

Introduction to Gender Statistics

Training in Gender Statistics
Turks and Caicos Islands

Virtual | 17-18 September 2024



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, SUBREGIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CARIBBEAN

1

Learning objectives

- Become familiar with the concepts of sex and gender
- Understand the multidisciplinary nature of gender statistics.
- Gain knowledge on how gender statistics can help monitor the SDGs from a gender angle, in the spirit of inclusiveness.
- Understand the reasons behind the lack of some gender-related SDG data, and potential solutions to overcome related challenges.

WHAT IS GENDER DATA

Sex vs. Gender

Sex vs. Gender	
Sex	Sex refers to the biological differences between women and men
Gender	Gender refers to the role of a woman or man in society, it is constructed over time

- Generally, data is disaggregated by sex
- Sex-disaggregated statistics are part of gender statistics, but gender statistics are much broader

SEX OR GENDER?

- 1) AFTER DELIVERY THE DOCTOR WILL REVEAL TO THE MOTHER THE Sex OF THE CHILD
- 2) IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCES IN ENROLMENT RATES BETWEEN GIRLS AND BOYS, THE DATA MUST BE DISAGGREGATED BY Sex
- 3) A PERSON'S Sex MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT ALIGN WITH HIS OR HER Gender IDENTITY
- 4) DATA IS TYPICALLY DISAGGREGATED BY BINARY DEFINITIONS OF Sex, BUT SOME COUNTRIES ARE STARTING TO DEVELOP METHODOLOGIES TO CAPTURE Gender DIMENSIONS AND APPLY THESE FOR DISAGGREGATION
- 5) WOMEN AND MEN'S Gender ROLES IN SOCIETY DETERMINE HOW MUCH TIME THEY SPEND DOING DOMESTIC WORK
- 6) Gender STATISTICS INCLUDE Sex DISAGGREGATED STATISTICS AND OTHER Gender SPECIFIC INDICATORS THAT CAPTURE THE REALITIES AND THE DIFFERENCES IN THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND MEN

GENDER STATISTICS

- Gender Statistics capture the specific realities in the lives of women and men
- Gender statistics go well beyond sex-disaggregation
- Gender statistics comprise:
 - Sex-disaggregated data
 - Data pertaining specifically to women or to men
 - Data that captures specific gender issues (even when non explicit)
- Gender data cuts across all areas of sustainable development



ARE THESE GENDER STATISTICS?

Proportion of population living in slums, by sex ✓

Maternal mortality ratios, per 100,000 live births ✓

Incidence of prostate cancer ✓

Tobacco use rates in China ✓

Proportion of households using clean fuels for cooking and heating ✓

Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, in USD ✗

GENDER DATA VS GENDER STATISTICS



Image source: Studybay group

-Gender data are data points for men, women or for issues that affect women or men particularly.

-Gender statistics are the estimates calculated utilizing gender data.

-In practice, and throughout these course, both words are often used interchangeably.

3.3

Misinterpretation issues specific to gender data

Interviewing only the household head to obtain data

- Data disaggregation by sex of household head can never replace sex-disaggregated data
- Why?
 - Males might not have accurate information about women
 - Biased information about violence against women, control issues, etc.
 - Fails to capture intra-household inequalities
 - Bias regarding household composition (e.g. most women-headed households are single adult households; most male-headed households are not)
- Questions about women must be asked to women

