# MEASURING REFERENCES TO GENDER STATISTICS IN POLICY DOCUMENTS

**And PARIS21 solutions to improve the uptake of gender statistics**

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PARiS21

# Outline

1. Measuring the use of gender statistics in policy documents – results
2. Methodology
3. PARIS21 tools to support countries in scaling up the use of gender statistics
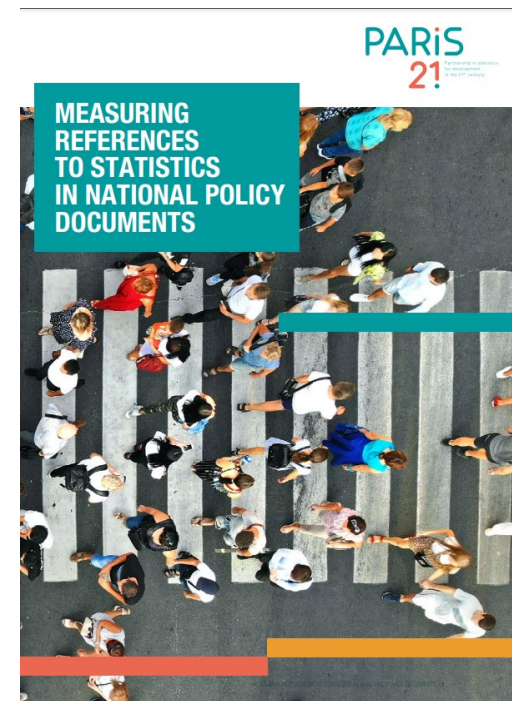
# : Key findings

Using text mining we analysed 134 policy documents

- national development plans
- poverty reduction strategies
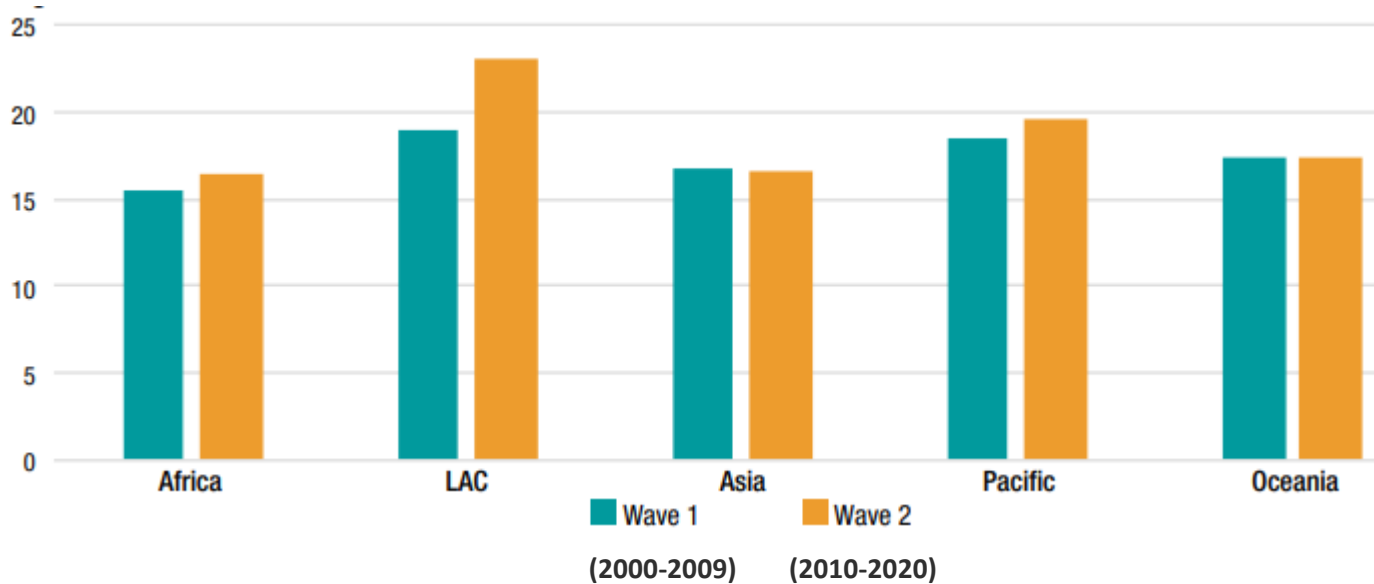- gender policy documents

to assess the use of gender statistics in policy documents

## RESULTS

➢ The overall use of gender statistics is low, only around 17% of reference to statistical facts contains gender dimensions

