Invisible no more? How time use surveys measure unpaid work

Eleanor Carey, Technical Manager, Data2X

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

Mexico City, 11th September, 2018

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Data2X report: Invisible No More?

Country Case Studies

Albania	Kazakhstan
Cambodia	Mexico
Chile	Moldova
Colombia	Mongolia
Egypt	South Africa
Ethiopia	South Korea
Finland	Thailand
Ghana	Tanzania
India	Uruguay

Volume I: A Methodology and Policy Review of How Time Use Surveys Measure Unpaid Work

Written by Mayra Buvinic and Elizabeth M. King

- Featuring an inventory of **257** time use surveys across **88** countries

Volume II: Country Case Studies

- Includes **18** country case studies on the data-to-policy link of time use surveys

Read the report and case studies at www.data2x.org/time-use-report
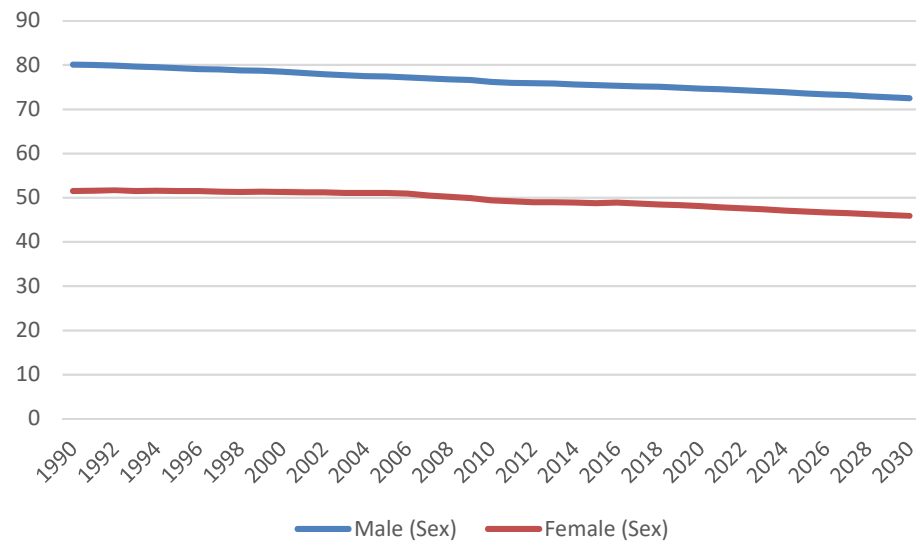
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Evidence of policy momentum: unpaid work

Sustainable Development Goals

- Indicator 5.4.1

19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS 19)

- Broadened definition of work
- Employment is counted only as work for "pay or profit" →

ICATUS 2016

- Harmonizes activities with ICLS 19
- Helps ensure international comparability and quality of time use data

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Global Female and Male Labour Force Participation Rate, 1990-2030

Advantages of Time Use Data for gender-sensitive policy

Unpaid domestic and care work

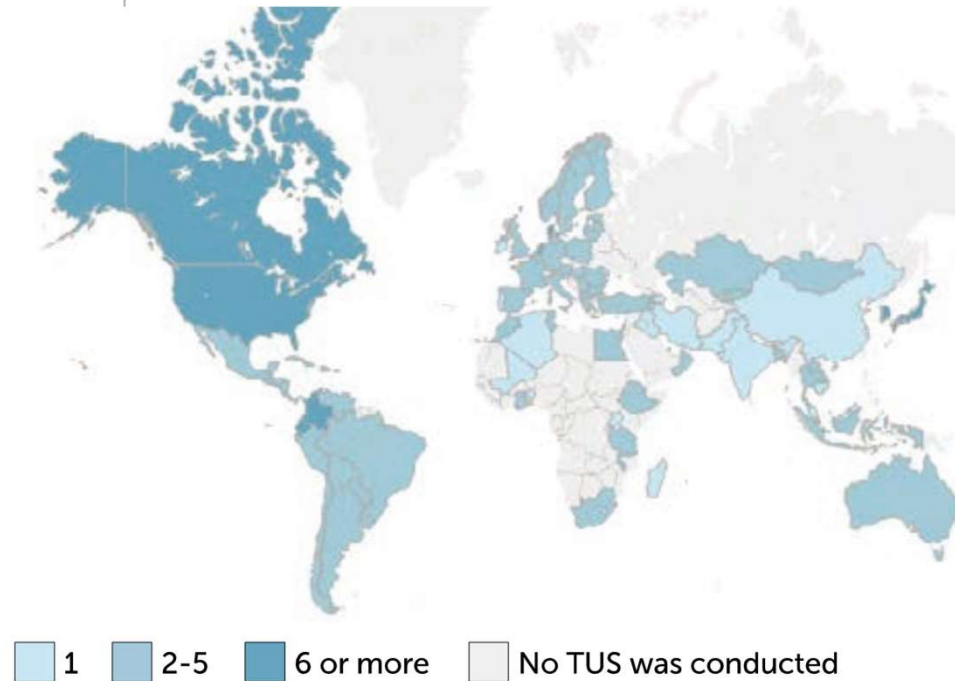- Time use surveys are currently the most appropriate way to measure unpaid work activities

Unpaid/ poorly captured market work

- Unpaid family workers
- Casual, temporary, seasonal labor in agriculture and small informal enterprises

Simultaneous paid and unpaid activities can be difficult to capture

- Women often perform paid and unpaid activities simultaneously

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Time use surveys conducted globally

Figure 4. Number of time use surveys completed by country as of 2017.

