Improve Data & Accountability for Girls and Women

Facts, Solutions, Case Studies, and Calls to Action

OVERVIEW

Achieving progress for girls and women is dependent upon accurate, disaggregated data to fuel data-driven advocacy, guide interventions, and hold governments accountable. Armed with evidence, national authorities and development actors can make informed decisions about policies and programs, monitor their implementation, and advocate for change. This policy brief explores the critical contributions of data and accountability to gender equality, as well as data and accountability mechanisms and initiatives that have been established to drive progress for girls and women at the regional, national, and global levels.

SECTION 1: FRAMING THE ISSUE

Reliable, timely data are essential for program development, implementation, and evaluation, and can fuel accountability efforts. Accountability — a process that allows governmental and other stakeholders to assess progress, identify problems, and take corrective action where necessary[1,2] — ensures that these same actors are held responsible for the commitments they have made to the post-2015 agenda. With input from actors across sectors, data provides critical information people can use to drive and monitor progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and gender equality.

The "data value chain," the process of collecting, analyzing, disseminating, managing, and using data, exemplifies how data can be used by governments and organizations to identify citizens' needs, make informed decisions about policies and programs, monitor their implementation, and allocate resources efficiently.[3,4] However, timely, relevant data are often lacking. Many countries do not have robust national information systems to collect or track critical statistics, including the number and registration of births and deaths.[5] Statistical capacity remains low, with more than 100 low- and middle-income countries lacking adequate civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems.[6] Additionally, data are often not disaggregated to assess inequities — such as access to social services — or to identify underserved communities such as indigenous groups, people living with disabilities, migrants, rural communities, and people living in informal slum settlements.[7] There is a paucity of data on issues that are particularly relevant to women, such as property ownership, economic empowerment, and other social determinants of health, wellbeing, and empowerment. Only slightly more than half of all countries report data on intimate partner violence, and the quality of these data are often inaccurate and mismanaged.[8] Data related to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services aimed at very young (10-14 years old) and unmarried adolescents is also rare, and definitions of what constitutes young people and adolescents can differ from place to place.[9] These issues are exacerbated in the context of a humanitarian crisis, such as a conflict or natural disaster, where populations are displaced and access to information, social services, and essential needs is limited.[10] Some of the challenges related to the lack of gender data emanate from the fact that sufficient funding is not allocated to gender statistics — merely 13% of countries[11] have a gender statistics budget.[12,13]

Where gender-related data does exist, they are not always made available or used across government departments or levels, or by civil society to drive programming or influencing. This is a critical gap in capacity and political will that can undermine the efficacy of accountability processes. Accessible and available data can increase citizen participation and improve governance. Processes that help to ensure accountability between a government and its citizens can be both formal (e.g. independent ombudsmen, human rights mechanisms) and informal, often citizen-led (e.g. social accountability including citizen scorecards, budget monitoring).

A number of global accountability mechanisms and initiatives have been established to drive progress on data and accountability generally and more specifically when it comes to issues affecting children, adolescents, and women. Included among them are: the High-Level Political Forum; the Universal Periodic Review; the Independent Accountability Panel; Equal Measures 2030; Data2X; Making Every Woman and Girl Count; Countdown to 2030; the UN System Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality (UN-SWAP); the Agenda for Humanity; National Audits of gender equality; and the SDGs, among others. Many initiatives to create accountability mechanisms in humanitarian settings also exist, including the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance; Humanitarian Accountability Project; the Sphere Project; People in Aid; and the rollout of the Core Humanitarian Standard.[14]

Launched in 2012, UN-SWAP on Gender Equality is an accountability framework to mainstream gender equality and empower women.[15] Spearheaded by UN Women, UN-SWAP assigns common performance standards for the gender-related work of all UN entities, ensuring greater coherence and accountability across 15 performance indicators. UN-SWAP establishes a common understanding of gender equality and women's empowerment, a common method to move toward this goal, and a progressive sliding scale of performance standards against which to monitor progress and set aspirational goals. This innovative

Meeting the demand to improve data and accountability to achieve progress for girls and women is linked to the achievement of several SDGs and targets, including:

SDG 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere

- **1.4** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

- **1.b** Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions

SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

- **2.3** By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

deliver for GOOD

Investments in girls & women power progress for all.

