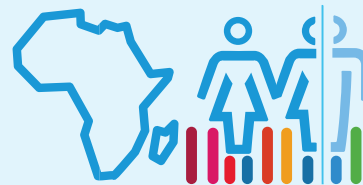




Learn from Uganda

Use of Administrative Data in Gender Statistics in Uganda



Developments and Key Success Factors

Background

Uganda adopted the UN Resolution on the need to advance the generation and use of complementary data, including administrative data, to inform policymaking and programming on Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) on gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE).

Administrative data is data that governments and service providers routinely collect as part of their daily operations. It includes information such as birth, employment, and health records and is an increasingly important source of official statistics. In the data revolution era, administrative data provides opportunities for timely analysis and public policy development, savings on data collection, and increased efficiency and scope using data that is already available through a variety of public and even private sector processes.

In the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda principle of "Leave No One Behind", strengthening the capacity of national statistical systems (NSSs) to leverage the use of administrative data for statistical purposes is important in bridging data gaps, providing a more comprehensive picture for informed policy and decision-making, and monitoring progress and implementation of Agenda 2030.

Status

Uganda has demonstrated thought leadership in the use of administrative data for statistical purposes in its efforts to meet national priorities and address gaps to achieve the Third National Development Plan (NDPIII) and SDG targets including on GEWE. The country has done so most notably in the use of administrative data to address violence against women and girls. Through comprehensive reporting and evidence-based policy and decision-making, data compiled by the justice, law, and order sector (JLOS), private sector, and ministries, departments, and agencies is increasingly making a difference in the lives of women and girls.

Why administrative data?

In most countries and sectors, administrative data is currently largely collected for operational rather than statistical use. With the high cost and time-consuming processes of surveys and censuses and the growing demand for data, administrative data will increasingly play a valuable role in providing timely, cost-effective and reliable data for statistical purposes.

While invaluable in robust national statistical systems (NSSs), administrative data is not the silver bullet to countries' data challenges and should be complemented with survey data wherever possible for a more comprehensive understanding of issues at hand.

Key actors

- Uganda Bureau of Statistics
- Justice, Law, and Order Sector
- Private sector players
- Uganda Police Force (UPF)
- Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
- UN Women

Achievements

Uganda has realized several achievements in improving administrative data collected from the JLOS and other sectors and increasing use of the data with the result of increased demand for more timely, high quality, and disaggregated data. The achievements include:

1. **Identification of available administrative data to be used for statistical purposes.** Close collaboration and improved linkages among stakeholders has been instrumental in identifying



this data. While each sector generates its own administrative data, in most cases, there are weak or no linkages between the data produced by sectors.

- 2. Strategic partnerships and linkages between key sector stakeholders including private sector players such as hospitals have played an important role in identifying and using available administrative data to tackle GBV.** Through close collaboration among stakeholders, Uganda through the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), has forged much-needed linkages among stakeholders for a more comprehensive picture of the prevalence of GBV in the country. For instance, UBOS extracts data from the national GBV report and utilizes data on GBV from the Ministry of Health (MoH), thus enriching the annual statistical abstract with a more complete picture of the prevalence of GBV in the country.
- 3. Increased capacity of NSS actors, notably the Uganda Police Force (UPF), the Judiciary, and MDAs, to produce administrative data for use in official statistics.** UBOS has played a central role in strengthening NSS actors in the production and use of administrative data on GBV with the result that demand from some actors on aspects of gender statistics has grown rapidly. For instance, the Judiciary has taken a keen interest in communicating gender statistics better, specifically through data visualization. For the Police, data for crime reporting is now being recategorized into GBV and non-GBV crimes, with the former now published in regular UBOS reports under gender statistics.
- 5. Development of tools and platforms to boost access to and use of administrative data.** This includes the development of a statistics manual by the UPF following the collaboration and the [Uganda spatial data portal](#) to bring together all administrative data on GBV. The portal includes sections on household and facility listing as well as structure and facility listing. The manual will guide the development of statistics in the UPF and help data extractors to examine and recategorize crimes on gender e.g., rape versus defilement based on the international classification on crime for statistical purposes (ICCS) by the United

Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). UNODC laid the foundation for most of this initiative and carried out an assessment of the availability of data on the SDG indicators and how the JLOS activity was initiated. Most of the recommendations have been implemented and successes that were reported were initiated in 2018. The Uganda Prisons Service has also automated its systems to collect information from all the prisons countrywide up from a previously purely manual paper-based system.