1   2-5   6 or more   No TUS was conducted

Time use surveys' role in policymaking – country studies

Direct Policy Influence	Indirect Policy Influence	No or Unclear Policy Influence
Albania	Mongolia	Chile
Cambodia	South Korea	Egypt
Colombia	Tanzania	Ethiopia
Finland		Ghana
Mexico		India
Moldova		Kazakhstan
Uruguay		Thailand
		South Africa

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Data to policy: chronological stages

Across 18 country case studies:

Identify & Prioritize (Gender Data Gaps) → Collect & Analyze Data → Inform & Influence → Develop Policy

Enabling Environment

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What has helped foster the data-to-policy link?

Identify and prioritize

Demand-driven data is more successful

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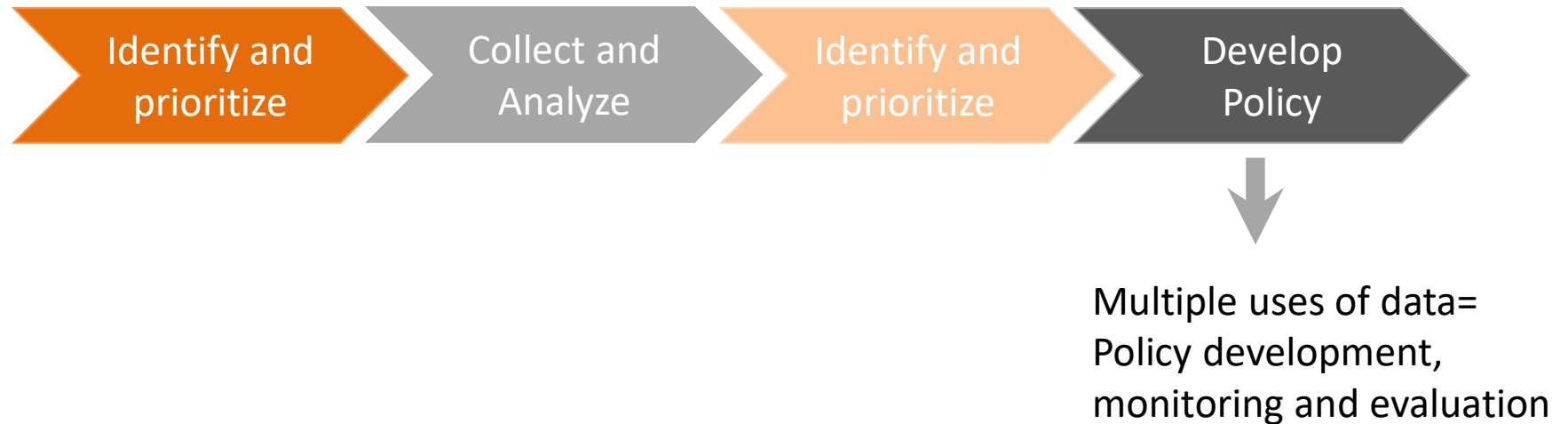# What has helped foster the data-to-policy link?

| Identify and prioritize | Collect and Analyze |

High quality data =
better chance of policy
impact

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What has helped foster the data-to-policy link?

Identify and prioritize → Collect and Analyze → Identify and prioritize

Effective communication is key

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What has helped foster the data-to-policy link?

| Identify and prioritize | Collect and Analyze | Identify and prioritize | Develop Policy |

Multiple uses of data=
Policy development,
monitoring and evaluation

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What are the steps to link data to policy?

Time use surveys' role in policymaking – country studies

Direct policy effects:

Albania, Mexico

- Used to define, monitor, or evaluate gender equality policies

Cambodia , Colombia, Uruguay

- Care policies

Moldova

- Employment policies for women, child care centers

Finland

- Employment projects for rural women, early retirement policies, child/family policies, media and cultural programs

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Conclusions

- Unravelling the relationship between paid and unpaid work is crucial for economies: Time Use Data provides the missing link

- Time Use Data has directly and indirectly impacted policy

- But, TU data remains underproduced and underutilized

- There are a number of factors that mediate data uptake

- Policy-makers and data producers must work together to produce relevant and useful information in their context

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