

PROGRAMME BRIEF

2ND ISSUE, MARCH 2024

Welcome to the second issue of the biannual brief of the UN Women regional flagship programme “[Making Every Woman and Girl Count](#)” (Women Count) on improving gender data production and use in Europe and Central Asia.



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OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2024

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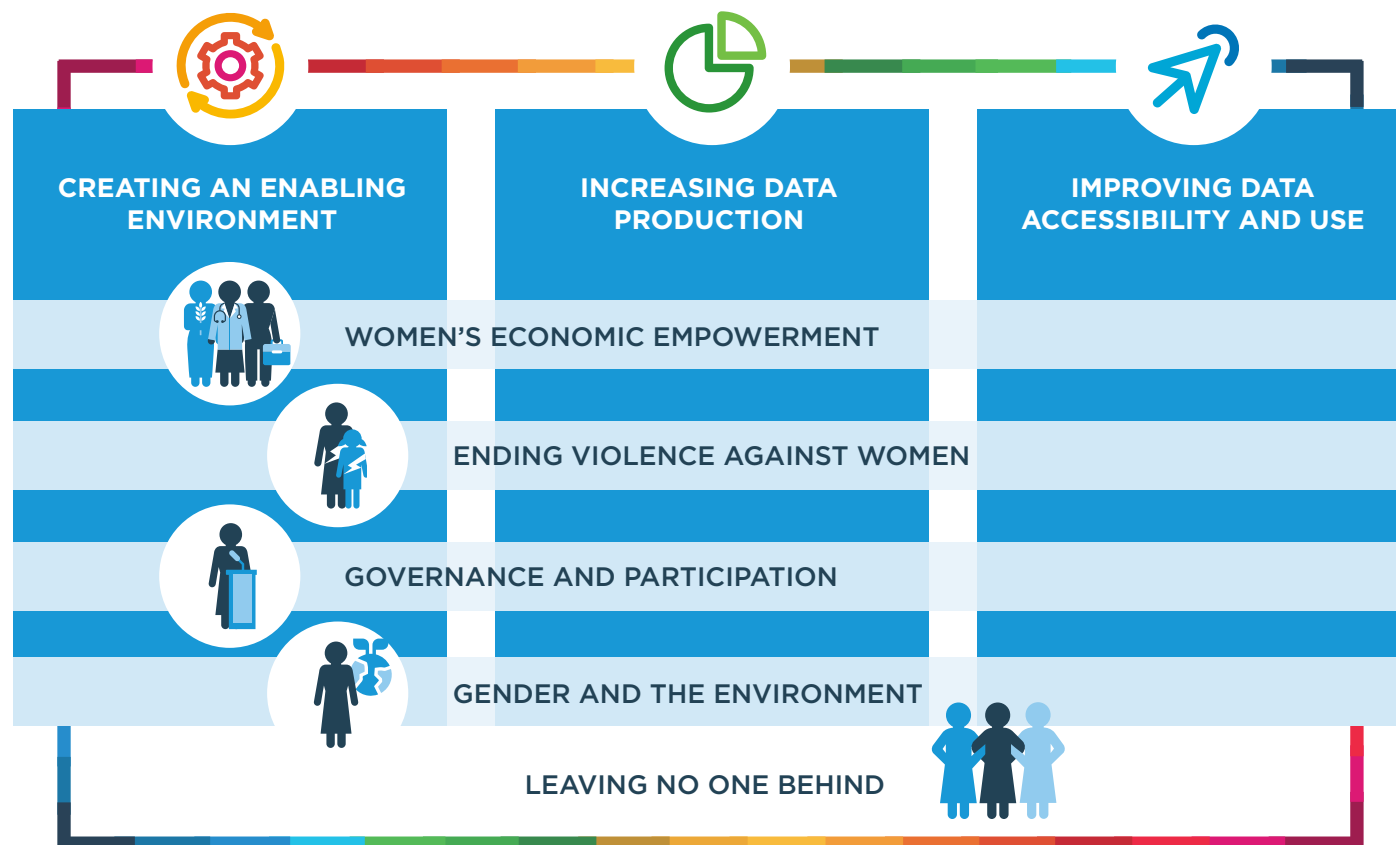
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IN BRIEF

