This shows that although the number of female participants was relatively low, the project implementation addressed gender mainstreaming and gender disaggregation issues. The project also supported NBS's first User Satisfaction Survey (USS) conducted in 2017 and a nationwide statistical advocacy and sensitization through printing and distributing the NSDS, a statistical compendium, NBS strategic plans, annual reports, statistics regulation, code of practice for official statistics, ICT policy, statistical yearbooks, the Crisis Recovery Survey (CRS), and IBES survey results to MDAs.

29 The MDGs have since been replaced by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and per implication form part of NBS's functions and roles.

30 NBS official website. Available from <https://www.NBSs.org/home/about/goals-objectives-functions/>

31 Idem



With regards to the alignment of national normative frameworks to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, United Nations – Africa Charter of Statistics, respondents to the assessment felt that the general production environment for statistics is not conducive for implementation of these provisions given the fragile security situation in the country. Most state resources are currently channeled into maintaining peace and security. NBS experiences a range of problems including lack of resources with salaries often not paid, high staff turnover, and loss of experienced and trained staff to CSOs and international agencies in South Sudan. NBS also does not have financial resources to support the travel of staff to execute official duties and many officials in the Bureau have limited motivation to carry out their work.

The Bureau has an official [website](#) which provides access to the latest statistical products, survey tools and data sets, and summarizes NBS' overall governance frameworks, goals and objectives.

There is no dedicated page for gender statistics, but the NBS website links to three associated websites all of which either contain datasets and reports that are older than five years or are no longer operational:

- 1) South Sudan national data archive (only updated up to 2014)  
<http://NBS.microdatahub.com/index.php/home>
- 2) The open data for Africa website  
<https://southsudan.opendataforafrica.org/>
- 3) DEVINFO (no longer operational)  
<http://devinfo.org/southsudaninfo/libraries/aspx/Home.aspx>

Even though South Sudan does not have a National Statistical Quality Assurance framework (QAF) in place, it does have procedures aimed at ensuring that data collection, processing, and analysis conform to basic quality standards, and that the confidentiality of unit records is protected. However, there is no national gender statistics plan in place and gender is not referenced in the most recent NSDS 2014-2020. However, the recently completed Gender Sector Policy, developed by MGCSW and partners, has a national indicator set in place and makes references to the importance of measuring gender statistics. Given that the Transitional Constitution tasks NBS to monitor and evaluate progress, it has established a Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. MGCSW also coordinates monitoring and evaluation reporting of line ministries that have gender targets and programs.

In addition to NBS, various line ministries and associated departments form part of the NSS and collect gender data and statistics. At the time of the development of the NSDS I, the roles, and responsibilities of the statistical units in MDAs were poorly defined. This situation has not changed in the interim – in fact, it probably deteriorated even more based on the interviews conducted as part of this assessment.

MGCSW is the overall coordinator of gender statistics work, monitoring, and reporting in the country. Various ministries and their associated departments provide them with information. The most active among them are MAFS, the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), MoGEI, MoH, Ministry of Labour, Public Service and Human Resource Development (MoLPSHR), and MHADM. NBS and MGCSW are jointly responsible for the coordination of the gender and associated gender statistics work of these departments. Each department has a gender focal person who is primarily tasked with gender equity and reporting on gender issues within the departments rather than monitoring and evaluation or the thematic administrative datasets held by these departments.

MGCSW does not have overt goals, strategies, and objectives related to gender statistics. According to the Government of South Sudan National Development Strategy, the Ministry has the goals of:

- Empowering women and men to live a quality life in an inclusive society
- Creating a conducive environment and opportunities for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.
- Protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation, discrimination, neglect, and abuse.

The strategies and objectives set out in this plan aim to strengthen the core activities of the Ministry, as well as invest in strategic initiatives that will focus on the following thematic areas:

1. Policies and legal frameworks
2. Gender equality and women's empowerment
3. Social protection and rehabilitation
4. Protection of children and their rights
5. Human and institutional capacity development
6. Partnerships and collaborations
7. Effective support services
8. Cross-cutting issues
  - HIV and AIDS
  - Counseling
  - Drug and substance abuse

Statistical production at the state level had not been assessed at the time of writing but the process of review and development of the NSDS II includes a detailed assessment of the capacity gaps of MDAs at the state and county level. The results of this study are expected to be available by April 2022.

The NSS/NSDS coordination unit envisaged in NSDS I was established in the organogram of NBS but with only one staff member and the post is currently filled. According to the UN agencies interviewed, there is an overall lack of coordination of statistical data collection in South Sudan. Various agencies are recording and collecting data in silos with limited involvement of NBS and other government ministries. The UNDP macro-economic team is currently beginning work to facilitate the improvement of statistical coordination by supporting NBS in establishing a framework. The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is also working towards improvement of data coordination and harmonization. NBS is currently conducting data coordination and data harmonization meetings with data producers and data users including CSOs at both state and national level. The first meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in Juba (national level) and will continue to the states. UNFPA has been supporting the development of NSDS II and as such, may also become involved in supporting its implementation. With regards to the coordination of gender statistics, the assessment found that there are no gender statistics-specific coordination provisions in the statistics law - there is no regulation specifying collection of gender information, gender aspects are not represented in the Statistics Board, nor have any special coordination mechanisms related to gender statistics been established. The MGCSW convenes workshops, which are attended by all line ministries; the various commissions usually have gender mainstreaming on their agendas and limited official infrastructure to operationalize this is in place. However, the regulation and enforcement of gender mainstreaming in all government processes does not yet exist and as a result implementation is inconsistent. Given the numerous data gaps in South Sudan, the Ministry also has difficulties in getting the necessary data when required to report on various national and international agreements and treaties.

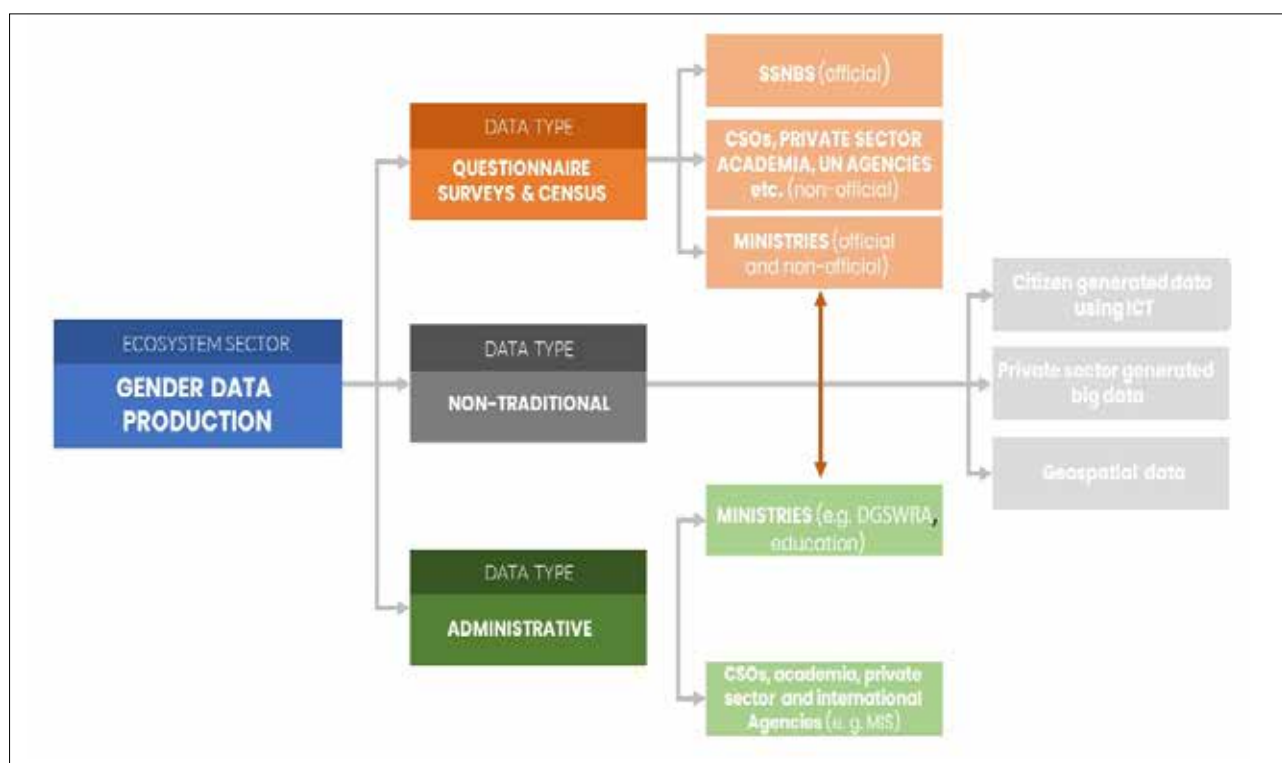
### **3.3 Gender data gap assessment**

#### **3.3.1 Introduction**

In South Sudan, like elsewhere, the primary sources of gender data are questionnaire surveys and censuses, administrative data, and non-traditional sources of data such as citizen-generated data (CGD). However, the continuing conflict in most parts of the country has resulted in a drop in the production of official statistics, especially those based on large sample household surveys. The most recent population census was conducted in 2008, which was prior to independence. At the time, the findings were highly contested for political and representation gain. Censuses planned since then (e.g., the 2014 Census and subsequent censuses) were never conducted.

MGCSW coordinates all gender and, per implication, gender statistics-related reporting in the country. All ministries submit indicator data and gender reports to MGCSW but this is rarely shared with NBS. In an assessment conducted by NBS in November 2021, over 60% of line ministries reported that they share data upon request, but not periodically. There is need to improve the regularity with which data is shared with NBS. When required to complete forms for regional and international entities related to gender and other statistics, NBS consults with the relevant data owners, completes the necessary forms, and submits them. The Economic Statistics Directorate in NBS is responsible for SDG reporting in general (including SDG 5) and the country is currently finalizing its Voluntary National Review (VNR) report.

As previously indicated in this assessment, gender data is produced and used by a wide spectrum of actors in South Sudan ranging from the official statistics produced by NBS and some ministries to CGD - data produced by civil society and international agencies e.g., Oxfam and CARE at the community level. Figure 5 summarizes these data sources and links them with the associated producer groups.



**Figure 5: Gender data sources and their associated producers**

It is important to note that even though ministries/government departments primarily produce administrative data, some also work very closely with agencies such as FAO, and WFP to implement specialised questionnaire surveys e.g., food security and nutrition surveys. However, given their coverage and design elements, these surveys are seldom considered official statistics. The gender experts in the various UN Agencies, especially UN Women, UNFPA, and UNDP work closely with MGCSW, which has a data and research unit.

At a very basic level, all government departments and entities must track the extent to which they adhere to the provisions for gender equality in the Government. This tracking system is unfortunately not well developed and very few departments report on gender indicators as a matter of course and as part of their monitoring and evaluation processes.

Several departments, primarily those in the social cluster, are doing some work with partner agencies for example FAO, UNICEF, and WHO to advance the production, reporting, and use of gender data through administrative data systems. Many of these government actors are not only producers of gender data, but also users. Their usage patterns vary depending on the thematic area that is their responsibility but also over time as their annual work programme targets change.

Currently, most CSO data activities revolve around monitoring and evaluation of specific projects, client satisfaction surveys, and the collection of primarily qualitative data for planning purposes. Only one of the CSOs interviewed, Handicap International, indicated that it actively advocates for the improvement and collection of data, particularly disability and also sex-disaggregated disability data. The organization's target audience for this advocacy and technical support work is MDAs, UN agencies, and other CSOs. Partly as a result of Handicap International's advocacy, WFP recently included a disability variable in its food monitoring system. Given the fiscal constraints within the Government of South Sudan and NBS, the Bureau has virtually no operational money and has as a result established partnerships with various agencies to advance statistical production. With regards to statistical production partnerships, UNDP and UNFPA are currently their main partners. UNFPA is primarily supporting demographic statistics and more particularly the recent population estimation study that was conducted in lieu of the census. The study is due to be released in March 2022 and the findings will be used for planning purposes across government.

Extent of production and use	Mostly user	Users and producers	Mostly producer
Heavily	MGCSW	MAFS, MARE, MGEI, MH, MHEST	NBS
Medium/To some extent		Parliament, MCYS, MDVA, MED, ME, MFEP, DJ, MHADM, MLPSHR, international and regional entities.	
Light/Marginally		MFAIC, MHPPE, MICTPS, MIA, MIWR, MLPSHR, MPM, MRB, MCII, MTR, MWT	

**Figure 6: Current gender data users and producers in the gender data ecosystem of South Sudan**

UNDP has also been working closely with NBS, particularly in the area of economic statistics. Most notable has been support provided towards updating the methodology used for the calculation of the GDP and discussion on the preliminary estimates of the revised GDP. Work has also been initiated on supporting the calculation of the CPI. UNDP has also provided support to NBS with the help of a consultant to develop a range of statistical publications based on data collected previously. These will be used for advocacy on the work of NBS and encourage the uptake and use of data for evidence-based planning, resource allocation, project implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. UNDP's support also included the provision of desks and computers and making its facilities available for conferences and workshops.

UNFPA's statistical work primarily centers around demographic and sexual and reproductive health (SRPH). In the case of demography, the agency has been partnering closely with NBS around the Population Estimation Survey. The main output of the collaboration has been the population estimate survey, which combined satellite imagery with a household questionnaire survey sample of 1,536 households. The study was financially supported by several agencies including WFP, UNICEF, and UN Women, among others. The collaboration between UNFPA and NBS is structured around the development of joint annual work plans. In addition to the Population Estimation Survey, UNFPA has also been supporting the Bureau with internet access as well as fuel for a power generator given erratic power supply in the country. For SRPH, the agency has been mainly partnering with MoH to support the collection and maintenance of the district health management information system, which includes some data about antenatal service use among others.

