



**PAPER PRESENTATION ON**

**DATA USE FOR NATIONAL GENDER EQUALITY MACHINERIES AND THE KEY  
CHALLENGES IN ACCESSING DATA FOR MONITORING THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

**BY**

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**AT**

**INTERACTIVE EXPERT PANEL**

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**VENUE: CONFERENCE ROOM 4, UN CONFERENCE BUILDING**

I am happy to participate as a panelist at this interactive dialogue, I want to state from the onset that gender Statistics are key in keeping track of the country's commitments towards gender equality and women's empowerment as outlined in the International and National Instruments. In that respect according to the Global Gender Gap report, Uganda in 2016 ranked 61 an improvement from the rank of 58 in 2015. Indeed at the Africa Regional level, Uganda is among the 17 countries in the continent that have ratified the African Charter of Statistics which also focuses on producing gender related statistics.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Uganda has robust framework for production and utilization of gender statistics that includes;

The National Development Plan has been aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically, *Goal 5 which aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*'' and key National Gender Indicators that include women and men in; leadership & decision making positions, labour force, ownership of land and control of assets, access to reproductive health services, Gender Based Violence, access to education by girl children, women in conflict situation, have been elaborated and adopted.

We have in addition developed a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) to further increase availability and use of Gender statistics. The strategy specifically provides a framework for the development of gender statistics.

In order to take forward the development of gender statistics, Uganda developed a set of National Priority Gender Equality Indicators (NPGEIs), anchored on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and National Plan. The NPGEIs consist of 106 indicators categorized in six thematic areas namely; Economic; Education; Health; Leadership and Political participation; Human Rights and Information and Communication Technology. The indicators help the Government of Uganda to track progress of attainment of national, regional and global commitments on gender equality.

In addition a core set of indicators to monitor progress towards gender equality in the County is included in the Uganda Gender Policy, which was formulated in 2007.

These require periodic collection and utilization of data to track progress, the key indicators are:

### Core set of national indicators for monitoring the Uganda Gender Policy

- Proportion of population below the poverty line by sex of household head.
- Proportion of women in decision-making by sector and level.
- Proportion of population accessing justice by sex.
- Percentage of population accessing public services by sex, sector and location.
- Maternal Mortality Ratio.
- Proportion of girls completing formal education by level.
- Incidence of gender based violence by region/location.
- Proportion of population with registered land by sex and location.
- Proportion of population accessing and utilizing credit schemes sex and industry.

Data use for the National Gender Machinery is derived from the following sources':

- The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS). In executing its mandate, the Bureau integrates gender related modules in the regular surveys such as:
- The Population and Housing Census, conducted every 10 years;
- The Uganda Demographic and Health Survey, conducted every 5 years; and;
- The Uganda National Household Survey conducted every 3 years
- Labour-Force Survey
- Uganda National Panel Survey
- Census of Business Establishment
- Gender Based Violence Survey
- Survey of Asset Ownership
- Situation Analysis on Women and Girls in Uganda
- National Gender Based Violence Data Base

The data sources are supported by gender structures and mechanisms that include;

- A **gender statistics committee** chaired by a senior officer from the National Gender Machinery and composed of membership from relevant MDAs. . It works with all MDAs to ensure the collection and compilation of gender statistics.
- The National Gender Machinery has a **planning unit** responsible for guiding the overall monitoring and evaluation of policies and interventions that relate to the Ministry's mandate. In this regard the Ministry publishes regular Statistical Abstracts 2009/2010 and 2012/2013<sup>1</sup>
- Uganda is currently collecting and compiling information on the **Minimum Set of Gender Indicators** which was agreed upon by the UN Statistical Commission in 2013. The National Machinery has put in place a national depository for gender statistics and gender related publications. Uganda has made progress by obtaining information on 25 out of the 52 core indicators.

- Data on violence against Women is being collected through various surveys mentioned above and administrative records particularly the annual police crime reports and information management systems of justice, health and education. The National Machinery has also established a **National Management Information System for GBV (NGBV MIS)**. The data generated is disaggregated by age, sex, location (rural or urban), and interest groups including disability, older persons, and women living with HIV/AIDS.
- To increase demand for, and usability of the statistics, Uganda places emphasis on advocacy through the production and distribution of gender statistics advocacy materials, for example; the 2017 UBOS diaries, fliers with gender statistics during national celebrations to targeted audiences.
- Improving analysis, interpretation, presentation and use of the statistics through training of policy and decision makers in statistical data use for gender responsive decision making.
- Uganda produces Gender popular publications like the Gender facts and figures and ensures the dissemination of census and survey findings to all stakeholders both at national and sub national levels.
- Mainstreaming gender in regular censuses and surveys and administrative data processes.
- Undertaking specific gender surveys for example the Uganda Social Institutions and Gender Index.
- The production of gender responsive annual Statistical Abstracts; regular User – Producer dialogues on use of gender statistics.

**There however a few challenges that include;**

- Most of the data and gender statistics are always compiled from surveys and census which may at times not be as regular as needed for monitoring policy and programme implementation.
- Coverage issues are a challenge because the country is sometimes unable to get relevant information per administrative unit because most times methods used for collecting data and information are surveys.
- Ongoing advocacy is required to ensure that each publication is gender responsive and data is analysed to ensure that gender statistics are derived.
- Availability of small area statistics because most of the regular survey data is not ordinarily disaggregated to district level, but rather provided at national and regional level. However, to the extent possible, attempts are made to provide the indicative planning figures required for budgeting and resource allocation up to sub county levels.
- Existence of data gaps in the administrative data compiled by the Ministries, Departments and Agencies. Uganda is attempting to close the gaps by ensuring that all MDAs and LGs develop Sector Strategic Plans for Statistics aligned to the National Development Plan.

**Conclusion:**

Production of Gender Statistics is an on-going concern. Uganda is putting all efforts together to ensure up-to-date gender statistics to inform both national and international developmental frameworks. The NPGEIs and the National Standards indicators are all efforts to ensure well defined indicators to inform Agenda 2030. Therefore using Statistics to illuminate the path towards gender equality in Uganda, and gender responsive planning and decision making is integral in measuring our progression towards a middle income economy.