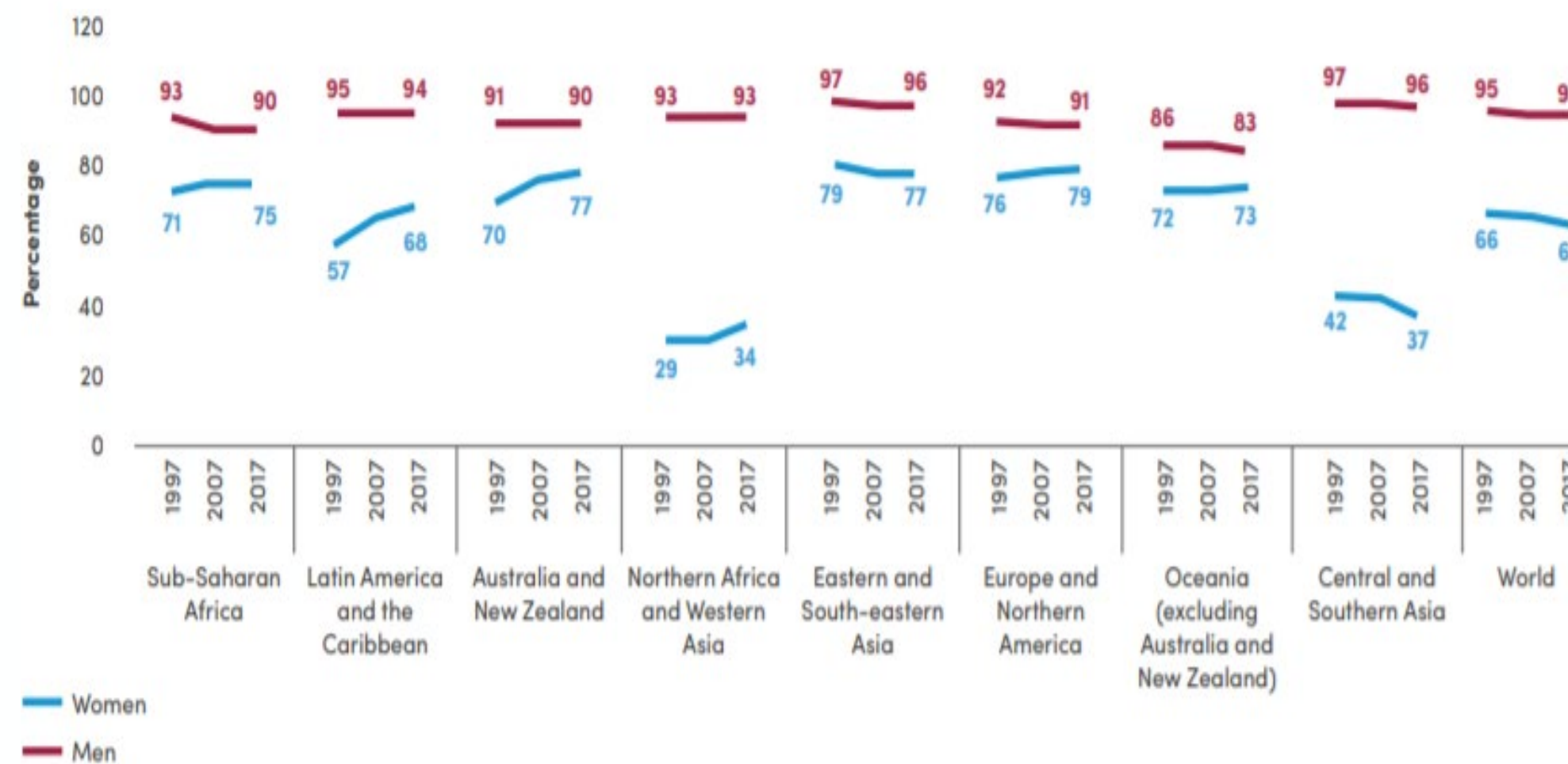


Graphic credit: Delwar Hossain

Measuring gender gaps

- Measuring gaps is important to provide a picture of equality
- The trend of gaps may differ from the overall trend of an indicator
- For example, observe the data for women and men in Eastern and South-eastern Asia

Labour force participation rate among population aged 25-54 by sex and region, 1997-2017

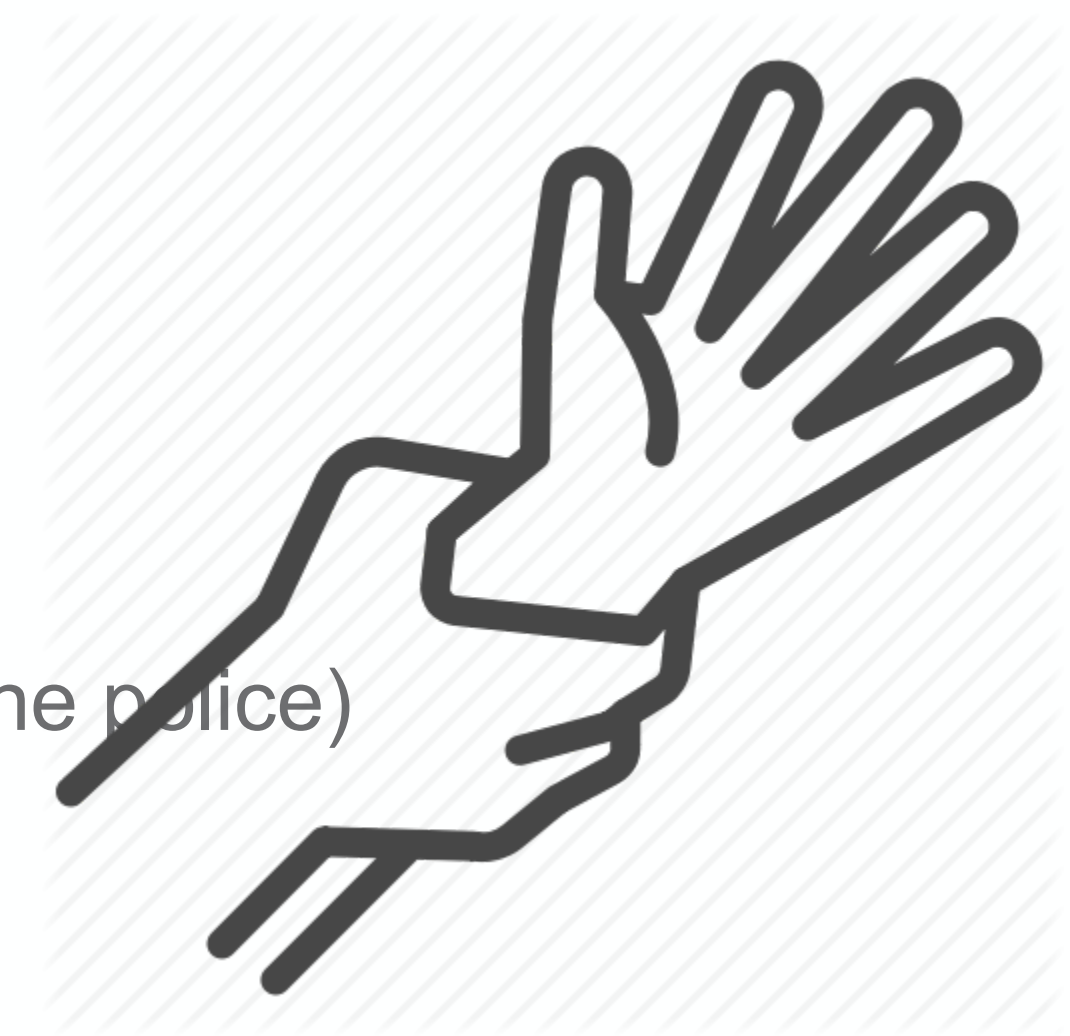


Source: Weighted averages calculated by UN Women using data from ILO 2017b.
Note: Data refer to latest available in reference period for 193 countries.

