

# Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

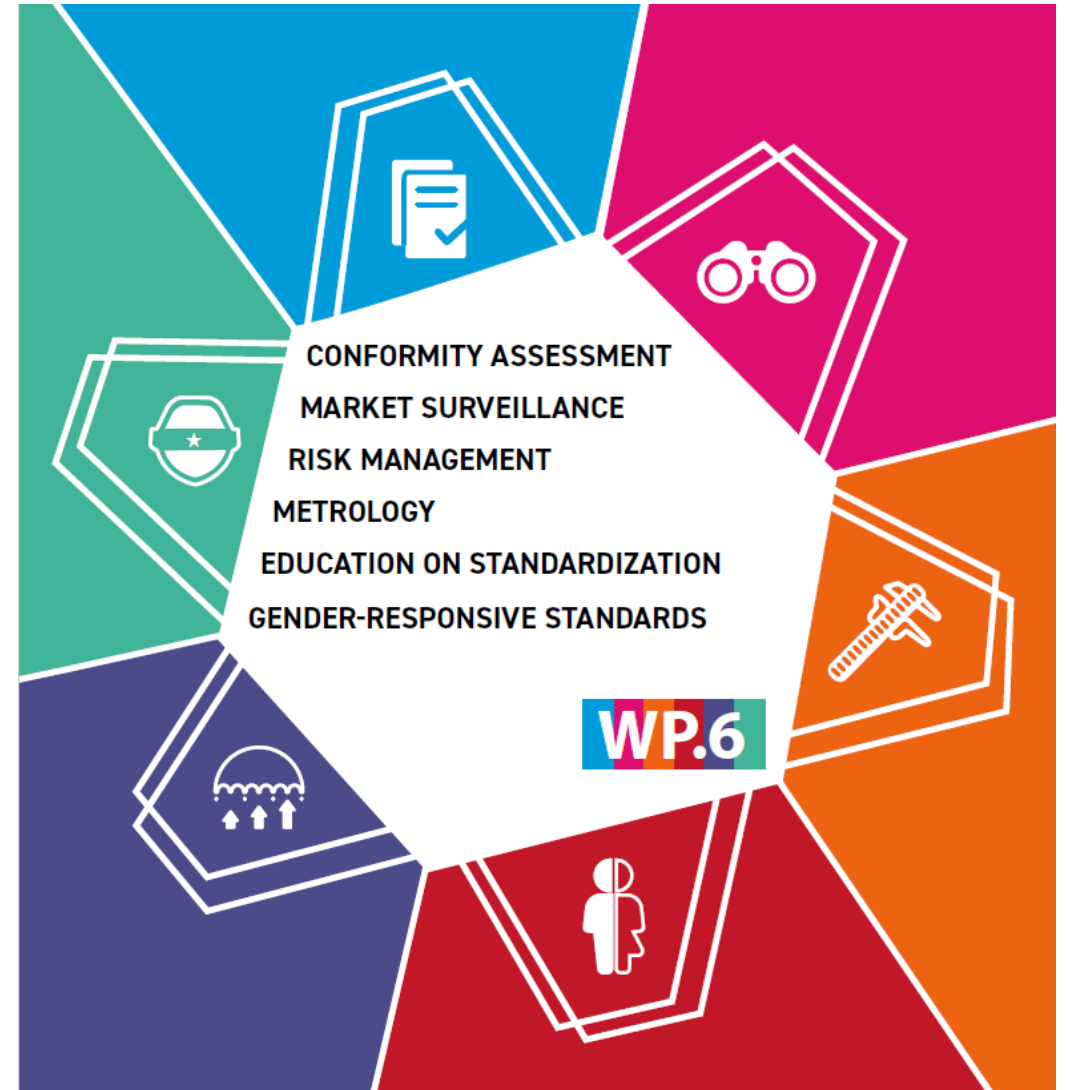
## Gender-Responsive Standards

Considerations for Climate Change and AI

Michelle Parkouda, Ph.D.  
Chair, Team of Specialists – Gender-Responsive Standards