Making Every Woman and Girl Count in Europe and Central Asia (Women Count)

UN Women supports countries to create a radical shift in how gender statistics are used, produced and promoted to inform policy and advocacy on gender equality. In Europe and Central Asia, Women Count will take action under three key areas:



OVERVIEW



WHERE WE WORK:

Europe and Central Asia



DURATION (PHASE II):

January 2022–December 2025



BUDGET:

USD 4.1 million (with USD 2.1 million to be mobilized)

See [global programme brief](#)

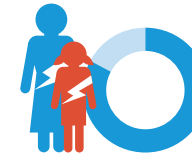
WHERE DO WE STAND ON GENDER DATA TO TRACK PROGRESS ON SDG 5?



More gender data to track SDG 5 are available in the Europe and Central Asia region since 2015, up from 18 to 59%, with greater progress across Eastern Partnership countries, the Western Balkans and Türkiye. Of the 18 countries in the region, 15 have at least half of SDG 5 gender data available.



Only **39%** of data required to measure women's unpaid care work (SDG indicator 5.4.1) are currently available.

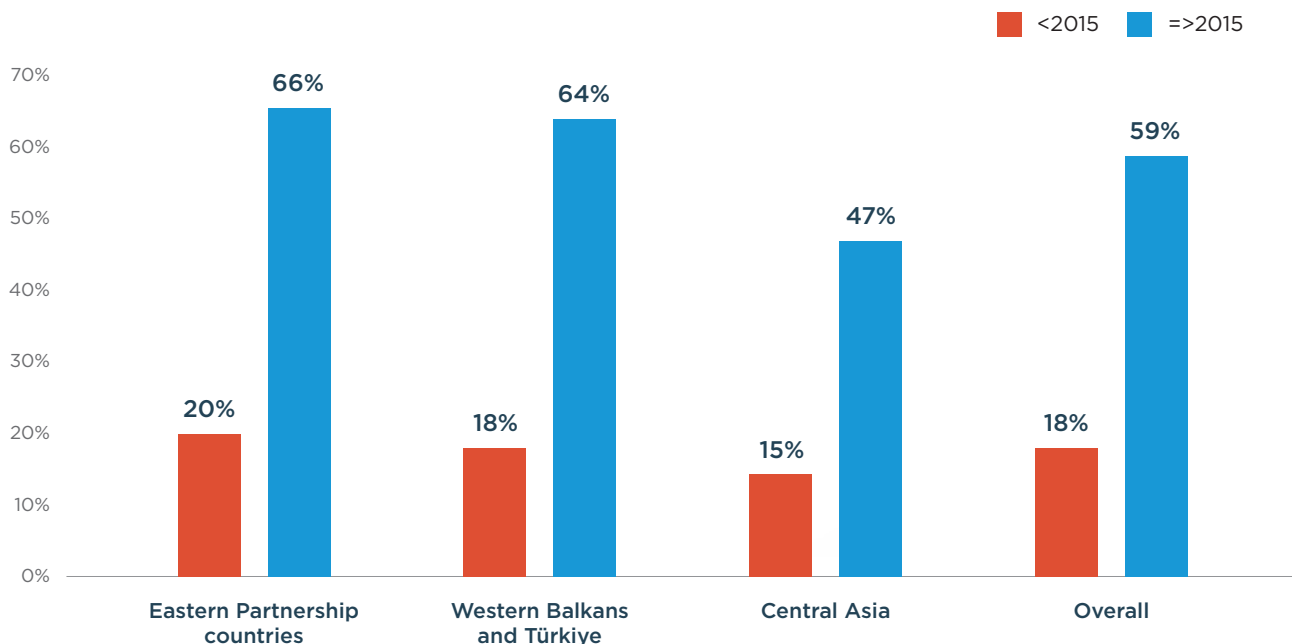


Conversely, **83%** of the data needed to measure violence against women (VAW) by an intimate partner (SDG indicator 5.2.1) are now available, although the regularity of data collection remains an issue.

