

**ADVOCATING
FOR A STRONGER
EVIDENCE BASE FOR
GENDER EQUALITY:**

AN ANALYSIS OF
GENDER DATA AND
KNOWLEDGE GAPS

WORKING PAPER
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LIST OF ACRONYMS

CSE	comprehensive sexuality education
CSO	civil society organization
DHS	Demographic and Health Surveys
FGM/C	female genital mutilation/cutting
GBV	gender-based violence
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
HPV	human papillomavirus
LGBTQIA+	lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, plus
MISP	Minimum Initial Services Packages
MNCH	maternal, newborn, and child health
NCD	noncommunicable disease
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SRH	sexual and reproductive health
SRHR	sexual and reproductive health and rights
STI	sexually transmitted infection
SOGIESC	sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics
TB	tuberculosis
UHC	universal health coverage
USD	United States Dollar
WASH	water, sanitation, and hygiene

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Adolescents: Individuals aged 10 to 19.

Gender Data: According to the United Nations Statistics Division, gender data is defined by the following characteristics: 1) Data collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification; 2) Data that reflect gender issues; 3) Data based on concepts and definitions that reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives; and 4) Data collection methods that take into account stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.¹ In this working paper, gender data is also used to signify the need to collect data based on all gender identities.

Gender Data Gaps: The term refers to unknown information related to gender. For the purposes of this working paper, gender data gaps are divided into data (quantitative) gaps and knowledge (qualitative) gaps.

Gender Lens: A gender lens highlights the specific risks and challenges girls and women face because of deep-rooted inequalities and traditional gender roles. Using a gender lens can uncover new facts and perspectives that create stronger, more effective policies and programs.

Equity Stratifiers: Equity stratifiers are dimensions such as economic status, education, place of residence, and sex that facilitate the disaggregation of information allowing for the situation of inequality to be fully captured. The acronym PROGRESS summarizes the most frequently assessed equity stratifiers: Place of residence (rural, urban, etc.); Race or ethnicity; Occupation; Gender; Religion; Education; Socioeconomic status; Social capital or resources.

Humanitarian Settings: A humanitarian setting is one in which an event or series of events has resulted in a critical threat to the health, safety, security, or well-being of a community or other large group of people. The coping capacity of the affected community is overwhelmed, in-country infrastructure is disrupted, and external assistance is required. This can be the result of events such as armed conflicts, natural disasters, epidemics, or famine and often involves population displacement.

Multiple Disaggregations of Data: Data that is collected and presented in multiple dimensions to capture the diversity and varied aspects of people's lives, including age, gender, ethnicity, migration status, and other equity stratifiers. For example, gender disaggregated data is data collected and presented separately based on people's self-expressed and defined gender identity, which may not match the sex assigned at birth.

Sex-disaggregated Data: Data that is collected and presented separately on women and men.

Young Adolescents: Individuals aged 10 to 14.

Youth: Individuals aged 15 to 24.

¹ United Nations Statistics Division, "What are Gender Statistics," last modified May 1, 2015, <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/GenderStatManual/What-are-gender-stats.ashx>.

INTRODUCTION

Progress for girls, women, and gender equality is dependent upon accurate data. Data fuel evidence-driven advocacy efforts, inform the development and implementation of policies and programs that address girls and women's needs, and hold governments accountable. However, there is a paucity of regularly collected, high-quality gender-disaggregated data, or data on issues that are relevant to girls and women, such as informal work, women in local government, and other social determinants of health and well-being. Gender data gaps persist due to a lack of prioritization, biases in data collection and reporting systems, lack of safety for girls and women to report their experiences, and limited translation of technical data into easily accessible materials, among others. In fact, less than 13 percent of countries have dedicated budgets for gender statistics, less than a quarter of gender-related Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators have reliable monitoring mechanisms, and more than 100 low- and middle-income countries lack adequate civil registration and vital statistics systems.^{2,3,4}

A number of civil society organizations (CSOs), international agencies, and public-private partnerships work towards the collection of gender data to track progress against the SDGs and related to COVID-19. In addition, these actors and initiatives make data accessible and actionable to drive gender equality advocacy efforts (see Box 1, Appendix A). However, further research and data collection efforts that capture intersectionality and build the evidence base around high-impact practices is needed. To this end, this working paper compiles a non-exclusive and non-exhaustive list of gender data and knowledge gaps across a breadth of issue areas.

This working paper aims to bring together findings on gender data gaps from various external organizations and internal analyses in one place. Advocates, academic and research organizations, CSOs, the private sector, donors, and governments can use these gaps to advocate for the collection, analysis, and use of gender data, form a gender-sensitive research agenda, fund efforts that fill these gaps, and commit to collect and analyze gender data.

BOX 1. KEY EFFORTS TO MAKE GIRLS AND WOMEN VISIBLE AND HEARD

- **DATA2X** – Documents key gender data gaps and the quality of evidence available, including lack of international standards, complexity, coverage, and granularity.
- **EVIDENCE AND DATA FOR GENDER EQUALITY (EDGE)** – Generates internationally comparable gender indicators on health, education, employment, entrepreneurship, and asset ownership.
- **EQUAL MEASURES 2030 (EM2030)** – Tracks progress on gender-related indicators via the SDG Gender Index and facilitates advocates' use of evidence to drive advocacy efforts.
- **INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR IMPACT EVALUATION (3ie)** – Maps evidence gaps based on study evaluations and systematic reviews regarding the effectiveness of various programs and policies.
- **OECD'S SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GENDER INDEX (SIGI)** – Provides comparable data measuring discrimination against women in social institutions across 180 countries, including data on discriminatory laws and policies.
- **UN WOMEN'S 'MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT' & 'WOMEN COUNT'** – Supports the production of gender statistics and improving access to data to inform policy and advocacy. In collaboration with the World Health Organization, UN Women is monitoring the the impact of COVID-19 and COVID-19 political and economic responses on girls and women.

² United Nations Economic and Social Council, *Gender Statistics: Report of the Secretary-General* (United Nations, 2012), <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statdoc/doc13/2013-10-genderstats-e.pdf>.

³ Ginette Azcona and Sara Duerto Valero, "Making Women and Girls Visible: Gender data gaps and why they matter" (New York: UN Women, 2018), <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/12/issue-brief-making-women-and-girls-visible>.

⁴ World Bank Group, *Strengthening CRVS and National ID* (Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2017). <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/306621510673094647/pdf/AUS16865-revised-public.pdf>.

GENDER DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP MAPPING

METHODOLOGY

IDENTIFICATION OF GAPS:

The working paper captures gender data gaps linked to emerging global challenges, in addition to areas where, even if data exists, more evidence to inform gender equality advocacy efforts would be beneficial. This working paper does not specifically focus on the availability of data related to SDG indicators in order to avoid duplication of other existing efforts.

A review of the [Deliver for Good Campaign's](#) policy briefs was performed to identify areas where more evidence is needed to build the case for gender equality.⁵ The briefs distill a wide range of key evidence to provide a snapshot of the current status of gender equality, priorities in the field, examples of policy and programmatic solutions, and actionable asks for a number of key stakeholders.

Gaps were also identified through a desk review of existing research on gender data gaps, and when organizations made specific calls for further research and evidence related to an aspect of gender equality. A list of organizations whose materials were reviewed in the compilation of this list can be found in Appendix B.

Once gaps were identified, a review of the most recent key published reports and journal publications was carried out to confirm that the gaps fell into one or more of these categories:

- Data on the issue has not been collected or is dated (before 2015);
- Data available are neither generalizable nor representative (i.e., data is only available for a few countries or findings are based on small-scale studies and case studies);
- There is insufficient evidence to label a practice as “high-impact”(i.e., effectiveness disputed); or
- There is a need for further evidence in the given area to build the case for gender equality.

CATEGORIZATION OF GAPS:

For this working paper:

Data Gaps refer to the lack of quantitative statistics or the lack of systematically collected data that are representative and generalizable to the population in question.

FOR EXAMPLE: What is the prevalence of different types of gender-based violence?

MOST RELEVANT FOR: Governments and international development organizations, as efforts to collect large-scale gender data may require the development of effective data collection and analysis systems.

Knowledge Gaps refer to lack of qualitative data and theoretical information on the intersections and impact of different factors on girls and women.

FOR EXAMPLE: What is the impact of climate change on girls’ and women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights?

MOST RELEVANT FOR: CSOs, research organizations, and academic organizations, as these efforts require nuanced research studies to uncover links and relationships between factors.

⁵ Deliver for Good is a global Campaign that mobilizes multisector stakeholders to change the narrative around girls and women and inspire increased investments and concrete action for gender equality within the Sustainable Development Agenda. The Deliver for Good policy briefs are developed by Women Deliver and the Deliver for Good Campaign's Advisory Group Partners, representing leading organizations across various issue areas.

MAPPING OF GAPS WITHIN THE WORKING PAPER:

Gender data and knowledge gaps are mapped across nine thematic areas: *maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH); sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR); comprehensive health services; gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices; education; economic rights and justice; political participation and decision-making power; access to resources and environmental conservation; and climate change.*

Within thematic areas, there are five key issues that various relevant global platforms and development organizations have identified as important (Appendix B). The issues identified are not ordered by priority.

Each gap was placed under an issue area, in an attempt to indicate how filling the gap can lead to progress within the given issue of a thematic area (Figure 1).