### 3.3.2 Data production

#### Household survey and Census data

South Sudan's NSS has been debilitated by ongoing conflict in the country as well as the declining revenue and situation. All of this contribute towards limited resource allocation to the production of adequate office space, equipment, staff, and operational financial resources. This affects all areas of statistical production, including gender statistics. Most participants in the assessment indicated that the production of gender statistics is currently taking place in silos and in a haphazard manner due to a lack of coordination among stakeholders. Dependency on international development aid has convoluted the roles of states, UN agencies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

According to the provisions of the constitution, NBS should coordinate all surveys in the country. During the assessment, it was found that NBS generally works quite closely with UN agencies that are conducting surveys although the Bureau feels that the collaboration has been diminishing over time as some agencies are conducting surveys without informing or involving the Bureau. Data from these studies is also not always made available. However, NBS is working closely with Member States of the East African Community (EAC) to integrate statistics and harmonize household survey questionnaire content across the States.

On their part, WFP and UNICEF have provided support in the form of tablets and logistics for the Population Estimation Survey and have ensured they involve NBS and the relevant ministries (e.g. health) when undertaking surveys such as the nutrition and malaria indicator surveys.

Table 2 summarizes the most important gender data sources as produced by Government and NBS and categorized as official statistics.

**Table 2: NBS official sources and publications that provide sex-disaggregated and gender data**

Survey/publication	Periodicity and years data collected/published	Primary content and partners	Gender data products and sex-disaggregated analysis
Population Estimation Survey	2021	Demographics, basic living conditions. Primary partner UNFPA.	Sex-disaggregated analysis planned.
Food Security and Nutrition Monitoring System	2015/2016/2017/ 2018/2019 conducted annually, but more recently periodically.  Last report with 2019 data published in 2020.	Physical monitoring of anthropometric measurements, breastfeeding indicators, vitamin A supplementation, child mortality. Primary partner MOH and UNICEF.	Mostly focuses on women and children. Sex-disaggregated analysis.
Gender-Based Violence Survey	Data collection done in 2019, report not yet published.	Primary partner UNFPA. Capitals of all 10 states.	GBV specific issues plus sex-disaggregated data.
High Frequency Survey	Conducted in four waves over 3 years 2015/2016/2017.  Last report published in 2019.	Household characteristics; socio-economic; food consumption; livestock; durable goods; physical; psychological and social well-being.	None, but data potential for sex-disaggregated.
Census	Irregular, 2008	Basic living conditions, demographics.	Some
Statistical Yearbook	2009, 2010	Demographics, basic living conditions.	None
South Sudan Household Health Survey II	2010	Demographic, health, WASH, education	Sex-disaggregated analysis
Key indicators, various sources but mainly Census 2008	Irregular, 2011	Demographics	None
Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	1999	Demographic, health, WASH, education	Sex-disaggregated analysis





**Picture 3: The Population Estimation Survey conducted by NBS, UNFPA, and other partners is one of the most important statistical collections that has taken place recently.**

NBS conducted a Gender-Based Violence Survey in 2019 in the capitals of all 10 states. No other official population-based surveys exclusively covering gender-specific issues such as time use have been conducted by NBS. All other household surveys and census data that contains a variable on sex and for which individual records can be disaggregated by sex are already older than five years. The most recent questionnaire survey study, classified as official data, has been the High Frequency Survey carried out in partnership with the World Bank. This study was executed between 2015 and 2017 and contains some data relevant to women's economic empowerment that can potentially be mined further for purposes of gaining insight into the situation of women and men as well as gender inequality in the country.

All international agencies and CSOs conduct project-specific surveys for planning purposes. They also routinely conduct surveys to serve as project baselines as well as for ongoing monitoring and evaluation purposes. These surveys always include some level of sex disaggregation but their objective is seldom gender analysis unless the project is focusing specifically on gender issues. Due to their targeted nature, these studies are also usually geographically localized and provide insights into what is happening in a specific community/county rather than in a specific state or the county. Most are predominantly qualitative

but some include a questionnaire survey component. The findings of these studies are not always published, the data is usually not publicly available, and is also seldom shared with or used by NBS.

Sometimes the studies conducted by international agencies and CSOs are not project-specific, cover a larger geographic scope and are conducted in partnership with various MDAs. These studies are also typically more diagnostic by nature and often used for planning purposes. Table 3 summarizes recent small-scale gender responsive surveys and research projects that are not necessarily statistically representative of the country and that were conducted by UN agencies in partnership with NBS and/or other government departments, since 2016. Even though NBS collaborated with the CSOs concerned for some of these surveys, the findings cannot be considered official statistics due to several statistical quality considerations.

The issue of national representativity is a problem across questionnaire surveys and administrative data systems. Insecurity not only makes it difficult to conduct questionnaire surveys in some states, but other systems such as administrative and MIS are hampered by poor information flows between the states and the national MDAs. Since information is more readily available in Juba, reporting for the whole country is often based on data only obtained from Juba. For example, national reporting on the convention of the rights of the child, is only based on data collected in Juba.

The users of gender statistics in South Sudan identified the following gender data and research gaps in the country:

- 1) Gender and conflict
- 2) Accountability to affected populations
- 3) Time use
- 4) Determinants and incidence of child marriage
- 5) Gender based violence
- 6) Gender legal frameworks
- 7) Human trafficking
- 8) Disability
- 9) Orphans, vulnerable children, and child abduction
- 10) Corruption and governance from a gender perspective

**Table 3: Small-scale surveys and research projects with a strong gender dimension conducted during the past five years (not classified as official statistics)<sup>32</sup>**

Agency	Survey	Date	Gender analysis
MGCSW/UN Women	Mapping of all women-led organizations	Ongoing	Inform work and identify capacity gaps.
MGCSW/Humanitarian Affairs/UN Women	Gender equality profile	Ongoing	Desk reviews with statistical data.
MGCSW/ UNDP	Gender gap survey	2021	Still to be published; ministry of the interior and MGCSW.
MGCSW/Juba University UNDP	Gendered analysis of public administration	2021	Desk review and questionnaire survey. To be expanded to state level in 2023.
Humanitarian Affairs/ UN Women	Gender situation analysis to be included in country common analysis	2021	Desk reviews with statistical data.
Humanitarian Affairs/ UN Women	Impact of conflict with ministry of humanitarian affairs	2021	Desk reviews with statistical data.
Humanitarian Affairs/ UN Women	Barrier analysis on vaccination and testing for COVID -19 all partners plus WHO	2021	Literature review with some statistics.
MAFS/FAO/NBS/ UNICEF/WFP	Food security and nutrition monitoring surveys annual/ bi-annual	2020, 2021	Reports produced – fit into Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (ICP). General report we have tried to disaggregate by gender. The 2021 report still to be published.
MHADM /UNDP/IOM	Impacts of floods with UNDP and IOM in few locations. The findings are used to inform implementation of projects.	2020	Report (sex-disaggregated).
MHADM /UN Women	Gender analysis of impact of floods	2020	Desk reviews with statistical data, surveys, and key informant interviews.
MGCSW /UN Women	Gender analysis in Juba and all ten states	2020	Desk reviews with statistical data.
MAFS/FAO	Country gender assessment of agriculture	2019	Report (sex-disaggregated) Covered crop, livestock and fish production.

<sup>32</sup> These studies covered more than one state but most were not nationally representative

Agency	Survey	Date	Gender analysis
MAFS/FAO/IRC, CARE, Oxfam, Plan International	Joint gender dimensions survey in three regions	2019	Report (sex-disaggregated) Primary data collection – qualitative and quantitative methods.
MGEI/UNESCO/NBS	Children out-of-school study	2017	Report (sex-disaggregated) published in 2018, covered the whole country.
MoH/WHO/UNICEF/SSCBS	Malaria indicator survey	2009, 2017	Report includes sex-disaggregated data.
Oxfam	South Sudan Gender Analysis	2016	A snapshot situation analysis of the differential impact of the humanitarian crisis on women, girls, men, and boys in South Sudan. Primarily based on qualitative data and secondary data review.

### **Data quality gaps in relation to questionnaire surveys and census**

gender statistics to rate the quality of gender statistics along five dimensions namely: relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, and user-friendliness. The rating was done on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the lowest score and 5 the highest. The feedback in the form of average scores is summarized in the table below:

**Table 4: Average scores of users of gender statistics for the five most important data quality dimensions**

Characteristic	Definition	Average Rating on a scale of 1 to 5
1. Relevance	Available gender statistics can serve as useful input for planning and policymaking.	3.4
2. Accuracy	Available gender statistics reflect the true situation of women and men in the country.	3.2
3. Timeliness	The frequency and timing of gender statistics and its release are just in time for planning and policy purposes.	2.7
4. Accessibility	Gender statistics are easily accessible from websites or publications.	2.9
5. User-friendliness	Available reports or press releases on gender statistics are understandable.	2.6

The average score for the quality of gender statistics is three (which represents the average on a scale of 1 to 5) or below. The dimensions of timeliness, accessibility and user-friendliness received average scores of below 3 out of a possible 5.

Ethical considerations are of particular importance in the context of gender data and data collected among vulnerable populations where very sensitive matters are often measured. Organizations, agencies, and institutions that are not research-focused sometimes do not consider the human and ethical rights of participants during research design, implementation, and reporting. This is reflected in the absence of or weakly formulated consent forms and lack of care in the choice of enumerators who are tasked with interviewing vulnerable people.

### **Administrative data**

South Sudan has a nascent administrative data system that is still largely paper-based and will need continued external support and quality improvement to come up to speed. Most of the current major revisions and quality improvement processes on EMIS and DHIS for example are supported by international agencies such as UNESCO, UNICEF, and the WHO. According to participants in the assessment, the ministries of education and health are also most responsive when gender data is requested from them.



**Table 5: Most important administrative and management information systems from a gender perspective**

MDA/UN agency	Administrative data set description	Frequency of collection	Type of gender analysis possible	Has gender analysis been done?
General education	The EMIS system is based on the annual survey of schools and updated annually. Supported by UNICEF and UNESCO.	Continuous	Sex (girls/boys)	Yes
	EMIS case study. MGEI supported by UNESCO as part of ongoing work.	2020	Sex (girls/boys) to be published January 2022.	Possible on request.
Higher education	HEMIS is based on annual questionnaire survey.	Continuous	Sex (women/men) Disability	Yes
Health	DHIS II. Registers at health facilities also include GBV and other gender specific issues.	Continuous	Sex (women/men) GBV and other gender specific issues	Done on request.
	HMIS tools are used in hospitals for gathering information from patients.	Continuous	Sex (women/men)	Done on request.
Trade and industry	Online system, development supported by UNDP. Development of trade database which registers businesses, international exports, and imports amongst other things.	2021 and ongoing	Sex (women/men)	Too early, but possibly on request.
UNFPA	Gender based violence reported cases (only for Juba)	Continuous	Sex (women/men)	
UNHCR	Refugees in South Sudan	Ongoing, most recent 2022	Sex (women/men)	Sex-disaggregated data is published, with special reference to the situation of women and girls.
UNOCHA	Keeps a register of who is doing what kind of humanitarian work where.	Continuously accessible at humanitarian response web.	Highlights when work is gender focussed	Reports can be generated on request.
UNOPS	Developed a project management system that captures all gender related activities. To be handed over to MGCSW in 2022 for further management.	Continuous	Gender specific	Reports can be drawn on request.
WFP	Online registration system store data on beneficiaries with fingerprint identification. UNICEF uses the system for WASH and FAO for livelihood kits.	Continuous	Sex (women/men)	One-pager reports; disaggregated by sex produced. Gender analysis is possible.

South Sudan has a decentralised administrative system with three levels of government, namely national, state, and local levels. Local government comprises three layers - county, payam, and boma (village/ward). One of the responsibilities of the county governments is to collect taxes, while at the payam level, the application of customary law is done by traditional leaders. Despite these provisions, decentralization has remained largely unimplemented while the Transitional Constitution of 2011 reversed some of decentralization provisions in the Interim Constitution. County legislative assemblies do not exist in most counties and county commissioners are largely appointed by the

central government. This impedes the flow of resources to and from counties, which is relevant from a statistical production perspective in that data collection systems are largely non-existent below the central and state government levels.

All the administrative data systems have problems with completeness both at unit record level and with regards to missing variable information within unit records. The fact that most systems are still paper-based make it very difficult to identify completeness gaps and give feedback quickly. EMIS and DHIS II are currently the two most developed and complete administrative data systems in South Sudan. In the case of the DHIS, paper registers are captured into an electronic system monthly. The system includes data from all international and CSO partners at facility, county, state, and national level regardless of whether the facility is state-run or not. Basic analysis is carried out with this data and monthly reports are produced. Ad-hoc reports are also produced as the need arises. As part of improving the health information system, in 2020, WHO supported the compilation of an inventory of all health facilities in the country.

MHEST is planning to carry out a gender analysis of its data coupled with additional research on the gender dimensions of higher education.

Given the instability and dire humanitarian situation in the country, most administrative data is produced for the purpose of documenting and managing the ongoing crisis. The work done by international aid agencies as part of their MISs play a particular role here.

Of the UN agencies in South Sudan, WFP has the most comprehensive one. It comprises an online registration system for beneficiaries of food, non-food items, cash, and other aid. In addition to having a variable on the sex of the beneficiary, this system also captures vulnerabilities e.g., disabilities, single headed-households, and individuals with specific needs. The WFP Innovation Team has also been integrating the needs of other partners (CSOs and international agencies) into the system for example, supporting FAO with the distribution of a livelihood kit based on FAO registration data captured in FAO's computerised system. The process is based on the initial completion of a paper questionnaire, which is then captured electronically and linked to the biometric profile of each beneficiary. The system also tracks individual beneficiaries. For example, UNHCR recently moved 50 households from Juba to Bentiu. Households' registrations were changed so that they can continue to receive food aid in their new location. Reports can be generated on demand from the system and all data can be sex disaggregated. However, it is standard procedure to generate reports after each distribution even though some reports are only internal. That said, if an activity is carried out in partnership with other organizations, a one-page report is shared with them. Most reports provide a sex-disaggregated analysis. WFP has a data protection protocol that ensures confidentiality of beneficiary information and which is implemented meticulously. Partners only have access to the database and use the data contained according to the terms of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) in place. Consent is sought before capturing beneficiary information. The Government has limited access to WFP data because of the agency's data protection policy and the need to reduce the chances of putting the agency's beneficiaries at risk. All reports provided to government officials are summary reports. Sometimes government officials indicate where potential beneficiaries are located. WFP will then confirm the potential beneficiaries' needs by conducting a field mission and then registering them and provide assistance as needed.