approach has triggered shifts in how the UN system approaches work related to gender equality and women's empowerment. Consequently, it has served as an inspiration for other theme areas, including the UN Youth SWAP and the Inter-Agency Support Group for Indigenous Issues SWAP.[16]

Countdown to 2030, a global, multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional collaboration of academics, governments, international agencies, healthcare professional associations, donors, and civil society organizations (CSOs), has been tracking progress for maternal, newborn, and child survival for more than a decade. It focuses on monitoring and reporting coverage levels of effective interventions and health system functionality, as well as health policies, financing, and equity. Using country report cards, Countdown has tracked progress in the 81 countries where the vast majority of maternal, newborn, and child deaths occur. Its reports provide a mechanism to promote accountability from governments and development partners, highlight evidence and knowledge gaps, share evidence-based interventions, and propose actions to reduce child mortality and improve maternal health.[17]

Following the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the UN Secretary-General established the Every Woman Every Child's Independent Accountability Panel (IAP). The IAP is charged with evaluating the progress on the Every Woman Every Child's Global Strategy on Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health 2016-2030 to help further the SDGs. In September 2016, the IAP released its first report and a conceptual framework that is guiding the IAP's work. The conceptual framework is rooted in human rights principles and centers on fostering an enabling environment for accountability processes — monitor, review, act, and remedy — as it relates to the implementation of the Global Strategy. The IAP's work builds on the work of the Commission on Information and Accountability (CoIA) for Women's and Children's Health, an accountability mechanism of Every Woman Every Child that was aligned with the Millennium Development Goals.[18]

Equal Measures 2030,[19] an independent civil society and private sector-led partnership launched in 2016, was formed to use data and bring new and critical insights, stories, and action to help achieve collective impact for girls and women. The EM2030 SDG Gender Index, launching in 2018, will track progress across the SDGs for girls and women using both official and complementary indicators. An online platform will provide data, stories, training, and resources to gender-equality advocates globally to better support their access to and understanding of gender-related data for the SDGs.

In August 2017, the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation, in partnership with Women Deliver and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), developed and launched guidance for national government performance auditors — called supreme audit institutions — to provide independent, fact-based, and objective information, enabling them to hold governments accountable. The performance audits identify weaknesses in government programs and services — in terms of their economy, efficiency, and effectiveness — and give concrete, practical recommendations for improvements. The "Practice Guide to Auditing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: Gender Equality" will help auditors understand gender equality and its place in the 2030 Agenda, and to plan either an audit focused on SDG 5 — gender equality and girls' and women's empowerment — or an audit that examines gender equality within other SDGs, such as poverty, hunger, health, or education.[20]

SECTION 2: SOLUTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS

Alongside governmental and international organizations' efforts to improve data and accountability, a number of civil society-led strategies have also proven effective in holding governments accountable to commitments they have made at regional, national, and global levels. As "watchdogs" of society, a knowledgeable and empowered civil society can hold governments accountable to keep their promises to girls and women.[21] Civil society groups are the link between the public and government policies. Their independence from governments allows them to represent communities and amplify the voices of citizens, families, and communities, and ensure that policies and budgets reflect community needs.

Civil society groups and organizations have employed the following approaches to ensure that governments and other stakeholders fulfill their commitments:

- Strengthen national statistics systems to improve collection of gender statistics
- Leverage big data to close the gender data gap
- Employ strategic litigation leveraging international human rights agreements
- Utilize social accountability efforts to identify and address needs
- Hold "duty-bearers" accountable through budget advocacy

Strengthen National Statistics Systems to Improve Collection of Gender Statistics

Strong civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems can decrease gender inequality through sex-disaggregated data, and gender registration provides access to essential social services such as health and education.[22] However, many countries' national statistics systems lack the capacity or funding to meet the increased demand for gender-related and disaggregated data driven by the movement for a data revolution and the 232 indicators for the SDG agenda. It is estimated that about 35% of children under the age of five are not registered at birth, and two thirds of all annual deaths are not registered.[23] Consequently, many girls cannot access education and are at an increased risk of child marriage. For example, estimates of maternal mortality may be inaccurate, leading to the poor allocation of resources toward projects that can help decrease preventable causes of death for women.[24]

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- **5.5** Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life

- **5.a** Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

- **5.c** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

- **10.2** By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status

- **10.3** Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies, and action in this regard

- **10.4** Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage, and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality

deliver for **GOOD**
Investments in girls & women power progress for all.

