Invest in Gender Data for COVID-19 Recovery and SDG Progress

As leaders gather at the UN High-level Political Forum against the backdrop of the coronavirus pandemic, the global community must prioritize investment in gender data for COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.

Gaps in gender data hinder COVID-19 response efforts

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Globally, there is insufficient data to measure the long-term gendered impacts of COVID-19.

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Limited evidence and disaggregated data a was a key challenge for almost all 47 countries that presented their Voluntary National Reviews at the July 2019 HLPF.

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- Financial and political investment in gender data
 by governments and donors is needed to close gender data gaps.
- There is an urgent need to close data gaps related to women's paid and unpaid work and a major barrier to recovering from COVID-19 and achieving SDG 5.

Gender data is a key input for COVID-19 recovery

We know from past global health pandemics and from COVID-19 that women are disproportionately impacted, both economically and socially. High-quality, timely, reliable, and disaggregated data is critical for the world to respond, recover, and rebuild from the coronavirus pandemic and make progress on the 2030 Agenda. Gender data is the bedrock of evidence-based policy making and governments should follow through on commitments to invest in it.

Did you know?

Only **37% of countries worldwide** present complete sex-disaggregated data on COVID-19 cases and deaths. Only **4 countries** collect and present sex-disaggregated data on COVID transmission to health care workers. Approximately 7 in 10 workers in essential occupations are women. 740 million women work in the informal economy – their income fell by 60% during the first month of the pandemic.

WHAT GOVERNMENTS SHOULD DO

- 1 Fulfill international commitments to **prioritize** gender data, including calling for investment in gender data in all Generation Equality Forum Action Coalitions.
- **2 Use** gender data to inform COVID-19 policy responses.
- **3 Invest** in closing gender data gaps.

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