UNHCR also has an electronic record system<sup>33</sup> that tracks the agency's work with refugees. The most recent updates in this system were done in January 2022.

With regards to data gaps in the humanitarian sphere, participants in the assessment group interviews generally considered existing MIS data as adequate. Some of the barriers faced are primarily due to social norms and practices. In some communities, one might be blocked from accessing women when carrying out data collection. Given that the leaders in most communities are men, key informant interviews with them do not elucidate the position of women. This barrier is often overcome by reaching

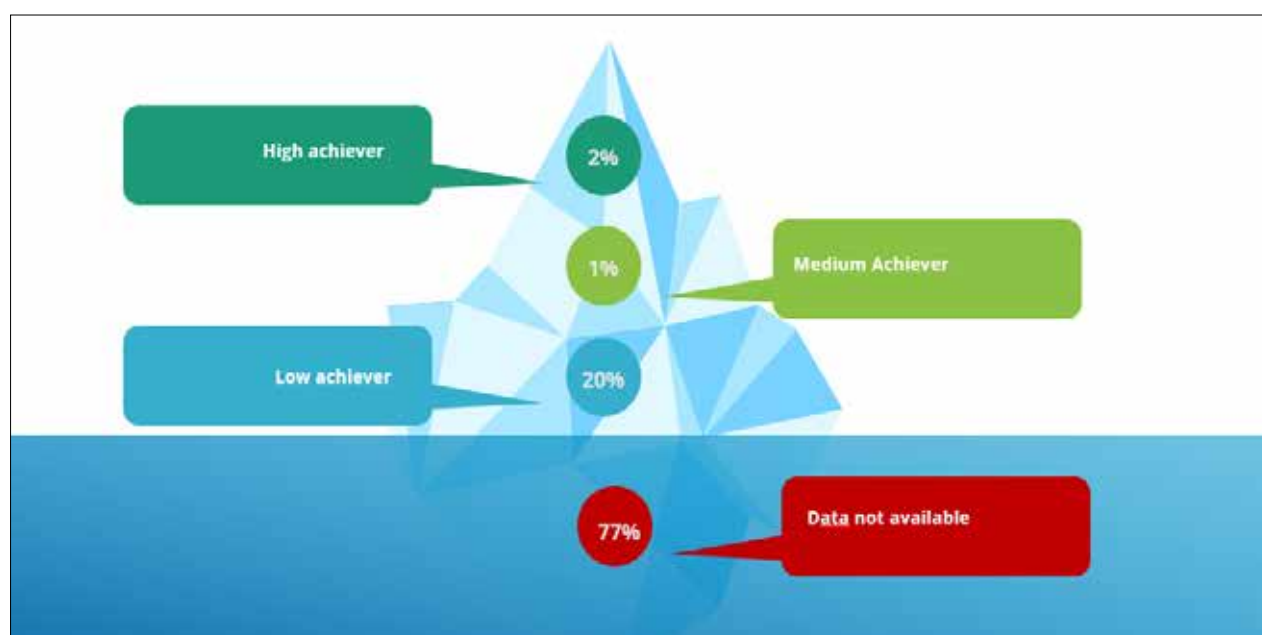
<sup>33</sup> The UNHCR dashboard for South Sudan can be accessed here: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/southsudan>.

out to women's groups and women-led organizations to ensure that their needs are adequately to captured. It is uncommon to mix women and men in the same group. The main reason for this is that many women feel inhibited to make contributions in the presence of men.

### Indicator requirements and indicator gaps

UN Women monitors the reporting of 122 gender responsive indicators in the Agenda 2030 framework. According to this database, 77% of these gender responsive indicators were not available/reported on by South Sudan. This is higher than the East and Southern Africa regional average of 62% not available. South Sudan was a high achiever on approximately 3% of these indicators, which is significantly lower than the regional average of 7%, while it was a low achiever on approximately 20% of the indicators, which is more or less equal to the sub-regions average.

**Figure 7: Availability and level of achievement of 122 gender responsive indicators**



An Infographia template was used as the basis for the development of this graphic

**Table 6: Classification of South Sudan's reporting on the SDGs on 122 gender responsive SDG indicators as per the UN Women data base, December 2020**

Assessment of indicator value	Percentage South Sudan	East and South-ern Africa
<b>Not available</b>	77.0	62.1
<b>Available</b>	23.0	37.9
Low achiever	19.7	20.5
Medium achiever	0.8	10.3
High achiever	2.5	7.1

UN Women compiles and track a list of 122 SDG indicators that can be considered gender responsive. According to this indicator framework as of December 2020, 77% of the indicators do not have a data source for South Sudan. Most of these come from the NDP indicator framework (approx. 81%).

**Table 7: Summary of SDG gender responsive reporting per goal**

Goal #	Goal Specific analysis	Grand total gender indicators		Indicator value not available		Ministry responsible + CSO + UN agencies	Available data sources
		#	%	#	%		
	#	122	100	94	68.9		
1	No poverty	11	9.0	10	90.9	Agriculture, trade (petroleum), gender, youth, urban water development, NBS, cross-cutting	Census 2008, National baseline household survey 2009, Poverty survey, Population Estimation Survey 2021(UNFPA support). Planning new Census.
2	Zero hunger	2	1.6	2	100.0	Agriculture, trade (petroleum), NBS, ministry of finance and planning, humanitarian affairs and disaster management, health	UN agencies are carrying out surveys. Ask from UNICEF and WHO. Crop assessment done by FAO in partnership with NBS unit.
3	Good health and well-being	15	12.3	5	33.3	Health, agriculture, education, labour, gender, cooperative, rural development, urban water and irrigation, cross-cutting.	Health survey, agricultural survey (CAM project), Business Survey, Welfare Survey.
4	Quality education	32	26.2	27	84.4	General education, higher education, cross-cutting.	Administrative data system. Survey impact of economy on education, Education survey annually through the schools (feeds into the admin system). UNESCO survey on displaced children. UNESCO children living and working on the street. Ministry of gender conducted assessment of participation of women and men in TVET centers gender gaps etc.
5	Gender equality	25	20.5	17	68.0	Gender, cross-cutting.	Planned gender equality survey with assistance from the WB, was not conducted intend to carry it out if funds are available. In 2009/2010 GBV assessment and the report was done but not launched. Analysis of gender equality in South Sudan supported by UNDP. 2020 GBV survey results are not yet out and need to be published.

Goal #	Goal Specific analysis	Grand total gender indicators		Indicator value not available		Ministry responsible + CSO + UN agencies	Available data sources
		#	%	#	%		
8	Decent work and economic growth	10	8.2	8	80.0	Health, agriculture, education, labour, gender, cooperative, rural development, urban water and irrigation, cross-cutting.	Census 2008, National Baseline Household Survey 2009, Poverty Survey, Population Estimation Survey 2021 (UNFPA support). Planning new census. Administrative data by MoL; # of employed staff - custody and list of government servants. Labour Force Survey ongoing. Labour force survey with WB on foreign labour force in the country was done in 2012. Market Survey.
9	Industry, innovation, and infrastructure	1	0.8	1	100.0		
10	Reduced inequality	2	1.6	2	100.0		
11	Sustainable cities and communities	4	3.3	4	100.0	Urban water, land, housing and urban development, infrastructure, electricity, transport, cross-cutting.	Census 2008, National Baseline Household Survey 2009, Poverty survey, Population Estimation Survey 2021 (UNFPA support). Planning new census. Women land rights survey 2020 CSO, IGAD, UNDP, NRC, etc.
13	Climate action	1	0.8	1	100.0		
16	Peace, justice, and strong institutions	18	14.8	16	88.9	Police, justice, health, gender, peace building, ministry of youth, social.	One-stop centers at hospitals on GBV and also police admin data, juvenile court. GBV survey 2009, not launched. Currently analyzing a more recent survey. Admin data from justice and health that are disaggregated by sex. People requiring counselling and psychosocial support. Access to justice survey questionnaires are being developed (UNDP). Data gap on economic support for survivors. Ministry of peace. Intercommunity conflicts - sustainable peace and justice for all.
17	Partnerships for the goals	1	0.8	1	100.0		

More details on all the 122 indicators and South Sudan's related ranking can be found in Annex B.

### **Specific gender data gaps identified during the assessment**

South Sudan currently cannot report on 77% of the gender responsive indicators through the use of official data. Reporting and indicators are often based on what is available rather than the ideal indicators to measure a specific phenomenon and most of the current data sources are not official data sources. There is therefore a general need to put the necessary mechanisms in place to strengthen SDG monitoring and reporting in South Sudan.

No nationally-representative large-scale surveys have been executed during the past five years. The most recent nationally representative survey was the High Frequency Survey for which the last wave was collected in 2017.

Specific gender questionnaire surveys that are official, statistically representative of the whole country, and based on large samples that have not been done at all or not done recently enough include:

- i. GBV prevalence survey
- ii. Time use survey
- iii. Economic participation and asset ownership, particularly land ownership, access and use
- iv. Women's and girl's health and wellbeing

Recent and existing data sets that have not been adequately mined from a gender perspective include the three iterations of the High Frequency Survey last conducted in 2017. Even though other data sources such as the Census 2008 have also not been analyzed from a gender perspective, these data sources are not recent enough to provide a useful perspective on gender equality and women's empowerment. The planned analysis of the Population Estimation Survey data across thematic areas will be welcome, although the small sample size on which it is based will limit its representativity and potential use beyond population estimation.

Given the current and increasing instability in large parts of the country, SDG reporting will have to rely on administrative data held by MDAs and data collected by UN agencies as part of humanitarian and relief efforts.

Currently, two of the most important administrative data sets EMIS and DHIS are receiving attention from the respective ministries as well as from WHO, UNICEF, and UNESCO. The Trade and Industry data sets are being worked on by MoL with support from UNDP.

The following are the most urgent administrative data collection gaps that need to be addressed from a gender perspective:

- CRVS
- HEMIS system
- GBV data system as held by MoJ and other MDAs operational in the criminal justice system

## **3.4 Gender capacity gap assessment**

### **3.4.1 Introduction**

The assessment used the CD4.0 conceptual framework to identify capacity gaps. The framework consists of five targets: resources, skills and knowledge, management, politics and power, and incentives. Resources include the human, physical, financial, and legal means necessary to produce statistical outputs, while skills and knowledge combine the cognitive and non-cognitive abilities to execute activities as well as the extent to which regulations or procedures are known and used. As part of the management component, the combination of skills, knowledge, and other resources to produce an output are considered. Politics and power encompass formal or informal interactions among individuals and organizations, which reflect the dynamics of the system. Finally, incentives comprising the motivations driving interactions and actions of individuals and organizations in the system are considered.

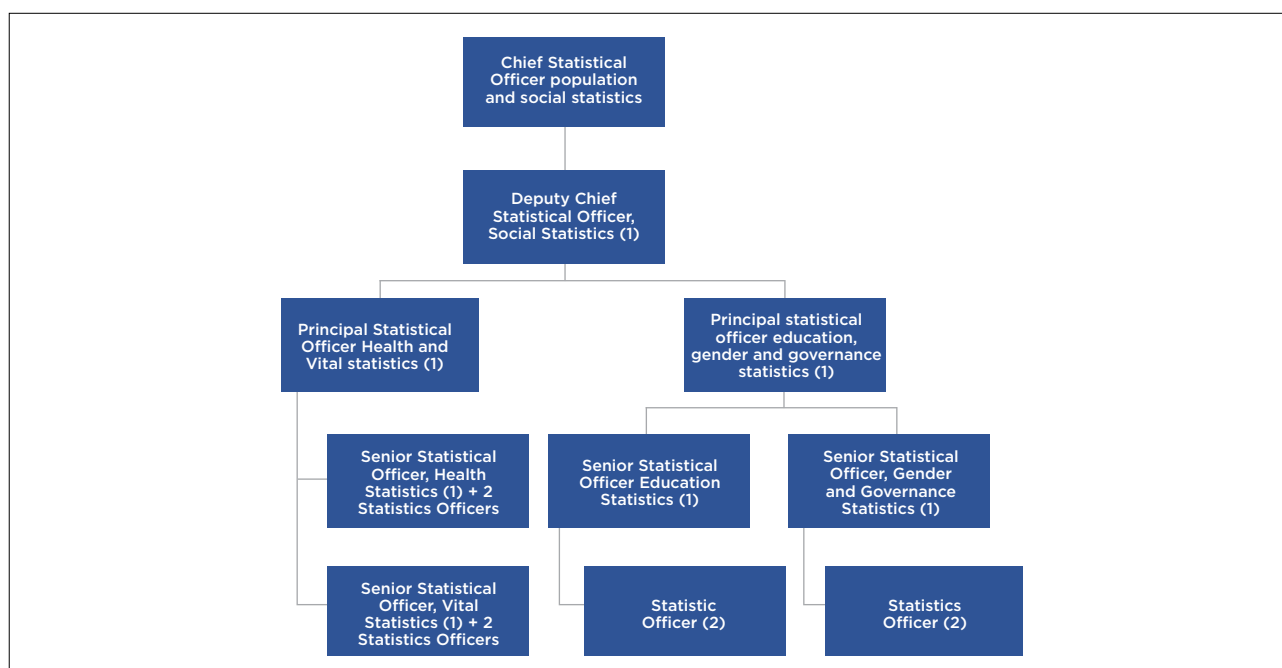
### 3.4.2 Resources

#### Human resources

NBS has a Chief Statistical Officer heading the Population and Social Statistics Department. He reports directly to the Chairman of NBS. The dedicated Gender Statistics Unit headed by the Principal Statistical Officer for the Gender, Education, and Governance Unit was established in 2015. Even though the structure makes provision for one senior statistical officer education and one for gender and governance statistics, each having two statistics officers reporting to them, the unit currently only has two staff members.