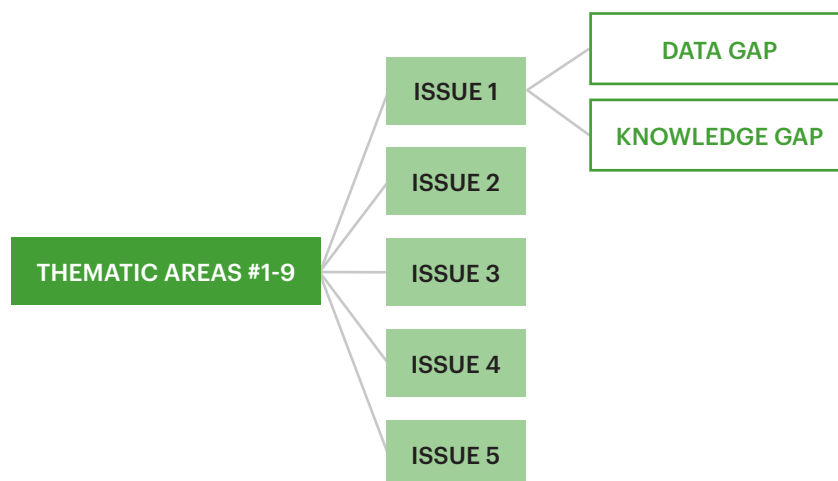
Filling a gap may not only advance efforts within one issue but help build the evidence base for gender equality across issues and thematic areas. Examples of gaps that lie at the intersection of thematic areas are highlighted in Table 1 (p.35). Gaps that were common across all thematic areas are showcased in Table 2 (p.36).

LIMITATIONS:

Generating a comprehensive list of gaps is an ongoing, iterative process, which cannot be captured in its entirety with one report. For this reason, we have presented our analysis as a working paper. Once the current list of gaps was compiled, Women Deliver validated some of the gaps through external consultations with key organizations working in the thematic areas (see Acknowledgements).

While not all sections of the working paper have been externally validated at this time, we look forward to continuing to engage with organizations to ensure the ongoing relevance and comprehensiveness of this document. It is possible that other organizations have also identified these same gaps but have not been included in our list due to capacity constraints to review all available published information. Similarly, the existing evidence available under each gap was not reviewed in depth at this stage. Therefore, we welcome feedback on new gaps, support for gaps, or evidence available that fills a gap here: [Google Form](#).

FIGURE 1. ORGANIZATION OF GAPS



DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP ANALYSIS BY THEMATIC AREA



1. MATERNAL, NEWBORN, AND CHILD HEALTH

ISSUE 1.

Increase access to quality MNCH services.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate the impact of technology, including related to health services and information, on maternal and newborn healthcare and outcomes.

Rationale: Build evidence for new technological treatments that can prevent maternal death and disability across different settings.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of engaging a pregnant person's partner in the person's pregnancy-related decision making, uptake of pre- and post-natal care, and maternal and child health outcomes.

Rationale: Case studies across countries exist related to male engagement; however, more studies that include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, plus (LGBTQIA+) people and generalizable findings are needed to help inform how to achieve better outcomes for pregnant people.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand factors contributing to the utilization of maternity care services at the individual level.

Rationale: Information on the individual factors that influence utilization of services is needed to improve service uptake.

ISSUE 2.

Address maternal and newborn health across the continuum of care, focusing on the links with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), emerging infectious diseases, and maternal morbidities.

DATA GAP

Assess the immediate and long-term impacts of infectious diseases (for example, COVID-19) on maternal and child outcomes, by age and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Assessments are needed to inform health interventions that address infectious diseases more effectively.

DATA GAP

Disaggregate data on the rates of maternal morbidities, including fistula and postpartum depression, by age and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Multiple disaggregations of data are needed to better address health issues amongst sub-populations.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the impact of various maternal morbidities on women's health, as well as social and economic outcomes.

Rationale: Quantitative and qualitative data are needed for treatment and management of maternal morbidities, and to better understand women's experiences living with maternal morbidities.



ISSUE 3.

Ensure health systems are equipped to provide high quality MNCH services.

DATA GAP

Assess the percentage of hospitals that use established and standardized measurement tools for the quality and comprehensiveness of care provided before, during, and after childbirth.

Rationale: Data are needed to assess where services can be improved and where trainings need to be provided.

ISSUE 4.

Reduce high rates of maternal mortality and morbidity, including in humanitarian settings.

DATA GAP

Collect data on maternal needs, mortality, and morbidity, disaggregated by age and other equity stratifiers, including in humanitarian settings.

Rationale: Multiple disaggregations of data are needed to inform effective solutions that address maternal mortality and morbidity in humanitarian settings.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand how migration, forced displacement, and resettlement impacts maternal health and pregnancy outcomes, including due to conflict and natural disasters.

Rationale: Challenges emerge as migration increases, and there is a need to understand how varied host settings impact and address maternal needs.

ISSUE 5.

Promote respectful maternity care, ensure a positive pregnancy experience, and increase accountability of service providers in providing quality, comprehensive care.

DATA GAP

Collect qualitative and quantitative data on access to respectful care before, during, and after pregnancy and childbirth, including in humanitarian settings.

Rationale: This information is necessary to improve maternal health outcomes and uphold women's rights, and yet there is poor data availability.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the relationship between violation of rights (for example, stigmatization, discrimination, disrespectful care) and maternal mortality and morbidity by age, ethnicity, citizenship status, and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: While theoretical understanding is clear, global studies that statistically establish these relationships are needed to show the impact of discriminatory laws and norms around the world.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct impact evaluations of social models of accountability for maternal health.

Rationale: Many studies at the local level exist, but there is a need for more generalizable findings that assess maternal health outcomes to scale up social models of accountability.



2. SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

ISSUE 1.

Understand barriers to contraception use and sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, treatment, and management to improve utilization of services.

DATA GAP

Collect data on access to contraceptive and other reproductive health services for marginalized communities, including LGBTQIA+ people, Indigenous peoples, unmarried women, and women living with disabilities.

Rationale: Disaggregated data are needed to assess needs and inform service delivery.

DATA GAP

Produce global estimates of STI rates and treatment in elderly populations.

Rationale: Need global estimates to assess an emerging issue given aging populations worldwide.

DATA GAP

Gather more accurate data on availability and acceptability of contraceptive methods, particularly long-acting, reversible contraceptives in humanitarian settings, including in refugee and internally displaced people settlements, as well as for young people.

Rationale: Universal collection of data at the facility level (i.e., clinic, community health center, hospital, etc.) is needed to inform budgets and supply chain management.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the financial impact of the cost of modern contraception on individuals, disaggregated by gender and intersecting identities.

Rationale: Need data on out-of-pocket spending and the financial burden of family planning on individuals.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the social and cultural factors that contribute to early pregnancies amongst adolescents.

Rationale: Qualitative studies in multiple contexts, including humanitarian settings, are needed to understand the factors that lead to early pregnancies in order to develop tailored programs to lower associated risk.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Expand the evidence on the effectiveness of dual contraceptive methods (i.e., contraception and prevention of STIs) and novel male contraception.

Rationale: Need more research to scale up development and use of dual contraceptive methods and effectiveness of male contraceptives.



ISSUE 1. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Expand the evidence of the benefits of self-care methodologies for contraception, testing, and treatment that can be done by individuals in the privacy of their homes for various conditions, including the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and human papillomavirus (HPV).

Rationale: The impact of self-care methodologies on uptake of services, reduction of stigma, and on health outcomes can help inform new high-impact practices, policies, and programs.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the relationship between violence, child marriage, and adolescent contraception use.

Rationale: Need an in-depth understanding of the interplay between social, cultural, and economic factors, and their effect on access to and use of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services.

ISSUE 2.

Promote universal access to safe abortion and post-abortion care.

DATA GAP

Collect further information on rates of unsafe abortion and post-abortion care outcomes.

Rationale: Global estimates exist, yet more accuracy and multiple disaggregations of the data are needed to assess extent of challenges and for tailored programmatic interventions.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Build the evidence base on effective approaches to liberalize abortion laws and increase access to safe abortion and post-abortion care in legally restrictive settings and humanitarian settings.

Rationale: Information is needed to share best practices across settings to improve access to safe abortions.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of policies enforced during public health emergencies (for example, quarantine during COVID-19) that limit girls', adolescents', and women's mobility to access SRHR services, in particular regard to accessing safe abortions, given the number of girls, adolescents, and women who have to travel for these services.

Rationale: Impact needed to support the claim that SRHR services are essential and mobility and access to these services should not be restricted.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Investigate the long-term impacts of incarceration due to abortion/restrictive legal frameworks on women's health and economic opportunities, and the cost to society.

Rationale: Lack of studies conducted that can build the evidence to decriminalize abortion.



ISSUE 3.

Improve adolescent (10–19 years old) and youth (15–24 years old) SRHR, and include them in the development of health interventions, policies, and accountability mechanisms related to their SRHR.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the SRHR needs of young adolescents (under 15 years old) and adolescents as an essential part of youth-friendly care, including girls with disabilities and adolescent refugees.

Rationale: Data disaggregated by gender, age, and other equity stratifiers are needed to guide programming.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the degree and impact of SRH knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and skills of male adolescents on SRH outcomes.

Rationale: Need further studies to understand male adolescents' engagement in SRH and the impact it can have on boys' and girls' SRH outcomes.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on the unmet need for menstrual hygiene management and impact of menstrual health initiatives on adolescents' health and well-being in and out of schools.

Rationale: Limited information on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure and availability in schools. Few case studies that assess impact exist, but data are needed to monitor impact on school outcomes and drive accountability.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Research the impact of having a role model based on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) identities on adolescent sexual and mental health.

Rationale: Further research needed to understand how community and individuals can improve the well-being of adolescents, including LGBTQIA+ people.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand which sources and modalities of SRHR information are the most effective at targeting adolescents.