**UNECE – [Working Party 6](#)**

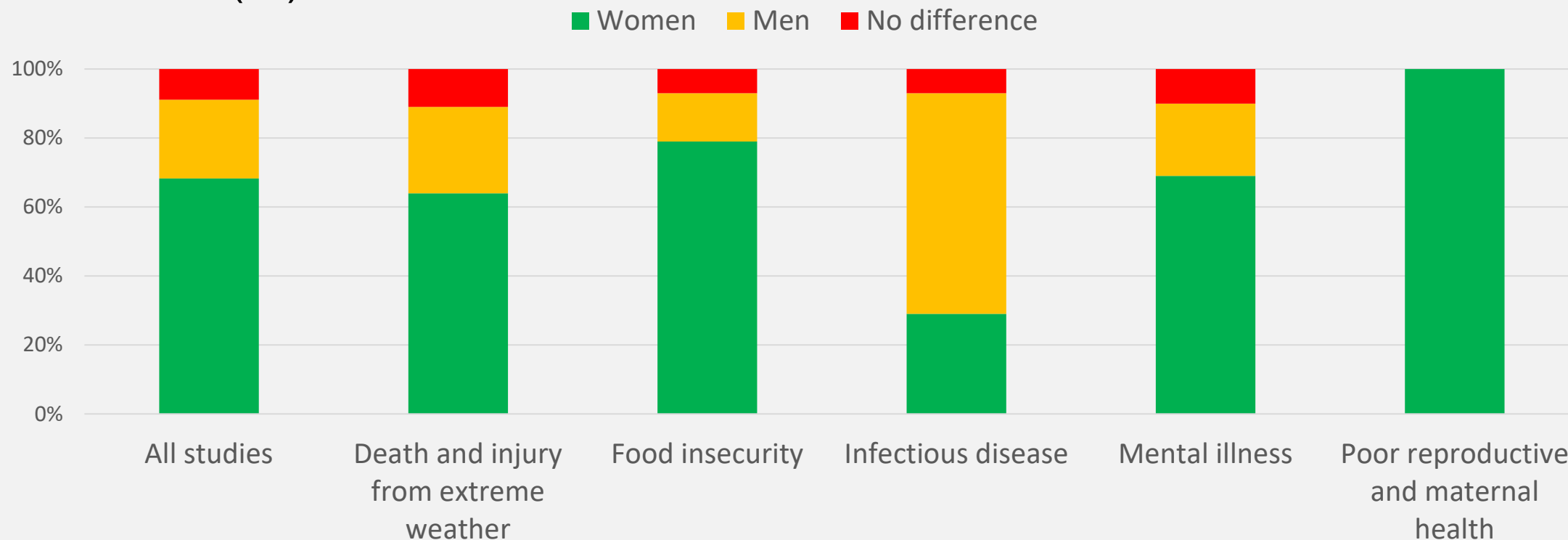
03/03/2024, Geneva



# Women are More Likely to be Affected by Climate Change Impacts on Health



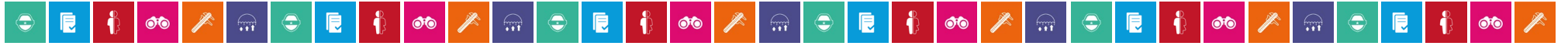
Proportion of studies finding the gender most affected is men, women or no difference (%)



Source: [Mapped: How climate change disproportionately affects women's health](#)



# Addressing Climate Change



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There is some evidence that there may be gender differences in addressing climate change:

- Data from [Canada](#) has found that on average women have a smaller carbon footprint than men.
- [Women](#) report more responsible attitudes and greater interest in addressing climate change.
- [Countries](#) with greater representation of women in government are more likely to ratify international environmental treaties.