- 6. High demand for more capacity building in gender statistics and administrative data demonstrating that a strong case has been made for administrative data** for use in gender statistics as presented by UBOS. The trainings have elicited significant demand for similar capacity building from actors such as the Judiciary. This is a good indicator that NSS actors are finding the subject and information relevant and useful in their various roles as producers and users of administrative data.

Challenges, lessons, and recommendations

Ongoing measures to improve the quality of administrative data for statistical purposes, in this case gender data and statistics to address GBV, are creating a much-needed opportunity to spotlight the importance of gender statistics for GEWE.

Despite increasing emphasis on strengthening administrative data for the development of gender statistics in Uganda, promoting and supporting the uptake and use of this data has not been without its challenges.

1. There is still **room to improve the quality of administrative data produced and further strengthen experience and knowledge-sharing on production and packaging of administrative data for statistical purposes**, perhaps through a community of practice. This will be instrumental in increasing awareness in developments and direction in the use of administrative data for gender statistics and in systematizing collaboration. It will also be valuable in making inroads in the issue of weak coordination mechanisms between various sectors of the economy and within the NSS.



- 2. Continue strengthening monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of data at UBOS.** The importance of gender statistics in UBOS and externally has grown as evidenced by the increased number of funded positions filled with experts in this field at the Bureau. The completion of training on gender statistics and administrative data was a significant milestone as it created demand from MDAs and local governments (LGs) to receive support on data quality as well as the analysis and use of their data to inform decision-making. Currently, the collection of gender statistics is closely monitored in terms of best practices and challenges to make recommendations for better production. UN Women support has been instrumental in improving national mid-term and quarterly reporting to reflect and improve performance and inform future programming in gender statistics and statistics at large for continuity.
- 3. There is an opportunity to increase capacity to produce infographics and visualize data for accessibility.** User-friendly packaging of gender data and statistics will require enhanced graphic design and social media management capacity as the communications unit continues to showcase emerging data for various target audiences.

The community of practice may provide valuable opportunities to build this capacity. There is also need to boost the national statistics office (NSO) capacity to develop diverse multimedia products for publicity.

- 4. Increased engagement of the NSO with key MDAs is instrumental in strengthening linkages** and setting up initiatives to get different databases and data sets to speak to each other.

Next steps and prospects

- 1. Roll out capacity building on gender statistics and administrative data to other institutions** including the National Identification Registration Authority (NIRA) and the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB), both of which have shown interest in developing their administrative data systems.
- 2. Increase strategic communications capacity and support** to UBOS to increase access to gender statistics, including administrative data, for increased uptake, and use in advocacy, policy and decision-making.



UN Women Uganda

Lugogo Lane
Plot 2 Naguru
Kampala, Uganda
 [@unwomenuganda](https://twitter.com/unwomenuganda)

UN Women East and Southern Africa Regional Office

UN Gigiri Complex, UN Avenue;
Block M, Ground Floor
P.O. Box 30218- 00100 Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 20 762 4778

africa.unwomen.org

Email: esaro.publications@unwomen.org

[unwomenafrica](https://www.facebook.com/unwomenafrica)

[unwomenafrica](https://twitter.com/unwomenafrica)

[unwomen](https://www.youtube.com/unwomen)

[unwomenafrica](https://www.instagram.com/unwomenafrica)