Rationale: Further research is needed to understand how adolescents want to receive information to improve their access to and uptake of health information.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand barriers to meaningful youth engagement and leadership in SRH advocacy and decision making in policies and programs.

Rationale: Need studies on the nuances involved to better inform programming and advocacy efforts.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of youth-led advocacy efforts, programs, and policies in improving adolescent SRH outcomes.

Rationale: Lack of studies on the impact of meaningful youth engagement to drive better programming and advocacy efforts.



ISSUE 3. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Build the evidence for the impact of extracurricular activities, such as sports, aimed at improving SRH and reducing GBV.

Rationale: Data needed to understand the role sports and other out-of-school activities have on adolescents' SRH.

ISSUE 4.

Increase access to SRHR information and develop sustainable programming for delivery of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) to all.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the percentage of schools providing CSE as defined by the revised International Technical Guidelines on Sexuality Education.⁶

Rationale: Assessing poor implementation and establishing coverage targets is crucial to drive accountability for gender equality and the well-being of school-aged children and youth.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate the impact of CSE on the reduction of STIs and GBV.

Rationale: Larger studies that measure these outcomes are needed, including using biological data to measure STI reduction, where feasible, to advocate for the implementation of CSE across different settings.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the availability and quality of SOGIESC positive counseling in schools, including how it addresses mental health and access to sexual health services.

Rationale: Better understanding is needed on what methods are most effective to support the mental health and sexual health of LGBTQIA+ people, which can inform best practices for school policies and programs.

ISSUE 5.

Advocate for sexual health and rights to be recognized as human rights and as essential for gender equality and achieving the SDGs.

DATA GAP

Collect data on different aspects of sexual rights (i.e., coercion, informed decision making, discrimination, etc) for all girls and women in Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and related national datasets.

Rationale: Regular collection of comparable data related to sexual rights, including sexual violence and agency, are needed for accountability efforts.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on the laws related to SRHR, including availability, budget allocation, implementation, and monitoring, and track rollbacks as a result of public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19, Ebola, and Zika) and the health outcomes from such rollbacks in each country.

Rationale: No regular data are collected on these laws. Data are needed to understand the magnitude and impact of existing laws and inform advocacy for government action to address rollbacks in SRHR.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess degree of discrimination in SRH laws, policies, and practice for different aged groups and marginalized individuals, including adolescents and LGBTQIA+ people, including the impact of sexual rights violations during forced migration.

Rationale: More country-level analyses of the impact of harmful laws, policies, and violations are needed to improve SRH.

⁶ UNESCO, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, and WHO, *International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education: An Evidence-Informed Approach*. Revised edition (Paris: UNESCO, 2018). <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000260770>.



ISSUE 5. (continued)

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Document the number of countries that legally recognize diverse gender identities and research the benefits and emerging barriers in accessing SRH rights and services for gender nonconforming individuals.

Rationale: Data are needed on the types of discrimination faced by individuals who identify as gender nonconforming to improve access to SRH services for all.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct impact studies of community-led efforts, such as marches, around sexual health and rights.

Rationale: Need for impact studies of growing local and global movements to establish best practices to effect change.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Analyze how the portrayal of sexuality and portrayal of the family in the media and on social media platforms can affect gender equality, including through impact assessments of media and social media campaigns that promote gender-sensitive messages.

Rationale: Evidence is needed on the impact of gender portrayal in the media to understand the media's role in advancing gender equality and to hold them accountable.



3. COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES

ISSUE 1.

Assess the needs of at-risk and marginalized populations, including adolescents and youth, people with disabilities, refugees, health professionals, and aging populations, to deliver tailored services.

DATA GAP

Collect information on the health needs, quality of life, and access to health services of women in their post-reproductive period, girls and women with disabilities, refugees, and LGBTQIA+ people.

Rationale: DHS surveys, for example, only collect data on women of reproductive ages (15–49 years old), and data do not capture intersecting identities.

DATA GAP

Collect disaggregated data on the populations who are not able to access preventative measures, information, testing, or care for an infectious disease during an infectious disease outbreak (for example, COVID-19) across different geographies due to migration status, out-of-pocket costs of healthcare, and other variables.

Rationale: Data are needed to inform who is being left behind and advance advocacy for universal health coverage (UHC), especially during public health emergencies.

DATA GAP

Document the extent and effect of human rights abuses and violations that occur during public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) across settings related to discrimination and denial of health services (for example, based on SOGIESC, migration status, and age).

Rationale: Need to track how inequalities are exacerbated during disease outbreaks.



ISSUE 1. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the direct impact of legal systems that discriminate against adolescents on adolescent health outcomes.

Rationale: Need further studies that examine the direct health impact of discriminatory laws for advocacy purposes.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the unexpected impact of the response to infectious disease outbreaks (for example, response to Ebola and COVID-19) on the physical and mental health of all, including the impact of physical distancing and restricted movement on women who are not receiving adequate support during labor and delivery, LGBTQIA+ people and young people in non-supportive environments (discrimination and stigma), and refugees.

Rationale: Data on the impacts of the response to the outbreak on sub-populations that are more at risk for other health and psychological issues are needed to inform emergency responses.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate the best strategies to leverage digital technology to deliver comprehensive, high-quality care and information across settings, including during and as a response to public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19).

Rationale: The power of technology in improving access to health is known, but how to leverage it to integrate SRHR, mental health, primary care, and others is not as researched.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand how adolescents and youth obtain and use information about their health.

Rationale: In-depth country studies are needed to ensure young people can benefit from available information to improve their health and develop more effective and acceptable programming catering to their specific needs.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Document the physical and mental health burden of responding to public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) on the health workforce.

Rationale: Important to assess for tailored interventions, especially as the health workforce is made up of 70 percent women.⁷

DATA GAP

Assess the availability of trained health professionals that can provide adequate health information for marginalized populations, including LGBTQIA+ people, Indigenous peoples, unmarried women, women living with disabilities, older women, and survivors of GBV.

Rationale: Multiple disaggregations of data are needed for better targeted interventions.

⁷ World Health Organization, "Gender Equity in the Health Workforce: Analysis of 104 countries," *Health Workforce Working paper 1* (March 2019). <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/311314/WHO-HIS-HWF-Gender-WP1-2019.1-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>.



ISSUE 2.

Ensure UHC services capture the multiple realities and experiences of women across the lifespan, including a focus on mental health, NCDs, such as cancer, and infectious diseases, such as Zika and COVID-19.

DATA GAP

Assess the status of integration of mental health into primary care.

Rationale: The benefits of integration have been documented but need to document where integration is happening effectively.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the prevalence of mental health conditions in girls and women.

Rationale: Data are underreported and non-comparable at the national and global levels. Data are needed for effective programming.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Gather sex-disaggregated data on prevalence, treatment, and outcomes for NCDs that affect women differently than men.

Rationale: Women are underrepresented in medical research, and there is a need to fill these gaps to have appropriate treatment for women.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data related to infectious disease outbreaks (for example, COVID-19), such as prevalence, risk factors (including comorbidities, social, and biological), treatments, and outcomes, disaggregated by gender, age, migrant status, health status, and other demographics.

Rationale: Multiple disaggregations of data are missing and are necessary as women and young people are underrepresented in medical research — as research subjects and in the development of medical solutions.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the number of people, disaggregated by age, gender, migration status, and other equity stratifiers, who forgo going to clinics to receive treatments for communicable and noncommunicable diseases due to infectious disease containment policies (for example, COVID-19), including for safe delivery and treatment for tuberculosis (TB) and HIV, and the associated outcomes.

Rationale: Need to capture the non-outbreak-related health implications of responses to infectious disease outbreaks.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Gather a complete picture of social, behavior, and ecological data on patients' day-to-day lives.

Rationale: Future studies on the individual's use of services must consider intersecting factors to adequately improve health outcomes.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct research on diseases that disproportionately affect women or have a differential impact on women, such as diseases that develop at an older age and therefore affect more women due to longer life expectancy, and research related to cardiovascular health in women.

Rationale: Despite being one of the leading causes of death in women worldwide, heart disease research for women is lacking. Similar underrepresentation of women exists across disease research and in clinical trials.



ISSUE 3.

Work across sectors to lower the financial burden of healthcare services and improve utilization of health services to ensure equitable access for all people, particularly girls and women.

DATA GAP

Collect individual-level data on out-of-pocket spending for healthcare disaggregated by age, gender, and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Need global data at the individual-level on comprehensive healthcare expenses to make the investment case for UHC; household-level data are available.⁸

DATA GAP

Collect disaggregated data on the populations who are not able to access COVID-19 testing or care across different geographies due to migration status, out-of-pocket healthcare costs, and other factors.

Rationale: Data are needed to inform who is being left behind to advance advocacy for UHC, especially during public health emergencies.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand what factors contribute to girls' and women's utilization of health services.

Rationale: Accessibility, affordability, appropriateness, and quality are known factors, but there is a lack of data at the individual level to inform the design of better health interventions that lead to stronger uptake of services.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess how private sector and external aid contributions influence government spending on healthcare and subsequent out-of-pocket expenditures for individuals.

Rationale: Need to document patterns and trends in private sector and government spending on health, given different levels of external assistance, for accountability purposes.

ISSUE 4.

Build effective national UHC frameworks that capture the role of women in delivering health services and the full scope of services girls and women need in all settings, including fragile states and humanitarian crises.

DATA GAP

Assess the availability and implementation of the Minimum Initial Services Packages (MISP) at the onset of an emergency (within 48 hours wherever possible).

