



**COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE WOMEN IN DATA SUMMIT 2024
HELD FROM 10TH - 11TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT LAKE NAIVASHA
RESORT, NAKURU COUNTY**

COMMUNIQUE: WOMEN IN DATA SUMMIT 2024

Preamble

The inaugural Women in Data Summit 2024 was held from 10th - 11th September 2024 at Lake Naivasha Resort, Nakuru County themed **“Innovation, Financing and Status of Women in Gender Data”**. The Conference was jointly convened by the Executive Office of the President – The Office of the President’s Advisor on Women Rights. The conference partners included other State Agencies including Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Data Commissioner, Council of Governors and Civil Society Organizations.

The Summit brought together a diverse array of stakeholders from Government Agencies in National and County Governments to Development Partners, from Public Benefit Organizations in the gender data space to Academia, from Researchers to Youth, to exchange insights, share best practices and identify actionable recommendations.

Context analysis

Women, who constitute 50.5% of the population in Kenya, are often underrepresented and marginalized in data-related activities. It is acknowledged that under-representation has significant implications for policy development, resource allocation and the overall well-being of women in Kenya.

It is progressive that Kenya has recognized data gaps as a priority area through its recently published 5th National Action Plan (2024-2027) under the Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative. The country is co-chairing OGP's global Steering Committee and hosting the upcoming OGP Africa Regional meeting in 2025, presenting an opportunity to address this issue.

Kenya has identified opening up data and strengthening the enabling environment for gender data as a priority area in the National Action Plan.

Conference resolutions

After a two-day deliberations and incisive discussions, the esteemed delegates, at this inaugural Women in Data Summit 2024 held at the Lake Naivasha Resort on this 11th day of September, we commit to move from intention to make the following call to action in line with the theme: **“Innovation, Financing and Status of Women in Gender Data”** we resolve

1. Coordination of Gender Data production

That we must strive to ensure coordination and sharing of standardized tools for gender data production to ensure regularity, disaggregated and stratified gender analysis to inform decision-making processes and policies. This is due to variances and fragmented approaches in collection methods and reporting standards across sources of data. An example is in the health sector where there is a need to address the challenge of transmitting and cleaning of data along with the disaggregated information for better decision making with comprehensive gender statistics.

Action: National and County Governments, Development Partners and Public Benefit Organizations

2. Intentional financing of Gender Data

That we must advocate for intentional and increased financing for regular production for gender data to make available critical nuisances of women and girls in findings to ensure appropriate and responsive initiatives to ensure women’s rights and empowerment is current. This is to ensure we are taking up new research areas such as unpaid care and domestic work which contributes to the Gross Domestic Product and emerging other forms of violence such as technology facilitated GBV.

Action: National and County Governments, Development Partners, Private Sector and Public Benefit Organizations

3. Usage of simplified & formatted gender statistics

Commit to ensure that we increase the usage and uptake of simplified gender statistics by state agencies and non-state actors to build interest and support for gender data. The packaging of data products in formats that respond to the needs of different end-users. This is as a result of limited gender disaggregated data that lacks detailed characteristics needed for elimination of homogeneity approach to women and girls. As part of making women and girls visible in data, we strive to ensure wide uptake of data that informs policies and responsive initiatives through awareness.

Action: National and County Governments, Development Partners and Public Benefit Organizations

4. Adoption of technology in Gender Data production

Innovation, adoption of and improved capacity for data and technology to capture comprehensive and reliable data is vital. This is especially true at the service delivery points where we find the lived experiences and perspectives of women and girls. Adoption of appropriate technologies will enable timely and efficient response to reduce their vulnerabilities and strengthen resilience.

Action: National and Governments, Development Partners and Public Benefit Organizations

5. For Sector specific direction we ask that on:

On Matters Health

We call for stakeholders to move from intention to action by improving collaboration to avoid duplication and ensure data accessibility. We acknowledge the existing challenges of transmitting health data along with the importance of disaggregated data for better decision-making. We stress the need for financing and standardizing tools to enhance data collection and its use in shaping data-driven policies, particularly in mental health and maternal health. We call for more nuanced data

collected at health care level, for example pregnancies of children below 15, to inform response and protection of children.

On Matters Gender Based Violence

There is a need to establish a centralized GBV data framework to integrate GBV data collection across various sectors (police, health, justice system, NGOs) to ensure coherent decision-making and response to GBV cases. We call for increased funding for Gender Data initiatives to fund GBV data collection and gender-focused interventions, especially at the grassroots level.

We urge the government to leverage Technology for Data Collection and Reporting and raise awareness on technologically facilitated GBV.

As collaboration among stakeholders is enhanced we urge that the government promotes ethical and Bias-Free Data Collection to avoid biases and ensure the dignity and privacy of survivors are respected during the process.

Package data products in formats that respond to the needs of different end-users.

On Matters Land

There is a need for more gender-disaggregated data in land governance to inform policy decisions. We urge that greater effort is required to include women in land ownership and governance, particularly in community land management. Collaboration between organizations working on land issues to strengthen efforts needs to be encouraged and facilitated.

On Matters Education

We call for the Ministry of Education to ensure that the digital platform - NEMIS captures all students in the country. We need data that speaks to the return to school policy to inform whether girls who are pregnant get back to school. This will help the country invest in measures to

support adolescent girls to continue with their education. In the data for teen moms, there's a need to document nuances such as disability, circumstances of how they became pregnant to address issues like incest and defilement.

On Matter Women Economic Empowerment

There is a need for Open Data on the Hustler Fund. Nuances of the age sets and its impact on women economic empowerment to help the country know if we are on the right track. There is a pressing need for a national databank and open access policies that make data available for all stakeholders. A key collaboration between researchers, grassroots organizations, and policymakers is essential for the successful uptake of policies informed by data.

Finally,

We affirm the need to make this Summit an annual forum to continuously advocate for the uptake and usage of gender data through sharing of best practices, exploration of emerging issues that can impact existing data production and analysis. The Summit will also provide a forum to develop a better understanding among stakeholders on the capacity the country has for continuous, predictable and high quality production, analysis, sharing and use of gender data for informed policy formulation and a more responsive development agenda.

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