

# WOMEN AT THE CORE OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

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In 2020,  
 employed women fell by  
 ↓ **54 million.**  
 Women out  
 of the labour  
 force rose by  
 ↑ **45 million.**

SOURCE | UN Women/UNSD, Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The gender snapshot 2021.

**8** DECENT WORK AND  
 ECONOMIC GROWTH



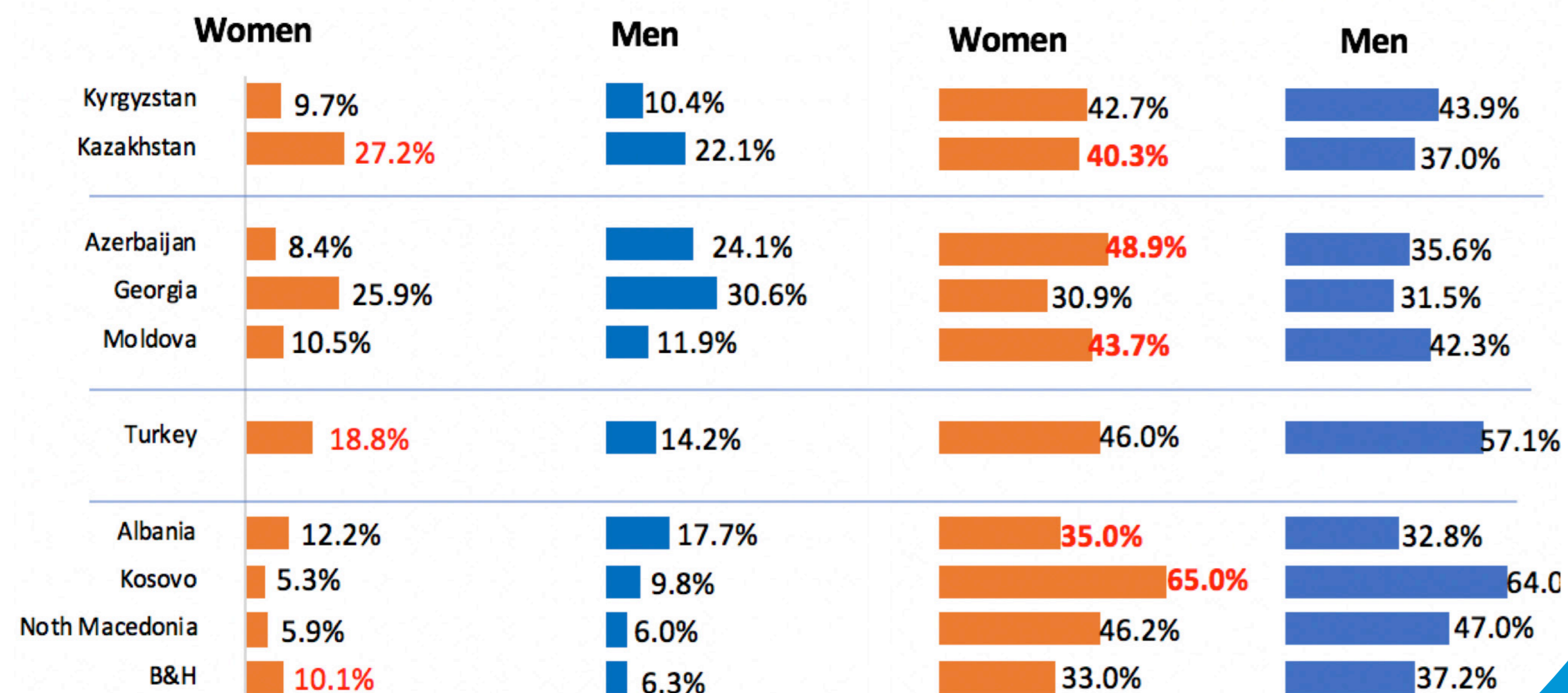
- 👉 **45%** of working-age women actively engaged in the labour market, compared to over **70%** of working-age men
- 👉 The highest inactivity rate both for women and men - Kyrgyzstan (**48%**)
- 👉 Largest gender gaps in labour force participation - Kyrgyzstan (**34%**), Turkmenistan (**29%**) and Uzbekistan (**27%**).

**Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals:**  
 The Gender Snapshot 2021

# Economic Challenges of the Outbreak – Employment Income and Working Hours

Proportion of population who reported loss of job by sex

Proportion of population with decreased working hours by sex



👉 In Kyrgyzstan women lost jobs higher by 5-PP

👉 Kazakhstan is in the top of countries in ECA for job loses

👉 Azerbaijan has seen exceptionally high numbers for reduced working hours

Source: Rapid gender assessment survey

## 3 Key Areas of Policy Intervention

### Recognise women's involvement in the care economy

Care economy means more 475 million jobs by 2030



### Investment in women's entrepreneurship

Women's entrepreneurship development could rise global GDP to \$5 trillion



### Equalise the gender digital divide

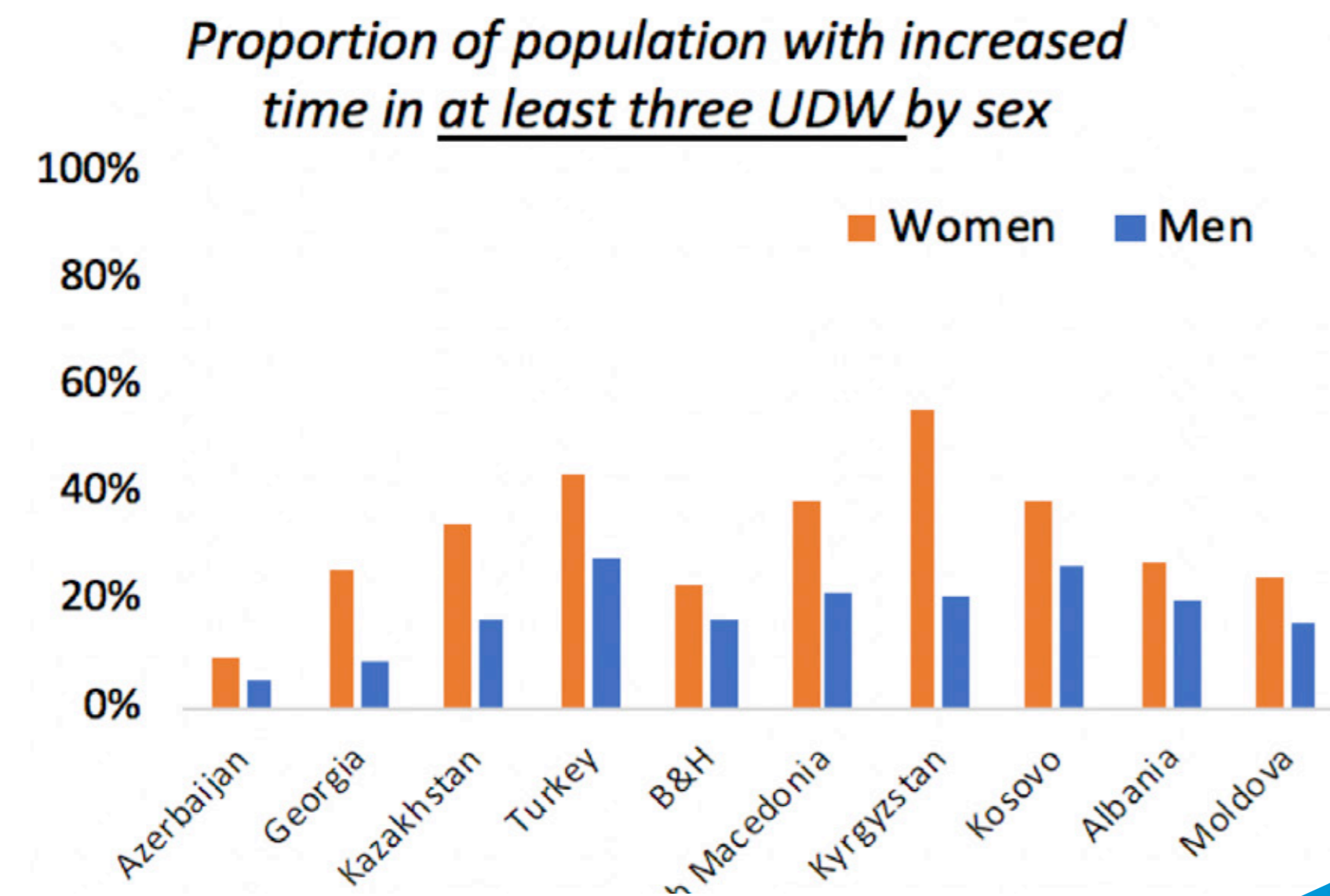
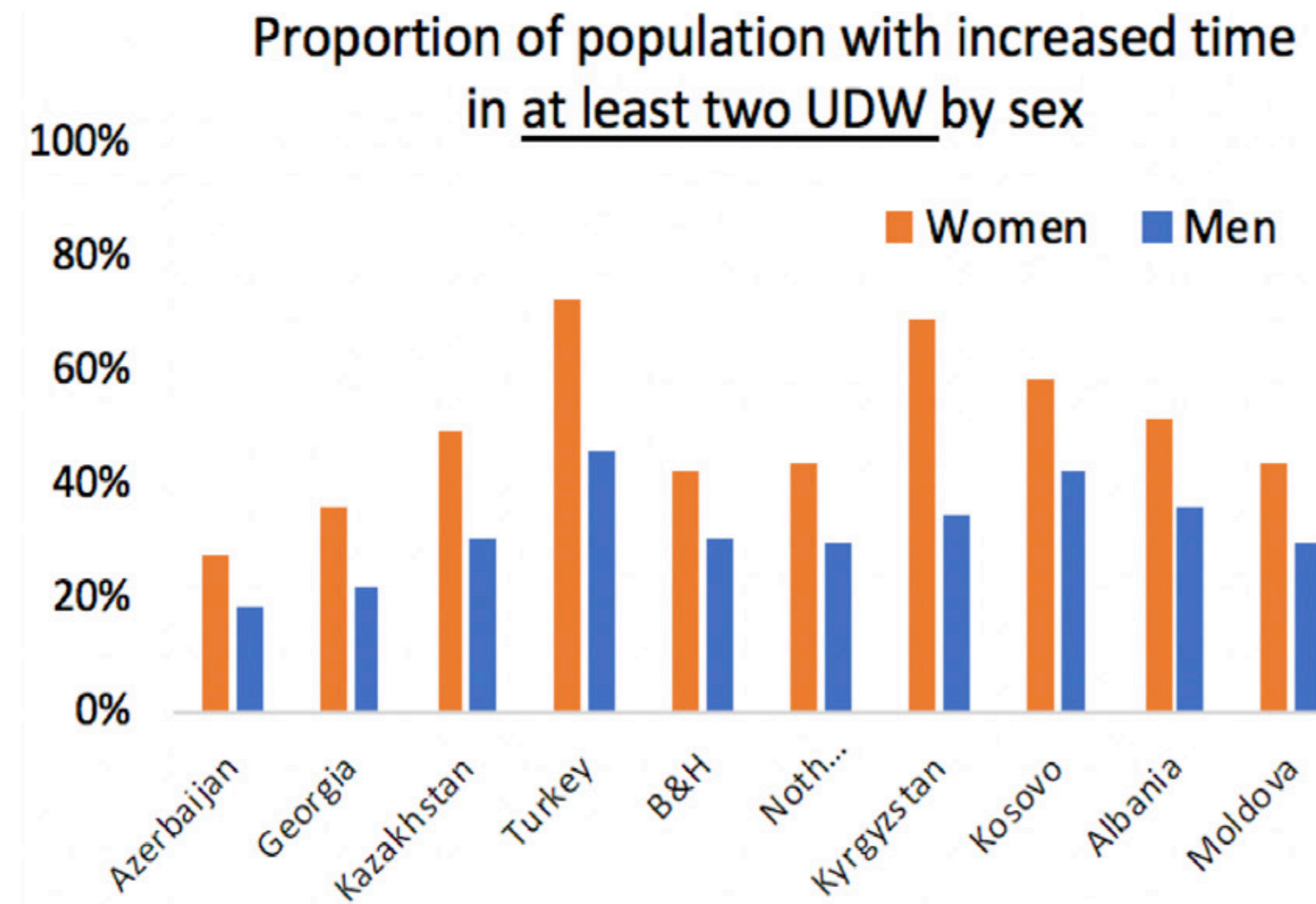
Not ensuring women have equal access to the digital labour force means an economic loss of over \$500bn by 2025