# Concerns about Bias in AI are not New...



**IEEE Spectrum** FOR THE TECHNOLOGY INSIDER

ARTICLE | HISTORY OF TECHNOLOGY

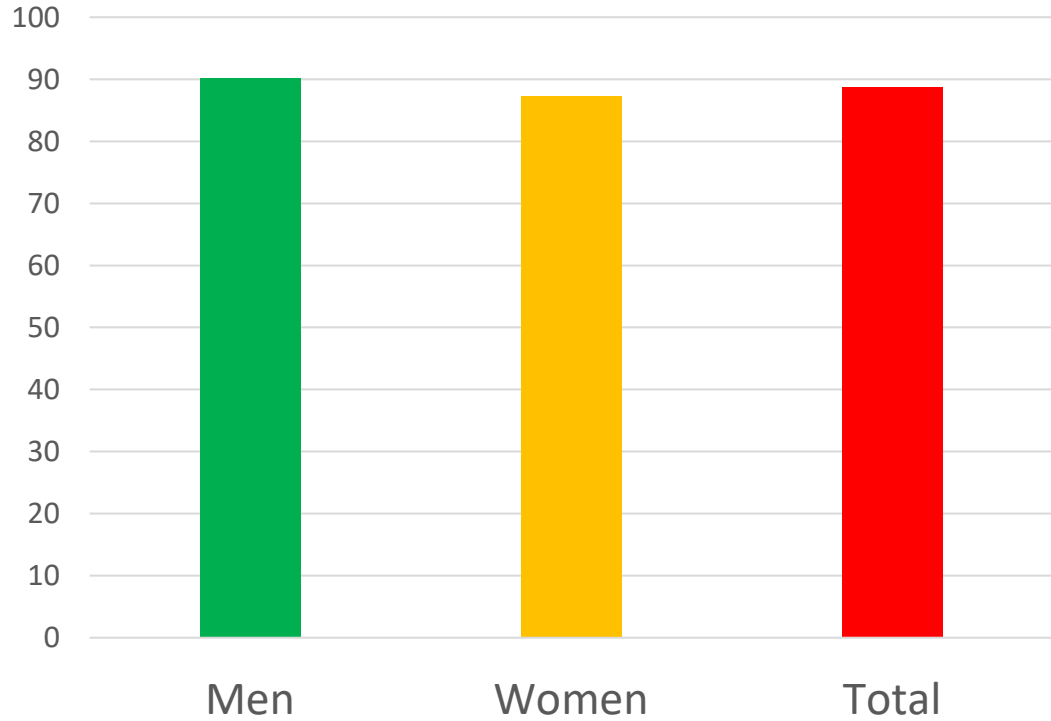
## Untold History of AI: Algorithmic Bias Was Born in the 1980s > A medical school thought a computer program would make the admissions process fairer—but it did just the opposite

BY OSCAR SCHWARTZ | 15 APR 2019 | 4 MIN READ |

# AI Reflects Society



Percent of People with at Least one Bias



“[Algorithmic bias is not a glitch.] A glitch suggests something temporary that can be easily fixed. I’m arguing that racism, sexism and ableism are systemic problems that are baked into our technological systems because they’re baked into society. It would be great if the fix were more data. But more data won’t fix our technological systems if the underlying problem is society.”

-- Meredith Broussard

Source: [UN 2023 Gender Social Norms Index](#)

# Tech Abuse



- In [Canada](#), the Smart home market technology penetration rate is estimated at 41% in 2024 and is expected to increase to 69% by 2028.
- In [Canada](#), women and girls account for 7 out of 10 victims of family violence.
- A [study](#) from the UK found that 48% of domestic abuse included technology-facilitated abuse in 2017.



## How Smart Home Systems & Tech Have Created A New Form Of Abuse

Designed to make life easy, web-connected devices are being used against women to harass, track, and even lock them in their own homes.

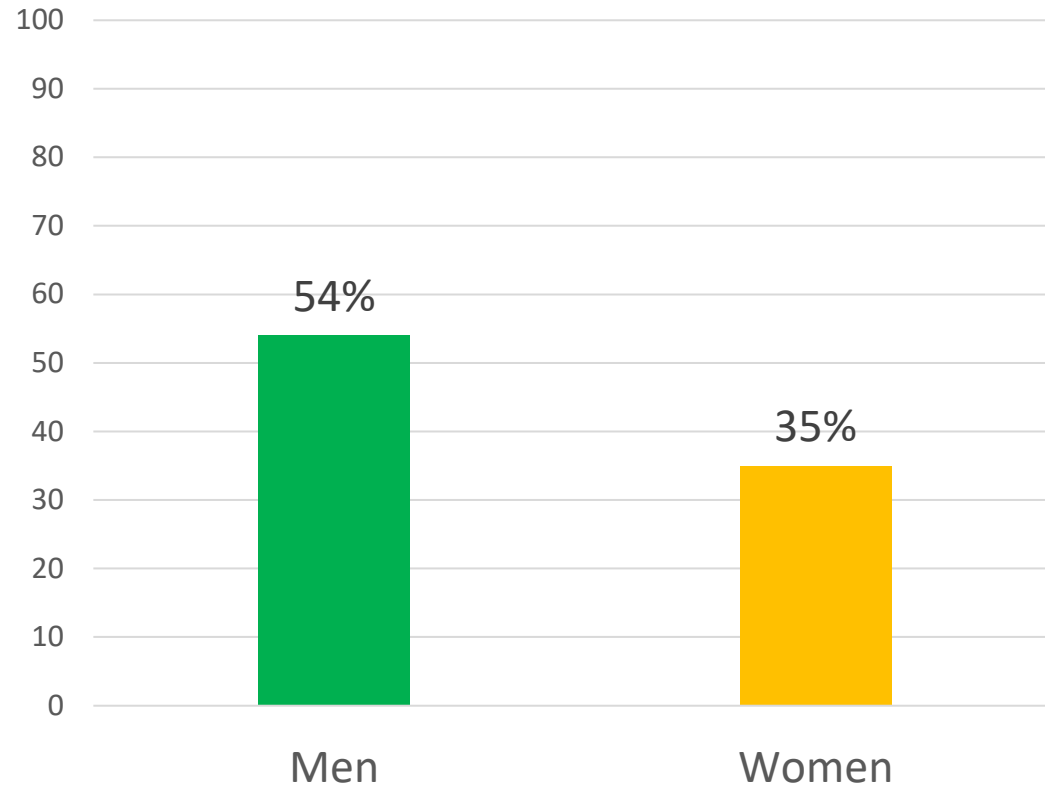
[TAKARA SMALL](#)