Barriers to establishing functioning CRVS systems include lack of awareness regarding the importance of registration, discriminatory laws and attitudes that impede registration, confusion, issues with data entry, and uncoordinated data collection systems.[25] The Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data[26] is committed to supporting stakeholders across countries to harness the data. The partnership helps partners, including governments, to design data roadmaps. These roadmaps are intended to improve data ecosystems, better disaggregate data, and utilize innovative approaches — such as Earth observation and satellite technology — to help identify interventions and solutions to achieve the SDGs. In 2016, UN Women launched a flagship program, Making Every Woman and Girl Count, to address how gender statistics are used, created, and promoted through a five-year investment in 12 countries.[27] The program aims to increase the availability of accurate information on gender equality and women's rights around the world in order to inform policy and decision-making at the national and international levels. The Agenda for Humanity, a five-point plan that includes reinforcing local systems and working across mandates and sectors, is a roadmap for change used in humanitarian settings.[28]

Leverage Big Data to Close the Gender Data Gaps

Big data holds the potential to fill many existing gender data gaps. The term "big data" is usually understood as a collection of data from digital sources — such as geospatial, social media, and cell phone records — that requires new methods and tools to capture, manage, and process information in an effective manner.[29] Big data, characterized as being high volume, high frequency, and of high variety, can provide opportunities to access and analyze data and emerging issues in real time and improve the statistical data available on girls and women. In particular, use of big data, collected with innovative tools from varied sources, can provide the much-needed information on girls' and women's status in humanitarian settings.[30] UN Member States can benefit from using big data in their Voluntary National Reviews to better monitor their progress toward the SDGs and understand the status of women's health and wellbeing in their countries.[31]

Multiple data collection initiatives have been created to address information gaps and facilitate and assess progress toward Agenda 2030, especially in countries where comprehensive data is unavailable. The United Nations, for example, launched Global Pulse to harness data for sustainable development and humanitarian action.[32] Using big data, the initiative forges public-private partnerships for data sharing, produces high-impact analytical resources and approaches through its Pulse Labs, and promotes the adoption of useful innovations across the UN Systems. However, privacy concerns, the gaps in girls' and women's access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and other technologies, and data ownership are a few of the numerous challenges that must be addressed to use big data to its full potential.[33]

Case Study: Quantifying the Economic, Social, and Health Status of Women and Girls
In 2017, Data2X produced a report showcasing studies using big data to close the gender data gap.[34] One study, conducted at the Flowminder Foundation, used Demographic and Health Survey Data and Geospatial Data to find areas with high rates of stunting for girls in Nigeria and areas with low literacy rates and low use of contraceptive methods for girls In Kenya. Another study at Georgia Tech University used social media data to identify girls' mental health status. Analysis of twitter feeds found that females used considerably different linguistic expression and topical contents than male users, and women who disclosed their mental illness expressed 15.4% higher sadness and 10.7% higher anxiety. These findings align with previous work in social psychology, suggesting analysis of twitter data can be used to identify patterns of mental health illness in populations. Data2X additionally launched a Big Data for Gender Challenge calling on researchers around the world to propose innovative ways to use big data sources to fill gender data gaps. Similarly, UN Women produced a report in 2018 highlighting 15 big data innovation projects related to gender and the SDGs.[35]

Employ Strategic Litigation Leveraging International Human Rights Agreements

Human rights are essential entitlements due to all people and recognized by governments in national legislation and in international agreements and declarations. A rights-based approach involves integrating human rights norms and frameworks within policies and programs — from conceptualization to evaluation.[36] The rights-based approach builds upon existing international human rights declarations, prioritizes the health and wellbeing of individuals, and acknowledges the central role of gender equity.[37]

A range of international agreements, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of the Child, and regional agreements such as the Maputo Protocol (Africa) specifically address rights related to girls and women. By signing on to these agreements and declarations, countries commit to respecting, protecting, and fulfilling these rights. Countries around the world have included human rights language into national laws and policies. South Africa, Kenya, and Ecuador, for example, incorporate the health, rights, and wellbeing of girls and women into their constitutions.[38] Countries may also have national human rights institutions that address social issues such as women's and children's health, which can serve as a platform for promoting accountability.[39]