## Unpaid Domestic Work -data from Rapid Gender Assessment, 2020

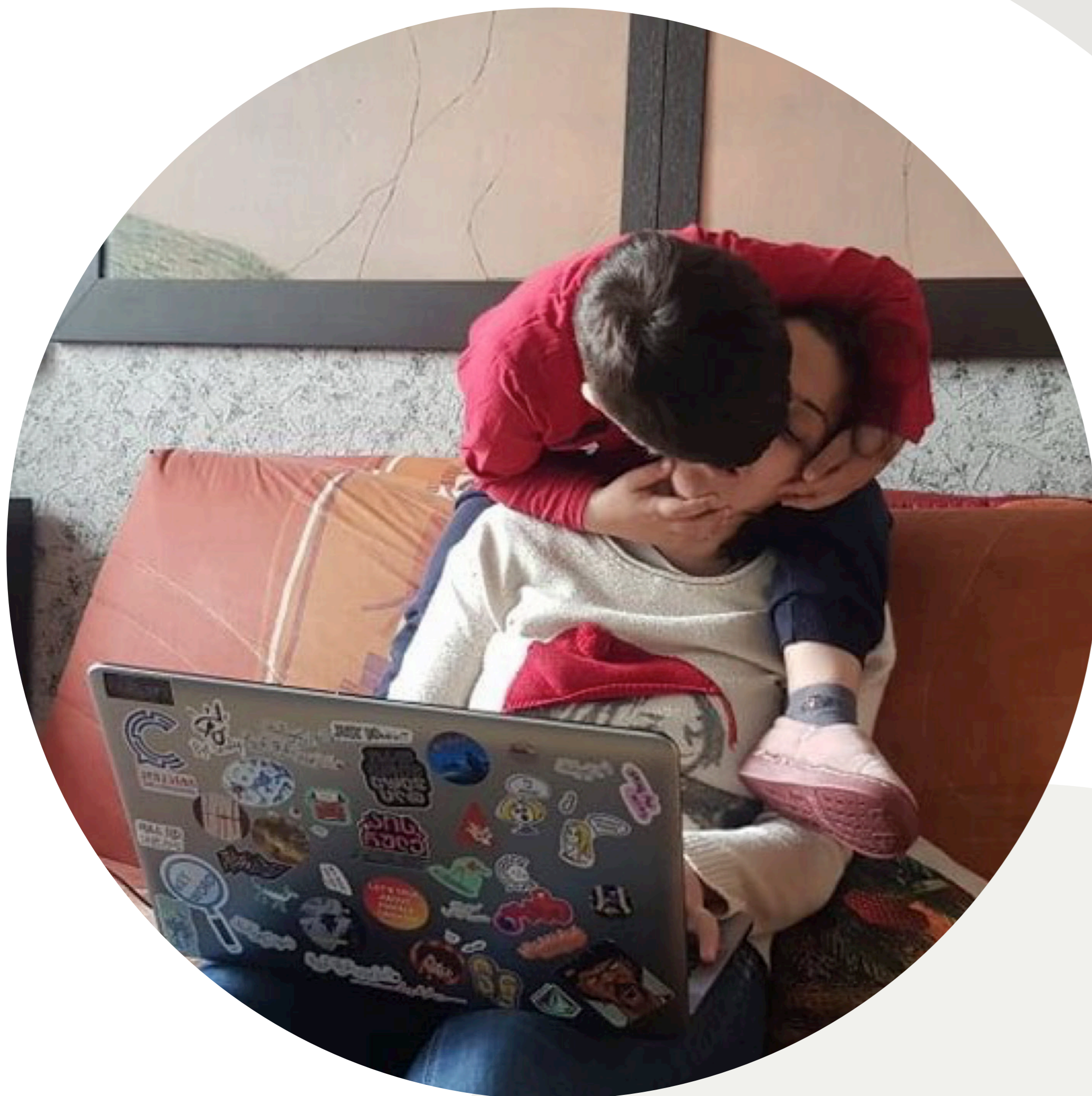
# 1. Care Economy



- 👉 **70% women spend more time on at least 1 unpaid activity - 59% men**
- 👉 **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan are among the highest Impacted countries**
- 👉 **Every 1 in 2 women reported increase in at least two domestic work activities (1 in 3 men)**
- 👉 **There is a 10-20 PP difference among women and men in Kyrgyzstan**



# 1. Care Economy



Irinka Aliashvili is one of the many women working from home during COVID-19. She remarks on the expectations from women to be both perfect mothers and employees and underlines the gendered aspects of domestic work. Photo courtesy of Irinka Aliashvili.

- ➡ **Even before the crisis, women across the globe performed three times as much unpaid care work as men.**
- ➡ **Women in Kyrgyzstan spend between 10 and 20 per cent more time on paid and unpaid work than men**
- ➡ **In Tajikistan, 61 % of inactive women report domestic responsibilities as the primary reason for their inactivity in the labour**
- ➡ **Only 82 out of 248 socioeconomic measures adopted in ECA in response to the pandemic were gender-sensitive**



## 2. Women's Entrepreneurship

- 
 In **Azerbaijan**, women led 22.5% of MSMEs and were 20% more affected by COVID-19 than those led by men.
- 
 In **Kazakhstan**, 75% of women entrepreneurs reported financial loss due to COVID-19 compared to 63.5% of men.
- 
 In **Kyrgyzstan**, 58% of self-employed women had working hours reduced compared to 38% for self-employed men.
- 
 In **Tajikistan**, 63.1% of MSMEs felt the negative effect of COVID-19 on their business operations.



Women in Uzbekistan  