[JANUARY 9, 2019, 8:21 A.M.](#)

# User Uptake



## Gender Differences in Usage of AI



Source: [The AI Gender Gap](#)

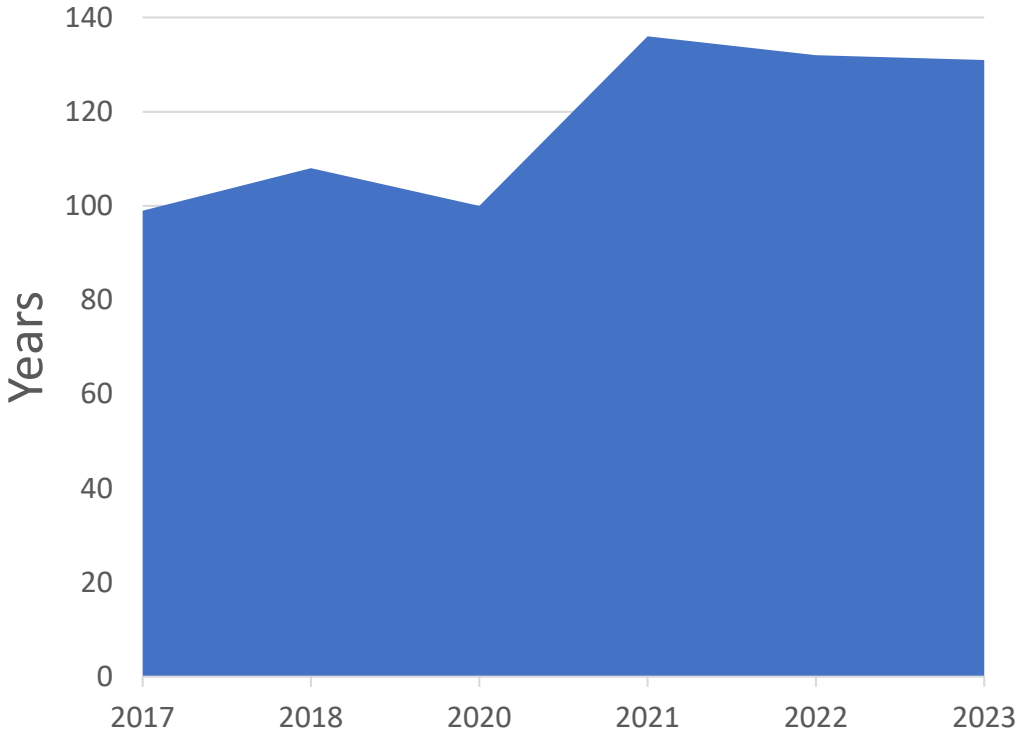
If women are not using the technology, then even when it can help to alleviate the gender gap, they may not realize those benefits.