- o Hence, there is a need to look at individual indicator values for women and men, and not just the gap

Violence and crime data

- Violence and crime estimates are ALWAYS UNDERREPORTED
- Most victims do not report instances to the police because:
 - Victims fear for their own safety
 - Victims believe reporting won't lead to results
 - Stigma associated with violence
- Surveys are a better instrument to capture this data because:
 - Victims are more likely to disclose incidents when asked (as opposed to going to the police)
 - Enumerators are specifically trained to build rapport with victims
 - Trained enumerators are more sensitive to confidentiality issues
 - Enumerators are aware of the psychological harm while recalling violent instances
 - Women are interviewed separately
 - Question order and wording are carefully crafted in specialized surveys



Graphic credit: Siwat V.

Time Use Data

- Quantitative summaries of how individuals “spend” their time (over 24h or 7 days)
- Key issues when interpreting time-use data are:
 - o Information collected over different days (weekdays vs. weekends) and over different seasons
 - o Refer to ICATUS to understand classification of activities
 - o Unpaid care and domestic work only includes work for own-use and in the form of services
- Time-use information is best measured using diaries:
 - o Capture simultaneous activities

Activity categories	04:00-05:00				05:00-06:00				06:00-07:00				07:00-08:00			
Sleeping																
Eating																
Personal care																
School																
Work as employed																
Own business work																
Farming																
Animal-rearing																
Fishing																
Shopping																
Weaving, sewing																
Cooking																
Domestic work																
Care for children																
Commuting																

Sex disaggregated poverty rates

- Poverty rates are typically calculated at the household level and:
 - Fail to capture intra-household inequalities
 - To capture accurate measures of individual allocation of resources, separate assessments of income and/or expenditure at the individual level are necessary
- Check indicator metadata to assess whether the data pertains to household-level or individual-level estimates



Image credit: Flaticon

Gender pay gap

- Mean hourly earnings from paid employment by sex
- Pay by occupation and level and taking into consideration total time worked
- Interpreting this indicator:
 - Pay gap DOES NOT JUST reflect the average pay of women vs. the average pay of men in a certain country
 - Compares earnings for a certain occupation and level
 - Gross remuneration in cash or in-kind for time worked or work done, (includes remuneration for annual vacation, other type of paid leave)
 - Excludes employers' contributions to social security, pension and related benefits
 - Excludes severance and termination pay.