To ensure that duty-bearers — governments and aid organizations — are held accountable to guarantee the right to health for all citizens, civil society actors can utilize a range of mechanisms. Non-judicial (e.g. health facility complaint procedures, maternal death reviews, the United Nations' Universal Periodic Reviews), quasi-judicial (health tribunals, optional protocols), and judicial (local courts, civil tribunals) mechanisms can operate at the community, regional, national, or global level.[40]

SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels

- **16.3** Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

- **16.6** Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels

- **16.10** Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

- **16.b** Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

- **17.18** By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location, and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

deliver for
GOOD
Investments in girls & women power progress for all.

Case Study: Using the Court System to Address Maternal Mortality and Morbidity in India
In India, civil society advocates successfully used the judicial system to argue that the government was not meeting its human rights obligations. In 2010, advocates cited constitutional and human rights law to show that the government had not fulfilled its responsibility to prevent the pregnancy-related deaths of two women.[41] The Delhi High Court found the government to be negligent in protecting women's basic, fundamental, and human right to life, as stipulated in the Indian Constitution.[42] The government was required to provide monetary compensation to the families, to identify the failures in the current system that led to these deaths, and to develop strategies for monitoring and improving health services.[43]

Utilize Social Accountability Efforts to Identify and Address Needs

Social accountability engages citizens — including girls, women, communities, the media and others — to use their voices to hold public officials and service providers accountable during the development process, as well as to improve the quality and accessibility of public services.[44] Social accountability efforts can focus at the micro-level (for example, by monitoring health services at facilities) or at the macro-level (for example, by supporting civil society participation in policy design, resource allocation, and tracking commitments). Social accountability employs a range of tools and tactics — including community report cards, social audits, citizen charters, and citizen health committees — to help communities monitor and provide feedback on government health services and spending.[45] Citizen report cards, for example, provide a mechanism for users/clients to provide information on the type of care they received,[46] while social audits ensure that community voices and perspectives are integrated within the design, monitoring, and evaluation of health services through participatory approaches.[47,48] In humanitarian settings in Lebanon for example, approaches have leveraged the voices of affected populations to assess water and sanitation needs to develop and implement Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) projects.[49] The Core Humanitarian Standard, a set of nine commitments and quality criteria, places communities at the center of aid efforts by ensuring a humanitarian response is based on communication, participation, and feedback of the population affected by crisis.[50]

Experiences from countries around the world indicate that social accountability strategies have contributed to improvements in health services and in strengthening accountability at the local level in particular.[51]

Case Study: Malawi's Community Scorecard
In Malawi's Ntcheu district, the international non-governmental organization (NGO) CARE implemented community scorecards to improve the quality of maternal health services.[52] Once health providers and clients identified the main challenges and gaps in health services, this information was presented in a simplified scorecard format. Community members, local government officials, and health facility staff discuss the contents of the scorecard and develop action plans to identify solutions. Community members then monitor whether the solutions are being implemented. After a specific period of time, a follow-up review assesses progress. This collaborative approach in Malawi has opened up opportunities for dialogue between health service providers and patients, supported collective responsibility to address barriers to care, and promoted a "culture of accountability" among health service providers.

Hold "Duty-Bearers" Accountable Through Budget Advocacy

How governments choose to spend their money has an enormous impact on citizens' lives. CSOs and NGOs can influence these decisions by engaging their governments on financial resource allocation. Transparency in this process is critical — without it, governments may channel funds inappropriately and there is room for corruption.[53] Many government taxes and expenditures are not gender neutral. Gender-responsive budgeting that addresses these inequities should be combined with gender auditing. Budget monitoring, whereby citizen groups monitor financial allocations, ensures that resources are spent efficiently and supports transparency of financial reporting at the national and/or sub-national levels.[54] By compiling data on the needs and priorities of the public through their links to citizens and communities, and by taking action to help shape how budgets are developed and spent, civil society groups can hold governments accountable across sectors.[55] In the humanitarian sector, there are multiple aid-flow tracking initiatives such as the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) gender equality policy marker. This qualitative statistical tool, created by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), tracks whether an aid activity targets gender equality or not.[56]