# Closing the Gender Gap

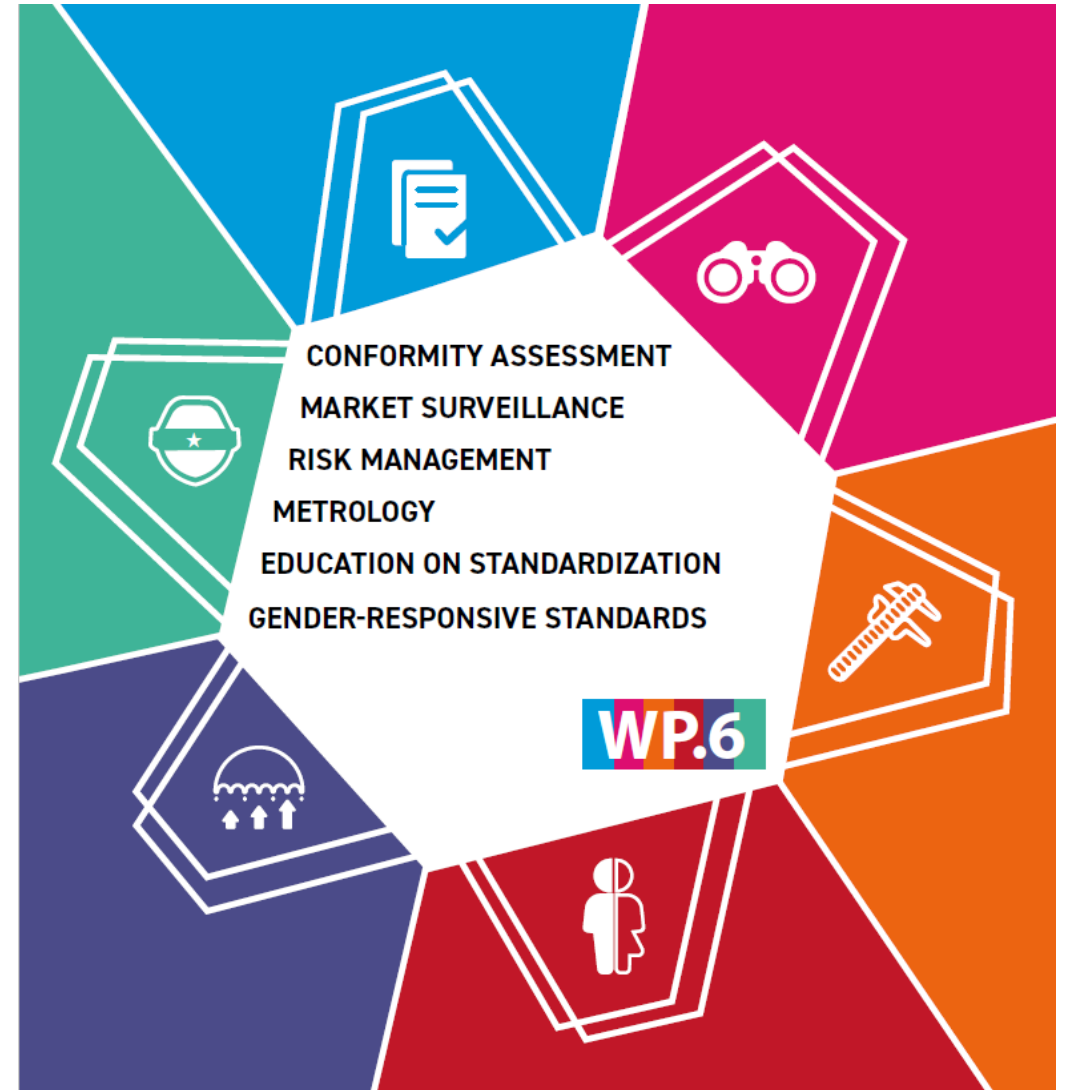


World Economic Forum Estimate of Years to Close the Gender Gap



Source: Compiled from [World Economic Forum](https://www.weforum.org)

# Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies



Merci    ありがとうございました    Hvala    Ačiū  
شكرا جزيلاً    Mahalo    Дякую    Teşekkür ederim  
Рахмат    Dankon    ඔබට ස්තූතියි    Sagbol    Ευχαριστώ  
Tack    Çox sağ ol    Dziękuję Ci    Obrigado  
მადლობთ    תודה    감사합니다    धन्यवाद    Dankon  
Natur nuhun    Баярлалаа    Хвала вам    Dankon  
Tak skal du have    Diolch    Хвала вам  
Спасибо    Go raibh maith agat    Faleminderit    Paldies  
Grazzi    Dank je    Рахмат сага    Faafetai    Rahmat  
Grazie    Mulțumesc    Ačiū    Благодаря ти    Danke  
Gracias    谢谢    සුභආඥා    Takk skal du ha  
Salamat    Aitäh    Dankie    Þakka þér fyrir  
Ви благодарам    Dėkuji    Köszönöm    Дзякуй  
धन्यवाद    Gràcies    Asante  
Kiitos

## Thank you

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03/03/2024, Geneva