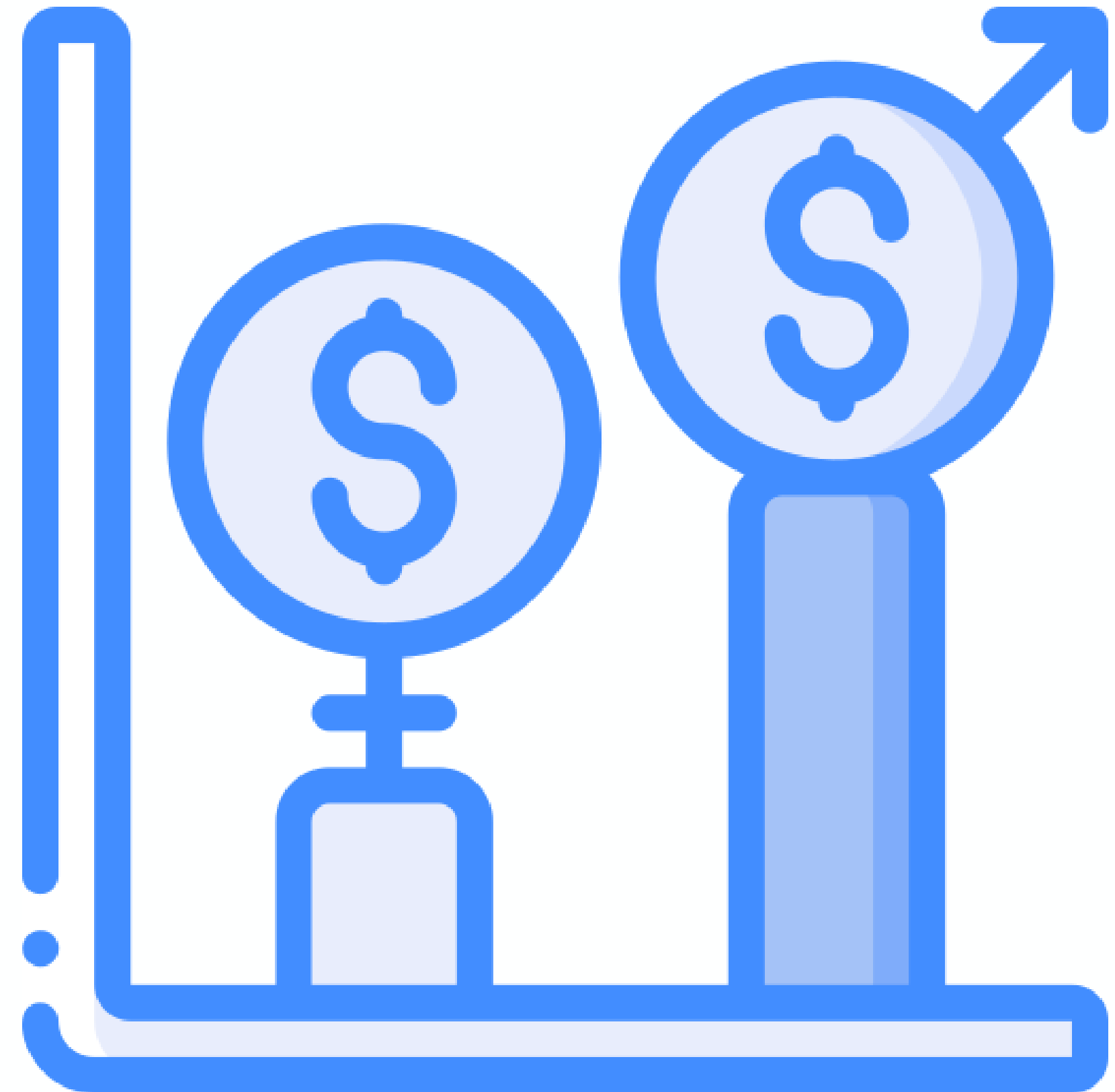


Image credit: Flaticon

GENDER AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- Adopted by all UN Member States in 2015
- Provides a shared blueprint for peace & prosperity for people and the planet.
- At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Each of the 17 Goals include a series of targets
- To measure progress towards the targets we use more than 200 indicators
- The SDGs are a follow-up to the MDGs, but apply for developed and developing countries



GENDER ACROSS THE SDG INDICATOR FRAMEWORK

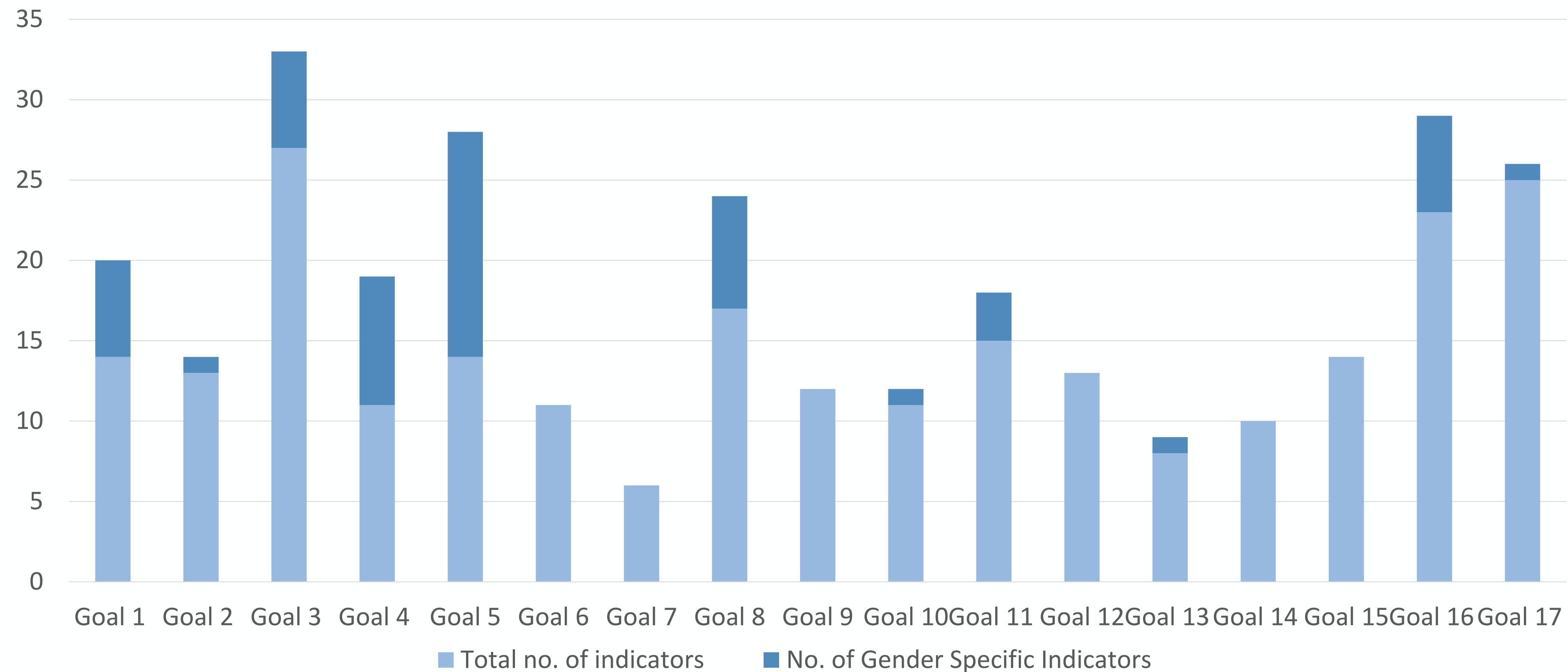


- Gender indicators are present across many SDG goals.
- Well beyond goal 5.
- Without gender equality the SDGs cannot be achieved
- Without gender statistics, inclusive progress towards the SDGs cannot be measured