Case Study: Budget monitoring in South Africa to Ensure Funding for HIV and AIDS Treatment
During the late 1990s, the South African government did not support the introduction of drug-based prevention and HIV/AIDS treatment regimens due to their high costs.[57] The Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), an advocacy group run by people living with HIV and AIDS, used different strategies to convince the government to change its position. Utilizing a combination of budget monitoring, litigation, and mobilization — sometimes simultaneously — TAC was able to convince the government to introduce a national program to prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) through access to a short course of AZT (an antiretroviral drug). TAC subsequently worked with scientists and researchers to develop plans and policy proposals for a national anti-retroviral (ARV) program. In 2003, a national ARV program was approved by the cabinet, and in 2007 the government committed to spending $6 billion on HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment between 2007 and 2012. This plan allowed for 1.6 million people to receive ARV treatment by 2011.[58]

Case Study: Budget Auditing in Spain as Part of the G+ Programme
The G+ Programme was established in Andalusia, Spain, in 2007. The programme combines gender budgeting and institutional mechanisms to develop a gender perspective throughout the administration and gender auditing of the budget. Their 2018 Gender Audit Plan has identified four efforts — in areas of public health and

deliver for
GOOD
Investments in girls & women power progress for all.

pharmaceuticals; social inclusion; employability and economic empowerment; and mobility and transportation. These gender audits will assess if each program addresses inequalities between men and women, if the budgetary spending included a gender perspective, if the implementation was structured after the gender objectives, and if citizens are satisfied with the program.[59]

SECTION 3: THE BENEFITS OF INVESTMENT

Dependable statistics portray the reality of everyday lives — including critical information on underserved populations and unmet need. Evidence is the foundation upon which governments and partners may develop effective policies and programs, enabling them to target resources where they are most needed. As such, reliable, disaggregated data is critical to ensuring good governance, fair share of resources, and accountability, providing the means to manage effective service delivery, track progress, and assess the impact of policies and programs.

Yet those countries that stand to gain the most from more data in general — and disaggregated data specifically — are often the least able to gather it.[60] Many developing countries still lack the ability to produce, analyze, and translate findings and statistics into effective development outcomes.[61] Consequently, policy may not reflect the needs of the people. Particularly in countries where resources are scarce, good statistics are needed to ensure the efficient and effective use of capital for development spending.[62]

Data is crucial in supporting civil society advocacy strategies, pushing for political and social change, and solving complex problems including health, education, infrastructure, and employment. Research shows that investing in data collection and processing can add great economic value. While the benefits are often country and context specific, one study does point to the massive potential return of investing in data. In the education sector alone, using open data could enable approximately $1 trillion in economic value every year.[63] The McKinsey Global Institute estimates the global value of improved and more open data at up to $3 trillion of economic value per year across seven sectors.[64]

Investing in data collection reaps significant returns, enabling countries to get the most out of the resources allocated. And adopting a gender perspective to information gathering helps countries accelerate progress toward gender equality through policy change — a goal that cannot be achieved without the backing of sound data, evaluation, and accountability mechanisms. Introducing gender indicators and gender auditing has the added advantage of capturing qualitative changes, such as levels of female empowerment or changes in societal attitudes toward the rights of girls and women.

When women move closer to gender equality, they move closer to realizing their full potential, which boosts their ability to participate within the formal economy, break the cycle of poverty, and improve the wellbeing of their families and communities.

SECTION 4: CALLS TO ACTION

In order to improve data and accountability to measure progress for girls and women, governments need to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics systems, including gathering and using disaggregated data, as well as establish national accountability mechanisms that are transparent, inclusive, and provide opportunities for review and action.[65] Civil society actors should play a key role in these national accountability processes and mechanisms. For their part, funders and multilateral organizations need to support the role of civil society by investing in capacity building so that they are better equipped to hold governments accountable and promote the collection of disaggregated data by gender, age group, income, and geographic location to encourage the allocation of resources and services for underserved or hard-to-reach populations.

