

Introduction

Data2X is a technical and advocacy partnership platform that improves the quality, availability, and use of gender data to make a practical difference in the lives of women and girls worldwide. We believe that if data isn't from all of us, data isn't for all of us. That is, without inclusive data that reflects the lives of all people, policies cannot adequately respond to needs.

Data that recognizes that the experiences of women and girls are different to that of men and boys, and acknowledges that women and girls have diverse experiences, is crucial for achieving the goal of leaving no one behind. Data2X considers two layers of data in its work: that which is sex-disaggregated, and that which is gender sensitive or captures the unique experience of women and girls.

As acknowledged by the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, sex is the most basic disaggregation that all data should seek to make where appropriate. As we pursue this goal to increase sex-disaggregated and gender sensitive data, we are delighted to have the opportunity to work alongside other organizations calling for further disaggregation and representation of all groups and individuals.

Given our core objective to improve the production and use of gender data, Data2X welcomes the Inclusive Data Charter as an important advocacy instrument to advance data that better reflects people's lives and circumstances.

Current work

Data2X works in three key areas to advance an inclusive data agenda, with a specific focus on improving gender data.

1. Improving gender data across traditional and new data systems. We produce knowledge products focused

on improving gender data production and use in traditional and new data systems. Activities in this area include exploration into gender bias in new data systems, including big data and algorithmic bias, as well as research focused on specific technical and methodological challenges and innovations at each step of production and use of gender data.

2. Addressing gender data gaps in key sectors

Data2X works through partnerships with influential stakeholders in the data system to fill gender data gaps in policy-relevant areas. To date, partnerships have focused on filling gender data gaps in economic empowerment, health, and human security fields. This includes in-depth work on measuring unpaid care work and subsistence production, women's financial inclusion, strengthening CRVS systems, data on refugees and internally displaced populations, and exploring the applications of Big Data methodologies in a number of fields.

3. Advocating for better gender data

Finally, Data2X works to build political commitment to gender data, including collecting and sharing researched examples of gender data impact that illustrate the positive potential of inclusive data.

What is new or different?

Data2X is delighted to be a signatory to the Inclusive Data Charter in order to underscore the importance both of inclusive data and data disaggregation, but also to emphasize the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement on this topic. Gender data progress – and all inclusive data efforts – requires collaboration, particularly in the 'leave no one behind' agenda – where excluded groups often face multiple disadvantages. In those cases, having intersectional data that allows examination of gender, age, income level, disability and other disaggregations – is critical to inform sound decision-making. Data2X is excited by the opportunity that the

Charter presents to work more closely with other champions to overcome methodological barriers, mobilize support, and boost production and use of the type of nuanced data the Sustainable Development Goals require.

Planned Activities

Data2X is pursuing two new activities that we believe are complementary to the work of the Inclusive Data Charter.

Network of and training for Gender Data Focal Points

Data2X is leading on the establishment of a dynamic network of gender data focal points from across Africa. This network will provide a peer-learning structure for staff in national statistics systems (NSSs) who are committed to advancing gender data. Through this network, Data2X will also provide targeted technical training responding to the needs of the focal points.

Research on key issues in gender data

In addition to the convening and capacity building provided through the gender data focal points network (described above), Data2X will continue to build our suite of resources, providing champions of the Inclusive Data Charter with information on how to address key methodological challenges related to gender data.

Conclusion and Commitment

Data2X reaffirms its commitment to gender data as a key aspect of inclusive data, and looks forward to engaging with the champions of the Inclusive Data Charter.