Image source: Turning promises into action. UN Women 2018

GENDER ACROSS THE SDG INDICATOR FRAMEWORK

Distribution of Gender Specific Indicators in the SDG Indicator Framework



TYPES OF GENDER INDICATORS FOUND ACROSS THE SDG MONITORING FRAMEWORK

1) Targeted gender-specific indicators

PROPORTION OF WOMEN WHO HAVE UNDERGONE FGM BY AGE COHORT (20-24 AND 45-49), 2004-2016

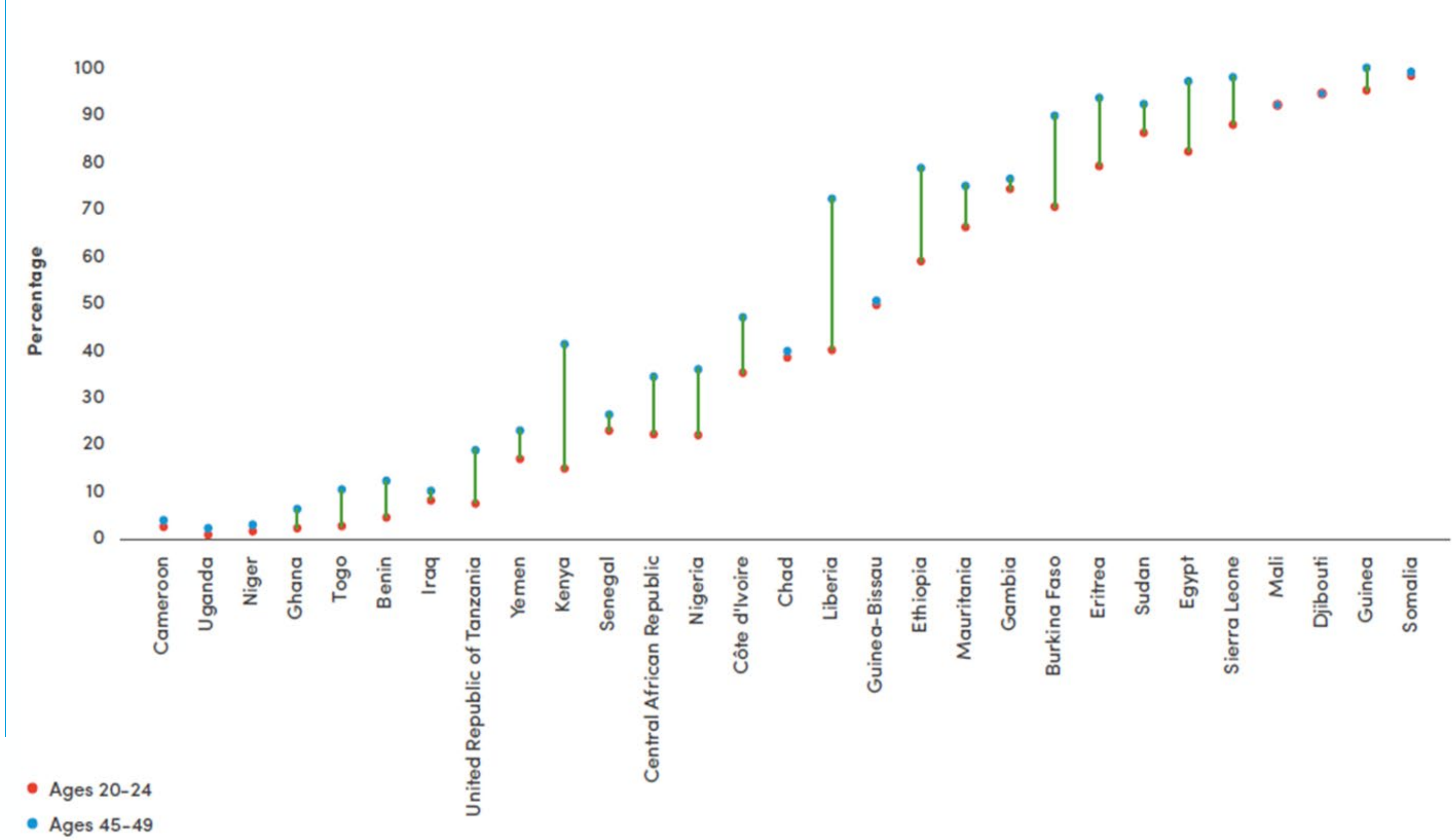


Image source: Turning promises into action. UN Women 2018

TYPES OF GENDER INDICATORS FOUND ACROSS THE SDG MONITORING FRAMEWORK

2) Sex disaggregation is explicitly mentioned

PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE LIVING BELOW 50 PER CENT OF MEDIAN INCOME, BY SEX, 2007-2013

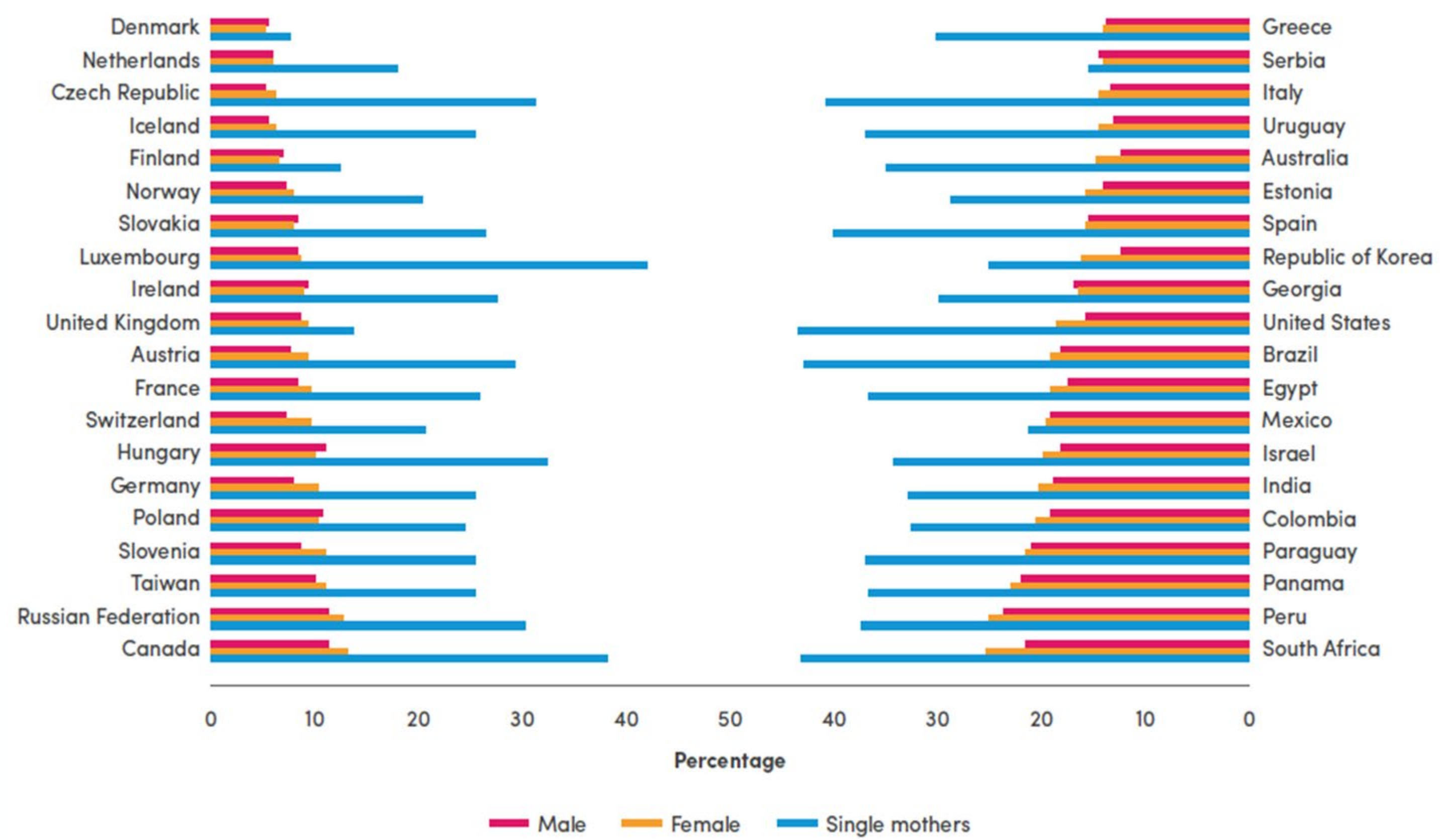


Image source: Turning promises into action. UN Women 2018

TYPES OF GENDER INDICATORS FOUND ACROSS THE SDG MONITORING FRAMEWORK

3) Additional indicators that capture a gender angle (gender-relevant)

PROPORTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH PRIMARY RELIANCE ON SOLID FUELS, BY REGION, LOCATION AND WEALTH QUINTILE, 2013-2016

