



**Launch of Global Center of
Excellence on Gender Statistics
and the First Global Conference
on Gender Equality and the
Measurement of Unpaid Care and
Domestic Work**



CEGS
Global Center of Excellence
on Gender Statistics

**10 - 11
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Mexico City**



Measuring Unpaid Care Work to Inform Policy-Makers on Women's Economic Empowerment: Lessons learnt from the OECD Policy Dialogue

OECD Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment and Unpaid Care Work: a special focus on SDG 5.4

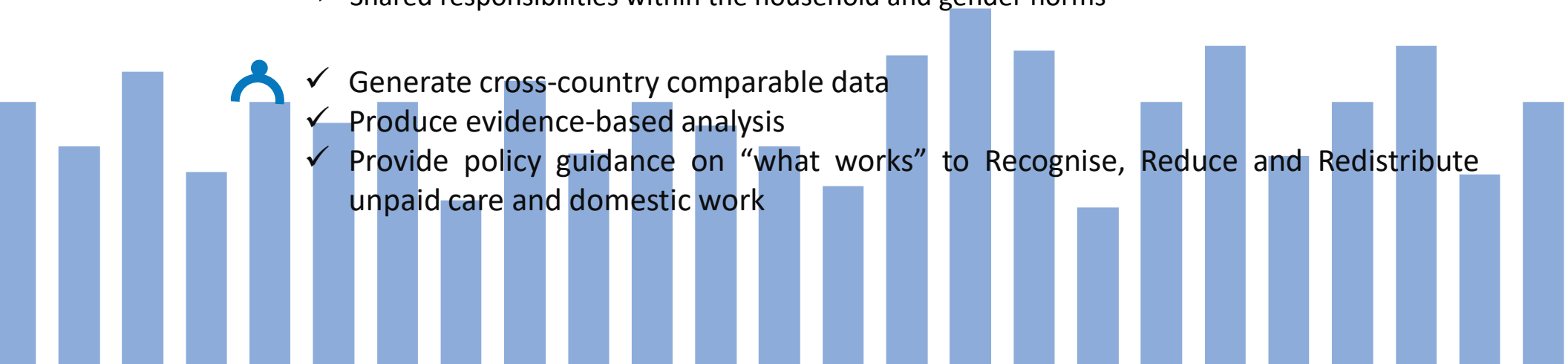


Unlocking Women's Economic Potential by Recognising, Reducing and Redistributing Unpaid Care and Domestic Work through better policies addressing:

- ✓ Infrastructure
- ✓ Social protection
- ✓ Public services
- ✓ Shared responsibilities within the household and gender norms





- ✓ Generate cross-country comparable data
- ✓ Produce evidence-based analysis
- ✓ Provide policy guidance on "what works" to Recognise, Reduce and Redistribute unpaid care and domestic work




Generating cross-country comparable measure of unpaid care work



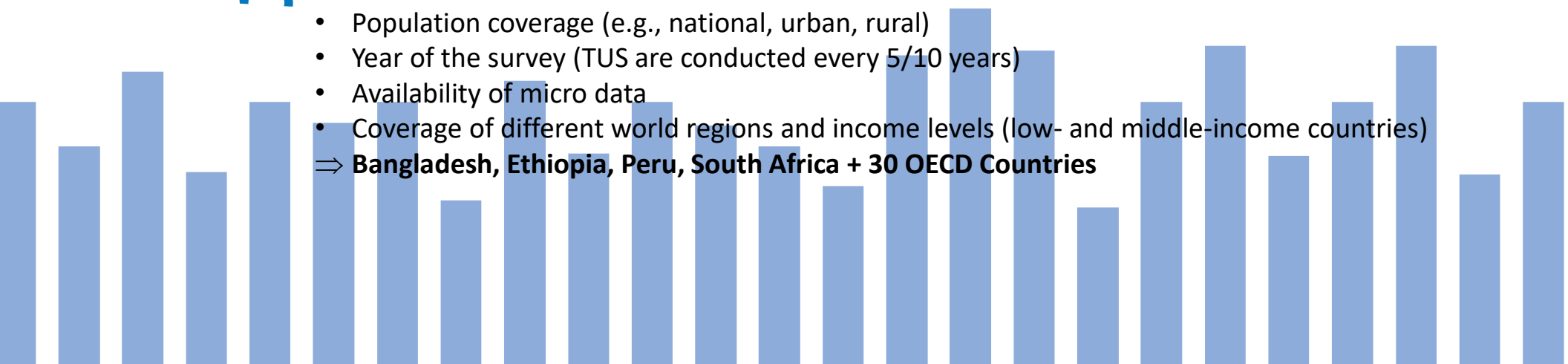
 Time Use Surveys (TUS) have been conducted in **83 countries** (30 OECD countries + 53 non-OECD economies)

