

# SEX-DISAGGREGATED ICT DATA IN AFRICA

Working Group  
EQUALS RESEARCH COALITION



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP  
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE  
DE DEVELOPPEMENT

RESEARCH  
ICT AFRICA

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## Executive Summary

To build on the inaugural [2019 EQUALS Research Coalition Report](#), members conducted an analysis of the state of sex-disaggregated information and communications technology (ICT) data in Africa in international databases. The analysis covers eleven indicators of ICT Access, Skills, and Leadership between 2010 and 2019. As data were not available to assess the Dark Side of ICT, the report provides an analysis of critical research conducted in that area.

### Five conclusions stand out from this analysis:



There is a need for better data collection across the continent. Many African countries currently lack surveys to collect sex-disaggregated ICT data. When surveys are conducted, there is also a gap in who is included in the results.



Monitoring data on a sex-disaggregated basis is only possible on a delayed schedule because much of the sex-disaggregated ICT data are many years out of date.



One-fifth of all African countries with data cannot construct a time series of sex-disaggregated ICT data for any indicator, limiting the ability to track changes in access, skills, or leadership over time.



Data on pay gaps within the ICT professions were not generally available in the 2019 EQUALS Research Coalition report and were found to be inconsistent based on the few countries and industries available. More than two years on, and in African countries in particular, no data are available on a country-wide level on such indicators as captured in international databases.



Little to no data are available on cyber violence, a widespread, but difficult to capture, aspect of gender-based violence. There is a need to prioritize collecting these data to ensure that governments and private companies can make laws and products that protect women and girls from online abuse.

These gaps and limitations can be overcome with joint efforts from policy makers, national statistical offices (NSO), industry, donors, civil society, and researchers. The final section of this report provides targeted recommendations to each of these six groups.