

## Tracking Progress and Measuring Empowerment Since Beijing:

### Insights and Inspirations from Gender Data

Wednesday 19 March 2025, 1:15 PM - 2:30 PM (EST)

Doha Room/FF building, FL 11th (304 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017)

Contact: [yu-chieh.hsu@undp.org](mailto:yu-chieh.hsu@undp.org) & [prachi.paliwal@undp.org](mailto:prachi.paliwal@undp.org)

#### Introduction

Thirty years after the landmark [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), the journey toward achieving gender equality remains a critical, unfinished mission. The [1995 Human Development Report](#) documented the persistent gender disparities and continuing discrimination against women in its trailblazing gender metrics and analysis. Its key message still resonates powerfully today: “Human Development, if not engendered, is endangered”. Addressing gender inequalities is an imperative for development progress and reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This is recognized in the SDG indicator framework through 52 unique gender-specific indicators (UN Women 2023) that capture gender inequalities through direct measures and disaggregated data, OECD’s (2020) work which finds that 102 of the 247 indicators in the SDG framework are gender-related and Equal Measures 2030’s (2023) findings that almost half (47%) of targets are directly and inherently related to achievement of gender equality and almost three quarters (74%) of the target’s achievement are significantly influenced by gender equality. The WORLD Policy Analysis Center finds that more than 100 countries still fail to prohibit all forms of sexual harassment, and 89 countries fail to prohibit gender discrimination in all aspects of employment (Heymann et al., 2023).

Despite significant progress, delivering on the promise of securing the human rights of all women and girls, and ensuring they have equal freedoms, opportunities, and choices, remain far from complete. In many places, gender equality advances face backlash, while all new forms of inequalities – such as those related to new technologies and the digital space – are emerging. Deeply entrenched gendered social norms continue to play a critical role in shaping human development outcomes, constraining opportunities for many women and men. These norms influence everything from career choices and unpaid care work to workplace and family dynamics.

In this event, the panel will take stock of the current state of gender equality and women’s empowerment, and the bold strategies needed to navigate the coming decade(s). Cutting-edge gender data and metrics will take center stage, offering innovative and practical ways to uncover hidden disparities, inform evidence-based policies, and drive meaningful change. What is counted counts, and novel gender data can illuminate hidden inequalities, inform policies, and inspire actionable change.

#### Objectives:

- The panel will examine the progress in achieving gender equality in different dimensions of human development. The panel will discuss the current state of women in terms of capabilities, opportunities, and empowerment, as well as the key barriers and disadvantages women are facing in achieving full potential.
- The panel will present key findings and messages from four key global gender composite indices and data tools. The participants will gain a comprehensive understanding and insights into these gender data

and metrics, including their importance in tracking progress on gender equality and women's empowerment.

- Key examples of applications and impacts of these gender data and tools will be illustrated by the panelists. The participants will gain practical knowledge of how these data and tools can be applied in the context of gender-related projects and initiatives. This strategy underscores the critical importance of using gender data to address the complexities of gender inequalities.
- The output of the session will inform participants on good practices for using gender data from different sources to track progress and identify gaps and more broadly on how best to organize efforts to do the same for other underexplored areas. The event will conclude with meaningful discussion for informing and influencing accountability and gender sensitive outcomes.

### Date, Venue, Format

This event will take place from **1:15pm to 2:30pm (EST)** on **19 March 2025 Wednesday** at the **Doha room (FF building, FL 11th, 304 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017)** during the CSW69. This is an **in-person event** (main) and livestreamed via zoom.

### Registration

- **In-person registration:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP-da3hx\\_RWTIY-2qBO83hjhaXIFSyu2YmMXTCCGed5GmV3Q/viewform?usp=header](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdP-da3hx_RWTIY-2qBO83hjhaXIFSyu2YmMXTCCGed5GmV3Q/viewform?usp=header)
- **Online/Zoom registration:** <http://bit.ly/3ClrSoR>

### Agenda

Moderated by Yanchun Zhang, Chief Statistician, UNDP

Theme	Activity	Time
Opening	<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yanchun Zhang, Chief Statistician, UNDP</li> </ul>	5 minutes
Session 1	<p><b>Tracking progress and measuring empowerment through global gender composite indices and data tools</b></p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jody Heymann, Director, WORLD Policy Analysis Center (WORLD), UCLA</li> <li>• Yu-Chieh Hsu, Policy Specialist, UNDP</li> <li>• Albert Motivans, Head, Data and Insights, Equal Measures 2030</li> <li>• Hikaru Yamagishi, Economist, Women, Business and the Law, World Bank</li> </ul>	20 minutes
Session 2	<p><b>Using data and analysis for informing and inspiring gender-related project and policy design</b></p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jody Heymann, Director, WORLD Policy Analysis Center (WORLD), UCLA</li> <li>• Yu-Chieh Hsu, Policy Specialist, UNDP</li> <li>• Albert Motivans, Head, Data and Insights, Equal Measures 2030</li> <li>• Hikaru Yamagishi, Economist, Women, Business and the Law, World Bank</li> </ul>	12 minutes

Session 3	<p>New data landscape – how to engender development and pilot global data tools to generate practical insights on critical gender issues?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Josefin Pasanen, Research &amp; Partnerships Specialist, UNDP</li> <li>• Ana Kreacic, Chief Operating Officer, Oliver Wyman Forum</li> </ul> <p>Group Discussion</p> <p>The session summarized different perspectives to the gender data eco-system,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How can participants effectively utilize and integrate these data and tools into their work to support more informed decision-making, and what strategies can help maximize their overall value?</li> <li>○ What are the main challenges participants encounter when collecting or using gender data? Which critical resources or solutions are urgently needed to enhance data use and impact?</li> <li>○ How can cutting-edge technologies, such as AI-driven innovations, enhance the measurement of gender equality? In what ways can collaboration and partnerships be leveraged to bridge gender data gaps effectively?</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yanchun Zhang, Chief Statistician, UNDP (Moderator)</li> </ul>	35 minutes
Closing	<p>Closing remark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yanchun Zhang, Chief Statistician, UNDP (Moderator)</li> </ul>	3 minutes

Reference:

**UNDP [Human Development Report Office](#), Gender Indices and Data**

- Gender Inequality Index (GII) <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/thematic-composite-indices/gender-inequality-index#/indicies/GII>
- Gender Development Index (GDI) <https://hdr.undp.org/gender-development-index#/indicies/GDI>
- Gender Social Norms Index (GSNI) <https://hdr.undp.org/content/2023-gender-social-norms-index-gsni#/indicies/GSNI>
- “The Paths to Equal: Twin Indices on Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality” <https://hdr.undp.org/content/paths-equal>

**Equal Measure 2030**

- <https://equalmeasures2030.org/>

**World Bank Women, Business and the Law**

- Women, Business and the Law (WBL) <https://wbl.worldbank.org/en/wbl>

**WORLD Policy Analysis Center (WORLD), UCLA**

- <https://www.worldpolicycenter.org/>