59th Session of the Commission for Social Development
SIDE EVENT
Innovating Public Governance and Leveraging Digital Technologies for Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups

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Gendered Impact of COVID-19

- *Violence against women and girls* has increased during lockdowns and curfews.

- Women are disproportionately affected by the **economic impacts** as they generally earn less and hold insecure jobs.

- Additional **unpaid care work** has fallen on women, with children out-of-school, greater care needs of older persons and overwhelmed health services.


Women make up **70%** of the health and social workforce.

SOURCE | World Health Organization

Technology is not Gender Neutral

- ***Digital gender gap*** - *in two out of every three countries, more men use the Internet than women*

- *Women face **online harassment and threats**. Misogynistic posts and hate speech against women have increased during COVID-19.*

- *Women account for less than 10% of the **cybersecurity** workforce in Asia Pacific.*

Number of Misogynistic Facebook Posts: 2019 vs. 2020
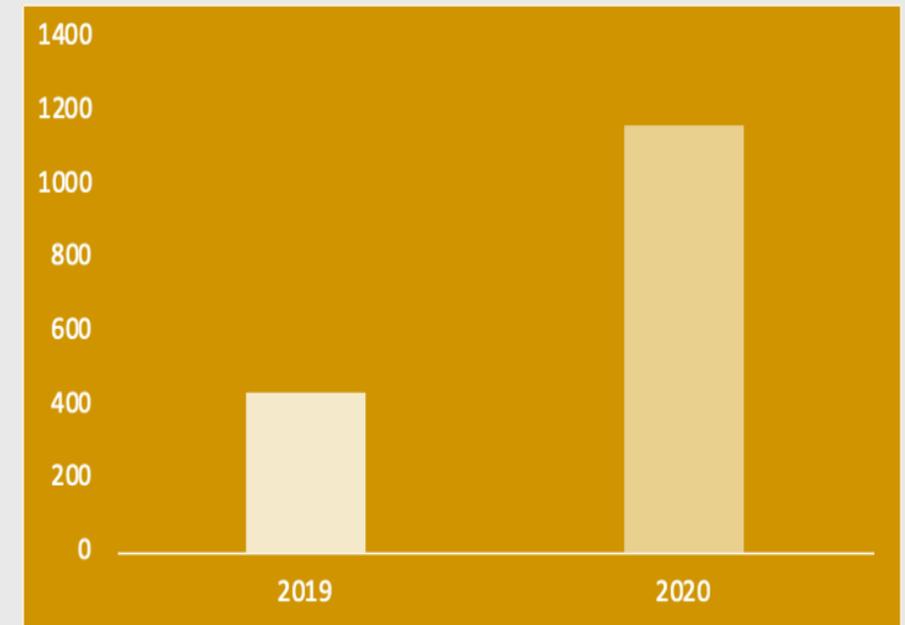
Recommendations

- *Institutionalize **women's participation** in crisis preparedness and response.*

- *Support **women civil society** to reach those marginalized from mainstream relief and recovery programmes.*

- *Close the digital gender gap and support **women's digital citizenship**.*

- *Address gender blind spots in **cybersecurity** and **artificial intelligence**.*

WOMEN IN TECH
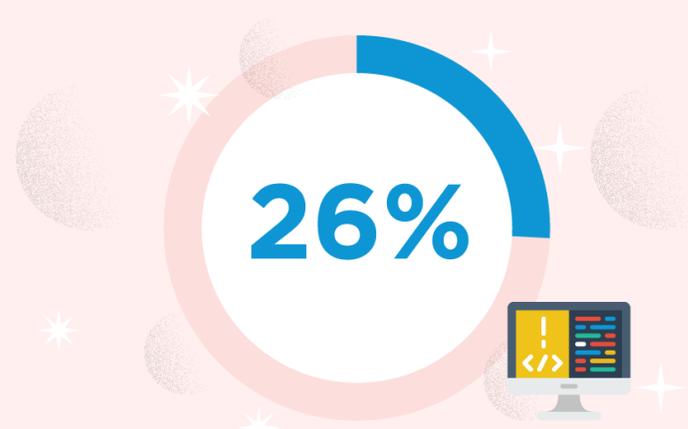
26%

Only **26 per cent** of AI and data professionals globally are women.

SOURCE | Reports of the Secretary-General, United Nations