The primary functions of the Unit (apart from governance and education statistics) are to:

- Compile gender statistics and maintain gender statistics databases
- Analyze data from a gender perspective
- Disseminate gender statistics via publications and/or a website
- Ensure that the gender perspective is addressed in all aspects of statistics production in the national statistics office (NSO)
- Integrate a gender perspective in statistics training or introduce statistics in gender training and awareness-raising workshops; organizing national training related to gender statistics
- Answering requests for gender statistics from national and international users
- Conducting methodological work (development of gender statistics, measurement issues, data collection methods)
- Coordination of an inter-agency committee that serves as a platform for discussion on gender statistics



**Figure 8: Organogram of the Population and Social Statistics Department<sup>34</sup>**

The Unit also assists with the overall coordination of official statistics as produced by the various departments which generate gender statistics through gender focal persons appointed in MDAs. These focal persons are seldom statisticians, but some have extensive experience working with administrative record systems.

<sup>34</sup> The diagram does not show the branch headed by the Deputy Chief Statistical Officer, Demographic Surveys And Censuses which also reports directly to the Chief Statistical Officer Population And Social Statistics.



Given that MDAs in Juba are struggling to function against the backdrop of insecurity and a faltering state, the situation at the state level is even worse. MGCSW has monitoring and evaluation officers based at the state level all of who were issued with computers in 2013/2014. However, they do not report directly to the national office. This has contributed to very poor information flows from state to national level. MGCSW's new strategic plan will address this problem by changing the reporting lines of officials at the state level to facilitate direct reporting to the national planning and monitoring and evaluation office.

### **Financial resources**

Given the fiscal constraints in the Government of South Sudan and NBS, the Bureau has virtually no operational money and staff salaries are paid irregularly. This has led NBS to establish partnerships with various UN agencies with UNDP and UNFPA currently the main NBS partners with regard to statistical production. UNDP has also been providing support to the Economic Statistics Unit in the form of desks, chairs, and computers. Statistical operations at field office level are also in dire need of fiscal support.

There is no dedicated budget to produce gender statistics within NBS' overall budget allocation nor are there any funds available to produce gender statistics on an ad-hoc basis. There is currently no criteria in place to ensure that gender statistics is included in national budgeting processes.

Logistics is another huge challenge facing NBS and the Gender Statistics Unit. The collection of administrative data from data producers and coordination of gender statistics requires movement from NBS to the relevant line ministries. The Bureau lacks vehicles to support the production of gender statistics.

Fiscal constraints have also resulted in NBS officials operating in a poor working environment with dilapidated facilities. They are currently using very old and prefabricated buildings most of which are in bad condition. The low level of investment in statistics by the Government is partially reflected in the termite-infested and rapidly degrading of the offices at NBS as shown in Picture 4 below taken during a site visit in February 2022.

Some development partners such as the World Bank, FAO, and IOM have supported NBS by providing upgraded office spaces for economic, food security, and migration statistics respectively. However, a large part of the available office space is not usable due to termite damage and lack of climate control.



**Picture 4: Extensive termite damage and general physical state of some of the NBS offices**



## Normative frameworks

South Sudan is a signatory to the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), CEDAW, Agenda 2030, the African Union Agenda 2063, and SADC Gender Protocol, all of which have international and statistical reporting obligations.

The Transitional Constitution of South Sudan of 2011 has clear gender prerogatives which guarantee equality before the law regardless of sex. It enshrines full and equal dignity of women with that of men; the right to equal pay for equal work and other related benefits; protects the rights of women to participate equally with men in public life, with a 25% quota on their representation in legislative and executive organs. It also contains directives for affirmative action to correct inequalities created by history, customs, and traditions; calls for the introduction of laws that combat harmful customs and traditions which undermine the dignity and status of women; and provide maternity and child-care and medical care for pregnant and lactating women; enshrines the right of women to own property and the right to share the estates of their deceased husbands with any surviving legal heir of the deceased. The Constitution also guarantees freedom of assembly and association as well as education with specific reference to sex.

There are no specific references to gender statistics in the legal framework.

The National Development Strategy (NDS) (2018-2021)<sup>35</sup>: 'Consolidate peace and stabilize the economy' is based on several principles one of which includes 'justice and equality for all irrespective of ethnicity, religion, state of origin, social status, or gender' and consider gender as a cross-cutting theme across the NDS. The inadequacy of gender-sensitive policy frameworks, programs, and strategic plans in the public and private sector of the country is identified as a major challenge that has to be addressed through the strategy. However, no reference is made in the plan to data and statistics and no new plan has been developed for the subsequent period except for the development of an interim country strategy paper (I-CSP) 2022-2024<sup>36</sup>.

The National Gender Policy and associated Strategic Plan (2013-2018)<sup>37</sup> promotes gender equality and women's empowerment and includes several references to data and statistics as well as its monitoring and evaluation mandate. It recommends the adoption of gender mainstreaming, gender budgeting, research, and sex and gender-disaggregated data as core values and practices in social transformation, organizational cultures, and in the general polity in South Sudan. It also identified limited knowledge and skills in gender analysis, gender-responsive budgeting, and sex and gender-disaggregated data collection and management as challenges that need to be addressed and recommended capacity-building across Government to address these problems. Weak mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating implementation also hamper monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. The gender machinery was thus tasked with establishing suitable monitoring mechanisms and putting in place a system to enable the collection and analysis of data that is disaggregated by sex and gender, state, local administrative unit, age, and other special circumstances such as disability.

The National Action Plan 2015-2020<sup>38</sup> for the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325<sup>39</sup> on women, peace and security and related resolutions clearly identifies the need for building the capacity of key actors currently implementing the National Action Plan on data collection, analysis, and quality reporting.

As previously indicated in Section 3.2, a National Statistics Development Strategy has been developed but it is outdated and does not include specific considerations related to gender statistics. The current review process and development of a new NSDS needs to take that into consideration.

35 <http://www.mofep-grss.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/NDS-4-Print-Sept-5-2018.pdf>

36 <https://www.afdb.org/en/documents/south-sudan-interim-country-strategy-paper-i-csp-2022-2024>

37 National gender policy, 2013. Ministry of gender, child and social welfare, Republic of South Sudan.

38 Republic of South Sudan, National action plan 2015-2020, For the implementation of united nations security council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security and related resolutions. Available from <http://1325naps.peacewomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/SS-NAP-1325.pdf>

39 The UN Security Council adopted [resolution \(S/RES/1325\)](#) on women and peace and security on 31 October 2000. The resolution reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.

The assessment thus finds that South Sudan has most of the necessary gender equality-related frameworks and commitments in place but very few, if any, that specifically regulate the production and use of gender statistics.

### 3.4.3 Skills and knowledge

Investment in national statistical capacity is central to improving the quality and timeliness of gender data. Most respondents to the assessment indicated that there is limited technical capacity and understanding of some of the gender statistics issues in all three spheres of government.

One of the biggest constraints identified during this assessment has been the loss of trained and skilled statistics staff from NBS to the UN and other entities. The main reason for staff attrition has been the fact that salaries are not paid and that the general conditions of employment as well as the working environment are very poor.

Most producers and users of gender statistics have not received specific gender statistics training. Only 36% of the users who participated in the assessment indicated that they have received any kind of gender training, and this was primarily focused on gender mainstreaming and gender-responsive budgeting and not related to gender statistics. All respondents across MDAs, UN agencies and CSOs indicated that they would like to receive gender statistics training.

Specific training needs that have been identified include:

- Data analysis and disaggregation
- Basic concepts relating to gender statistics
- Statistical coordinating mechanisms and tools to promote an effective and well-coordinated gender statistical system
- Collection of gender-specific information using surveys and administrative sources
- Production of specific gender indicators
- Ways of presenting gender information to users
- Gender data use

The respondents also suggested that such training should be rolled out at all levels of government.

### 3.4.4 Management

Due to non-payment of staff salaries, limited operational resources, and poor physical working conditions, NBS has experienced significant staff attrition in recent years with many staff members getting employed in CSOs and UN agencies during this exodus. This has been detrimental to the Bureau's ability to operate effectively and has negatively influenced staff morale and motivation as well as the overall management of the institution.

### 3.4.5 Politics and power

Due to the persisting political instability in South Sudan, the disintegration of the fiscal and tax base and governance in general, international agencies such as UN entities and local and international CSOs are undertaking much of the statistical collection that would otherwise have been done by the Government and NBS. Government officials often use stipends from these organizations' for survival since they receive their salaries on an irregular basis. All of this creates power imbalances and skews participation and collaboration from MDA officials in all developmental processes.

From a statistical perspective, this means that resource allocation and priority-setting for data collection is usually heavily influenced by the agendas of the particular development and other partners involved in a particular exercise. Even though these processes are usually done in close collaboration with MDAs and are in some or other way associated with the strategic plans of the

Government, the situation creates an unhealthy balance of power away from the Government. The degree of dependency on external agencies is demonstrated by the fact that even basic operational costs related to electricity payments and internet connections of NBS are dependent on these partners' contributions.

### 3.4.6 Incentives

Internal incentives in MDAs to produce gender statistics, whether financial or professional in terms of promotions or skills development, are non-existent. Training and financial incentives from partners including UN agencies and local and international CSOs are basically keeping all government operations afloat.

### 3.4.7 Data use

Among the questions asked of users during the assessment is whether they have used gender statistics produced by NBS with 73% responding in the affirmative. Those who used these statistics identified the purpose for which they used them. The percentage use of gender statistics for the different cases is summarized in Table 8.

**Table 8: How gender statistics is being used**

Gender statistics use type	Percentage use
Analysis of current developments for short-term decision- making	66.7
Analysis of trends for longer-term policy formulation	66.7
Monitoring of existing government policies	33.3
Highlight gender issues	55.6
Targeting beneficiaries of programmes	50.0
Research purposes	44.4
Other	5.6

Typical uses cited for short-term decision-making included for planning purposes while long-term trend analysis was used for behavior change communication, community sensitization for gender mainstreaming, and monitoring of government policies such as family planning.

The lack of user-producer dialogues in the country further exacerbates the production of relevant and subsequent use of gender data.

# 4 Conclusions and Recommendations

## 4.1 Introduction

South Sudan has been in a state of conflict and civil war for decades with only a brief respite of three years after the declaration of independence in 2011. Most women, men, girls, and boys live in extreme poverty, have some of the poorest health outcomes globally, and more than 7 out of 10 children do not attend school. Amid all these challenges, the level of governance, revenue collection, and fiscal responsibility of the Government continues to decline. This has given international aid agencies and CSOs a disproportionate influence in day-to-day governance of the country as well as key cross-cutting enabling elements such as the production of statistics.

The study adapted and partially used the PARIS21 framework for the assessment of gender and capacity gaps in South Sudan's NSS. The study was aimed at identifying the country's gender data and capacity gaps and examining how they can be bridged in the context of the prolonged humanitarian crises. The overall participation of ministries and other entities in the assessment process was less than expected, but this corresponds with what was found in similar assessments carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic in Sudan, Malawi, Mozambique, and South Africa. Some MDAs, CSOs, and UN agencies that were invited to participate in the study were unable or unwilling to take part. Despite this, the key departments which are currently using and producing gender statistics participated actively and provided a rich set of reflections on what is currently working and what is not working in the system.

The findings of the assessment can be used by NBS, MGCSW, UN Women and other partners to support further development of the gender statistics system in South Sudan.

## 4.2 Conclusions and recommendations

### 4.2.1 Production environment and normative frameworks

#### Conclusions

The environment within which gender statistics are produced can either facilitate or hinder their production. Various elements including the institutional, legal, guidelines, strategies, frameworks, sector plans, and resources are considered essential to making NSSs supportive and inclusive of gender data and statistics production and use. The optimism, institutional, and normative framework development which followed independence in 2011 was dampened by the 2013/2014 relapse into civil war. Since then, governance has virtually come to halt as state revenues are diverted into warfare and activities not supportive of development.

This has clearly also spilled into the world of statistics. The legal framework provided by the Transitional Constitution provide the bare minimum legal guidance and a draft Statistics Act which was being developed prior to the 2013/2014 crisis has never been promulgated. The NSDS (2014-2020) was based on a thorough diagnostic of the obstacles and statistical priorities for the nascent state. However, due to the political turmoil during most if not all of its lifespan, little if any of its recommendations have been implemented. Other normative frameworks such as QAFs, up-to-date statistical concepts and definitions, and other statistical production standards and guidelines do not exist. The assessment team learnt that standard operating procedures related to ensuring data collection and processing quality are in place. However, no copies could be obtained from NBS during the assessment.

The physical production environment on NBS is currently in crisis. Officials get their salaries once every four months and, due to inflation, the purchasing power of their salaries has been significantly eroded. This contributes to low levels of motivation among staff and high attrition rates as UN agencies and CSOs recruit qualified staff. Several posts at NBS are vacant as the Bureau has lost several highly-qualified and trained staff members, which left serious capacity gaps. Lack of computers and basic operational resources to pay for electricity and internet services, and offices that are gradually being devoured by termites are just some of the production environment-related problems faced by NBS.

Unfortunately, dependency on development partner support for day-to-day running expenses as well as basic statistical operations has also created great uncertainty in both MDAs and NBS. Current practices are unsustainable and yet unavoidable given the current governance challenges in South Sudan.