So far, Albania, Georgia and Kazakhstan are the only countries in the region that have completed two rounds of VAW prevalence surveys since 2015.

Since 2018, Women Count has been supporting national statistical offices in the Europe and Central Asia region to **design and conduct six gender-related surveys** to increase gender data availability for monitoring progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.

DATA AVAILABILITY OF SDG 5 INDICATORS, BY SUBREGIONS, AS OF DECEMBER 2023



Source: UN Women gender data assessment report to be published in April 2024.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS: A 2023 SNAPSHOT



9 countries supported to improve gender statistics:

Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo*, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia and Uzbekistan.

* All references to Kosovo should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).



3 countries supported to assess gender data gaps

and mainstream gender data priorities into national action plans and strategies: Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.



3 inter-agency task forces

created to foster and institutionalize dialogues among users and producers of gender statistics in Albania and Kyrgyzstan.



3 surveys supported

to fill critical gender data gaps, including two on violence against women and one on time use.



1 database on case management

is strengthened to generate analytical reports on key gender indicators related to domestic violence.



10 knowledge products

created to build a strong knowledge base on using gender data to monitor progress on achieving SDGs.



Over 140,000 people

reached through gender data communications.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS: SECOND HALF OF 2023



Creating an enabling environment:

The production and use of gender statistics is now more efficient and participatory across countries.



3 countries supported

to assess gender data gaps and mainstream gender data priorities into national action plans and strategies: Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.



3 inter-agency task forces

created to foster and institutionalize dialogues among users and producers of gender statistics in Albania and Kyrgyzstan.

Fostering gender-responsive data ecosystems

A gender-responsive data ecosystem enables evidence-based policymaking, ensuring that decisions are grounded in a nuanced understanding of gender disparities and facilitating targeted interventions for advancing gender equality and sustainable development.

KYRGYZSTAN KICKSTARTS ITS FIRST-EVER COUNTRY GENDER EQUALITY PROFILE

On 20 December, an Inter-Ministerial Task Force composed of representatives of 18 government institutions, five civil society organizations and three UN agencies held their first session to discuss priorities for the Country Gender Equality Profile in **Kyrgyzstan**. Supported by UN Women and the European Delegation to Kyrgyzstan, the research aims to provide key stakeholders with essential data and evidence on the status of gender equality and women's empowerment across the country. It will cover critical areas, such as: the economic and social

rights of women and their economic empowerment; governance and the political and civic participation and leadership of women; gender and digitalization; climate change; women, peace and security; gender-based violence; and women's sexual and reproductive health and rights. Furthermore, the national gender machinery has strategically seized this opportunity to collect data for the forthcoming Beijing +30 national review.

The report, to be available in May 2024, will be the first of its kind published in Russian, enhancing its impact and accessibility in the region. [Learn more >>](#)



“The Country Gender Equality Profile will help accelerate the implementation of the National Strategy for Gender Equality until 2030, improve monitoring and evaluation of gender

equality policies at the national level, and develop specific recommendations for the advancement of gender equality.”



Gulmira Okoeva,
Head of the Gender Policy Unit at the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Migration of the Kyrgyz Republic

Photo: UN Women/Bektur Zhanibekov.

GEORGIA MAINSTREAMS GENDER STATISTICS IN ITS NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

UN Women has been actively working with the National Statistical Office of **Georgia** (GEOSTAT) to mainstream gender statistics into the next cycle of its National Strategy for the Development of Statistics for 2024–2027 (NSDS). During the consultation phase, UN Women played a key role in mainstreaming gender by embedding concrete activities into the Action Plan for NSDS implementation for 2024–2025. At the [NSDS workshop](#) on 28–29 November 2023, UN Women shared international and regional recommendations on gender statistics and highlighted best practices on integrating gender considerations into statistical business processes. The next round of consultations is scheduled for the first quarter of 2024.