➢ In 55 countries the use of gender statistics increased slightly in the last decade (2016-2020), compared to the pre-SDG era

➢ the Americas and Europe lead the way in the use of gender statistics, while Asian countries have a higher average score in quoting actual numbers



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MEASURING REFERENCES TO STATISTICS IN NATIONAL POLICY DOCUMENTS

# Significant improvements only observed in a few regions

# History of the indicator

- Introduced in 2010 by PARIS21 to assess impact of international statistical capacity building activities in developing countries
- In 2015 the manual analysis was partially replaced with data mining and machine learning
- In 2018, PARIS21 improved the indicator by updating the keyword list and scoring methodology
- In 2019, following the partnership with UN Women "Women count", PARIS21 start to apply the scope of the indicator to gender statistics

# A multi-level measurement

- Based on Watson and Callingham (2013), three levels of use were defined

- **The level 1 (Basic)** use of gender statistics is defined as reference to key statistical indicators

- **"Diagnosis"** captures the level 2 use of gender statistics. It is defined as quoting actual number while referencing to a gender-statistical concept

- **"Analysis"** captures the level 3 use of statistics. It is defined as using advanced mathematical concepts while referencing to statistical concept

# Other text mining facts

- **Policy disaggregation (by sectors)** was used as another dimension of the upstream measurement

- A broader set of disaggregation keywords has been implemented to combine with the three-levels, for producing a more subtle metric

- The structure and keywords of disaggregation originates from the standards for data disaggregation of UNSD

- Currently available for 3 languages: English, Spanish and French.

# Creation of the keyword list

- A list of keywords gender statistics keywords were generated from multiple sources, including the 53 gender-specific SDG indicators, gender-related indicators in the WBDB, keywords generated from a set of gender policy documents, etc.

- A list of 150 keywords to identify "analytical" use of statistics were generated with guidance from development partners, policy makers and education specialist.