MGCSW, the primary user of gender statistics, faces challenges in terms of insufficient staff numbers working with data and statistics and unresponsiveness of data producers situated across the Government when data is needed for reporting purposes. This problem is even more pronounced when it comes to state-level data production and data flows between the state and national level.

The existing indicator framework aligned to the gender strategy that holds all MDAs accountable for their gender activities through reporting obligations needs further strengthening. The new strategy, currently under development, may fill these gaps.

Overall, statistical coordination in the country is weak and international and local agencies and CSOs pretty much produce data as and when they want. Within this context, there is also currently no gender statistics-specific coordination mechanism resulting in fragmentation, duplication of efforts, and unnecessary coverage gaps.

### **Recommendations**

Once the political situation stabilizes, work should be restarted on finalizing the development of a Statistics Act for South Sudan. This will not only protect the independence of NBS but also ensure that international principles of official statistics are enshrined in the legislation. NBS needs to put a gender statistics concepts and definitions framework in place. It is recommended that MGCSW strengthens the indicator framework associated with its gender strategy and to which all relevant MDAs need to commit and contribute data. This indicator framework should be based on national priorities and should not only reflect data that is already available but also include indicators that best reflect progress on a particular issue. The formal adoption of the framework will then provide the impetus for further advocacy to allocate resources to the measurement of these indicators.

The constraints faced by MGCSW are considerable and it is recommended that future planning and project development around gender statistics be carried out in close collaboration with both the Ministry and NBS. The decision to change the reporting lines of monitoring and evaluation officers at state level to report directly to the national level in the new MGCSW Strategy is a move in the right direction and will help to alleviate current problems with information flows between the various levels of government. A significant shift towards empowering and building the statistical capacity of officials at state level in a strategic and integrated manner across all relevant MDAs needs to take place. It is also recommended that NBS provides the necessary technical support to MGCSW to strengthen its statistical capacities and outputs.

Mechanisms must also be found to enforce accountability from all HoDs at national, state, and county level to mainstream and monitor gender outcomes in a more purposeful manner in all their performance agreements, workplans, and activities. Gender interventions and gender statistics will continue to be served in a piecemeal manner unless gender imperatives are adequately integrated and reflected in all important policy and project documents.

Despite provisions in the Interim Constitution that mandate NBS to oversee all statistical production in the country, NBS is not as respected as many other entities. CSOs in particular and sometimes also UN agencies conduct surveys without involving NBS. This oftentimes compromises data quality.

To improve coordination of the production and use of gender statistics, it will be important to forge strong working relationships between various producers as well as between users and producers. Where possible, existing coordination structures should be harnessed to achieve this and further institutionalize statistical coordination.

It is also essential that MGCSW and NBS strengthen their working relationship with clear delineation of roles and responsibilities so that this work can move forward and overall coordination can improve. Experience elsewhere has shown that the formation of an inter-agency working group on gender statistics as part of the NSS provides the backbone for the development and expansion of a gender statistics system. This should also be considered as an alternative for South Sudan.

Various areas of training and capacity-building have been identified in the assessment and these need to be addressed in a systematic manner at all levels of government and across the board for all actors in the gender data ecosystem. Mechanisms should also be put in place to address staff shortages, poor physical infrastructure, and access to computers and essential office equipment in NBS as well as key ministries producing gender data.

#### 4.2.2 Gender data gaps and data production

##### Conclusions

South Sudan has very real and significant gender data gaps. According to the UN Women global database, the country can only report on 33% of the 122 SDG indicators considered gender responsive. Part of the reason for this is that no large-scale household questionnaire surveys (the most common source for most of these indicators) have been executed since 2017 (the World Bank supported a High Frequency Survey in that year). Besides the Nutrition and Food Security Monitoring Survey (last conducted in 2019), available data from the High Frequency Survey was not designed to adequately address even a fraction of the gender imperatives of Agenda 2030. Limited official statistics are currently being produced (i.e., the statistics are either too old or produced irregularly).

Given continued instability, deteriorating governance, and fiscal conditions, international agencies and CSOs have largely stepped in to fill the void. However, their efforts are fragmented, uncoordinated, mostly project-specific, and geographically localized. The recent Population Estimation Survey coordinated by NBS and UNFPA on behalf of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) is laudable and will provide very important and much-needed population estimates. However, the household sample survey associated with the study is adequate for population estimates but may be too small to provide any reliable and detailed socio-economic or gendered analysis.

There are several questionnaire surveys important for the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda that have never been done or have not been conducted recently. The most important of these collections are:

- i. GBV prevalence survey
- ii. Time use survey
- iii. Economic participation and asset ownership, particularly land ownership, access and use
- iv. Women's and girl's health and well-being

With regards to administrative datasets, the assessment found that the more recent work on improving the DHIS, EMIS, and trade and industry data systems are positive moves in the right direction. The support provided in this respect by WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO and UNDP to the relevant MDAs is appropriate and will advance the strengthening of these systems as well as the production of gender data.

Other key administrative data sources that will benefit from some additional support and interventions include the CRVS and GBV data as sourced from MJ and the security cluster, as well as the HEMIS data system. Generally, there is also room to analyze, mine, and package existing sex-disaggregated data to better highlight specific gender patterns and outcomes.

Agencies not specialising in research sometimes do not adhere to basic ethical guidelines when collecting data among vulnerable groups and/or gender sensitive data as reflected in the absence of or poorly-formulated informed consent forms. This weakens the reliability of the data collected and violates the basic principles of the HRBA to data.

### **Recommendations**

Advocacy should continue for adequate financial resource allocations to collect the survey data needed to inform the gender equality and women's empowerment agenda. Priority should be given to allocating resources to a GBV prevalence survey; time use survey; economic participation and asset ownership, particularly land ownership, access and use survey; as well as a women's and girl's health and wellbeing survey. However, given the high levels of instability and insecurity in the country, it will probably not be possible to execute these studies in the traditional manner. It is therefore recommended that interested CSOs and UN agencies form a gender data coalition under the leadership of NBS and MGCSW to coordinate and harmonize questionnaire survey execution so that the data of multiple surveys across all states can be combined to form a large sample that qualifies as official statistics and meets both local and national planning, resource allocation, and reporting requirements.

Further consideration should also be given to build on the CGD system pioneered by Community Empowerment for Progress Organization (CEPO) in various states. The system makes use of community members and boda-bodas to collect key indicators in various communities that provide rapid and accurate information on what is happening in those communities. Such a system could form the basis of a hybrid survey/MIS that could fill important data gaps, but also carve a space for CGD in the gender data eco-system in South Sudan.

With regards to administrative data sets, it is recommended that the relevant agencies partner with NBS, MoHE, and the security cluster to establish how existing systems can be strengthened to improve both the quality and completeness of these data sets.

In the context of the above recommendations, assistance to increase both the availability and reporting of key gendered SDG indicators should be prioritized. NBS and partners need to study the reporting and indicator needs of MGCSW more carefully so that key indicator values can be collected and computed in support of the national, regional, and international reporting obligations of South Sudan.

It is also recommended that a gender statistics capacity-building strategy and program for officials at all three spheres of government be developed and offered by NBS in partnership with other relevant partners. Topics that will be important to cover include data analysis and disaggregation; basic concepts relating to gender statistics; statistical coordinating mechanisms and tools to promote an effective and well-coordinated gender statistical system; collection of gender-specific information using surveys and administrative sources; production of specific gender indicators; ways of presenting gender information to users; and gender data use for policy and strategy formulation. UN Women's generic gender statistics training curriculum could form the basis for such training.

Continuous emphasis should be placed on ethical considerations and the importance of respecting basic human rights in data collection, especially among agencies that do not specialize in research.



### 4.2.3 Data accessibility uptake and use

#### Conclusions

The assessment identified some problems related to data accessibility, data not being analyzed from a gender perspective, and statistical reports not being presented in an accessible and understandable way for non-statisticians. MGCSW, the primary user of gender data, has not been served well by most producers and more needs to be done to bridge the gender data gaps as well as responsiveness of MDAs when data is requested for national, regional, and international reporting.

Users of gender data indicated that they are not always aware of all the surveys, data sources, and research that have been conducted. Thus, instead of using existing data sources, surveys and research projects are unnecessary duplicated. Coordination through the Reliefweb portal is not functioning optimally because not all CSOs make their reports and data available through this portal.

Most users find a visual presentation of data more accessible and general feedback on the statistical publications classify them as difficult to understand and therefore not accessible to the public. This may also point to a need for capacity-building on basic data literacy across government.

Even though user-producer dialogues are held, they are not well institutionalized. Once a gender statistics coordination mechanism has been established, this could be used as a platform for more regular and deliberate user-producer dialogues.

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that problems around data accessibility and use be addressed by improving the usability of NBS and MGCSW websites and providing regular updates related to gender data and statistics. In the short-term, consideration should also be given to using the UNOCHA platform as a portal for communicating about and sharing gender statistics, research reports, and data produced by all the role players in the gender data ecosystem. In the medium-term the NSB website should be upgraded to also include a gender page and link to gender-related data and publications.

Once the necessary data becomes available, it is important that official publications on the statistics of women and men be produced. Furthermore, easy-to-understand data products and policy briefs will support and encourage evidence-based decision-making across all sectors. At the same time, there is need to provide data users with basic gender data literacy skills as well as skills on how to convert data and statistics into policy and strategy decisions.

The possibility of using the gender data coordination mechanism as a platform for regular user-producer dialogues needs to be explored once this coordination mechanism (based on existing structures or newly-established ones) has been identified. Increased understanding of user needs will help to increase the relevance and uptake and use of gender data and statistics.

Mechanisms need to be developed to encourage data sharing for use by all producers and users in the gender data ecosystem. This will enhance uptake and use and enable others to mine existing data from a gender perspective.

# Annexes

## Annex A: Questionnaire prototypes

### CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR BETTER GENDER STATISTICS

#### Annex A.1 –Questionnaire A

The aim of this questionnaire is to identify gender statistics gaps in the national statistical system, by focusing on the statistical capacity, enabling environment, and statistical production as well as coordinating mechanisms, and the use of gender statistics.

This questionnaire should be completed by the gender statistics expert in close cooperation with the focal person from the gender statistics entity (e.g., NSO) and other relevant departments or ministries in the country's national statistical system. Other entities including mechanism for the advancement of women or gender equality, line ministries and any other relevant offices or agencies involved in the development of gender statistics at the national and international level may need to be consulted during the assessment process to assure that answers are complete.

**Gender statistics** are defined by the sum of the following characteristics:

- (a) Data are collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification.
- (b) Data reflect gender issues.
- (c) Data are based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives.
- (d) Data collection methods consider stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.

*Gender statistics cut across traditional fields of statistics and can serve as useful input in planning and designing policies that will consider addressing possible disparities between men and women.*

Country:	<input type="text"/>
Name:	<input type="text"/>
Position:	<input type="text"/>
Ministry/institution:	<input type="text"/>
Sex (man/woman):	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>

## Legislation and policies

Regarding the promotion of gender equality and of women empowerment, please list any of the following that exist in or apply to your country:

constitutional provisions:

national laws:

international conventions and declarations—such as the Beijing Platform for Action or the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)—to which your country is a signatory:

Please complete the table relating to laws or regulations governing the collection of gender indicators as well as the production and dissemination of gender statistics.

Select all that apply **by double-clicking** the grey square and selecting “**Checked**”) and list the titles of the documents where applicable.

	Laws, regulations, or policies	Governing the <b>coordination</b> of gender statistics and/or gender statistical system	Governing the <b>collection of gender-relevant data</b> <sup>1</sup>	Governing the <b>production of gender statistics</b> <sup>2</sup>	Governing the <b>dis-semination</b> of gender statistics	Title of the document (Please include a link if available)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statistics law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statistics regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Statistical policies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	National statistical action plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender-related law	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender-related regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender-related national action plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Note:

<sup>1</sup> “Collection of gender-relevant data” refers to the data collection operation undertaken by an official entity. Gender-relevant data include i) data disaggregated by sex, ii) data that cannot be sex-disaggregated but can be used to provide valuable information on the diversity of women and men by capturing all aspects of their lives (e.g., maternal deaths).

<sup>2</sup> “Gender statistics” refer to gender indicators and other information created because of the analysis and interpretation of gender-relevant data.

Does a national gender equality policy exist?

☐ No. Go to question 8.

☐ Yes. Please provide the title:

Reference Period:

Link:

Indicate whether this policy is endorsed by the government:

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes

Does the national gender equality policy state the need for evidence-based gender statistics to monitor gender equality as a policy objective?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes. *Provide the specific text reference:* [ ]

Does it have a monitoring framework?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes. Title of the framework: [ ]

Was the monitoring framework consulted with the NSO?

Share of gender-related indicators in the monitoring framework: [ ] %

Does it have an institution in charge of monitoring?

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes. *Institution in charge:* [ ]

Is there a regulation specifying the establishment and tasks of a gender statistics entity in the national statistical system (for example a gender statistics focal point or unit/section/department/division within the agency)?

- ☐ No.  
☐ Yes. *Title of the regulation:* [ ]  
*Link or citation:* [ ]

Is there a separate gender statistics entity (within the NSO or elsewhere)?

- ☐ Yes, within the NSO  
☐ Yes, elsewhere, within (*provide the name of the institution*) [ ]  
☐ No, gender statistics production is incorporated in the work of different units/sectors. In this case, does the regulation, which governs the work of the NSO, specify the NSO's tasks relating to gender statistics production and coordination?  
☐ No  
☐ Yes. *Title of the regulation:* [ ]  
*Link or citation:* [ ]

### **Institutional setting and organisational design: gender statistics entity**

*If there is no separate gender statistics entity, questions 10-14 can refer to the gender statistics focal person(s)*

Where is the gender statistics entity or focal person(s) located in the national statistical system?