UZBEKISTAN LEADS ITS FIRST-EVER GENDER ASSESSMENT OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

The Statistics Agency under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with support from UN Women, has embarked on the first-ever gender assessment of its national statistical system (NSS) to identify existing gender data gaps, suggest ways to close these gaps and build a more gender-responsive data ecosystem in **Uzbekistan**. Based on the findings of the assessment, to be released in the second quarter of 2024, the Statistics Agency will develop and officially endorse a medium-term action plan to improve gender statistics and spur collaboration to advance data production and uptake.

The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic and UN Women are signing a memorandum of understanding. Photo: National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic.

GENDER DATA USER-PRODUCER DIALOGUES GAIN GROUND IN ALBANIA AND KYRGYZSTAN

UN Women jointly with the national statistical offices and gender machineries in **Albania** and **Kyrgyzstan** has established three inter-agency task forces to institutionalize dialogues between data users and producers. In Kyrgyzstan, the Ministry of Labour, Social Development and Migration formed a National Reference Group responsible for coordinating the Country Gender Equality Profile. This mechanism reports to the National Gender Council, the highest authority within the country's gender machinery chaired by the Vice Prime Minister on Social Issues. Also in Kyrgyzstan, the National Statistical Committee reactivated the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Gender Statistics, initially formed in 2020, and directed it to study existing national data-collection processes to identify gaps and provide recommendations for a strategy to increase gender data availability. Meanwhile, efforts are underway to institutionalize the structure and composition of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Gender Statistics in Albania, to be co-led by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and INSTAT.

KYRGYZSTAN CEMENTS PARTNERSHIPS TO IMPROVE GENDER STATISTICS

On 1 December 2023, the National Statistical Committee and UN Women signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at strengthening the production, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics in **Kyrgyzstan** until 2028. The agreement will contribute to the effective monitoring of the implementation of the National Gender Equality Strategy until 2030 and of international commitments, including the SDGs. The parties mutually commit to: jointly develop a National Roadmap on Gender Statistics and a Gender Equality Indicator Framework; conduct surveys on violence against women and time use; test new data-collection methods; and produce joint knowledge products to advance gender data use. This collaboration marks a crucial step in integrating a gender perspective into Kyrgyzstan's statistical system. [Learn more >>](#)





Increasing data production:

More and better gender data are now available to monitor the SDGs.



3 surveys supported

to fill critical gender data gaps, including two on violence against women and one on time use.



1 case-management system database

strengthened to generate analytical reports on key gender indicators related to domestic violence.

Closing data gaps to end violence against women and girls

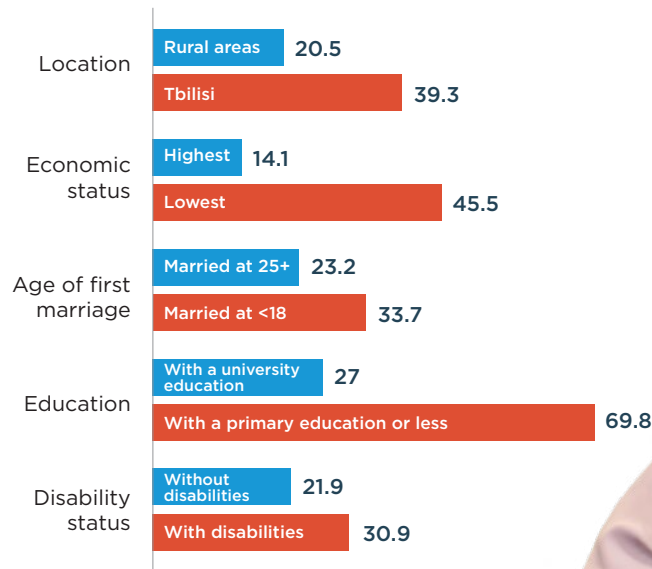
Supporting countries to generate data on violence against women, including dedicated prevalence surveys and a case-management systems database, helps design and inform evidence-based prevention policies and programmes, strengthen the delivery of essential services to survivors and monitor progress towards ending violence against women.