Rationale: Currently, there is poor data availability on what has been provided and is available in each setting. The MISP defines which SRH services are most important in preventing morbidity and mortality, while protecting the right to life and dignity, particularly among girls and women, in humanitarian settings.

DATA GAP

Assess the proportion of funding allocated for public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) that is earmarked for health, GBV, SRH; provisions for girls, adolescents, and women in emergencies; and the proportion of funding that is diverted from women's health during crises.

Rationale: Funding allocations need to be analyzed with a gender lens for effective programming.

⁸ World Bank Group, *The Little Data Book on Gender 2019* (Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2019). <https://data.worldbank.org/products/data-books/little-data-book-on-gender>.



ISSUE 4. (continued)

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on the status of WASH and pertinent infrastructure to improve healthcare outcomes.

Rationale: Need comprehensive data covering the status of WASH globally and further studies examining how that affects girls' and women's health.

DATA GAP

Collect data on accurate causes of death of girls and women.

Rationale: Women's deaths are less likely to be registered than men's and accounting is needed for the development of appropriate interventions.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on the proportion of health workers who do not have the necessary personal protective equipment to respond to infectious disease outbreaks (for example, COVID-19), the type of equipment needed, the funding necessary to close the gap, and the effectiveness of different strategies to avoid supply shortages.

Rationale: Necessary data are needed to ensure health workers are supported, protected, and equipped during health emergencies; case studies of effective strategies need to be scaled up.

ISSUE 5.

Ensure that sexual health and rights are included in national UHC policy planning and development, and foster linkages between the UHC and SRHR communities.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Undertake cost-benefit analysis of the integration of SHR into UHC.

Rationale: There are data on the benefits of integrated healthcare services, but not specifically on the benefits of integrating SRH services into UHC to build related investment cases.



4. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES

ISSUE 1.

Implement international frameworks, national laws, and multi-sectoral services, including community-based programming, that prevent, address, and hold perpetrators accountable for GBV and forced and child marriage.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the existence and implementation of laws related to GBV in each country, including prevention, protection, and redress mechanisms.

Rationale: Data are not systematically collected across countries to assess the effectiveness of these laws and related implementation.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Investigate the effectiveness of CSE and online digital interventions in ending GBV.

Rationale: Analysis is needed to assess if CSE is a high-impact practice to reduce GBV.



ISSUE 1. (continued)

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct cost-benefit analysis that shows the social and economic benefits of ending GBV.

Rationale: Some studies assess the cost of inaction, but studies should also look at national-level savings from investing in the prevention of GBV to drive governments to implement adequate laws.

ISSUE 2.

Deliver adequate care to survivors of GBV and promote their long-term safety and well-being, in particular for girls, women, and LGBTQIA+ people, including in humanitarian settings.

DATA GAP

Assess the gap in funding and infrastructure needed to ensure physical and psychosocial support for survivors of violence is available during public health and humanitarian emergencies (for example, COVID-19).

Rationale: Need to document the extent of the gap in order to ensure provision of services in future emergencies.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the proportion of referred cases of sexual- and gender-based violence that are investigated and sentenced, and assess which pathways to care and justice are most effective.

Rationale: Need more information on what practices are in place and what works in ensuring access to care and justice.

DATA GAP

Assess the availability and quality of GBV training for health professionals.

Rationale: Need information on existing practices and guidelines, related implementation, and outcomes regarding GBV training for health professionals to improve service delivery.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand patterns of care-seeking behavior amongst survivors of GBV.

Rationale: Studies using population-level data will help identify individual-, household-, and community-level factors that influence behavior.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the effect of forced and child marriage on long-term mental health outcomes.

Rationale: There are some country-level studies, but further global research is needed to shed light on this issue.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Investigate the long-term psychological effects of experiencing GBV.

Rationale: Limited data are collected on this area, and information is needed to provide comprehensive healthcare services.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Build the evidence on the best practices to support girls who are in child marriages in humanitarian settings.

Rationale: Undertake qualitative studies to deliver services that guarantee protection and improve the health and well-being of girls.



ISSUE 3.

Collect comprehensive and comparable data on rates of various forms of GBV.

DATA GAP

Collect data on conflict-related sexual- and gender-based violence and war-related mortality and morbidity.

Rationale: Data are needed to better understand and address the challenges faced in settings with poor health, legal, and social infrastructures.

DATA GAP

Generate comprehensive data sets that include rates of various forms of GBV, including rape, femicide, intimate partner violence, female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), psychological violence, and data on perceptions of safety.

Rationale: Data are usually underreported and are not standardized nor systematically collected. Data must be disaggregated by gender, sexual orientation, and job sector, amongst other equity stratifiers.

DATA GAP

Measure the increase in GBV, including sexual and psychological violence and online violence and harassment, by age and gender and the long-term psychological and psychosocial impacts of such violence that takes place when individuals mobility is restricted, such as with the implementation of quarantines in response to infectious disease outbreaks (for example, COVID-19).

Rationale: GBV increases during emergencies. Need to document unexpected consequences of policies that are implemented as short-term solutions to emergencies, as they may have detrimental impacts on girls and women's well-being and need to be addressed through creative solutions.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the proportion of people who have experienced sexual violence by age 18, disaggregated by gender, sexual orientation, and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Data are not systematically collected for tailored interventions at the national level.

DATA GAP

Collect data on sexual harassment and violence experienced during collection of water and other resources.

Rationale: Data are not systematically collected on this issue, including on the impact climate change has on collection of natural resources. Data are needed to tailor interventions.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on the number of girls and women who are trafficked and the related long-term impacts.

Rationale: Accurate estimates of human trafficking and research that documents impacts are necessary to address girls' and women's needs and implement effective measures to prevent and end human trafficking.



ISSUE 4.

Increase knowledge on the drivers of GBV and the links between various forms of GBV.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand how the fear of violence impacts women's behaviors, mobility, and decision making.

Rationale: Analysis is needed to understand the impact of the fear of violence.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Explore the relationship between access to resources — including financial — and rates of GBV.

Rationale: Nuanced understanding is needed on why, how, and under what circumstances resource availability impacts rates of GBV.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess if undergoing FGM/C is linked with experiencing further instances of GBV later in life and if communities that practice FGM/C also have higher rates of other forms of GBV.

Rationale: Limited DHS data and non-comparable surveys limit global estimates; underreported topic; important to understand the nuances of this issue.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the drivers of intimate partner violence and violence during pregnancy.

Rationale: Underreported and qualitative studies are needed to understand why it happens and how to prevent it.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Investigate if and how preventing and addressing GBV can impact other large-scale forms of conflict, such as genocide or other mass atrocities.

Rationale: Needed to help build the evidence base against all forms of GBV.

ISSUE 5.

Change gender norms by engaging all stakeholders, including boys and men, religious and community leaders, first responders and police, to reduce violence and harmful practices and support those who have been abused.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Further understand religious and community leaders' attitudes and approaches towards different forms of GBV.

Rationale: Need to conduct studies with different communities to better engage religious and community leaders in ending GBV.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the best ways boys and men can be engaged and motivated to end GBV.

Rationale: Need impact evaluations of what works and what does not.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess if and how women's and LGBTQIA+ people's participation in police, security forces, and the judiciary can help reduce the number of GBV cases and improve support to survivors of violence.

Rationale: Need studies that assess the overall impact of having more diversity in these positions of power in reducing GBV.



ISSUE 5. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Undertake impact evaluations of women’s movements and community engagement programs in reducing GBV.

Rationale: Formal assessment is needed on impact and best practices to better understand the power of movements.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the role of media and private sector companies in changing the narrative around gender norms and GBV.

Rationale: Analysis is needed on what works and what can be done to create the most influence.



5. EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

ISSUE 1.

Eliminate discrepancies in enrollment and completion rates at primary and secondary school levels by gender, income, and other socio-demographics, as inclusiveness remains an issue.

DATA GAP

Collect data on education enrollment and outcomes for all girls, including girls with disabilities.

Rationale: Multiple disaggregations of data are needed for informed decision making.

DATA GAP

Assess the availability of adequate gender-separated sanitation facilities in schools.

Rationale: Global data are missing on gender-responsive education infrastructure.

DATA GAP

Assess the global number of girl absentees from school due to inadequate WASH facilities.

Rationale: Currently, there is no global number available to assess extent of related impact.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the impact of FGM/C on primary and secondary school level attendance, educational outcomes, and economic empowerment.

Rationale: Most studies focus on impact of education on FGM/C, but it is also important to understand how FGM/C impacts girls’ education and economic empowerment.

ISSUE 2.

Focus on educational outcomes and parity in outcomes in primary, secondary, and tertiary education as global progress.

DATA GAP

Collect data systematically on socio-emotional skills and development learning outcomes, disaggregated by age, gender, and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Data are not uniformly available in low- and lower-middle income countries and are necessary, as they may predict flexibility in the workforce and well-being more so than school attendance.



ISSUE 2. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand how SRHR laws, including lack of access to contraception, expulsion from school if pregnant, lack of sexual harassment policies, and lack of non-discrimination laws towards LGBTQIA+ people, can affect educational outcomes.

Rationale: Comprehensive analyses of how SRHR laws impact educational outcomes are necessary to abolish harmful laws and establish good practices.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of discrimination of marginalized populations on educational outcomes.

Rationale: Understand what influences each populations' educational outcomes and why.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Establish the benefits of engaging boys and men as advocates for girls' education.

Rationale: Need generalizable studies on the impact of male engagement on girls' educational outcomes as a potential high-impact intervention.

ISSUE 3.

Revamp teachers' professional development with a focus on how teachers are recruited, paid, rewarded, incentivized, assessed, and trained.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand how female, male, and non-binary teachers are regarded within the educational system in each country.