*Select one answer and provide its name*

Within the NSO. *Name:* [ ]

Within the ministry of women/gender or gender equality. *Name:* [ ]

Elsewhere. *Specify where:* [ ]

When was the gender statistics entity created/appointed in the national statistical system? Year:

[ ]

To whom does the gender statistics entity report within the organizational structure? *Select one answer*

- ☐ Directly to the chief statistician  
☐ To another department/unit

☐ Elsewhere. *Specify where:*

What are the main tasks of the gender statistics entity?

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Compiling gender statistics and maintaining gender statistics databases
- ☐ Analysing data from a gender perspective
- ☐ Disseminating gender statistics via publications and/or a website
- ☐ Ensuring that gender perspective is addressed in all aspects of the statistics production within the NSO
- ☐ Integrating a gender perspective in statistics training or introducing statistics in gender training and awareness rising workshops; organising national training related to gender statistics
- ☐ Answering requests for gender statistics from national and international users
- ☐ Conducting methodological work (development of gender statistics, measurement issues, data collection methods)
- ☐ Coordination of an inter-agency committee that serves as a venue for discussion on gender statistics
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

If the gender statistics entity coordinates gender statistics production in the NSO, do the members of this entity also participate in the overall coordinating mechanism for official statistics? *This can refer to the participation in the inter-agency group on gender statistics, for instance.*

☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

### **Funds infrastructure**

Is there a dedicated budget specifically for gender statistics within the overall national budget for statistics (it can include the gender statistics entity operational costs)?

☐ No. *Go to question 17*

☐ Yes

Provide an estimated share of the overall national budget for statistics that is allocated specifically to gender statistics.

%

Is it possible to verify disbursement and commitment? If yes, please provide estimated amount.

Disbursement:

Commitment:

In case there is no dedicated budget, are funds available for gender statistics activities on an ad-hoc basis?

☐ Yes. *Indicate what was the last activity funded:*

☐ No

Are there criteria to deliberately include gender (statistics) in the national budgeting process for statistics?

☐ Yes

☐ No

## Plans (NDP, NSDS, SMP, PRS)

Does the last and/or current National Development Plan include a section on gender equality and/or women's empowerment?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Provide the titles of these documents and citations:*

Did the past NSDS address the issues related to the development of gender statistics within the national statistical system (NSS)?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Provide the titles of these documents and citations:*

If the past NSDS addressed the issues relating to gender statistics, what was the share of gender-related activities in the NSDS or annual working plan with a secured budget  %

Are there any other sanctioned strategies for developing gender statistics across the entire national statistical system (NSS) or regional/sectoral plans that include gender issues? *This could include for example a statistical master plan (SMP) or Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS).*

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Please list all, specifying the ministry responsible for the overall coordination and the role of the NSO in its realisation:*

## Donor support

Did your NSO receive technical, financial, or other input from donors for the gender statistics production of publications?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Specify:*

type of support (*technical, financial*):

time:

name of data collection/ statistics/publication:

## Coordinating mechanism in the national statistical system (NSS)

Do the following line ministries or agencies collect gender-specific data?

*This includes both sex-disaggregated data as well as gender-specific data without sex-disaggregation (relating to women/men only). Provide actual names of analogous ministries:*

☐ Ministry of agriculture

☐ Ministry of commerce (or trade)

☐ Ministry of education

☐ Ministry of equal opportunity

☐ Ministry of health

☐ Ministry of labour (or employment)

☐ Ministry of local governments

☐ Ministry of planning

☐ Ministry of social inclusion or social development

☐ Ministry of women (or gender/or gender equality)

☐ Other. *Specify:*

Are key actors for the development of subnational gender statistics involved at national-level discussions?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Specify which actors and describe their coordinating role:*

What is the role of the ministry of women/gender in the NSS?

*Please select all that apply*

- ☐ Production of main statistical output relating to gender statistics
- ☐ Compilation of gender statistics inputs from other agencies and/or administrative records from other data sources (CSOs, NGOs).
- ☐ Providing guidance, training on gender statistics
- ☐ Organisation of consultations among gender statistics producers and with users
- ☐ Advocating for the use of gender statistics
- ☐ Lobbying for relevant programs and bills related to gender statistics
- ☐ Funding of gender data collection operations
- ☐ Other *Specify:*

Are there any other agencies in the NSS that are involved in the coordination of gender statistics?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Specify which agencies and describe their coordinating role:*

Referring to the coordination of gender statistics production the NSS, indicate if these problems occur:

*Please select all that apply*

- ☐ There are no gender statistics-related provisions in the statistics law.
- ☐ There is no regulation specifying collections of gender information.
- ☐ Existing regulations restrict the exchange of data between institutions.
- ☐ Regulations governing the production of gender-related data specify similar data collections in two or more institutions.
- ☐ Gender aspects are not represented in the Statistics Board, Advisory Group, or similar entity (whether in terms of membership or scope of the agenda)
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

### Existing data

Have data needs for monitoring of implementation of international agreements (CEDAW, Beijing platform for Action, SDGs) been systematically integrated in the official data systems? *This mainly refers to the existence of indicator frameworks to monitor the implementation of these agreements.*

- ☐ No. *Indicate why:*
- ☐ Yes. *Please provide examples of their integration in the data collection system (no need to specify individual indicators here):*

Which of the priority gender-sensitive statistical data collections or operations will the NSO undertake in the next 3 years?

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Violence against women survey
- ☐ Time-use survey
- ☐ Social institutions and gender index survey (SIGI)
- ☐ Reviewing household survey with a gender perspective
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*
- ☐ None of them. *Specify why:*

Over the past 3 years, have there been any special modules of household surveys focussing on gender issues?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*



Have current/past data collection initiatives, methods and tools in different sectors been analysed with a gender perspective?

*This could include for example looking at the intended use, evaluation questions, and indicators. The data collections focusing on gender should be designed to provide information about men and women as well as about different categories of women and men (e.g., by ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, class, caste, residence, and race).*

☐ No. Explain why:

☐ Yes. Provide examples:

☐ Does not apply, specify:

What are the country's priority gender equality indicators? Please provide a name of the collection (e.g., SDG gender specific indicators, the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators, etc).

### Alternative data sources

The SDGs monitoring framework recognizes the importance of the use of alternative data sources for producing the indicators. Are there enabling policies that promote this?

☐ No

☐ Yes. Provide the title of the policy:

What alternative data sources have been used to produce gender indicators in the past 3 years?

Are there any plans to use such sources at least in the next 3 years?

☐ Yes

☐ No

### Data literacy, knowledge sharing, communicating gender statistics

Are public information campaigns based on gender statistics being conducted?

☐ No. Indicate why:

☐ Yes. Describe all initiatives to disseminate gender-related information in mass media and other means over the past 3 years:

Are any gender experts consulted/involved in production of gender statistics to benefit from their expertise?

Complete the following table

Yes	Experts from	Form of consultations (e.g., meetings, workshops, formal advisory committees)	Frequency of consultations (e.g., regular, ad-hoc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ministries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parliament		
<input type="checkbox"/>	NGOs, CSOs		
<input type="checkbox"/>	International organisations		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Universities, research centres		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private sector		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Media		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, specify		

There are no such consultations. Indicate why:

Is there a specific gender statistics program in official statistics training?

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

☐ Yes, organised by the NSO. *Specify for whom:*

☐ Yes, organised by (specify the institution/organisation and the audience):

## Advocacy strategy

Are there any efforts made by the NSO/gender statistics entity to promote the use of gender statistics?

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

Are there any efforts made by the NSO/gender statistics entity to monitor the use of gender statistics?

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

## Relationship between data producers

Please indicate whether the NSO/ministry of women works jointly with the specified ministry on the following activities for gender statistics.

*Provide names of analogous ministries and check all that apply*

Ministry	Setting priorities for data production	Data collection	Data analysis	Data dissemination	No collaboration	Form (Meetings, working groups, etc.)	Frequency of consultations
Ministry of Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Gender/Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Labour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Social Inclusion or Social Development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Another agency/ministry, specify: <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Activity in gender statistics not undertaken by NSO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Is there a data-sharing policy among different producers of gender statistics?

☐ Yes. *Indicate with which institution and what kind of data*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

Are classifications and definitions being harmonised among data producers?

*Select all that apply*

☐ Yes, to ensure compatibility of data.

☐ Yes, to minimize inconsistency and use a common language in defining and calculating indicators.

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

### **Relationship with users**

Indicate main groups of gender statistics users in the country that you reach out to:

Are there any other groups of potential gender statistics users to whom you would like to reach out?

Does your institution organise meetings with users before a major survey to identify their gender-specific needs?

*Provide examples of such meetings and indicate if there is any follow-up*

Describe other types of the user-producer dialogue if they exist. Indicate if they are useful and effective in identifying user needs.

Does the NSO conduct a User Satisfaction survey that enquires specifically about gender statistics produced by the NSO?

☐ Yes. *Specify when it was conducted and summarise the results:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

Does the NSO collaborate with a regional or international organisation in the following areas:

*Select all that apply and provide the names of organisations*

☐ Strengthening the gender statistical system or increasing gender-responsiveness of the NSS

☐ Methodological feedback concerning gender statistics production

☐ Technical assistance for gender statistics

☐ Organisation of training related to gender statistics

☐ Other. *Please specify:*

☐ No, we do not collaborate with any regional or international organisation in the domain of gender statistics.

### Data ecosystem coordination

Are there any partnerships or collaborations between NSS agencies and different data actors from the country's data ecosystem supporting the production and use of gender statistics?

*Data actors can include the private sector, media, scientific community and academia, NGOs, or citizens' groups.*

- ☐ No. Indicate why:
- ☐ Yes. Specify the type of actors and ways of collaboration/partnership:
- ☐ Are they part of an inter-agency body on gender statistics?

### Relationship with political authorities

Do procedures exist to report.

- ☐ Political or administrative pressure faced by the NSO when producing and disseminating statistical information?
- ☐ Misuse, abuse, or misrepresentation of gender statistics
- ☐ There are currently no such procedures

### Stakeholders' interest

Do national gender statistics users (for example, ministries, media, or civil society organisations) see gender equality as a policy priority?

*This may be reflected in civil society campaigns, advocacy initiatives aiming at eliminating violence against women, gender sensitive civil society coordination mechanisms or movements.*

- ☐ Yes. For example:
- ☐ No. Indicate why:

Over the past year, have the non-governmental users of gender statistics (e.g., NGOs, media) approached the NSO for an intervention relating to gender statistics?

*This may refer to a provision of specific statistics, organisation of data collection or methodological support.*

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. Specify the type of user:
- Subject of their intervention:
- Frequency of their interventions:

List all titles of data collection exercises or indicators relating to gender that have been compiled at the request of users over the past three years.

### Political support

Do you believe that gender equality is widely accepted as a policy objective by the government and the political arena?

*This can be based on public declarations and campaigns.*

- ☐ Yes. Justify
- ☐ No. Justify

Do you believe there is political support for the development of gender statistics at the national level?

*This can be reflected by the trend in the breakdown of the NSO/NSS budget provided by government vs international aid, as a share of gender-related activities in the NSDS or as an annual working plan with a secured budget.*

☐ Yes. Provide examples:

☐ No. Indicate why

## Human resources

Specify the number of staff dealing with gender statistics. This can include:

Gender statistics-dedicated entity within the NSO

Full time  Part-time

In case there is no separate gender statistics entity, include gender statistics focal points in the NSO

Full time  Part-time

Gender statistics working/advisory groups

Full time  Part-time

## Infrastructure

Does the gender statistics entity have a sufficient equipment (including, computers, printers, desks, database, estimation software, etc.) to perform its tasks?

☐ Yes

☐ No. Indicate existing shortages

Does the NSO lay out a separate plan to secure funding for the activities related to gender statistics? *This can include budgeting, defining a timeline, identifying possible resources and funders, and the required actions and activities, such as negotiating with national authorities and/or external partners, foundations, or companies.*

☐ Yes

☐ No. Indicate why:

## Statistical production processes

Please indicate whether gender dimension was considered at each step of statistical production process in the NSO

Statistics production step	Yes	No	Example
Selection of topics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Identification of data needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Evaluation of existing concepts, definitions, and methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Development of new concepts, definitions, and methods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Development of the data collection instrument: (e.g., choice of unit of enumeration, survey design)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Collection and processing of data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Analysis and presentation of statistics in easy-to-use formats; dissemination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>

## Quality assurance

Over the past 3 years, has the NSO undertaken any assessments of its data production processes to see if they were gender-sensitive?

- ☐ Yes. *Describe the results:*
- ☐ No. *Indicate why there was no assessment:*

Have international standards and guidelines for gender statistics, such as definitions and classifications, data collection methods, question modules, estimation techniques, etc. been used in relevant sectors?

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ UN 2016 “Integrating a gender perspective into statistics”
- ☐ Guidelines on producing statistics on violence against women: statistical surveys
- ☐ International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics 2016 (ICATUS 2016)
- ☐ Gender Statistics Handbooks. *Specify which ones:*
- ☐ Principles and Recommendations. *Specify which ones:*
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*
- ☐ None of them. *Specify why:*

Has an assessment of gender statistics quality been carried out in the past 3 years?

*The assessment of quality could refer to gender verifying gender statistics’ relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility, and clarity as well as comparability and coherence.*

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Describe the results and provide a link if possible:*

If there was no assessment of gender statistics quality in the past, are there any plans for such an assessment?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Indicate when:*

Does the NSO/gender statistics unit monitor the quality and use of gender data from administrative sources?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Describe these sources, the monitoring process and provide citations from regulations that establish this mandate:*

## HR management

Does the NSO have any incentives in place to enhance the retention of gender statistics staff and reduce turnover?

*Describe the incentives if applicable as well as staff turnover in the gender statistics entity over the last 12 months.*

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Incentives:*

## Staff turnover

Does technical training of data producers at the NSO and ministry of women cover skills and knowledge relevant to gender equality and gender statistics?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

If yes, is it considered in personal training/development plans?