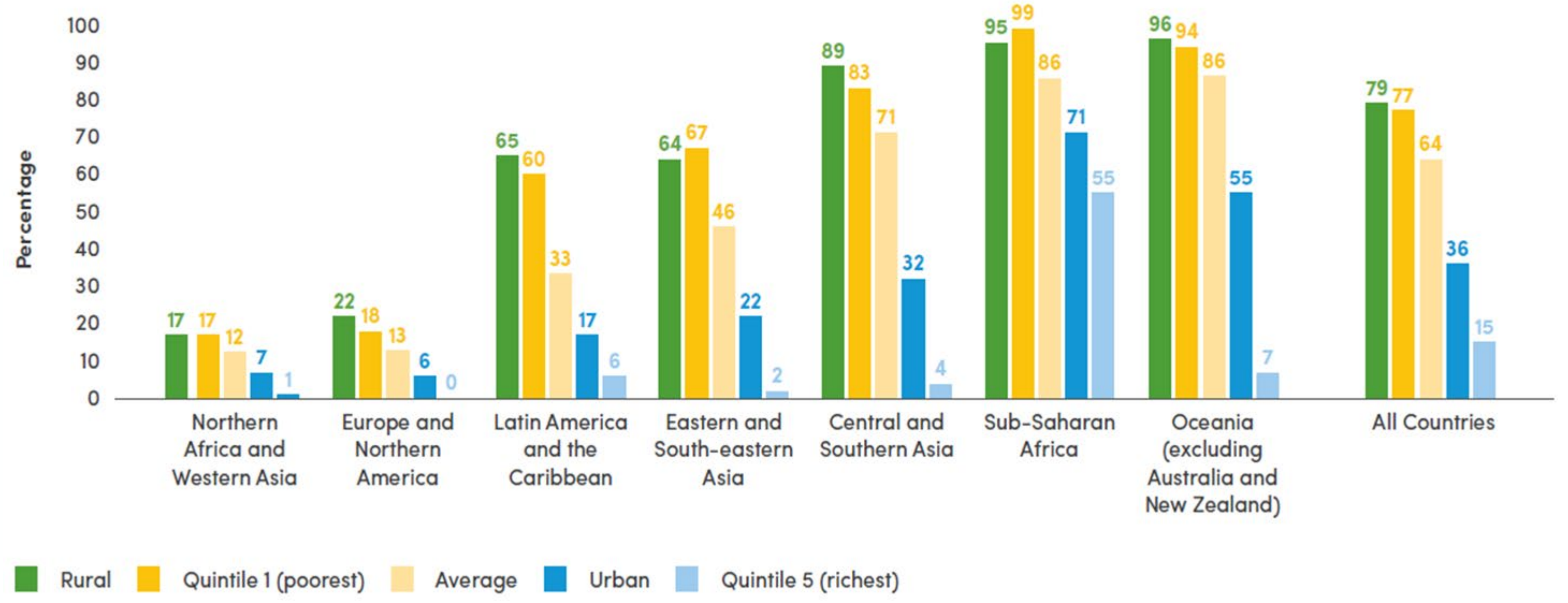


Image source: Turning promises into action. UN Women 2018

TYPES OF GENDER INDICATORS FOUND ACROSS THE SDG MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Other indicators