

Why the Action Coalition on Gender-Based Violence Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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WHY MUST GENDER DATA BE INCLUDED IN THE BLUEPRINT FOR EVERY ACTION COALITION?

- **Persistent gaps in gender data** are preventing progress to achieve gender equality and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The urgent need to close these data gaps was highlighted by the UN Secretary General's [Beijing+25 Review Report](#).
- Gender data is essential for measuring gender equality progress and informing evidence-based policy; however, baseline data on women and girls is incomplete, missing, and biased as a result of [chronic under-investment and lack of prioritization](#).
- The COVID-19 pandemic has made the achievement of gender equality and the SDGs more urgent, and the need for gender data more pressing. It has also drawn attention to the problem we already know: [the data we have is insufficient](#) to track women and girls' unique experiences.
- Quality gender data will enable Action Coalition leaders to develop a concrete, evidence-based agenda and track progress toward measurable change.

WHAT MUST ACTION COALITION LEADERS DO?

- 1. Use gender data to inform the Action Coalition blueprint.** Action Coalition leaders must utilize available gender data to analyze intersectional discrimination, develop concrete actions, and build the accountability framework to monitor and measure success.
- 2. Develop a gender data plan to deliver on the Action Coalition blueprint.** Action Coalitions must undertake an analysis of gender data gaps related to the concrete actions identified in the blueprint. This analysis should ask four questions: What data do we need? What data is available? What is missing? And how can we gather that data?
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HOW IS GENDER DATA ESSENTIAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA OF THE ACTION COALITION ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?¹

- Since 1995, only about 40 countries have conducted more than one survey on violence against women, **impeding evidence-based law and policy reform on gender-based violence**.
- Data on violent discipline against adolescents aged 15–17 is not always collected — **presenting a key gap in our knowledge about the experiences of adolescent girls and young women**.
- Significant data gaps exist for violence committed against women and girls with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and in humanitarian settings, even though these groups are more likely to experience violence. Filling these gaps is critical to **address intersectional discrimination**.

1. Cited from Data2X's March 2020 report, [Mapping Gender Data Gaps: An SDG Era Update](#).

Why the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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HOW IS GENDER DATA ESSENTIAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA OF THE ACTION COALITION ON ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND RIGHTS?¹

- Though time use data provides important insights about women's unpaid care responsibilities, **gender data on access to affordable childcare is absent — leaving a dearth of evidence for law and policy reform enabling women's labor force participation.**
- Data on the enabling environment for women entrepreneurs — including health care, use of public transport, ownership of government-issued identification, market access, and access to capital — is lacking. **This data could help to expose structural inequalities, revealing what is needed to fully enable and support women's entrepreneurship.**
- Data on how women benefit from financial inclusion efforts remains limited. **Enhanced data is needed to determine which financial inclusion practices are the most beneficial in transforming gender norms** (i.e. promoting women's decision-making power, control over resources, and access to market opportunities).

1. Cited from Data2X's March 2020 report, [Mapping Gender Data Gaps: An SDG Era Update](#).

Why the Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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HOW IS GENDER DATA ESSENTIAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA OF THE ACTION COALITION ON BODILY AUTONOMY AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR)?¹

- Data on women's informed decision-making, and on laws guaranteeing full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, are not regularly produced. **Without regular reporting of all data indicators on SRHR, we cannot tailor policy responses and promote legal reform.**
- Data on women's utilization of health services is missing. **Reliable data is essential for designing health interventions that better meet women's intersectional needs**, especially for women and girls in humanitarian crises, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and women with disabilities.
- Health data for adolescents is not always sex-disaggregated, and data on socially-excluded girls is particularly scarce — **limiting knowledge on the health of girls and young women.**
- Mental health is nearly absent from the SDG framework — meaning that data disaggregated by sex or age is missing, and that **we lack key insights about how girls and women experience these health challenges.**

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Why the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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HOW IS GENDER DATA ESSENTIAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA OF THE ACTION COALITION ON FEMINIST ACTION FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE?¹

- There is a significant lack of sex-disaggregated environmental data. As a result, **law and policy reform for climate change suffers from a gap in evidence-based gender analysis**.
- **Sex-disaggregated data with broad country coverage does not exist to track women's rights to land and natural resources.** This limits knowledge of access, management, and livelihood opportunities, as well as the equitable distribution of benefits from natural resources.
- **Disaster risk management lacks meaningful accountability mechanisms for gender analysis.** There is no international standard or authority tracking the gender-responsiveness of national disaster action plans or collecting data on women's participation in risk management processes.

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Why the Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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HOW IS GENDER DATA ESSENTIAL TO THE TRANSFORMATIVE AGENDA OF THE ACTION COALITION ON TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR GENDER EQUALITY?¹

- Sex-disaggregated data on ICT access remains scarce, **presenting a challenge in assessing the potential of technology to support gender equality.**
- Though existing evidence suggests that digital gender-based violence and harassment is a widespread challenge, there is a dearth of data on women's and girls' safety online. Of the little information available, almost all is from the Global North, meaning that **our understanding of technology-facilitated gender-based violence in the Global South is limited.**
- When combined with traditional datasets, big data can provide unique information on women and girls that is otherwise challenging to measure. **Investments in big data technology can yield innovative insights for gender equality.**

1. Cited from Data2X's March 2020 report, [Mapping Gender Data Gaps: An SDG Era Update](#), and Data2X's November 2019 report, [Big Data, Big Impact? Towards Gender-Sensitive Data Systems](#).

Why the Action Coalition on Feminist Movements and Leadership Must Call for Investment in Gender Data

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- Comparable data on women's representation in local governments and political organizations remains scarce, and for nearly half of all countries, sub-national data does not exist at all — **impeding efforts to track systemic change**.
- **To address inequalities among women represented in politics**, data on the share of women of color, indigenous women, disabled women, and LGBTQIA+ individuals must be collected and used to combat intersectional discrimination.
- More data on private sector and NGO representation is needed **to provide a clear picture of women's voice and influence across sectors**. Most countries do not collect this data.
- **In peace and security processes, nuanced data on women's participation remains scarce**, as does data on the participation and experience of disabled and LGBTQIA+ populations. While national governments and international organizations are increasingly collecting sex-disaggregated data on participation, this information is not tracked consistently by any official body.

1. Cited from Data2X's March 2020 report, [Mapping Gender Data Gaps: An SDG Era Update](#).