☐ No

☐ Yes

### **Innovation**

What changes or new tools have been introduced in the collection and/or compilation of gender-related data over the past 3 years?

*Describe their impact and the results. For example, adding a list of activities to the labour force survey to cover unpaid work.*

### **Communication and transparency**

If the NSO has a website, is there a dedicated gender statistics section?

☐ No

☐ Yes

*Provide a link:*

*Specify how often it is updated:*

Referring to published gender statistics (website or publications), are they accompanied by information on how to interpret them?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *List examples and provide links where possible:*

What other ways of sharing gender statistics with the public exist? *Describe all other ways of gender statistics communication and provide titles of publications and copies where possible.*

What should be done to improve availability, accessibility, and use of gender statistics?

### **Strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation, change management**

Do you consider that the environment of gender statistics production at the national level has changed in recent years?

☐ No

☐ Yes. *Indicate whether your institution has adapted and embraced these changes and provide examples:*



Is there a strategic plan in the NSO directed at all sectors to integrate a gender perspective in all statistical processes?

☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

Does the NSO plan to undertake any actions aimed at improving gender statistics? *Please check all that apply*

☐ Setting priorities

☐ Systematically coordinating and aligning actions and resources with the defined goals, and ensuring that employees of the agency/organisation are working toward common goals

☐ Undertaking multipronged interventions or programs, such as SPARS (Supervision, Performance Assessment, and Recognition Strategy).

☐ Other. Specify:

☐ There is no such action planned. *Indicate why:*

Has the NSO has undertaken the above-mentioned actions in the past 3 years. *Please check all that apply*

☐ Setting priorities

☐ Systematically coordinating and aligning actions and resources with the defined goals, and ensuring that the agency/organisation's employees are working toward common goals

☐ Undertaking multipronged interventions or programs, like for instance SPARS (Supervision, Performance Assessment, and Recognition Strategy).

☐ Other. Specify:

☐ There is no such action planned. *Indicate why:*

Are national policies being designed and evaluated through the analysis and use of gender statistics?

☐ Yes. *Provide examples:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

### **Compensation and benefits**

Are there any rewards granted to employees of the gender statistics entity in return for their outstanding work and to motivate them to deliver their tasks?

☐ No

☐ Yes

### **Workplace politics and organisational culture**

What is the approach of senior management towards coordination, production, communication, and use of gender statistics (in the NSS and in the NSO)? e.g., does senior management understand the need to integrate a gender perspective in sectors, or the role of gender statistics in the improvement of overall statistics?

### **Impact of COVID-19 on statistical production** **COVID-19 questions**

Has the production of statistics in general been negatively affected by COVID-19?

☐ No

☐ Yes

☐ Do not know

If yes, please indicate how statistical production has been affected by ticking the applicable options:

- ☐ Availability of statistics has decreased
- ☐ The quality of the data has decreased
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ The costs of producing statistics have increased
- ☐ Resources available to produce statistics have declined
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

What could be done to restore the production and dissemination of statistics affected negatively by Covid-19 in your institution?

Has the production of gender statistics been negatively affected by COVID-19?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Do not know

If yes, please indicate how gender statistics have been affected by ticking the applicable options:

- ☐ Availability of statistics has decreased
- ☐ The quality of the data has decreased
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ The costs of producing statistics have increased
- ☐ Resources available to produce statistics have declined
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

Please list the specific kinds of gender statistics that have been negatively affected by COVID-19

What could be done to restore the production and dissemination of statistics affected negatively by Covid-19 in your institution?

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR BETTER GENDER STATISTICS

### - Questionnaire for the Gender Statistics Focal Points

The aim of this questionnaire is to identify gender statistics gaps in the national statistical system, by focusing on the national statistical capacity as well as coordination mechanisms, data collection and the use of gender statistics.

This questionnaire collects information on the statistical capacity of staff responsible to produce gender statistics in the NSO and the ministry of women/gender. All individual information collected in this questionnaire will be treated with confidentiality. Only the aggregate/summary of information will be presented to complement a broader review of gender statistics gaps, which is currently being undertaken by a gender statistics expert in cooperation with the national statistical office.

**Gender statistics** are defined by the sum of the following characteristics:

- (a) Data are collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification.
- (b) Data reflect gender issues.
- (c) Data are based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives.
- (d) Data collection methods consider stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.

*Gender statistics cut across traditional fields of statistics and can serve as useful input in planning and designing policies that will consider addressing possible disparities between men and women.*

**Individual answers will not be published.**

<b>Country:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Ministry/institution:</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Name (optional):</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Position (optional):</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Sex (man/woman):</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Email (optional):</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Date:</b>	<input type="text"/>

## Professional background

1. How many years of experience in the field of gender statistics do you have?
2. How do you perceive the adequacy of your technical skills and knowledge for producing gender statistics?

## Strategic networking and communication

3. How many genders statistics-related professional meetings, workshops/training events have you attended during the last 12 months? These include both national and international events.  
Number:   
Examples:

4. Over the last 12 months, have you prepared any report or presentation on gender statistics and released or presented it in any of the following:

*Check all that apply by double-clicking in the squares and provide information in the grey rectangle):*

☐ The website of the national statistical office.

*Please provide a link, if possible:*

☐ The website of the Ministry of .

*Please provide a link, if possible:*

☐ Regional forum. *Please provide title and date:*

☐ National forum. *Please provide title and date:*

☐ International forum. *Please provide title and date:*

5. Over the last 12 months, have you represented your institution in a regional or international meeting related to gender statistics? (In case you delegate your staff to such meetings, has any of your staff been designated to participate in a regional or international meeting related to gender statistics?)

☐ Yes. Please provide title and date:

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

6. Are you invited to management or high-level meetings at your institution to provide insights about gender statistics?

☐ Yes. *Please provide examples:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

## Leadership

7. Over the past 3 years, have you (co-)organized a gender related meeting/workshop, which included external stakeholders (national or international)?

☐ Yes. *Please provide examples:*

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

## Teamwork and collaboration

8. Have you collaborated with another division within your institution on gender statistics production, over the past year?

☐ No. *Indicate why:*

☐ Yes. Please provide examples of success stories or challenges that you might have encountered:

9. Do you think that teamwork and collaboration are valued and encouraged in your team?
- ☐ Yes. *Please provide examples and indicate whether this approach is valid only for your team or for your institution as a whole:*
- ☐ No. *Indicate why:*

### Time management and prioritization

10. Are gender statistics-related tasks explicitly recognized and defined in your individual work plan?
- ☐ Yes. *Please provide examples:*
- ☐ No. *Please explain your main area of work and how you became involved with gender statistics:*

### Problem solving and creative thinking

11. What are the three most challenging tasks in your assigned functions relating to gender statistics? *Please provide examples and indicate how you address them*
- a.
- b.
- c.

### Self-motivation

12. Please select one answer that best describes your approach to your tasks related to gender statistics:
- ☐ Dealing with statistics specific to gender **increases** my work satisfaction and self-motivation.
- ☐ Dealing with statistics specific to gender **has no impact** on my work satisfaction and self-motivation.
- ☐ Dealing with statistics specific to gender **has a negative impact** on my work satisfaction and self-motivation.

### Career expectations and income

13. Consider your assigned functions related to gender statistics and select all that apply:
- a) Your career opportunities:
- ☐ This work puts me in an unfavorable position, in terms of career development in my institution
- ☐ This work has no impact on my career opportunities
- ☐ This work gives me more visibility and provides more career opportunities
- b) Your salary:
- ☐ This work has a negative impact on my salary (as compared to work in other sectors of the same institution)
- ☐ This work has no impact on my salary
- ☐ This work has a positive impact on my salary (as compared to work in other sectors of the same institution).

## Gender statistics use

14. What were the last gender statistics that you quoted or referred to at work? Please provide examples:

15. Which presentation of gender statistics do you find the most useful for your work?

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Graphs/infographics
- ☐ Reports/articles
- ☐ Videos
- ☐ Press conference/fora
- ☐ Others *Please specify:*

16. Which topic relating to gender statistics would you like to learn about:

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Basic concepts relating to gender statistics, *for example:*
- ☐ Statistical coordinating mechanisms and tools to promote an effective and well-coordinated gender statistical system, *for example:*
- ☐ Collection of gender-specific information using surveys, *for example:*
- ☐ Collection of gender-specific data using administrative sources, *for example:*
- ☐ Production of specific gender indicators, *for example:*
- ☐ Ways of presenting gender information to users, *for example:*
- ☐ Ways of analyzing gender statistics, *for example:*

17. In your opinion, what are the most important gender issues/problems in your country that need further exploration in terms of data collection or communication?

- a.
- b.
- c.

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR BETTER GENDER STATISTICS

### - Questionnaire for the ministries

The aim of this questionnaire is to identify gender statistics gaps in the national statistical system, by focusing on the national statistical capacity as well as on coordination mechanisms, data collection and the use of gender statistics.

This questionnaire collects information on gender statistics produced by different ministries/institutions as well as on the overall coordination of gender statistics production and use. Individual responses will not be published. Only the aggregate/summary of the answers will be presented and used to complement a broader review of gender statistics gaps, which is currently being undertaken by a gender statistics expert in cooperation with the national statistical office.

After the questionnaires are collected, all respondents will be invited to a workshop to validate the summarized results of the assessment.

**Gender statistics** are defined by the sum of the following characteristics:

- (a) Data are collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification.
- (b) Data reflect gender issues.
- (c) Data are based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives.
- (d) Data collection methods consider stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.

*Gender statistics cut across traditional fields of statistics and can serve as useful input in planning and designing policies that will consider addressing possible disparities between men and women.*

**Individual answers will not be published.**

**Country:**

**Ministry/institution:**

**Your name**

**Position:**

**Sex (man/woman):**



### Collaboration between data producers

- 1) When collecting sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information, on which of the following tasks does your institution cooperate with the **NSO**?

*Select all that apply and provide examples of collaboration. To select an answer, double-click on the grey square*

- ☐ To compile data
- ☐ To consult definitions/concepts/methodologies for data collection
- ☐ To set priorities for data collection
- ☐ To verify the quality of data collected
- ☐ To analyses data
- ☐ To disseminate statistics

There is no collaboration. *Please indicate why:*

- 2) When collecting sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information, do you also **collect** information that can identify vulnerable **sub-groups of women**? *Please indicate which ones are applicable.*

- ☐ Disability
- ☐ Age
- ☐ Socio-economic status
- ☐ Ethnicity
- ☐ Rural/Urban
- ☐ There is no additional information on intersectionality.

*Please indicate why:*

- 3) When collecting sex-disaggregated data or other gender-related information, do you also **publish** information that can identify vulnerable **sub-groups of women**? *Please indicate which ones are applicable.*

- ☐ Disability
- ☐ Age
- ☐ Socio-economic status
- ☐ Ethnicity
- ☐ Rural/Urban
- ☐ There is no additional information on intersectionality.

*Please indicate why:*

- 4) Do you cooperate with **other ministries or agencies** to coordinate gender statistics? production or dissemination?

- ☐ Yes. *Please provide the name of the entity and describe the form of collaboration*
- ☐ No. *Please indicate why:*

### Use of gender statistics

- 5) Does your institution use gender statistics produced by the NSO/other ministries /other agencies? *Select one answer:*

- ☐ We never use gender statistics. *Please indicate the reason:*
- ☐ We use gender statistics published by the NSO/ other ministries /other agencies. *Please specify the source institution, type of statistics, the frequency and how they are used by your institution*

Source Institution	Topic	Frequency of use	How they are used by your institution

6) In case you use the gender statistics produced by the NSO, please assess the quality of these in terms of:

*Select one answer in each category and specify where applicable*

- Relevance:
  - ☐ Gender statistics fully meet our needs
  - ☐ Gender statistics partially meet our needs, because (specify)
  - ☐ Gender statistics do not meet our needs, because (specify)
  - ☐ I do not know
- Accuracy:
  - ☐ Gender statistics correctly estimate or describe the characteristics they are designed to measure
  - ☐ Gender statistics do not correctly estimate or describe the characteristics they are designed to measure, for example:
  - ☐ I do not know
- Timeliness:
  - ☐ The timeliness of gender statistics is satisfactory
  - ☐ The timeliness of gender statistics could be improved, for example:
  - ☐ I do not know
- Accessibility of data:
  - ☐ Gender statistics are easily accessible on the NSO website
  - ☐ Gender statistics can be easily requested and obtained from the NSO
  - ☐ Gender statistics needed are not easily accessible, for example:
  - ☐ I do not know
- Coherence:
  - ☐ Data are coherent within datasets, across datasets, and over time
  - ☐ Data are not always coherent within datasets, across datasets, and over time, for example:
  - ☐ I do not know

7) Please indicate whether you have used the following information relating to gender statistics published by the NSO:

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Metadata (definition, source, unit, method of computation). *Indicate how do you access it and how often:*
- ☐ Methodologies of surveys or censuses. *Indicate how do you access it and how often:*
- ☐ Other informative material. *Indicate what kind of material, how do you access it and how often:*
- ☐ None of the above.

8) For what purpose do you use national gender statistics?

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ I do not use gender statistics
- ☐ Analysis of current developments for short-term decision-making, for example:
- ☐ Analysis of trends for longer-term policy formulation, for example:
- ☐ Targeting beneficiaries and programmers, for example:
- ☐ Research purposes, for example:
- ☐ General economic information, for example:
- ☐ Other. *Please specify:*

9) What could be done to improve availability, accessibility, and use of gender statistics in your institution?

### **Impact of COVID-91 on statistical production**

#### **COVID-19 questions**

10) Has the production of statistics in general been negatively affected by COVID-19?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Do not know

11) If yes, please indicate how statistical production has been affected by ticking the applicable options:

- ☐ Availability of statistics has decreased
- ☐ The quality of the data has decreased
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ The costs of producing statistics have increased
- ☐ Resources available to produce statistics have declined
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

12) What could be done to restore the production and dissemination of statistics affected negatively by Covid-19 in your institution?