GEORGIA RELEASES FINDINGS FROM ITS SECOND VAW PREVALENCE SURVEY

UN Women teamed up with GEOSTAT to conduct a [second nationwide study on violence against women in Georgia](#) in 2022. Building on the [initial study in 2017](#), the 2022 VAW survey significantly expanded its scope to include additional forms of intimate partner violence, non-partner violence, sexual harassment, stalking, as well as attitudes and social norms related to violence against women. A total of 3,300 women and 1,104 men were interviewed across Georgia.

The results show that half (50.1%) of women aged 15–69 in Georgia have experienced at least one form of violence in their lifetime. In particular, intimate partner violence affects 22.9% of women who were ever in a relationship, while 24.5% of women have been sexually harassed, often by people they know. Georgia’s two rounds of VAW prevalence studies contribute valuable data for identifying trends and

Intimate partner violence against ever-partnered women rate by location, age of marriage, economic status and disability status (percentage)



“The fact that more than 38% of women who have experienced violence have not uttered a word about it to anyone is shattering. To effectively combat violence against women, we have to persistently emphasize the fact that such violence is caused by gender inequality and this vicious cycle needs to be broken.”

Tamar Sabedashvili,
UN Women Georgia
Deputy Country
Representative

Photo: UN Women.



measuring violence prevention and response efforts. These findings will inform evidence-based decisions in line with the SDG target 5.2 and respond to the data-collection obligation stated in Article 11 of the Istanbul Convention. [Read our story and learn more>>](#)

Watch our videos:



[Violence against women](#)



[Intimate partner violence](#)



[Sexual harassment](#)



[Social norms](#)

KAZAKHSTAN BOLSTERS DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS FOR VAW DATA

The National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan strengthened its capacities to analyse and interpret VAW prevalence data using SPSS software, through a five-day hands-on training held by UN Women from 27 November–1 December 2023 in Astana, **Kazakhstan**. The inclusion of women’s NGOs in the training enhanced the contextual understanding and usability of the data. Organized in the lead-up to the launch of the country’s second VAW survey report in the second quarter of 2024, this training is an essential step in fulfilling the State’s obligation to generate quality gender data to track progress towards SDG target 5.2 and to uphold the country’s commitments within the [GBV Action Coalition](#).

KOSOVO RELEASES ITS FIRST GENDER-SPECIFIC INDICATORS ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

With support from UN Women, the Ministry of Justice in Kosovo enhanced its Domestic Violence Case Management System by enabling data analysis and reporting functionalities, resulting in [generation and publication for the first time of key gender-spe-](#)

[cific indicators](#) such as number of reported cases, socio-demographic characteristics of survivor, and survivor-perpetrator relationship among others. Initially set up in 2020, the database aggregates information from key service-providers, such as law enforcement,

the judiciary, legal professionals, social workers and shelters. The system aims to improve support and protection services for survivors of domestic violence by enhancing collaboration, efficiency and data-driven decision-making among various stakeholders.

Unveiling gender inequalities in unpaid care and domestic work

Supporting countries to conduct time-use surveys to ensure that women’s unpaid care and domestic work is measured, recognized, reduced and redistributed through effective policy responses and broader investments in the care economy.

MAKING WOMEN’S CARE AND DOMESTIC WORK VISIBLE IN ARMENIA

The Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia (ArmStat) and UN Women have joined forces to design and implement a nationwide full-scale time-use survey in **Armenia**. This important initiative was launched with the official signing of the partnership agreement on 10 July 2023. Data collection started on 23 October and will be completed in May 2024. As part of this collaboration, UN Women strengthened the capacities of 47 interviewers on time-use survey methodology and data-collection tools. In addition, 17 supervisors and coders received an extensive workshop on the fundamental rules of the international classification of TUS (ICATUS-2016) and follow-up mentorship sessions on treating special cases and considering the national context. The results of the survey will be launched in the fourth quarter of 2024.

The survey results will be used to inform policy response and to stimulate broader investments in the care economy. [Learn more >>](#)



“Working on the Time-Use Survey has primarily impacted me as an individual, as I began to value my time. Collaborating with international partners on conducting the survey helped us learn from their unique perspectives and methodologies as well as apply innovative approaches to statistical problem-solving.”

Armine Aghazaryan,
Time-Use Survey
Manager, Armenia

Photo: UN Women/Ani Hovhannisyan.