In order to power progress for all, different constituents must work together — governments, civil society, academia, media, affected populations, the United Nations, and the private sector — to take the following actions for girls and women:

- Make gender-based analysis, budgeting, and auditing mandatory. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Ensure that all policies, plans, data, budgets, and audits related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other strategies are publically available, transparent, and accessible to non-technical audiences. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Ensure there is adequate public financing for core national statistics systems to enable SDG monitoring. (Most relevant for: governments, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Disaggregate all data by gender, age, income, and geography in order to strengthen policy making, programming, and accountability for all and to leave no one behind. (Most relevant for: civil society, governments, and the private sector)

- Invest in gender expertise and capacity within national statistics offices. (Most relevant for: governments)

- Align data collection approaches, national censuses, and internationally supported surveys with best practices, including the Agenda for Humanity, to track the status of all of the Sustainable Development Goals and indicators. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Facilitate partnerships between governments, multilateral organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders to share experiences around demands for data collection and to support data collection, data management, and accountability efforts. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, academia, media, affected populations, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Develop data collection frameworks that can account for the increased vulnerabilities of women in emergency contexts. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, academia, the United Nations and the private sector)

- Conduct gender auditing of tax and expenditure policies to identify non-gender-equitable policies. (Most relevant for: governments, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Monitor progress of policy commitments and budget allocations at national and sub-national levels and advocate for adjustments to these policies and budgets as needed. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, academia, media, affected populations, the United Nations, and the private sector)

- Support global and national advocacy and accountability through a thriving civil society, including the women's movement. (Most relevant for: civil society)

- Boost data literacy across civil society to support uptake and understanding of data ecosystems and how data can be used for influencing. (Most relevant for: civil society, donors, academia, and the private sector)

deliver for
GOOD
Investments in girls & women
power progress for all.

These briefs are intended to be used by policymakers, decision-makers, advocates, and activists to advance issues effecting girls and women in global development. These materials are designed to be open-sourced and available for your use.

➜ **Learn more about the Deliver for Good campaign.**

ENDNOTES

1 "AUC RMNCH Accountability Mechanisms. Parallel Session 2C: Accountability for RMNCH: The African Perspective and Prospects." African Union. 2014. Web. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/about/governance/partnersforum/2c_auc_rmnch.pdf>.

2 "The Final Report of the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health: Keeping Promises, Measuring Results." Every Woman, Every Child. 2010. Web. <http://www.who.int/topics/millennium_development_goals/accountability_commission/Commission_Report_advance_copy.pdf>.

3 Open Data Watch. "The Value Chain: Moving From Production to Impact." 2018. Web. <https://opendatawatch.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Data_Value_Chain-WR-1803126.pdf>.

4 "A World That Counts: Mobilising the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development." The United Nations Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (IEAG). Nov. 2014. Web. <http://www.undatarevolution.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/A-World-That-Counts.pdf>.

5 "Gender Data Gaps" DATA2x. 2016. Web. 23 Aug 2017 <http://data2x.org/what-is-gender-data/gender-data-gaps/http://data2x.org/what-is-gender-data/gender-data-gaps/>.

6 Mills, SL. "World-Strengthening CRVS and national ID: January 29, 2016 to October 27, 2017 completion report for the WBG action plan for addressing data gaps in civil registration and vital statistics, 2016-2030". World Bank Group, 2017. Web. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/306621510673094647/pdf/AUS16865-revised-public.pdf>.

7 "A World That Counts: Mobilising the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development." The United Nations Secretary General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (IEAG). Nov. 2014. Web. <http://www.undatarevolution.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/A-World-That-Counts.pdf>.

8 Ibid.

9 Idele, Priscilla, et al. "Epidemiology of HIV and AIDS among Adolescents: Current Status, Inequities, and Data Gaps." *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes* 66 Supplement 2 (2014).

10 "Guidelines on Data Issues in Humanitarian Crisis Situations."UNFPA, 2010. Web. <https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/guidlines_dataissues.pdf>.

11 "Spotlighting gender data at the first-ever UN World Data Forum." UN Women, Jan 2017. Web. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/1/announcer-gender-data-at-the-first-ever-un-world-data-forum>.

12 "Report of the UN Secretary-General on Gender Statistics" United Nations. 2013. Web. 23 Aug 2017. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/flagship-programmes/making-every-woman-and-girl-count#notes>.

13 "POLICYMAKERS AND GENDER EQUALITY: WHAT THEY KNOW AND HOW THEY KNOW IT." Equal Measures 2030, 2017. Web. <https://www.equalmeasures2030.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/EM-September-report-WEB.pdf>.