13) Has the production of gender statistics been negatively affected by COVID-19?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Do not know

14) If yes, please indicate how gender statistics have been affected by ticking the applicable options:

- ☐ Availability of statistics has decreased
- ☐ The quality of the data has decreased
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ The costs of producing statistics have increased
- ☐ Resources available to produce statistics have declined
- ☐ The production of statistics has been delayed and it is available later than usual/needed
- ☐ Other. *Specify:*

15) Please list the specific kinds of gender statistics that have been negatively affected by COVID-19

16) What could be done to restore the production and dissemination of statistics affected negatively by Covid-19 in your institution?

## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR BETTER GENDER STATISTICS

### Questionnaire for gender statistics users

The aim of this questionnaire is to identify gender statistics gaps in the national statistical system, by focusing on the national statistical capacity as well as on coordination mechanisms for data collection and the use of gender statistics.

This questionnaire collects information on the use of gender statistics produced by the national statistical system. Individual responses will be treated with confidentiality. Only the aggregate/summary of the answers will be presented and used to complement a broader review of gender statistics gaps, which is currently being undertaken by a gender statistics expert in cooperation with the national statistical office.

**Gender statistics** are defined by the sum of the following characteristics:

- (a) Data are collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification.
- (b) Data reflect gender issues.
- (c) Data are based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives.
- (d) Data collection methods consider stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.

*Gender statistics cut across traditional fields of statistics and can serve as useful input in planning and designing policies that will consider addressing possible disparities between men and women.*

**Individual answers will not be published.**

**Country:**

**Representing:**

- ☐ **Parliament**
- ☐ **Civil Society Organization**
- ☐ **Media**
- ☐ **Academia**
- ☐ **Private sector**

**Name:**

**Position: Institution/organization/company:**

**Sex:**

**Email:**

- 1) Have you used gender statistics produced by the national statistical office (NSO)/ministries/ other agencies in the last three years?

*Select one answer (double-click the grey square and select "Checked" under "Default value")*

- ☐ Yes. Please describe the purpose [ ] (then go to Q1a).  
☐ No (then proceed to Q3)

- a) How often do you use gender statistics?

I often use gender statistics. I use them for:

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ Analysis of current developments for short-term decision- making, for example:  
☐ Analysis of trends for longer-term policy formulation, for example:  
☐ Monitoring of existing government policies, for example:  
☐ Highlight gender issues, for example:  
    ☐ Targeting beneficiaries of programmers, for example:  
    ☐ Research purposes, for example:  
☐ Other, specify:

I rarely use gender statistics. *Why?*

*Select all that apply*

- ☐ They are not relevant to my work.  
☐ I do not know if they are available/they are difficult to find.  
☐ They are not reliable.  
☐ They are not thoroughly explained in available reports.  
☐ My office does not have staff that can understand and use gender statistics.  
☐ Other, please specify: [ ]

- b) Where do you get the gender statistics that you use?

- ☐ NSO or other office of the government  
☐ International organizations  
☐ Media  
☐ Other, please specify: [ ]

- 2) How would you rate the available gender statistics in the country in terms of (with 5 as the best score)?

Please put an "X" under the selected score

Characteristic	Definition	Rating				
		1	2	3	4	5
1. Relevance	The available gender statistics can serve as useful input for planning and policymaking.					
2. Accuracy	The available gender statistics reflect the true situation of women and men in the country.					
3. Timeliness	The frequency and timing of gender statistics and its release are just in time for planning and policy purposes.					
4. Accessibility	Gender statistics are easily accessible from websites or publications.					
5. User-friendliness	The available reports or press releases on gender statistics are understandable.					

- 3) Did you participate in a training on gender or on gender statistics in the past?
  - ☐ Yes, please specify the topic:
  - ☐ No
- 4) Would you or your staff be interested in attending a training on understanding gender statistics?
  - ☐ Yes, I will appreciate an invitation.
  - ☐ No. Please explain why:
- 5) Would you or your staff be interested to attend a dissemination forum on gender statistics organized by the NSO following a release of data?
  - ☐ Yes, I will appreciate an invitation.
  - ☐ No, it is not relevant to our work
- 6) Would you like to receive regular information from the NSO on new releases of gender statistics?
  - ☐ Yes, I/my office will appreciate the information.
  - ☐ No, it is not relevant to our work
- 7) Please provide an example of the successful use of gender statistics and the impact it created:
- 8) Are there any topics/subjects that require more coverage in terms of gender statistics currently published? *Please specify*
  - 
  - 
  -
- 9) Only for organizations/companies that collect gender-specific data: please indicate whether your organization collects gender-specific information:
  - Topic:
  - Frequency:
  - Geographical coverage:
  - Other characteristics:

## Annex B: Detailed gender responsive indicator assessment done during the validation workshop

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
1	1.1.1	Employed population below international poverty line, by sex and age (%)	Not available	Yes	MoL	Yes
1	1.1.1	(supplementary) Population living below the international poverty line by sex and age (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	No
1	1.2.1	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (%)	Not available	Yes	NBS, IPC	
1	1.2.2	Proportion of population living in multidimensional poverty (%)	Not available	Yes	NBS, IPC	Yes
1	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population with severe disabilities receiving disability cash benefit, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	MoL, INGO(World Vision)	
1	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of mothers with newborns receiving maternity cash benefit (%)	Not available	Yes	MoH, UNICEF	Yes
1	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	National Pension of Funds	Yes
1	1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of unemployed persons receiving unemployment cash benefit, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	None	No
1	1.4.2	Proportion of people with legally recognized documentation of their rights to land out of total adult population, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	MoJ, MoLand	
1	1.4.2	Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to land out of total adult population, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	None	
1	1.b.1	Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	Not available	Yes	MoF	
2	2.1.2	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)	Not available	Yes	MoA, FAO, FSLC	Yes

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
2	2.3.2	The income of small-scale food producers, disaggregated by sex and indigenous status.	Not available	Yes	MoA, FAO, FSLC	Yes
3	3.1.1	Maternal mortality ratio	Low achiever	Yes	MoH, MoGCSW	
3	3.1.2	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH, WHO	Yes
3	3.2.1	Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH WHO	Yes
3	3.2.1	Under-five mortality rate, by sex (deaths per 1,000 live births)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex and age (per 1,000 uninfected population)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (probability)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.4.2	Suicide mortality rate, by sex (deaths per 100,000 population)	High achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.5.1	Alcohol use disorders, 12-month prevalence (%)	Not available	Yes	None	
3	3.7.1	Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (% of women aged 15-49 years)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.7.2	Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years)	Low achiever	Yes	MoH	
3	3.8.1	Universal health coverage (UHC) service coverage index	Not available	Yes	None	
3	3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisonings, by sex (deaths per 100,000 population)	Low achiever	Yes	None	
3	3.a.1	Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	None	
3	3.c.1	Health worker distribution, by sex and type of occupation (%)	Not available	Yes	WHO mapping	



Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
3	3.c.1	Health worker distribution, by sex and type of occupation (%)	Not available	Yes	WHO mapping	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
4	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
4	4.1.2	Completion rate, by sex, location, wealth quintile and education level (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
4	4.2.1	Proportion of children aged 36–59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical development, social-emotional development, and learning (% of children aged 36-59 months)	Not available	Yes	MoH, MoGCSW	Yes

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
4	4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
4	4.3.1	Participation rate in formal and non-formal education and training, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	None	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	
4	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by sex and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoY, MICT	

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
4	4.6.1	Proportion of population achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional skills, by sex, age and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoH, MoGEI	
4	4.6.1	Proportion of population achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional skills, by sex, age and type of skill (%)	Not available	Yes	MoH, MoGEI	
4	4.7.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNESCO	
4	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, MoGCSW, WASH Cluster	
4	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, MoGCSW, WASH Cluster	
4	4.a.1	Schools with access to access to single-sex basic sanitation, by education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, MoGCSW, WASH Cluster	
4	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNICEF, UNESCO	
4	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNICEF, UNESCO	

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
4	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNICEF, UNESCO	
4	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNICEF, UNESCO	
4	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country, by sex and education level (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGEI, UNICEF, UNESCO	
5	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 3: employment and economic benefits	Not available	Yes	MoL, MoJ	No
5	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 1: overarching legal frameworks and public life	Not available	Yes	MoL, MoJ	
5	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 4: marriage and family	Not available	Yes	MoGCSW	No
5	5.1.1	Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (percentage of achievement, 0 - 100) -- Area 2: violence against women	Not available	Yes	MoGCSW	

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
5	5.2.1	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age (%)	Not available	Yes	MoInterior, MoH	
5	5.2.2	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b) curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment	Not available	Yes	MoE, UNICEF	
5	5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
5	5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%)	Low achiever	Yes	NBS	
5	5.3.2	Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age (%)	Not available	Yes	NBS,	yes
5	5.4.1	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic chores and care work, by sex, age and location (%)	Not available	Yes	No data	No
5	5.5.1	Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government (%)	Not available	Yes	Local Gov.	
5	5.5.1	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (% of total number of seats)	High achiever	Yes	Local Gov.	
5	5.5.2	Proportion of women in managerial positions (%)	Not available	Yes	MoL, MoPublic service	
5	5.5.2	Proportion of women in senior and middle management positions (%)	Not available	Yes	MoPublic service	
5	5.6.1	Proportion of women who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care (% of women aged 15-49 years)	Not available	Yes	MoH, WHO	

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
5	5.6.2	Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education (%)	Low achiever			
5	5.6.2	(S.1) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 1: Maternity Care (%)	Low achiever			
5	5.6.2	(S.2) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 2: Contraceptive and Family Planning (%)	Low achiever			
5	5.6.2	(S.3) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 3: Sexuality Education (%)	Medium achiever			
5	5.6.2	(S.4) Extent to which countries have laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education: Section 4: HIV and HPV (%)	Low achiever			
5	5.a.1	Share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure (%)	Not available	Yes	MoHousing	

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
5	5.a.1	Proportion of people with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land (out of total agricultural population), by sex (%)	Not available	No		
5	5.a.2	Degree to which the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (1=No evidence to 6=Highest levels of guarantees)	Not available	No		
5	5.b.1	Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	MoTelcom	
5	5.c.1	Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment (%)	Not available	Yes	MoGCSW	
8	8.10.2	Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a financial institution or mobile-money-service provider, by sex (% of adults aged 15 years and older)	Low achiever			
8	8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment, by sector and sex (ILO harmonized estimates) (%)	Not available	Yes	MoL	
8	8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of employees by sex and occupation (local currency)	Not available	No		
8	8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex and age (%)	Low achiever			
8	8.6.1	Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training, by sex and age (%)	Not available	No		
8	8.7.1	Proportion of children engaged in economic activity, by sex and age (%)	Not available	Yes	NBS	Yes
8	8.7.1	Proportion of children engaged in economic activity and household chores, by sex and age (%)	Not available	Yes	NBS	Yes
8	8.8.1	Fatal occupational injuries among employees, by sex and migrant status (per 100,000 employees)	Not available	No		

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
8	8.8.1	Non-fatal occupational injuries among employees, by sex and migrant status (per 100,000 employees)	Not available	No		
8	8.8.2	Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	Not available	No		
9	9.5.2	Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants, by sex	Not available	No		
10	10.2.1	Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available	Yes	NBS, GDP	
10	10.3.1	Proportion of population reporting having felt discriminated against, by grounds of discrimination, sex and disability (%)	Not available	No		
11	11.1.1	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing, by sex	Not available	Yes	No data	No
11	11.2.1	Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available	No		
11	11.7.1	Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Not available	No		
11	11.7.2	Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	Not available	Yes	Mol	



Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
13	13.b.1	Number of least developed countries and small island developing States that are receiving specialized support, and amount of support, including finance, technology and capacity-building, for mechanisms for raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities	Not available	Yes	MoEnvironment	
16	16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex (victims per 100,000 population)	Not available	Yes	MoH, Mol	
16	16.1.2	Conflict-related death rate (civilians), by sex, age and cause of death (%)	Not available	Yes	Human Rights Commission, UNMISS/Human Rights Devision	No
16	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to physical violence in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	MoH, WHO, MoGCSW, MoJ, Protection Cluster	
16	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to robbery in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	No data	No
16	16.1.3	Proportion of population subjected to sexual violence in the previous 12 months, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	Human Rights Commission, UNMISS/Human Rights Devision	
16	16.1.4	Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (%)	Not available	No	No data	No
16	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for forced labour, servitude and slavery, by age and sex (number)	Not available	Yes	Mol	Yes
16	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for removal of organ, by age and sex (number)	Not available	Yes	Mol	
16	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for other purposes, by age and sex (number)	Not available	Yes	Mol	
16	16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitaton, by age and sex (number)	Not available	Yes		

Goal	Indicator number	Gender responsive indicator	UN Women Assessment	Assessment of the validation workshop participants		
				Relevant to Sudan	Existing potential data sources	New data collection planned
16	16.2.3	Proportion of population aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by ageÂ 18, by sex (% of population aged 18-29)	Not available	Yes	MoH, WHO	
16	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for physical assault, by sex (%)	Not available	Yes	Mol	
16	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for robbery, by sex (%)	Not available	yes	Mol	
16	16.3.1	Police reporting rate for sexual assault, by sex (%)	Not available	yes	Mol	
16	16.5.1	Prevalence rate of bribery, by sex (%)	Not available	yes	No data	No
16	16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (Ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national populationÂ with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), Lower Chamber or Unicameral	High achiever			
16	16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (Ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national populationÂ with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), Upper Chamber	Low achiever			
16	16.7.2	Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	Not available	Yes	NBS	Yes
17	17.18.1	Statistical capacity indicator for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring	Not available	Yes	NBS	





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