Rationale: Understand how perceptions of a teacher's gender identity can impact related professional development opportunities.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess what types of incentives work, specifically for female, male, and non-binary teachers.

Rationale: Determine specific needs of teachers to make sure they are offered appropriate development opportunities and incentives to remain in the workforce.

ISSUE 4.

Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of formal and informal education systems.

DATA GAP

Assess the availability of skills-based educational opportunities/vocational trainings for adolescent girls and young women in and out of school.

Rationale: Identifying what programs exist and where can help in addressing gaps in lifelong learning and unmet need for skills.

DATA GAP

Assess information and communication technology skills by gender and age.

Rationale: Data that are collected are usually not sex- and gender-disaggregated and are needed for tailored programmatic interventions.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the social impact of having women in leadership positions in schools and universities.

Rationale: Evidence on how women leaders can improve educational systems when they assume leadership roles needed to scale up good practices.



ISSUE 5.

Ensure primary and secondary education is available for individuals that are out of school due to conflict, exposure to violence, public health emergencies, and other reasons.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand and measure the impact of public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) and other crises on girls' and adolescents' continuation and completion of primary and secondary education, including in humanitarian settings.

Rationale: Need to quantify if and by how much girls and adolescents who cannot attend school fall behind in schooling, if and what barriers they encounter to access distance learning opportunities compared to boys, and whether they fail to reenter formal education systems after crises, to assess impact.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the implementation progress of the USD 3.8 billion committed in 2018 by the G7 to girls' education in crises.

Rationale: Need to monitor outcome of this commitment to assess impact.



WOMEN'S ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND JUSTICE

ISSUE 1.

Adequately recognize women's unpaid care work and informal work, and ensure all work aligns with decent work tenets to guarantee women's security and protection.

DATA GAP

Collect data on earnings of self-employed women.

Rationale: Need for sex- and gender-disaggregated data to assess different dimensions of access to economic opportunities.

DATA GAP

Collect data disaggregated by gender and age on the composition and characteristics of informal employment and decent work.

Rationale: Available data are not always comparable and are missing multiple disaggregations to better understand different dimensions of informal employment and decent work.

DATA GAP

Collect data on women's secondary work activities.

Rationale: Need data and surveys that capture activities done simultaneously to assess economic empowerment and provide adequate employment protections.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct studies that assess the value of unpaid care work and the opportunity costs of paid work.

Rationale: Few valuation studies have been completed for specific countries, but more are needed to ensure unpaid care work is valued in each national economy.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Document the impact of public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) on women's access to economic opportunities given their overrepresentation in jobs with relatively lower pay and in occupations with lower job security (for example, part-time work and jobs in the informal sector).

Rationale: Women occupy jobs that may be more vulnerable during emergencies, including public health emergencies. The impact on women's job security needs to be documented to ensure protections are available.



ISSUE 1. (continued)

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Track and quantify changes in the distribution of unpaid work (i.e., household responsibilities, childrearing, and caregiving) during public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) by gender and age, the value of this unpaid work, and the long-term costs of having women perform these services.

Rationale: Data are necessary to mitigate setbacks in women’s economic empowerment due to public health emergencies and accommodate for women bearing the higher burden of care work during such emergencies.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on women’s time-use and balance between participation in the formal and informal workforces and family and social responsibilities, including data on unpaid care and informal work.

Rationale: While more time use data and data on unpaid work are being collected, this data and qualitative studies are not always comparable. Needed to understand the economic and social cost of unpaid care and informal work.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the availability and implementation of social and legal protections for jobs that are primarily occupied by women, including the health workforce, agriculture, service industry, caregiving, and others.

Rationale: Need to protect women in the jobs they currently occupy, as they are at higher risks during emergencies, including during COVID-19.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the reasons for the health, social, and economic outcomes of women who migrate for jobs. Further insight is also needed around the labor conditions they experience.

Rationale: Need information on demographics, reasons for migration, remittances, and working conditions disaggregated by age and other equity stratifiers to ensure decent work practices are provided and to combat xenophobia and exploitation of migrants.

ISSUE 2.

Address barriers that hinder gender equality in the workplace and limit women’s employment mobility to create an enabling environment for them.

DATA GAP

Calculate the percentage of workplaces that have sexual harassment policies.

Rationale: While data are currently based on self-reporting or smaller independent studies, data on implementation of policies should be collected to assess impact.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate best practices for continued learning and development for women throughout their careers that ensure access to leadership opportunities and employment mobility.

Rationale: Best practices on what programs and information are currently available, which practices are most effective to implement across workplaces, and longitudinal studies are needed to understand enabling factors for women’s employment mobility.



ISSUE 2. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of the lack of, or limited, reentry mechanisms into the workplace after prolonged childcare work.

Rationale: Studies that show the economic loss to women are needed to abolish discriminatory practices.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Investigate the impacts of providing employer-sponsored or government-funded contraception on women's economic empowerment, employer profits, and the national economy.

Rationale: Analysis needed to further strengthen links between SRHR and economic empowerment and highlight nuances.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect information on which childcare needs and working arrangements are preferred by parents, disaggregated by gender.

Rationale: Data are missing in low- and middle-income countries and are needed for tailored programmatic interventions.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Perform studies that model the long-term economic and social impact at the national level of providing social protection mechanisms, including paid family leave and subsidized childcare, to all workers, including women in part-time and informal positions.

Rationale: This is an emerging need that must consider both private and public coverage.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Build the evidence base on the social and economic benefits of implementing women-friendly workplace environments with data from organizations that are currently allowing women to have flexible working hours and work from home in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rationale: Documenting positive outcomes due to the pandemic can support ongoing gender equality advocacy efforts.

ISSUE 3.

Improve women's financial inclusion and ownership over financial assets and resources.

DATA GAP

Collect more comprehensive data on women's ownership of assets, such as land, property, and bank accounts.

Rationale: Lacking coverage, comparability, and sex-disaggregation of data. Needed to understand the different dimensions of women's financial agency and ownership over assets.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect sex- and gender-disaggregated data regarding access to financial services, technology literacy rates and use, and the use and impact of financial inclusion efforts on women.

Rationale: Lack of coverage and need to understand what efforts are most beneficial for increasing women's economic opportunities and rights.



ISSUE 3. (continued)

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect data on agricultural productivity by women with standardized and comparable measurements.

Rationale: Need data on productivity and studies that uncover the reasons for such productivity to establish best practices.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand barriers and biases in funding for women entrepreneurs and the impact on women-led businesses.

Rationale: Women tend to receive less funding than men for their businesses; understanding why can help address these barriers and biases.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Study how providing women with short-term economic assets (i.e., provision of livestock or cash) can impact women's long-term economic empowerment.

Rationale: Clarifying the long-term impact of cash transfers and in-kind payments can contribute to the related investment case.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Study the impact of improving access to land, energy, and WASH facilities on women's long-term economic empowerment.

Rationale: Most studies focus on short-term outcomes at the moment; longitudinal studies can build the related investment case.

ISSUE 4.

Include agency over all aspects of life, including bodily autonomy and agency over finances and assets, as essential components of economic justice.

DATA GAP

Collect data on agency and power over earnings for unmarried women.

Rationale: Data regarding unmarried women are not collected in DHS surveys; important to understand the needs of this population as well.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the impact of social norms on power imbalances regarding decision-making ability over assets at the household level.

Rationale: Qualitative studies that investigate the reasons for inequality can more adequately address the root causes.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess what percentage of income women reinvest into society, communities, and their families.

Rationale: Need a reinvestment statistic to support what women do with their income.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate the impacts of engaging men in promoting women's access to, and decision making over, assets.

Rationale: Small case study impact evaluations available but need larger collection of best practices.



ISSUE 5.

Inform economic policies and plans with sound gender analysis, and assess the impact of women's leadership in the development of economic policies and initiatives.

DATA GAP

Assess the extent to which public financial measures in response to public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19) have a gender lens (for example, informal sector, small businesses, considerations related to head of households) and the proportion of women who have access to these measures.

Rationale: Data are needed to ensure economic policies are reaching women in need.

DATA GAP

Collect data on women's representation and leadership in labor unions, community organizations, professional associations, and corporate boards across different labor sectors.

Rationale: Data are not available for most countries. Need to understand extent of women's representation to influence related economic policies.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate if technological initiatives developed by women lead to higher levels of women's economic empowerment compared to initiatives that do not include women in their development.

Rationale: Need to develop measurement frameworks and impact on women.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the influence and impact of women leaders on the development of gender-sensitive economic policies.

Rationale: Impact at the governmental level is needed to build the related investment case.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Research the economic returns for women from reducing GBV in school, through CSE, and at work, through anti-harassment policies.

Rationale: Need studies that measure economic returns, as most available studies focus on health benefits of reducing GBV.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct country-level analysis of gender biases in taxation systems.

Rationale: Some countries have these studies but need to explore policy implications in each country.



WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND DECISION-MAKING POWER

ISSUE 1.

Acknowledge and leverage women's critical roles and leadership across settings, including during public health crises and conflict resolutions, for sustainable development and peacebuilding.

DATA GAP

Assess the number of women, including young women, in decision-making positions related to the response to public health emergencies (for example, COVID-19), including involvement in the development of global, national, and local health solutions, design of medical interventions, and implementation of plans of action.

Rationale: Critical to ensure women are meaningfully engaged in the planning, development, decision making, and implementation of programs intended to benefit them.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on weapon collection and ownership, and analyze related impacts on sociopolitical stability and public health.

Rationale: Need to understand how weapons are used across populations and settings and their impact.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the number of women in decision-making positions in humanitarian crises and peace and security processes, at all levels and across roles, and the related outcomes at each level.