Improving data accessibility and use:

Gender data are now more accessible and used to inform policies, programmes and advocacy.



gender data products

produced by media, academia, youth and civil society representatives to advocate for gender equality.

Enhancing data accessibility and uptake for strategic advocacy

By enhancing gender data accessibility and literacy, gender advocates are better able to navigate complex data sets, distill meaningful insights and communicate compelling narratives that ultimately inform policymaking and drive meaningful change.

MEDIA FROM ACROSS CENTRAL ASIA GET CREATIVE AT THE TBILISI GENDER DATATHON

The ForSet NGO and UN Women collaborated to host a Gender Datathon on 9-11 November 2023, as part of the [Tbilisi DataFest 2023](#), the region's largest annual data conference. This initiative brought together media representatives from **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan** and **Uzbekistan** to harness the power of data for gender equality. Participants learned new skills in data literacy and created data-driven media

products, including infographics and human-interest stories. Through a competitive pitching exercise and subsequent in-depth review, two outstanding gender data products were identified unveiling inequalities in women's political participation in Kazakhstan and child marriage in Kyrgyzstan. With dedicated mentorship support from UN Women and ForSet, the winning products are undergoing refinement for subsequent publication and dissemination through renowned local and subregional media platforms.



“With the Gender Datathon, we aimed to raise awareness about gender inequalities in the region and empower a community of data storytellers. This collaborative approach was unique in facilitating the sharing of knowledge and building future ties between storytellers, data collectors and field experts in the region.”

Mariam Gamkharashvili,
Co-founder of ForSet
NGO, Georgia

Photo: UN Women/
Tayfun Dalkilic



MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE THROUGH GENDER DATA PRODUCTS IN NORTH MACEDONIA

From 24–29 September 2023, UN Women in collaboration with the School of Data NGO organized a [Gender Data Bootcamp](#) in Izmir, Türkiye, to improve the knowledge and skills of 50 representatives from civil society organizations, women’s organizations, State institutions, academia, youth and media from **North Macedonia**. Participants enhanced their understanding of the central role that gender data play in advancing gender equality and learned the key principles of data analysis, interpretation, visualization and communication.

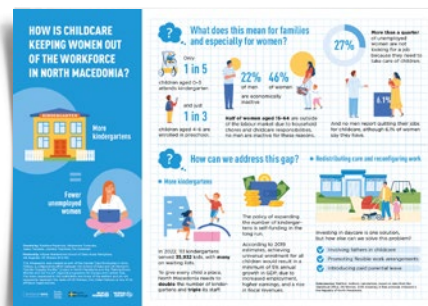
The Bootcamp also featured a “datathon” where participants worked in teams to craft compelling data-driven scripts and stories focused on gender equality and women’s rights. As a result, three winning products were identified, including two infographics and a series of animated videos focused on gender stereotypes in school education, women’s unpaid care work and participation in the workforce, access to justice for survivors of domestic violence in North Macedonia. [Learn more >>](#)

 [Watch the video >>](#)

North Macedonia gender data bootcamp. Photo: UN Women/Tayfun Daykiliç.

Making Every Woman and Girl Count

Infographic: “How is childcare keeping women out of workforce in North Macedonia”



Infographic: “Treading the elusive path to justice in North Macedonia”

A series of animated videos: “What do schools teach girls and boys in North Macedonia?”





Improving data accessibility and use

Over

39,000

people

reached through gender data communications.

Cultivating data-driven communication for change

Data-driven communication helps to challenge social norms, advocate for justice and drive systemic change that creates a future where gender equality is a reality for all.



SOCIAL MEDIA



MEDIA OUTREACH



39 K people reached

TOP-PERFORMING POSTS



49 media clippings



12 K total impressions



3,2 K total engagements

TRELLO BOARD

Explore our [Trello Board](#) with visualized data and assets on gender equality and women's empowerment in Europe and Central Asia.

* Social media metrics for the second half of 2023 based on the accounts of the UN Women regional and country offices.

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2024

Our foremost priority will be to support Member States in conducting comprehensive national-level reviews leading up to the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995), and the Mid-Point Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs.