14 ATHA. "Humanitarian Quality and Accountability Initiatives." Web. <http://atha.se/content/humanitarian-quality-and-accountability-initiatives>

15 UN-SWAP. "Promoting UN Accountability." Web.<http://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/un-system-coordination/promoting-un-accountability>.

16 Ibid.

17 Boerma, Ties, et al. "Tracking Progress Towards Universal Coverage for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, the 2017 Report." UNICEF and World Health Organization. 2017. Web. <http://countdown2030.org/pdf/Countdown-2030-complete-with-profiles.pdf>.

18 "2016: Old Challenges New Hopes" Every Women, Every Child. September 2016. Web. 23 Aug 2017. <https://www.everywomaneverychild.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/IAP_Report_September2016.pdf>.

19 "SDG GENDER INDEX & GENDER ADVOCATES DATA HUB." Equal Measures 2030, Web. <http://www.equalmeasures2030.org/products/sdg-gender-index/>

20 "Auditors Preparing to Hold Government Accountable for Gender Equality and the SDGs" Women Deliver. August 2017. Web, 23 Aug 2017. <http://womendeliver.org/2017/auditors-preparing-hold-government-accountable-gender-equality-sdgs/>.

21 "National Accountability Mechanisms for Women's and Children's Health." Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health. Sep. 2012. Web. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/topics/part_publications/national_accountability_mechanisms.pdf>.

22 Data2X. "CRVS and Gender". Data2X, 2018. Web. <https://www.data2x.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/CRVSandGenderBrief.pdf>.

23 Ibid.

24 Ibid.

25 World Bank Group. "Global Civil registration and Vital Statistics: Scaling up Investment Plan 2015-2024." World Bank & WHO, 2014. Web. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/18962/883510WP0CRVS000Box385194B00PUBLIC0.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>.

26 "Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data." Web. <http://www.data4sdgs.org/>.

27 "MAKING EVERY WOMAN AND GIRL COUNT: Supporting the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs through better production and use of gender statistics." UN Women, 2016. Web. <http://www.unwomen.org//media/headquarters/attachments/sections/how%20we%20work/flagship%20programmes/fpi-statistics-concept-note.pdf?la=en&vs=7>.

28 "An Agenda for Action and Change." *Agenda for Humanity.* Web. <https://www.agendaforhumanity.org/>.

29 Abreu Lopes, Claudia and Savita Bailur. "Gender Equality and Big Data: Making Gender Data Visible." UN Women. 2018. Web. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2018/1/gender-equality-and-big-data>.

30 UNHCR & Global Pulse. "Social Media and Forced Displacement: Big Data Analytics & Machine-Learning". UNHCR & Global Pulse, 2017. Web <http://www.unhcr.org/innovation/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/FINAL-White-Paper.pdf>.

31 Data2X. "5 Ways Gender Data Can Strengthen SDG Voluntary Reviews" Web. <https://www.data2x.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SDG-Voluntary-National-Reviews-FINAL.pdf>.

32 United Nations Global Pulse. 2018. Web. <https://www.unglobalpulse.org/>.

33 UN Women. "Gender Equality and Big Data." UN Women & Global Pulse. 2018. Web. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2018/gender-equality-and-big-data-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3955>.

34 Data2X."Big Data and the Well-Being of Women and Girls: Applications on the Social Scientific Frontier." 2017. Web. <https://www.data2x.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Big-Data-and-the-Well-Being-of-Women-and-Girls.pdf>.

35 UN Women. "Gender Equality and Big Data." UN Women & Global Pulse. 2018. Web. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2018/gender-equality-and-big-data-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3955>.

36 "Human Rights Based Approach to Health." World Health Organization. 2016. Web. <http://www.who.int/trade/glossary/story054/en/>.

37 "National Accountability Mechanisms for Women's and Children's Health." Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health. Sep. 2012. Web. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/topics/part_publications/national_accountability_mechanisms.pdf>.

38 Ibid.

39 Ibid.

40 "Auditors Preparing to Hold Government Accountable for Gender Equality and the SDGs." Women Deliver. August 2017. Web, 23 Aug 2017. <http://womendeliver.org/2017/auditors-preparing-hold-government-accountable-gender-equality-sdgs/>.