Rationale: Need to ensure women's perspectives and knowledge are included in plans and show the benefits of having women in leadership positions.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the gender-specific dynamics and impacts of violent extremism and terrorism.

Rationale: Need to undertake qualitative studies on women's perspectives and experiences with extremist groups.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate the implementation of gender provisions in peace agreements.

Rationale: Need to assess implementation and outcomes for monitoring and accountability.

ISSUE 2.

Eliminate violence against women in political parties and throughout women's broader political participation.

DATA GAP

Collect comprehensive and comparable data on GBV — including sexual harassment and online harassment — on women due to their political participation either within political parties or as voters.

Rationale: Systematic reporting of GBV in politics, including violence during political activism at the grassroots level, is needed to document the cost and barriers of political participation for women.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the number of political parties with specific policies against violence against women within their party at the local and national levels and related implementation.

Rationale: Needed to improve accountability in political processes.



ISSUE 2. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess if there is a relationship between experiencing GBV during a woman's lifetime and her political participation.

Rationale: Need further research into the impact of all forms of GBV, in addition to existing studies on intimate partner violence.

ISSUE 3.

Understand and address non-violent related barriers that affect women's political participation.

DATA GAP

Collect gender-disaggregated data on possession of national identity documentations, voter registration, and voter turnout.

Rationale: Comprehensive data are not available or it is not publically available. An analysis of the extent of the problem is needed to understand who is being left behind.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Evaluate efforts that engage men to improve women's political participation.

Rationale: Need to establish best practices to improve women's political participation.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand biases in funding for youth-led and women-led advocacy efforts.

Rationale: Biases in funding for youth-led movements have been documented, but need to understand why biases continue to exist.

ISSUE 4.

Expand women's leadership across political sectors and understand the role of women politicians and women leaders in pushing forward gender equality legislation and policies.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Establish a suitable way to measure power (particularly social power) and how it helps access other positions of power and influence.

Rationale: There is a lack of standardization for a measure of social power and clear studies on how social power can impact gender equality.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact on various policy outcomes when women are in leadership positions in government.

Rationale: Larger studies and broader coverage of policy outcomes related to foreign affairs, SRHR, conflict, gender equality, and economic benefits are needed.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of women's leadership in grassroots organizations and women-led movements on improving gender equality.

Rationale: Small case studies are available, need larger impact studies to build the related investment case.



ISSUE 5.

Establish gender-sensitive and representative parliaments and governments.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the proportion of women in local government.

Rationale: Missing comparable data across countries and data collection is lacking in many countries in order to assess status.

DATA GAP

Collect numbers on the representation of women from marginalized communities in positions of power, including proportion of seats in parliament.

Rationale: Missing multiple disaggregations of data to ensure adequate representation.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Research into pathways for promotion and barriers women face in politics.

Rationale: Need to understand women's upward mobility from local to national politics.

DATA GAP

Collect systematic data on youth engagement in politics, including running for political offices and voting rates.

Rationale: Need regularly updated data to ensure youth participation and representation in politics.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Analyze influence and exertion of power within leadership positions.

Rationale: Need to understand the power differentials between men and women in leadership positions.



ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

ISSUE 1.

Remove barriers and promote women's participation in formal and informal decision-making structures and governance processes related to access to land, water, sanitation, clean energy, and natural resource and disaster risk management initiatives, including in humanitarian settings.

DATA GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on the management of natural resources.

Rationale: Data needed to understand gender inequality in resources management; sex-disaggregated data on environmental issues is scarce.

DATA GAP

Systematically collect global data on women's land rights, including ownership, and develop an adequate measurement of land tenure security, which is the certainty that a person's rights to land will be recognized by others and protected in cases of specific challenges.

Rationale: No global data available and is needed as access to resources drastically affects women's economic empowerment and well-being.

DATA GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on forestry employment trends and forest conservation.

Rationale: Need data to analyze the impact of having women participate in this field.



ISSUE 1. (continued)

DATA GAP

Collect data on the number of women in decision-making positions, such as camp committees or informal networks, for refugee and/or internally displaced camps, or other informal settings.

Rationale: Lack of data in order to analyze related impact.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Identify the proportion of women working in disaster risk reduction management and the impact of integrating their perspectives in these policies and practices.

Rationale: Lack of global data and impact assessments to build related investment case.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Establish the role men can play in ensuring women have access to resources and in the promotion of gender-sensitive resource policies.

Rationale: Need generalizable research to establish best practices for male engagement.

ISSUE 2.

Protect women from resource-related physical violence and other security risks.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the differentiated risks and impacts associated with working in sectors such as fisheries and forestry on women and men and gender inequality's significant role in land degradation-related poverty.

Rationale: More studies are needed to understand the nuances.

DATA GAP

Gather data on the global prevalence of GBV during the collection of water and fuel, and when going to toilets, including in emergency settings.

Rationale: Need global estimates to assess status quo.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of having access to clean energy on GBV rates.

Rationale: Few studies directly measure GBV and evidence is needed for high-impact interventions.

ISSUE 3.

Remove barriers to women's increased access to resources and build women's capacity for productive and sustainable use of resources.

DATA GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on asset ownership, control over resources, and consumption patterns.

Rationale: Lacking comparable and representative data collection, including in DHS surveys; needed to assess status quo.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the type of device or technology used for cooking in the household, including the frequency and intensity of firewood and fodder collection and use, and related health outcomes.

Rationale: Limited data are available; needed for better global coverage and analysis of time-use surveys to assess women's share of such work and the opportunities forgone to carry this out.



ISSUE 3. (continued)

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the barriers to women’s access to new technologies, extension services, and credit facilities.

Rationale: Understand what prevents women from accessing new information and what services are needed to address root causes of inequality.

ISSUE 4.

Understand cross-sectoral implications of providing women access to resources.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Examine the links between access to land tenure and long-term economic empowerment.

Rationale: Some research is available on the impact of other resources on economic empowerment, such as water credit loans, but not as much is known on other assets. Data are needed to build the related investment case and for targeted programmatic efforts.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Study the potential gains of rural electrification and impact of increasing household energy on health, social, and economic outcomes.

Rationale: Direct link needed to build related investment case and for targeted programmatic efforts.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of women’s participation in resource management on environmental and humanitarian outcomes.

Rationale: Systematically understand if outcomes are different when women are in charge.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess how women’s ownership over land impacts MNCH outcomes, with a focus on nutrition

Rationale: Understand health implications of women’s access to and control over resources.

ISSUE 5.

Monitor and address gender differences related to environmental health, paying special attention to the needs of girls and women and those in vulnerable situations.

DATA GAP

Collect data at the individual level, within households, on environmental health.

Rationale: Individual-level data on the impacts of pollution, pesticides, hazardous chemicals, clean water, and other environmental health issues are needed to understand possible differentiated gendered impacts..

DATA GAP

Collect consistent data on time spent on water collection and information on the household member who performs the task.

Rationale: Analysis should be done with more individual-level survey records and time-use surveys to evaluate the burden on women and the opportunities forgone to undergo this task.



CLIMATE CHANGE

ISSUE 1.

Ensure the full, equal, and meaningful participation of girls and women, including those from traditionally marginalized communities, such as Indigenous groups, in climate change negotiations and policymaking.

DATA GAP

Collect data on the number of women heads of environment ministries, forums, and decision-making bodies that address climate change, disaggregated by age, ethnicity, and other equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Need more systematic data collection to assess status and make the case for increased participation from women in these spaces.

ISSUE 2.

Develop policies to address climate change and climate change-related natural disasters that increasingly recognize gender-sensitive mitigation, adaptation, and recovery solutions.

DATA GAP

Assess the proportion of climate-centered negotiations that have actively taken gender into consideration, and, more specifically, women's health and SRHR.

Rationale: Need consistent monitoring to maintain focus on this issue.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Build the evidence for the effectiveness of voluntary family planning policies, in addition to girls' education, as climate change adaptation strategies.

Rationale: More case studies with generalizable findings are needed to ensure voluntary family planning policies and girls' education are recognized as effective adaptation responses and are incorporated in action plans and funded accordingly.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the best methods of delivering SRH services to individuals affected by climate change and related natural disasters.

Rationale: Need to understand how climate change may drastically affect delivery of health services in different ways.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess gender-specific use of health facilities, after facilities, and individuals are affected by climate change and natural disasters.

Rationale: Further understand how these events differentially affect women's access to services, including barriers to access.

ISSUE 3.

Address women's specific vulnerability to climate change and climate change-related natural disasters.

DATA GAP

Collect data on disaster-related mortality and morbidity, disaggregated by multiple equity stratifiers.

Rationale: Data are not consistently collected and are needed to understand differentiated gendered impact.



DATA GAP

Collect statistics on the gendered effects of climate change, including GBV and other health, social, and economic impacts.

Rationale: Assess impact and how programs can respond to these effects.

DATA GAP

Systematically collect and analyze data on cross-border disaster displacement and resettlement.

Rationale: Limited data are available regarding displacement dynamics, patterns, and root causes of displacement and mobility due to climate change and is needed to better understand gender specific needs.

DATA AND KNOWLEDGE GAP

Model the predicted impact of future public health emergencies on girls', adolescents', and women's health and well-being, taking into consideration factors like climate change that both increases the frequency of emergencies (including the potential for faster spread of infectious diseases) and disproportionately impacts girls and women.

Rationale: Climate change and future disasters will need to be accounted for in order to better prepare for future global challenges such as pandemics.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess the impact of climate change on women in the informal employment sector (for example, agriculture).