across the framework might not be gender specific but are still gender-relevant, as additional disaggregation could potentially be performed

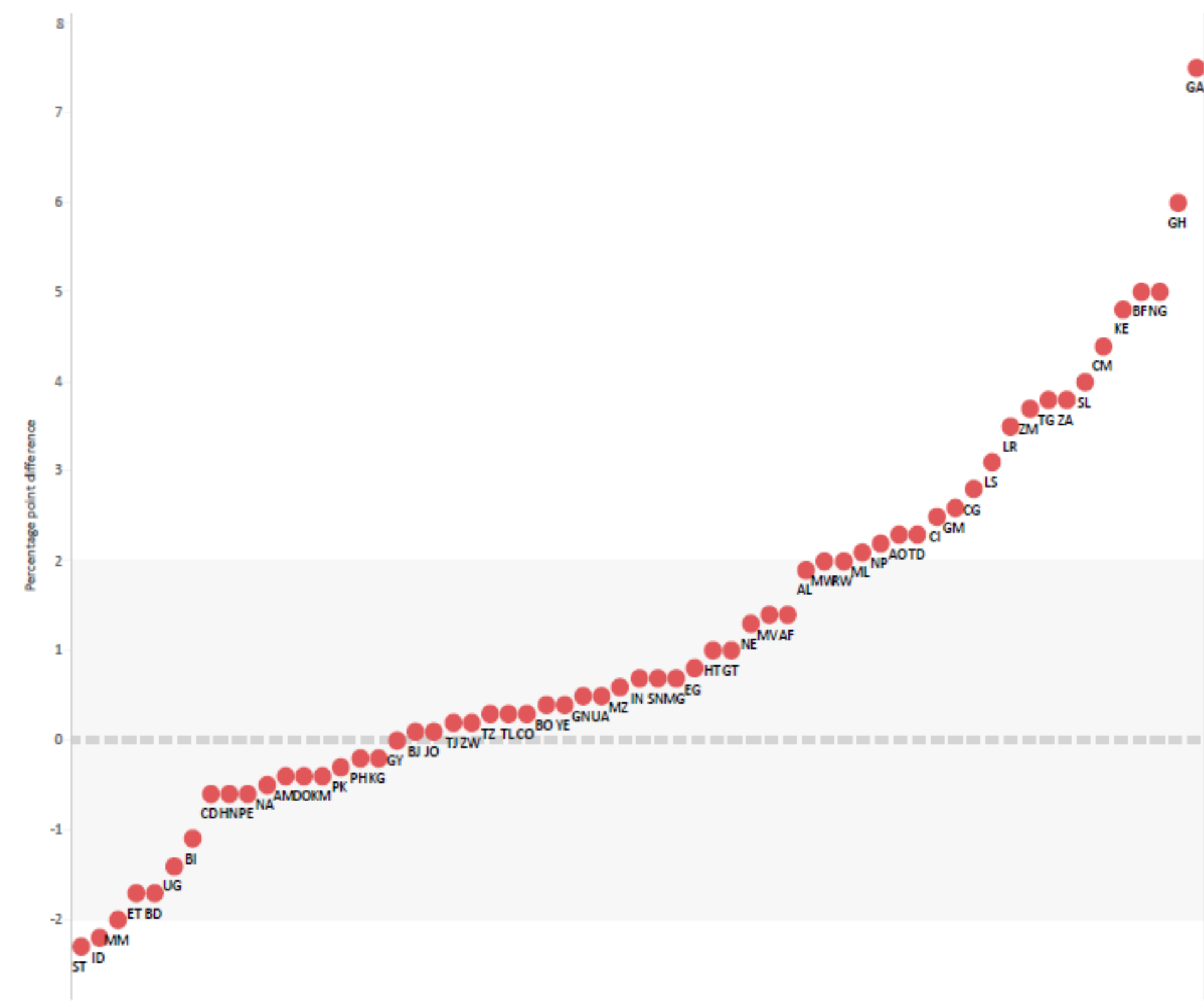
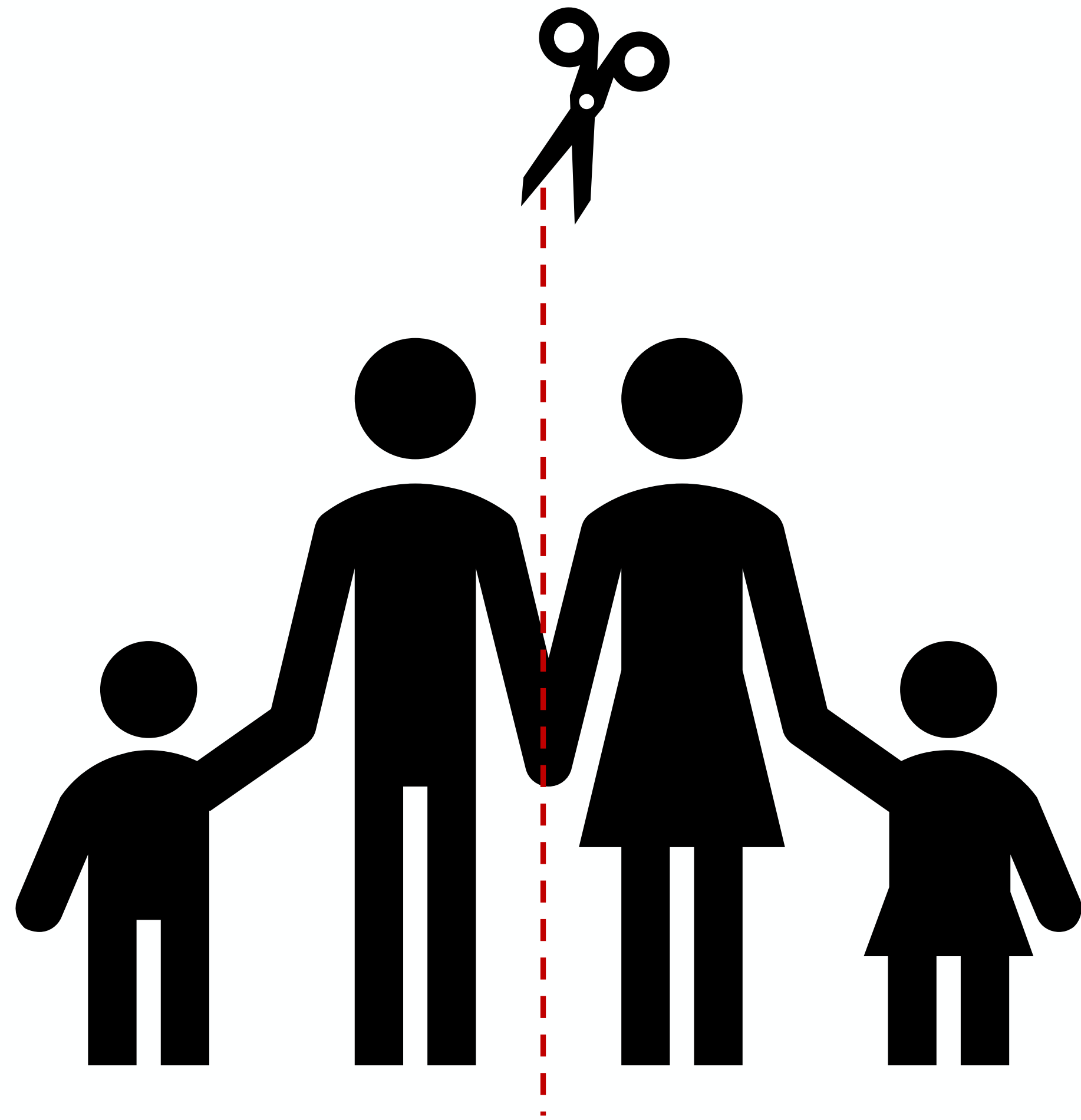