- A list of 50 keywords to identify "disaggregation" when use statistics besides gender were generated based on the UNSD standard.
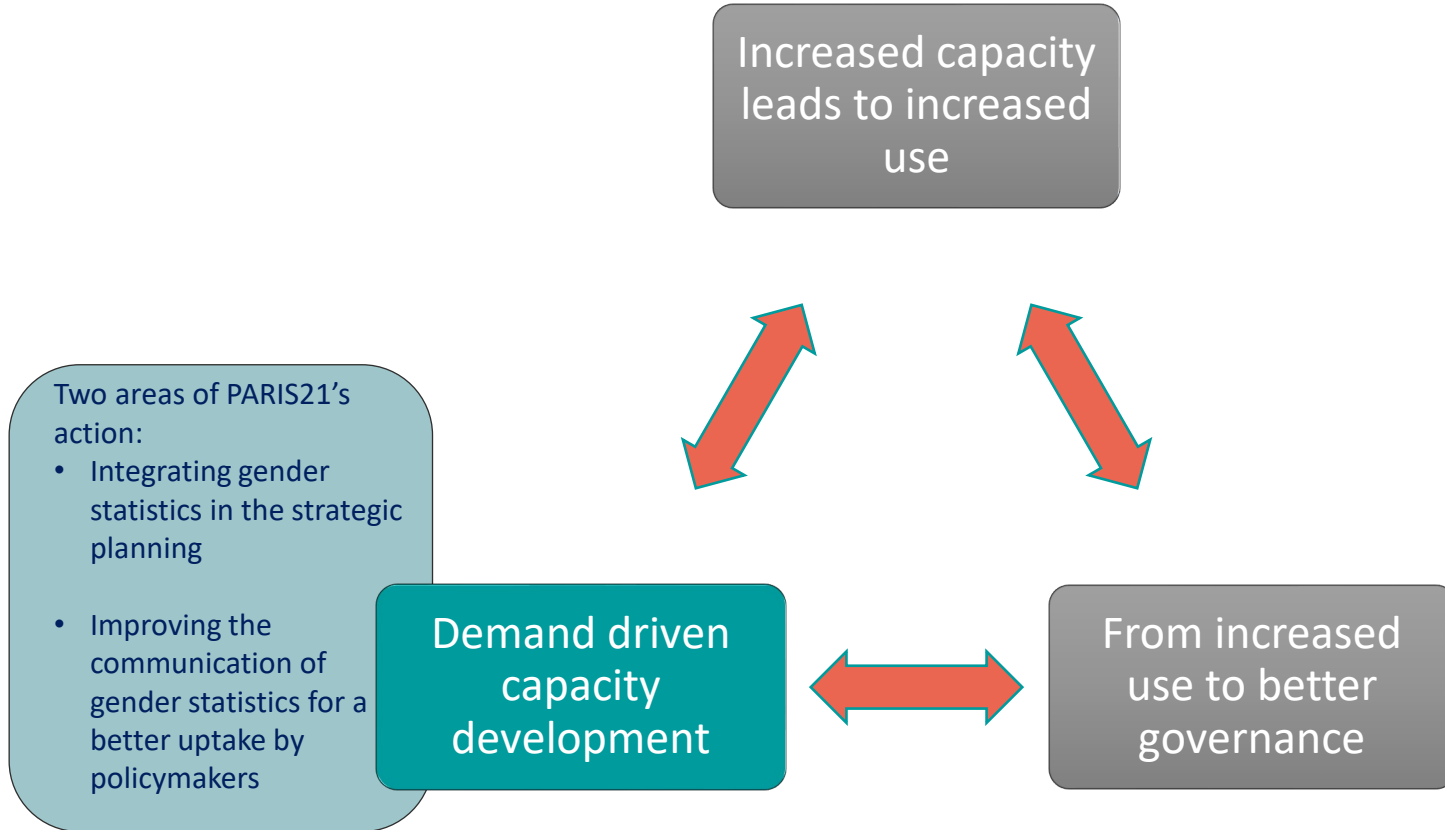
# Level 1 key words

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Contraceptive | Female genital cutting | Empowerment of women | women in especially difficult situations |
| Female employer | Family care work | Equal opportunities of women and men | gender and development index (GDI) |
| Maternal death | Female engineering graduates | Equal treatment of women and men | GDI |
| Prenatal | Female manufacturing graduates | Gender bias | Forced marriage |
| Fertility rate | Female construction graduates | Gender balance | Adolescent birth rate |
| Genital mutilation | Women with secure tenure of land | Gender budgeting | Maternity leave |
| Domestic work | GPI | Gender mainstreaming | Sexual harassment |
| Gender gap | Sexual violence | Gender statistics | Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) |
| Gender parity | Women in parliament | Gender sensitive | Femicide |
| Seats held by women | Women | Sex-disaggregated data | Maternal |
| Women in managerial positions | Female ownership | Work-life balance | parity |
| Female police officers | Female top management | Women in decision making | parity indices |
| Female judges | Unpaid work | Violence against women | child marriage |
| Physical violence | Gender roles | maternal health | girl marriage |
| Women married before age 18 | Gender inequality | maternal mortality | Gender pay gap |
| Partner violence | Gender equality | births attended by skilled health personnel | gender-specific |
| Family planning | Gender discrimination | rape | gender-related |
| Women with land title | Discrimination against women | sex ratio | gender |

# Way forward

- Refining the methodology

- Inclusion of more gender related documents

- Publish the tool to allow countries to evaluate their own policy documents

- Country implementation

# Towards better use of gender statistics

Increased capacity leads to increased use

Two areas of PARIS21's action:
- Integrating gender statistics in the strategic planning

- Improving the communication of gender statistics for a better uptake by policymakers

Demand driven capacity development

From increased use to better governance

# Demand driven capacity development

Two areas of PARIS21's action to increase demand for gender statistics:

1. **Integrating gender statistics in the strategic planning**

In 2021 PARIS21 developed a special module to integrate gender statistics in strategic planning for statistics as part of the revised guidelines on preparing the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics

The module is based on PARIS21's and UN Women 3-year pilot project which supported 9 countries in this endeavour



PARIS 21 NSDS GUIDELINES

ABOUT NSDS GUIDELINES | THE NSDS LIFECYCLE | SPECIAL TOPICS | RESOURCES | GLOSSARY

**GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS (NSDS)**

### WHAT ARE THE NSDS GUIDELINES?

The Guidelines for National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) provide knowledge and landmarks for the NSDS preparation for the first strategic plan or for the update of an existing one. The NSDS guidelines help governments to design strategies, drawing lessons from statistical systems across the world. They are helpful in assessing the National Statistical System's (NSS) current capacity and setting goals for progress. They are helpful for identifying a suitable governance structure for the process of design and implementation of NSDS and are useful for government statisticians, policy makers and strategic planners to understand how statistics and data are important in all areas of government. The NSDS Guidelines 3.0 are the latest version produced in 2020.
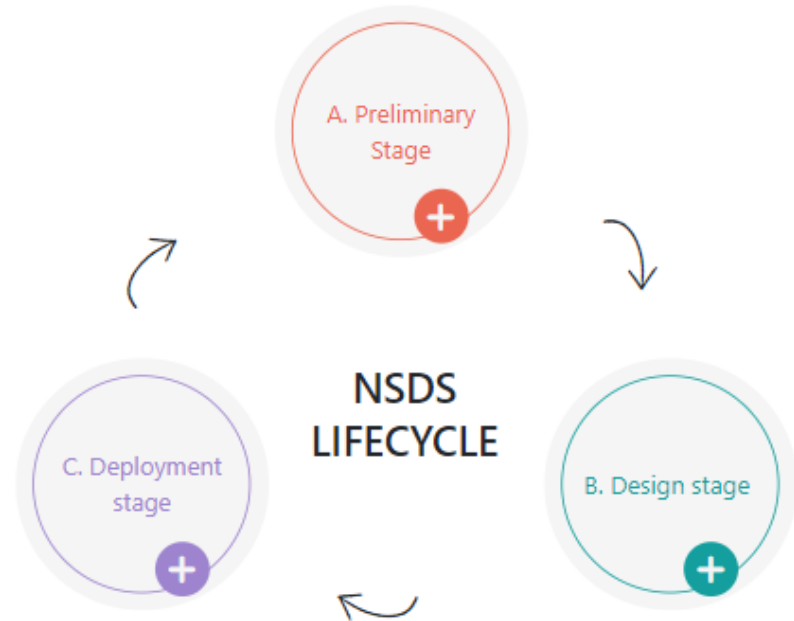
**More information on existing NSDSs:**

- NSDS Status report
- SDG 17.8.3 is an

# Demand driven capacity development

The module for gender statistics presents to the NSOs how to address gender-issues in:
- capacity and data planning
- resource mobilization
- partnership building

About NSDS Guidelines / THE NSDS LIFECYCLE



A. Preliminary Stage

B. Design stage

C. Deployment stage

NSDS LIFECYCLE

# Demand driven capacity development

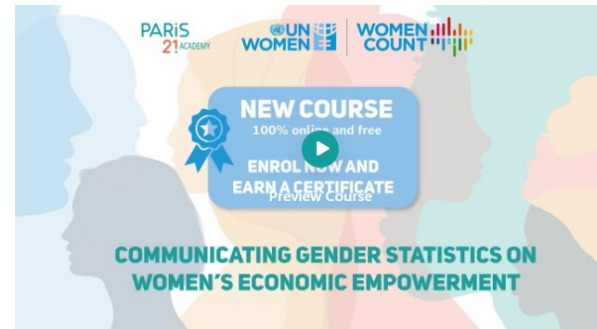Two areas of PARIS21's to increase demand for gender statistics:

2.  **Improving the communication of gender statistics for a better uptake by policymakers**

PARIS21 and UN Women developed two e-learning courses on communicating gender statistics for national statisticians and journalists

This includes materials on conveying statistics in a user-friendly manner, improving data visualisations and the use gender-sensitive language



https://academy.paris21.org/

THANK YOU!