Rationale: More information is needed to accurately address climate change impacts.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Identify the extent to which social constraints or expectations have led to greater risk for some people, for example, girls, women, and LGBTQIA+ people, with regard to climate change-related disasters, and map out possible areas for interventions to mitigate the impacts of future disasters.

Rationale: Nuance in data are needed for targeted programmatic efforts.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Assess how climate change will impact MNCH outcomes, with a focus on nutrition.

Rationale: Some information is available on how MNH outcomes will be disrupted due to changes in nutrients, but more data on the predicted impact are needed.



ISSUE 4.

Invest in, and improve access to, climate-friendly technologies and initiatives to enhance sustainable and renewable energy sources that reflect women's knowledge, needs, and roles.

DATA GAP

Collect sex-disaggregated data on the use of environmentally friendly technologies.

Rationale: Lack of global data to understand of barriers to accessing technology.

ISSUE 5.

Invest in women-led local and national organizations, and leverage their knowledge, experience, and networks to mitigate and respond to climate change.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Conduct evidence-based analysis of women's and men's roles and strategies for coping with climate change.

Rationale: Need to understand what strategies work in each setting and differences in outcomes when strategies are gender-responsive.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand aspects of women's agricultural practices that could contribute to effective climate change adaptation measures.

Rationale: Need to learn about effective practices that have been overlooked.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

Understand the role of Indigenous women in environmental conservation, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change.

Rationale: Need for impact evaluations to generate evidence-based good practices.

TABLE 1. EXAMPLES OF GAPS THAT CUT ACROSS THEMATIC AREAS

	SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS	COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES	GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES	EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION	ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND JUSTICE	POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND DECISION-MAKING POWER	ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION	CLIMATE CHANGE
MATERNAL, NEWBORN, AND CHILD HEALTH	Assess the relationship between violation of rights and maternal mortality and morbidity by age, ethnicity, and other equity stratifiers.	Assess the percent of hospitals that use established standardized measurement tools for the quality and comprehensiveness of care provided during and after delivery.	Understand the drivers of intimate partner violence and violence during pregnancy.	Understand how sexual health and rights laws, including discrimination if pregnant, impacts educational outcomes.	Understand the impact of various maternal morbidities on women's health, social, and economic outcomes.	Assess the impact of a partner's engagement in women's decision making, uptake of pre- and post-natal care, and maternal and child health outcomes.	Assess how women's ownership over land impacts MNCH outcomes, with a focus on nutrition.	Understand how migration and resettlements impact maternal health and pregnancy outcomes, including settlements from migration due to conflict and natural disasters.
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS		Undertake cost-benefit analysis of the integration of SRH into UHC.	Investigate the effectiveness of CSE and online digital interventions in ending GBV.	Collect data on the percentage of schools providing CSE as defined by the revised International Technical Guidelines of Sexuality Education.	Assess the financial impact of the cost of family planning on women.	Conduct impact studies of community-led advocacy and mobilization, such as marches, around SRHR.	Collect data on sexual harassment and violence experienced during collection of water and other resources.	Assess the best methods of delivering SRH services to individuals affected by climate change and related natural disasters.
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES			Assess the availability and quality of GBV training for health professionals.	Assess the effectiveness of sexual identity/orientation counseling in addressing mental health issues related to sexual health and coverage of delivery in schools.	Collect individual-level data on out-of-pocket spending for healthcare.	Assess the number of women, including young women, in decision-making positions related to the response to public health emergencies.	Collect data on the status of WASH and pertinent infrastructure to improve healthcare outcomes.	Assess gender-specific use of health facilities after being affected by climate change and natural disasters.
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES				Understand the impact of FGM/C on primary and secondary school attendance and educational outcomes.	Calculate the percent of workplaces that have sexual harassment policies.	Assess the number of political parties with specific policies against violence against women within their party at the local and national levels and related implementation.	Gather data on the global prevalence of GBV during the collection of water and fuel, and going to toilets, including in emergency settings.	Collect statistics on the gendered effects of climate change, including GBV and other health, social, and economic impacts.
EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION					Evaluate best practices for continued learning and development for women throughout their careers that ensure access to leadership opportunities and employment mobility.	Assess the social impact of having women in leadership positions in schools and universities.	Assess the global number of girl absentees from school due to inadequate WASH facilities.	Build the evidence for the effectiveness of voluntary family planning policies, in addition to girls' education, as climate change adaptation strategies.
ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND JUSTICE						Collect data on women's representation and leadership in labor unions, community organizations, professional associations, and corporate boards across different labor sectors.	Study the impact of improving access to land, energy, and WASH facilities on women's long-term economic empowerment.	Assess the impact of climate change on women in the informal employment sector.
POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND DECISION-MAKING POWER							Collect sex-disaggregated data on the management of natural resources.	Assess the impact on various policy outcomes when women are in leadership positions in government.
ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION								Understand aspects of women's agricultural practices that could contribute to effective climate change adaptation measures.

TABLE 2. CROSS-CUTTING FINDINGS

	THE ROLE OF MALE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	IMPACT OF GIRLS AND WOMEN LEADERS AND GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS	ADOLESCENTS	TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION	THE ROLE OF DONORS, PRIVATE SECTOR, AND PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS	EFFECT OF MIGRATION AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT/ HUMANITARIAN CONTEXTS	IMPACT OF LEGAL/POLICY FRAMEWORKS (LACK OF AND/OR VIOLATIONS)	ECONOMIC VALUATION/ COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS
MATERNAL, NEWBORN, AND CHILD HEALTH	Assess the impact of a partner's engagement in women's decision making, uptake of pre- and post-natal care, and maternal and child health outcomes.	Conduct impact evaluations of social models of accountability for maternal health.	Understand the reasons and contextual factors related to why adolescents may want to become pregnant at early ages.	Evaluate the impact of technology, including related to health services and information, on maternal and newborn healthcare and outcomes.	Understand how migration and resettlements impact maternal health and pregnancy outcomes, including settlements from migration due to conflict and natural disasters.	Assess the relationship between violation of rights and maternal mortality and morbidity by age, ethnicity, and other equity stratifiers.	Understand the impact of various maternal morbidities on women's health, social, and economic outcomes.	
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS	Build the evidence for the impact of extracurricular activities, such as sports, aimed at improving SRH and reducing GBV.	Conduct impact studies of community-led efforts, such as marches, around sexual health and rights.	Collect data on the SRHR needs of young adolescents (under 15 years old) and adolescents as an essential part of youth-friendly care, with a strong focus on socially excluded girls, including those with disabilities and adolescent refugees.	Understand which sources and modalities of SRHR information are the most effective at targeting adolescents.	Assess the role of the private sector in ensuring there are no stock-outs of contraceptives and other SRH supplies.	Collect data on the laws related to SRHR, including availability, budget allocation, implementation, and monitoring, and track rollbacks as a result of public health emergencies.	Undertake cost-benefit analysis of the integration of SRH into UHC.	
COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES			Understand how adolescents and youth obtain and use information about their health.	Evaluate the best ways digital technology can be leveraged to deliver comprehensive, high-quality care and information across settings, including during public health emergencies.	Assess how private sector and external aid contributions influence government spending on healthcare and subsequent out-of-pocket expenditures for individuals.	Assess the direct impact of discriminatory legal systems on adolescents' health outcomes.	Assess the proportion of funding allocated for public health emergencies that is earmarked for health, GBV, SRH; provisions for girls, adolescents, and women in emergencies; and the proportion of funding that is diverted from women's health during crises.	
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES	Understand the best ways boys and men can be engaged to end GBV.	Undertake impact evaluations of women's movements and community engagement programs in reducing GBV.	Collect data on the proportion of individuals who have experienced sexual violence by age 18, disaggregated by gender, sexual orientation, and other equity stratifiers.	Investigate the effectiveness of CSE and online digital interventions in ending GBV.	Understand the role of media and private sector companies in changing the narrative around gender norms and GBV.	Collect data on conflict-related, sexual, and gender-based violence.	Conduct cost-benefit analysis that show the social and economic benefits of ending GBV.	
EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION	Establish the benefits of engaging boys and men as advocates for girls' education.	Assess the social impact of having women in leadership positions in schools and universities.	Collect data systematically on socio-emotional skills and development learning outcomes, disaggregated by age, gender, and other equity stratifiers.	Assess information and communication technology skills by gender and age.		Assess the implementation progress of the USD 3.8 billion committed in 2018 by the G7 to girls' education in crises.	Understand how SRHR laws can affect educational outcomes.	
ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND JUSTICE	Evaluate the impacts of engaging men in promoting women's access to and decision making over assets.	Assess the influence and impact of women leaders on the development of gender-sensitive economic policies.	Assess the availability of skills-based educational opportunities/vocational trainings for adolescent girls and young women in and out of school.	Collect sex-disaggregated data regarding access to financial services, technology literacy rates and use, and the use and impact of financial inclusion efforts on women.	Investigate the effect of providing employer-sponsored or government-funded contraception on women's economic empowerment, employer profits, and the national economy.	Understand the reasons for the health, social, and economic outcomes of female labor migration and their labor conditions.	Perform studies that model the long-term economic and social impact (at the national level) of providing social protection mechanisms to women workers, including part-time employees.	
POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND DECISION-MAKING POWER	Understand the power differentials between men and women in leadership positions.	Assess the impact of women's leadership in grassroots organizations or women-led movements on improving gender equality.	Collect systematic data on youth engagement in politics.	Gather data on online violence and harassment as a factors impacting women's political participation, and discover how to best leverage digital platforms in ways that work for women.	Understand biases in funding for youth-led and women-led advocacy efforts.	Assess the number of women in decision-making positions in humanitarian crises and peace and security processes, at all levels and across roles, and the related outcomes at each level.	Evaluate the impact on governmental savings and debt reduction when women are in leadership positions in government.	
ACCESS TO RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION	Establish the role men can play in ensuring women have access to resources and in the promotion of gender-sensitive resource policies.	Assess the impact of women's participation in resource management on environmental and humanitarian outcomes.		Understand the barriers to women's access to new technologies, extension services, and credit facilities.		Gather data on the global prevalence of GBV during the collection of water and fuel, and when going to toilets, including in emergency settings.	Study the potential gains of rural electrification and impact of increasing household energy on health, social, and economic outcomes.	
CLIMATE CHANGE	Conduct evidence-based analysis of women's and men's roles and strategies for coping with climate change.	Understand the role of indigenous women in environmental conservation, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change.	Model the predicted impact of future public health emergencies on girls', adolescents', and women's health and well-being, taking into consideration factors like climate change that both increases the frequency of emergencies and disproportionately impacts girls and women.	Collect sex-disaggregated data on the use of environmentally friendly technologies.		Systematically collect and analyze data on cross-border disaster displacement and resettlement.	Build the evidence for the effectiveness of voluntary family planning policies, in addition to girls' education, as climate change adaptation strategies.	