 A number of **comparability issues** affect TUS, e.g. different classifications, population coverage, simultaneity of activities, etc...

 **Selection criteria:**

- Population coverage (e.g., national, urban, rural)
- Year of the survey (TUS are conducted every 5/10 years)
- Availability of micro data
- Coverage of different world regions and income levels (low- and middle-income countries)

⇒ **Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Peru, South Africa + 30 OECD Countries**

A decorative bar chart at the bottom of the slide consists of 20 vertical blue bars of varying heights, arranged in a slightly irregular pattern across the width of the page.

Recognising UPCW as a female economic contribution



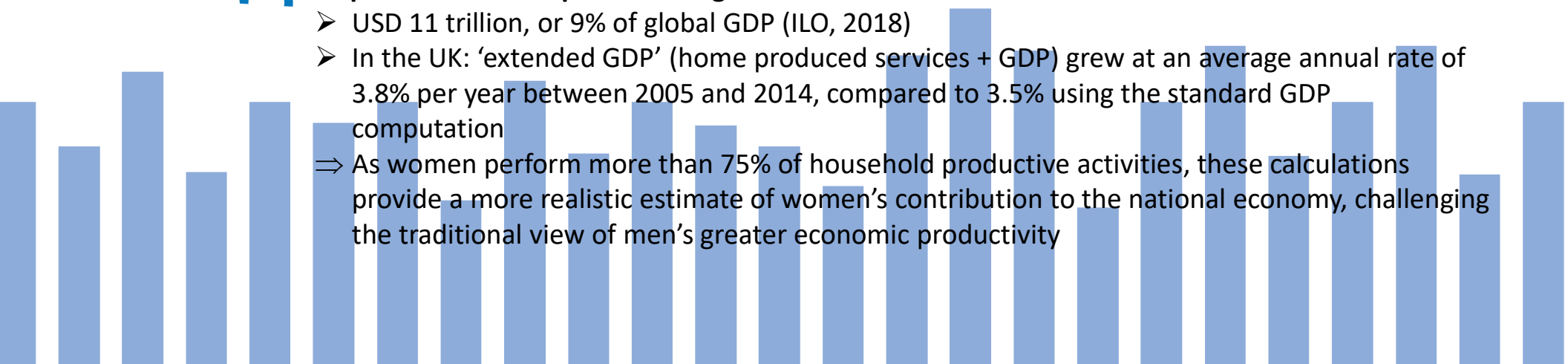
Unpaid care work is not considered an “economic activity”:

- Unpaid goods and services produced by household members for their own consumption were excluded from GDP
- ⇒ ineffective policymaking that does not account for the constraints individuals, particularly women, face when pursuing different economic and social activities
- ⇒ incorrect inferences about an individuals’ well-being and the value of time




Unpaid care work represents a significant share of countries’ GDP:

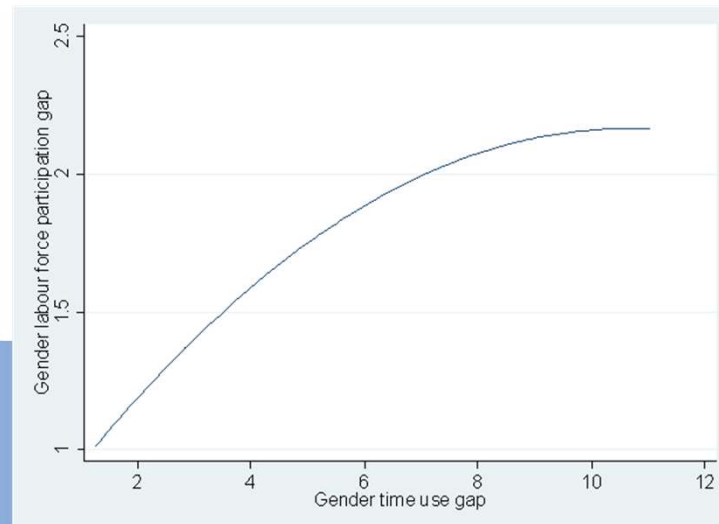
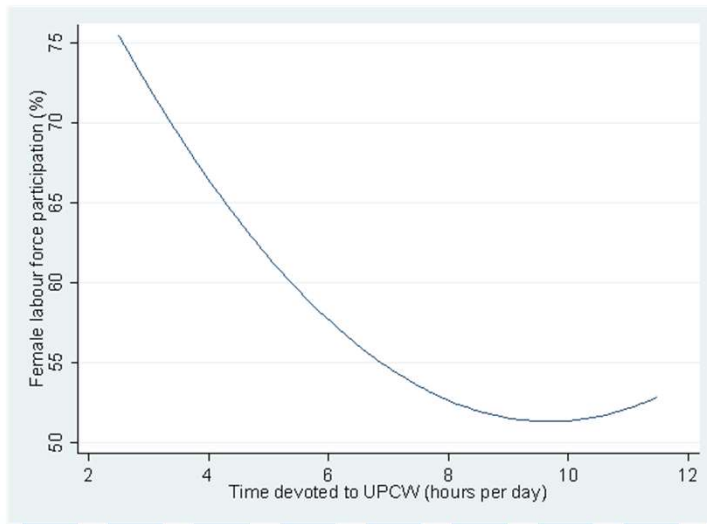
- USD 11 trillion, or 9% of global GDP (ILO, 2018)
- In the UK: ‘extended GDP’ (home produced services + GDP) grew at an average annual rate of 3.8% per year between 2005 and 2014, compared to 3.5% using the standard GDP computation
- ⇒ As women perform more than 75% of household productive activities, these calculations provide a more realistic estimate of women’s contribution to the national economy, challenging the traditional view of men’s greater economic productivity