Photo: UN Women/Janarbek Amankulov



## 2. Women's Entrepreneurship

### Gender-Responsive Procurement: Facts and Figures

**35%**<sup>1</sup>



Of all SMEs are owned by women

**31-38%**<sup>2</sup>



Of formal SMES in emerging markets are owned by women around 8 - 10M

around  
**20%**<sup>1</sup>



Of GDP produced by women-owned SMEs

around  
**20%**<sup>3</sup>



Of global GDP is from public procurement

**1%**<sup>4</sup>



Of public procurement spend goes to women owned businesses

1 Source: World Bank, 2012  
 2 Source: IFC, 2011  
 3 Source: Chatham House, 2017  
 4 Source: ITC, 2014



## 3. Digital Divide

### The Global Economy and the Future of Work

- 👉 90% future jobs will require digital skills and already 90% of jobs have a digital component
- 👉 70% of women's jobs are at risk from automation
- 👉 Products and services will need to be more inclusive, involving women and girls in design, development and implementation, otherwise risk losing 50% of customers

### Education and Community of Knowledge

- 👉 Focus to be on future generation of workers - girls face less access to digital technology, skills and education - preventing them from entering STEM education and jobs.
- 👉 Boys phone ownership can be up to 50% higher than girls in Eastern Asia and use internet more. Roughly 46% of boys use the internet on their phones, compared to 27% of girls.
- 👉 Girls face more online and offline harassment and gender stereotypes prevent full participation



UN Women in Kazakhstan launched a new project to strengthen STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) skills of young women from East Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda regions. Photo: Caravan of Knowledge



**THANK YOU**