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

While many data gaps are unique to specific thematic areas or populations, some overarching trends emerged throughout the analysis. First, it is the full acknowledgement that girls' and women's experiences are not one-dimensional, and thus, the gaps that need the most urgent attention are those that break down silos and capture intersectionality. Second, across the thematic areas, there were similarities in gaps that pertain to youth, male, and community engagement, the impact of women's leadership and movements, the emerging role of technology and innovation, private sector and donor responsibilities, the effect of migration and forced displacement, legal frameworks, and the need for cost-benefit analysis.

The gaps represent learning opportunities that advocates, academic and research organizations, CSOs, the private sector, donors, and governments can undertake to better fight for and address the needs of girls and women.

To ensure findings will propel the transformative change envisioned in the SDGs, efforts to fill these gaps must:

- 1 Accurately capture intersectionality and the effect of sociocultural and political environments on gender equality.** Girls' and women's lived experiences are complex and influenced by multiple aspects of their identity (SOGIESC, age, race, ethnicity, among others). Not only is sex- and gender-disaggregated data lacking across multiple topics, more data and analysis are needed to capture multiple identities that influence girls' and women's lives.
- 2 Actively gather data on the needs and experiences of marginalized populations to ensure no one is left behind.** Across thematic areas, systematic data collection on marginalized populations, including girls and women in humanitarian settings, migrants, adolescent girls and young women, unmarried women, older women, LGBTQIA+ people, people with disabilities, and Indigenous peoples is required.
- 3 Meaningfully engage girls and women in data collection, knowledge generation, and policy development.** Traditional data collection and analysis instruments are often biased, excluding girls' and women's voices and/or inadvertently placing them at risk of experiencing GBV or retaliation for participating in data collection processes. To reduce and prevent these biases, girls and women must be closely engaged from data collection to policy development and provided safe spaces to do so.
- 4 Leverage multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships to fill gender-related gaps in innovative ways.** With growing funding streams dedicated to gender equality, there is a need for partners to coordinate efforts across sectors to fill gender data and knowledge gaps and build sustainable civil registration and vital statistics systems. Adequate communication and consultations with key stakeholders, including the private sector, will be useful. Transparency in this process is essential for accountability, as the proportion of funds dedicated to women's groups and gender-related efforts, including in humanitarian settings, is unclear.
- 5 Use evidence for accountability efforts. It is important to note that data and evidence alone are not sufficient to drive progress for girls and women.** Efforts to translate findings into easily accessible and actionable evidence are imperative. Additionally, it is important to ensure that data and evidence are continuously incorporated in advocacy efforts and throughout policy and program development and implementation through adequate gender budgeting, gender auditing, and monitoring and evaluation efforts.

FEEDBACK MECHANISMS AND NEXT STEPS

To continue to make this list more comprehensive and up to date based on current and future committed research efforts, we welcome feedback through the [Google Form](#). Feedback can include details on gaps that are missing, evidence that fills a gap, or new research and reports that you have produced to fill these gaps.

Women Deliver is committed to making gender data and evidence accessible and useful for advocates and decision-makers. A repository of new evidence will be made publically accessible, given appropriate permissions to share.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. KEY EFFORTS TO MAKE GIRLS AND WOMEN VISIBLE AND HEARD

DOCUMENTATION OF DATA GAPS AND EVIDENCE:

DATA2X: Data2x is a pioneer in gender data gap analysis and the importance and use of gender statistics to advance gender equality. Data2X has developed two key reports on gender data gaps, [Mapping Gender Data Gaps](#) and [Mapping Gender Data Gaps: An SDG Era Update](#). These reports cover the availability of gender data in key sectors, innovative solutions to collect gender data, and information on the quality of evidence available for various topics, including lack of international standards, complexity, coverage, and granularity. Learn more about Data2X at <https://www.data2x.org/>.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR IMPACT

EVALUATION (3ie): 3ie is a leader in the generation and use of evidence for decision making by policymakers and advocates, having mapped evidence gaps based on evaluation studies and systematic reviews regarding the effectiveness of programs and policies. In addition, 3ie has conducted specific evidence gap analyses for key populations, such as adolescents. Learn more about 3ie at <http://www.3ieimpact.org/evidence-hub/evidence-gap-maps>.

EFFORTS TO IMPROVE GENDER DATA AVAILABILITY:

EVIDENCE AND DATA FOR GENDER EQUALITY (EDGE):

This joint initiative by the UN Statistics Division and UN Women seeks to generate internationally comparable gender indicators on health, education, employment, entrepreneurship, and asset ownership. At the country level, data availability of SDG indicators is tracked based on the UN's Minimum Set of Gender Indicators. Learn more about EDGE at <https://unstats.un.org/edge/>.

Together with UN Women's flagship program, Making Every Woman and Girl Count, these efforts promote the prioritization of gender statistics, the regular production of gender statistics, and the improved access to data to inform policy advocacy.

COVID-19 GENDER DATA: UN Women's Women Count Data Hub, in partnership with WHO, provides the latest data on gender on the impact of COVID-19, and related responses, on gender. Partnerships with data collection efforts from Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center and Global Health 5050, and others is ongoing to deliver the most accurate picture of the gendered dimensions of COVID-19.

Learn more at <https://data.unwomen.org>, <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>, <https://globalhealth5050.org/covid19>.

INNOVATIVE SOURCES OF GENDER DATA:

EQUAL MEASURES 2030 (EM2030): An independent civil society and private sector-led partnership, EM2030 uses data to propel advocacy efforts for gender equality. Their SDG Gender Index tracks gender-related indicators across the SDGs, in addition to other indicators that more comprehensively portray the lives and experiences of girls and women. The accompanying Gender Advocates Data Hub allows users to undertake deep dives into the status of gender equality in each country and learn how to use evidence to drive advocacy efforts. Learn more about EM2030 at <https://data.em2030.org/>.

SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND GENDER INDEX (SIGI):

Going beyond the collection of sex-disaggregated data, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's SIGI provides comparable, high quality gender statistics on a range of social issues that affect girls and women's lives, including the analysis of discriminatory laws and policies in 180 countries. This index captures discriminations girls and women face across the life cycle. Learn more about the SIGI at <https://www.genderindex.org/>.

APPENDIX B. EXTERNAL SOURCES REFERENCED

BELOW IS A LIST OF EXTERNAL SOURCES EXPLORED DURING THE DESK REVIEW, FOR BOTH ISSUE AND GAPS IDENTIFICATION.

3ie	Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
American Journal of Epidemiology	Jhpiego
Amplify Change	Kaiser Family Foundation
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Landesa
Care International	Malala Fund
Conference of the Parties (COP) 22	Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management
Clean Cooking Alliance	Maternal Health Task Force at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Data2X	McKinsey Global Institute
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	National Democratic Institute
End Violence Against Women Now	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
Equaldex	PAI
European Institute for Gender Equality	Paris21
European Union-Latin America and Caribbean Foundation	Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)
Every Woman Every Child	PATH
Every Woman Treaty	Platform on Disaster Displacement
Girls Not Brides	PLOS
Global Partnership for Education	Reports of the Secretary-General, United Nations
Guttmacher Institute	Reproductive Health Journal
Guttmacher-Lancet Commission on SRHR	SDG Indicators
Harvard University	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Healthy People 2020	The Lancet
Ibis Reproductive Health	The Lancet Global Health
InterAction	The World Bank
Global Protection Cluster	Together for Girls
International Food Policy Research Institute	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
International Foundation for Electoral Systems	United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
International Technical Guidance for Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Revised Edition, 2018	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
International Labour Organization (ILO)	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)	
International Women's Health Coalition	

United Nations Foundation	(HHS)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	United States Institute of Peace
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	University of Pennsylvania
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	White Ribbon Alliance
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)
United Nations' UNITE Campaign	World Health Organization (WHO) Human Reproduction Programme
UN Women	Youth Investment, Engagement, and Leadership Development (YIELD) Project
United States Department of Health & Human Services	

Women Deliver does not seek to discredit any other organizations, groups, or individuals that have identified the same issues or gaps and does not claim to have done a fully comprehensive landscape analysis. Additional consultations will further strengthen and refine the list of sources consulted. Searches for peer-reviewed literature were done through Google Scholar and PubMed. This list does not include sources that prove the existence of evidence under each gap, as the report focuses on the priorities and gaps rather than the evidence within each gap.



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