Unpaid Care Work: the Missing Barrier to Women's Economic Empowerment



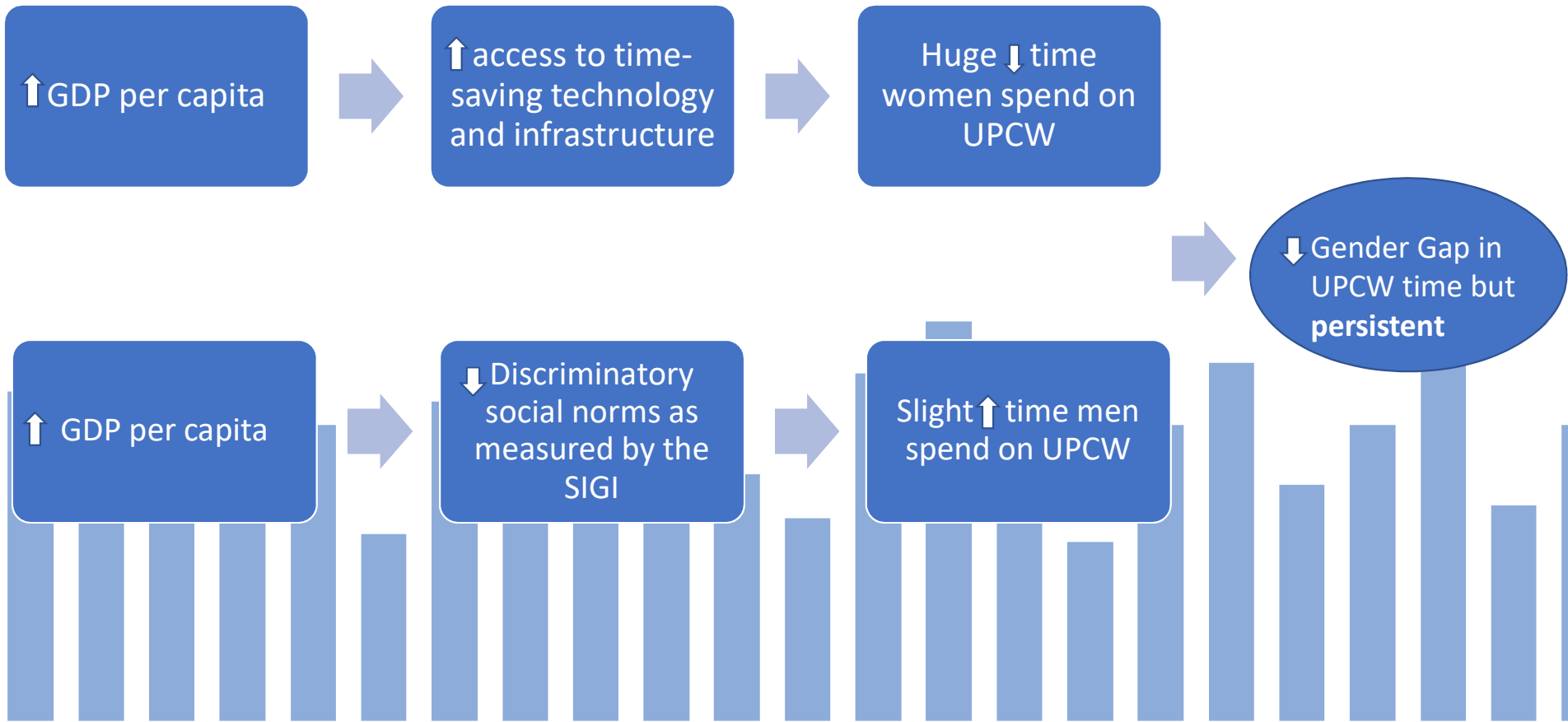
 Higher inequalities in UPCW, higher inequalities in labour market outcomes



Note: Controlling for GDP per capita, fertility rate, urbanisation rate, maternity leave and gender inequality in unemployment and education.

Source: World Bank (n.d.), *World Development Indicators* and OECD (2018), *Gender, Institutions and Development Database*.