Image source: Azcona, Duerto, Bhat, 2020. Harsh Realities: Marginalized women in cities of the developing world.

WHY ARE GENDER STATISTICS IMPORTANT?



WITHOUT GENDER
DATA WE ARE
GETTING AN
INACCURATE
PICTURE.

WHY ARE GENDER STATISTICS IMPORTANT?

Policy making

Accountability

Advocacy

Analysis/Academic research

ACHIEVE THE
SDGs FOR
ALL

AREAS OF GENDER GAP IN THE CARIBBEAN

- Time use
- Gender-Based Violence
- Access to credit
- Poverty



ENHANCING AVAILABILITY AND USE OF GENDER DATA

CHALLENGES TO GENDER DATA PRODUCTION/USE

Weak policy space

- Lack of political will
- Inadequate resources

Technical challenges

- Limited coordination among NSS actors
- Limited technical capacity in methodologically challenging areas

Lack of access to data

- Limited awareness
- Insufficient dissemination/communication
- User-producer disconnect

SOLUTIONS (INCLUDING WOMEN COUNT)

Enabling environment

- Strategies/Laws prioritize gender data
- Gender-sensitive SDG localization
- Intergovernmental work for methodological developments and S-S cooperation

Gender data production

- Build capacity in technically challenging areas such as Time Use, Environment, Violence surveys
- Reprocess existing data

Data dissemination & use

- Communicating data efficiently
- Better exchanges (SDMX)
- User-producer dialogues

Source: Making Every Woman and Girl Count Inception document