41 "The Role of Human Rights-Based Accountability in Eliminating Maternal Mortality and Morbidity." Center for Reproductive Rights. April 2011. Web. <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/women/docs/responses/CenterforReproductiveRights.pdf>.

42 Ibid.

43 Ibid.

44 "National Accountability Mechanisms for Women's and Children's Health." Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health. Sep. 2012. Web. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/topics/part_publications/national_accountability_mechanisms.pdf>.

45 World Bank Group. "Source Book for 21 Social Accountability Tools." World Bank PRAN, 2012. <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/PUBLICSECTORANDGOVERNANCE/Resources/285741-1233946247437/21SAToolsSourcebook.pdf>.

46 "Citizen report card manual: A social audit tool to monitor the progress of Viet Nam's Socio-Economic Development Plan." Hà Nội: UNICEF Việt Nam, n.d. Web. 1 Apr. 2016. <http://www.unicef.org/vietnam/citizen_TA.pdf>.

47 Hausmann-Muela, Susanna. "The Community Counts: A Participatory Approach to Social Audits."*BMC Health Services Research* 11 Supplement 2 (2011). Web. <http://bmchealthservres.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/1472-6963-11-S2-I1>.

48 "National Accountability Mechanisms for Women's and Children's Health." Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health. Sep. 2012. Web. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/topics/part_publications/national_accountability_mechanisms.pdf>.

49 "SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN LEBANON Promoting dialogue in humanitarian and development WASH programmes." *OXFAM CASE STUDY.* Oxfam, Mar 2017. Web. <https://oxfamilibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/620219/cs-lebanon-water-social-accountability-220317-en.pdf;jsessionid=7B8D5812EBC653CB3D2191BEBC07FB43?sequence=1>.

50 CHS Alliance, Group URD and the Sphere Project. "Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability." 2014. <https://corehumanitarianstandard.org/files/files/Core%20Humanitarian%20Standard%20-%20English.pdf>.

51 McNeil, Mary and Carmen Malena. "Demanding Good Governance: Lessons from Social Accountability Initiatives in Africa." World Bank. 2010. Web. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/2478>.

52 "Can Social Accountability Help Ensure Rights and Better Participation in Maternal Health Services?" Wilson Center, CARE. May 2014. Web. <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/can-social-accountability-help-ensure-rights-and-better-participation-maternal-health-services#sthash.KhkbLJcQ.dpuf>.

53 "Role of Civil Society Budget Work." International Budget Partnership. 2016. Web. <http://www.internationalbudget.org/why-budget-work/role-of-civil-society-budget-work/>.

54 "Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group: How We Work." n.d. Web. 6 June 2018. <http://csbag.org/?page_id=7222/#how-we-work>.

55 "Role of Civil Society Budget Work." International Budget Partnership. 2016. Web. <http://www.internationalbudget.org/why-budget-work/role-of-civil-society-budget-work/>.

56 OECD. "The DAC gender equality policy maker." http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/dac-gender-equality-marker.htm

57 "Strategies, Tactics and Approaches: Conducting and Evaluating National Civil Society Advocacy for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health." World Health Organization. 2014. Web. <http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/100626/1/9789241506687_eng.pdf>.

58 Overy, Neil. "In the Face of Crisis: The Treatment Action Campaign Fights Government." International Budget Partnership. Aug. 2011. Web. <http://www.internationalbudget.org/wp-content/uploads/LP-case-study-TAC.pdf>.

59 "2018 - Gender Budgeting Training Plan." Junta de Andalucía, 2018. Web. <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/haciendayadministracionpublica/planif_presup/genero/publicaciones/180801_Plan_Formacion%20PPG%202018_EN.pdf>.

60 "The Role of Statistics in World Development." Paris 21 and OECD. 2016. Web. <http://www.paris21.org/sites/default/files/2532.pdf>.

61 Ibid.

62 Ibid.

63 Manyika, James, et al. "Open Data: Unlocking Innovation and Performance with Liquid Information." McKinsey & Company. Oct. 2013. Web. <http://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/business-technology/our-insights/open-data-unlocking-innovation-and-performance-with-liquid-information>.

64 Ibid.

65 "A World That Counts: Mobilising the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development." The United Nations Secretary General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (IEAG). Nov. 2014. Web. <http://www.undatarevolution.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/A-World-That-Counts.pdf>.