More specifically, our planned activities include:



CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



Gender data assessments:

- The gender data assessment reports will be finalized in **Belarus** and **Uzbekistan**.



Gender mainstreaming into national strategies and plans:

- The national gender data road map and national priority gender equality indicators will be developed or revised in **Albania, Georgia** and **Kyrgyzstan**.

INCREASING DATA PRODUCTION



Gender-related household/population-based surveys:

- The design and implementation of full-scale VAW surveys will be supported in **Kyrgyzstan** and **Belarus**.
- To produce data on unpaid care and domestic work: a full-scale dedicated time-use survey will be finalized in **Armenia**, an ad hoc module will be launched in **Belarus**, and methodological work will begin in **Kyrgyzstan**.



Use of administrative data:

- The Structure of Earning Survey will be designed and piloted in **Georgia**.
- An analytical module for the Domestic Violence Case-Management System in **Kosovo** will be strengthened.
- A mapping and assessment of key sources of administrative data will be launched **Albania**.



Reprocessing of available data sources to generate new indicators and new levels of data disaggregation:

- Labour Force Surveys will be reprocessed in **Albania** and **Georgia**.
- The Population Census will be further analysed/reprocessed from a gender perspective in **Albania, Kyrgyzstan** and **North Macedonia**.



Non-conventional data-collection initiatives:

- Femicide research will be undertaken in **Kazakhstan, Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**.
- Research on victim-blaming attitudes will begin in **Kyrgyzstan**.
- Citizen-generated data will be piloted in **Georgia** and **Albania**.

IMPROVING DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND USE



Gender data portals and webpages:

- A Gender Data Portal will be launched in **Kyrgyzstan**.
- A Time-Use Data platform will be launched in **Georgia**.
- A dedicated regional Gender Data and Statistics webpage and dashboard will be integrated within UN Women's regional website.



Data and research knowledge products:

- Time Use Survey Report in **Armenia**.
- Research on costing IPV in **Georgia**.
- A Country Gender Equality Profile will be produced in **Kyrgyzstan**.
- Gender snapshots and country factsheets will be produced for **Albania, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan** and **Uzbekistan**.



Regional review on the state of gender data:

- Subregional gender snapshots will be produced for **Central Asia**, the **Western Balkans** and **Eastern Europe**.
- A report on valuing unpaid care work will be produced in **Georgia**.
- The second VAW survey report will be released in **Kazakhstan** and an issue brief will be produced in **Georgia**.



Gender data literacy initiatives:

- Data statistics courses will be developed in **Albania, Georgia** and **Kazakhstan**.
- The Gender Datathon will be repeated in **Albania**.
- Research grants will be awarded in **Georgia**.
- Gender Data Art Exhibition in **Central Asia**.

OUR PARTNERS

Driving success in gender data production and use in Europe and Central Asia

Women Count's collaborative partnerships across government institutions, civil society organizations, media and development partners are advancing the production, uptake and accessibility of gender statistics, and collectively driving progress towards achieving gender equality and the SDGs in the region.

Government institutions:



Institute of Statistics of the Republic of Albania



National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia



National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus



National Statistics Office of Georgia



Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan



Ministry of Justice in Kosovo



National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic



State Statistical Office of the Republic of North Macedonia



Statistics Agency under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

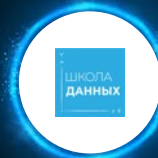
Civil society organizations:



Data against Feminicide



Forset NGO, Georgia



School of Data NGO, Kyrgyzstan



European Union



Spotlight Initiative



United Nations Development Programme



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



United Nations Population Fund

UN Women would particularly like to thank the Governments of Australia, France, Ireland, Italy and Sweden, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for their generous financial support to the [Global Women Count programme](#).

OUR TEAM

Get to know the dynamic and dedicated core team driving the success of the Women Count regional programme on improving gender data production and use in Europe and Central Asia. With a wealth of expertise, passion and commitment, our team members are at the forefront of shaping impactful strategies, fostering partnerships and championing gender equality through data-driven initiatives.



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