Gender Gap in UPCW and GDP



Informing Policy-Makers: focus on access to infrastructure



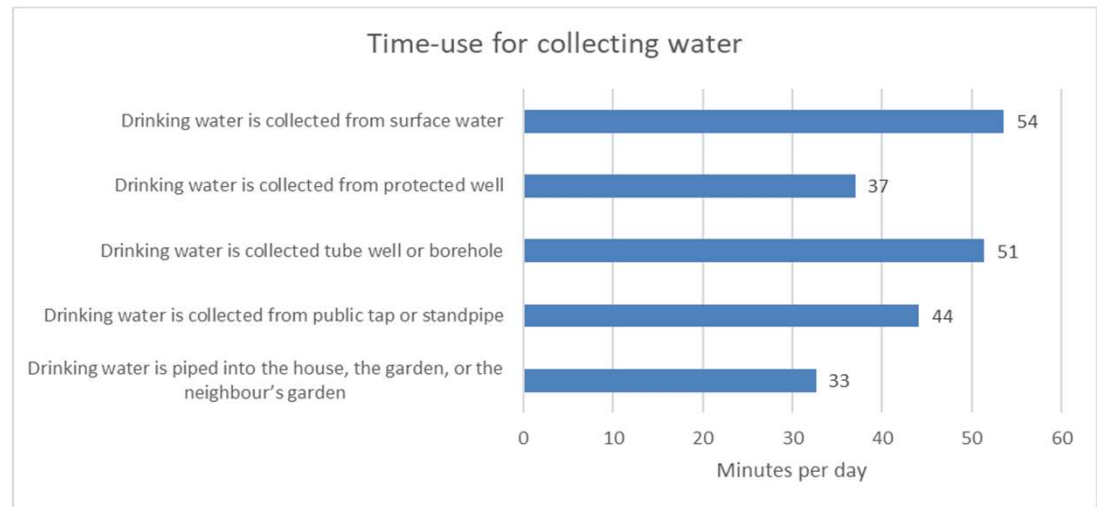
Access to electricity:

- 34% of the Ghanaian women do not have access to electricity in their house
- Having electricity at one's house increases women's time in paid activities (formal or informal) by **73 minutes**



Access to water

- 19% of women are fetching water vs 6% of men
- for 25% of the Ghanaian Households drinking water is piped into their house, their garden, or their neighbour's yard



Conclusion



UPCW: a missed opportunity

- ✓ policies very rarely incorporate addressing UCW as an objective
- ✓ (harmonised) TUS are restricted



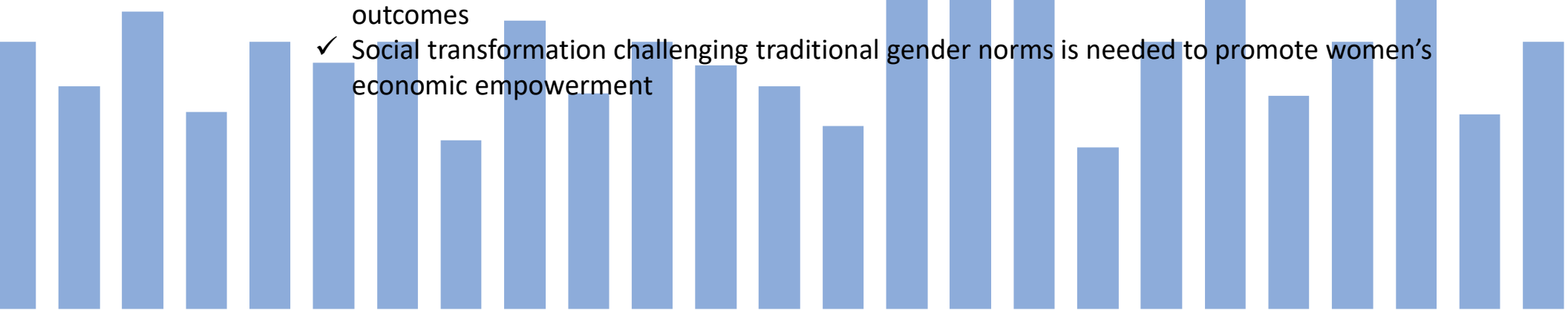
UPCW: a barrier to women's economic empowerment

- ✓ Higher gender time use gap, higher gender gaps in labour market outcomes



Need for public commitment:

- ✓ GDP growth itself would not be enough to achieve equality on both UPCW and labour market outcomes
- ✓ Social transformation challenging traditional gender norms is needed to promote women's economic empowerment





Thank you for your attention

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More information on

- OECD Policy Dialogue on Women's Economic Empowerment and Unpaid Care Work at <http://www.oecd.org/development/womens-economic-empowerment.htm>
- Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) www.genderindex.org
- OECD Time Use Database <http://www.oecd.org/gender/data/>

