



ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP

SEPTEMBER 2022

CSW67 Priority Theme Survey

Results Overview



INTRODUCTION



THE **CSW67 PRIORITY THEME** IS

Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.



THE **ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP (ARG)** **PROVIDES RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE CSW PRIORITY THEME** TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ZERO DRAFT OF THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT



THIS YEAR, WE ARE FOCUSING ON **CONSULTING WITH OUR GLOBAL, GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY TO UNDERSTAND THEIR LIVED EXPERIENCES** THAT PERTAIN TO THE CSW67 THEME ON INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE.



TO THAT END, THE ARG **SENT A SURVEY TO OUR CONSTITUENCY TO COLLECT THEIR INPUT** ABOUT THE PRIORITY THEME AND THEIR COMMUNITY'S EXPERIENCE WITH TECHNOLOGY. **THIS DECK GIVES AN OVERVIEW OF THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY.**

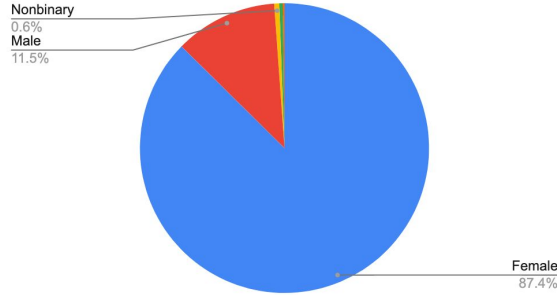
CSW67 Priority Theme Survey | Results Overview

ARG decided to conduct a survey to **understand its constituents and community's lived experiences better**, capture their insights, advice and expertise before drafting the NGO CSW/NY recommendations that **ARG will advocate to be included in the Zero Draft document** for CSW67

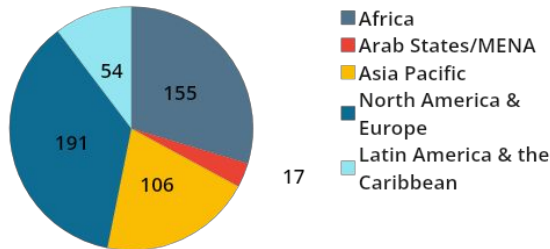
TOTAL # OF RESPONDENTS

535

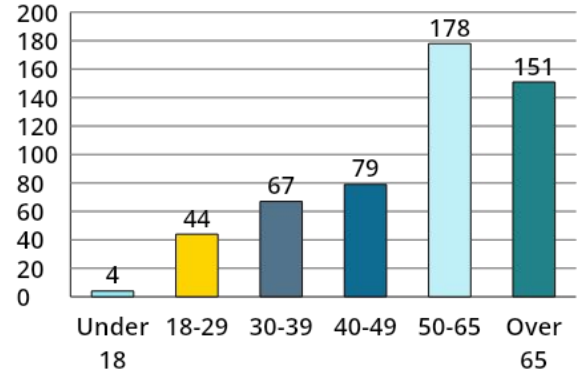
RESPONDENTS' GENDER



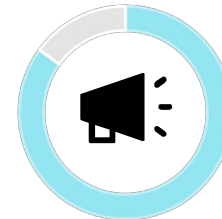
REGIONAL REPRESENTATION



RESPONDENTS' AGE



SURVEY REACH



>85%

Of respondents completed the survey in **English**. We also sent out the same survey in **French** and **Spanish**

Priority Theme Concerns | Summary

TAKEAWAYS BY THEME

Affordability

- Cross-regionally, respondents perceive **internet costs to be affordable** (at least not different based on gender)
- **Considerable gap in financial resources between the Global North and the Global South** when it comes to investing in preventing digital inequalities for women and girls

Accessibility & Equity

- Considerable **gap in access to data literacy and training** between North America & Europe and the rest of the regions
- All regions report **unequal access to ICT in rural areas, among indigenous populations, elders, and people with disabilities**

Privacy & Safety

- **Lack of awareness on personal data usage** was noted as a major concern across all regions
- **Public access of ICT puts privacy, security, and safety at risk**

Environment & Human Rights

- **Discriminatory norms hindering women's representation in STEM** was a cross-regional concern
- **Connection between tech and climate change**, which affects women and girls disproportionately
- Most respondents believe that **women and girls' human rights are being threatened by tech**

QUALITATIVE DATA

"In my view, most of the technology issues facing women and girls in my community center on those individuals whose **overall education is lacking, due to a myriad number of reasons.**"

"I believe it is important to understand how women and girls are informed of how they can defend themselves against **harassment, stalking, etc. online**"

"There is also a **lack of tech education for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women** to navigate avenues to of inclusion of equity for sustainable careers in tech once released from prison."

"Financial resources are lacking due to **extreme poverty, lack of electricity and very low education levels, .**"

"They fear using the internet **they are not safe and secure because of harassment**"

"Climate change, increased energy consumption and waste can lead to other **health problems that can lead to more problems in women due to reproductive health, pregnancies, and family-care.**"

"Most women and girls have smartphones, but the **issue is the cost of subscribing to gain access to the internet.**"

"**There has not been any concerted effort to educate women and girls** specifically and this also includes elderly women."

"**Cybercrime and scams are highly developed** and women and girls find it difficult to cope with them."

BREAKDOWN OF SURVEY RESULTS BY REGION

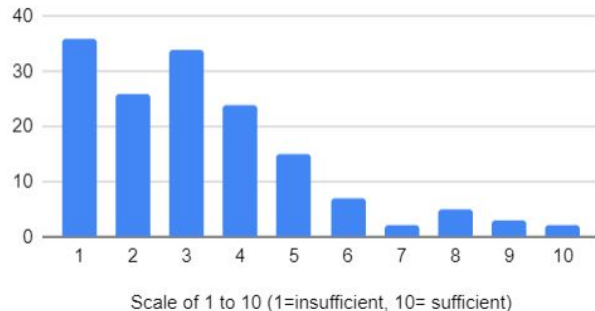
- Africa
- Arab States/MENA
- Asia Pacific
- Latin America & the Caribbean
- North America & Europe



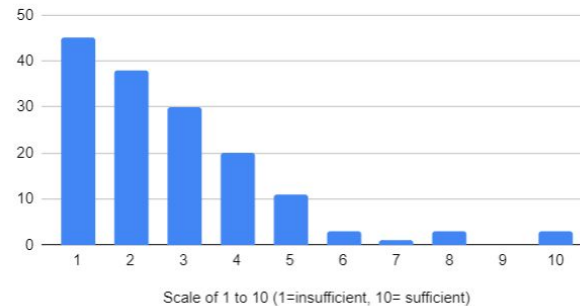
Priority Theme Concerns | Africa

- **154 total respondents**
- **76% Female | 23% Male**
- **41 countries represented**
- **31 respondents from Nigeria**

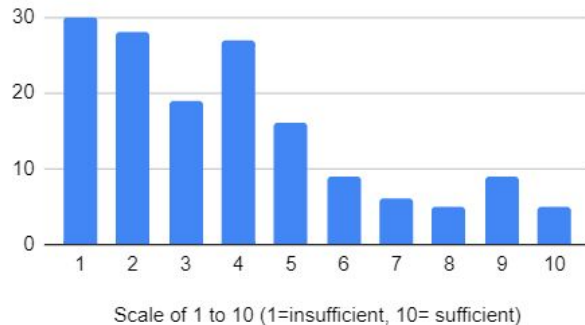
Do women and girls in your community have sufficient access to digital literacy training and education?



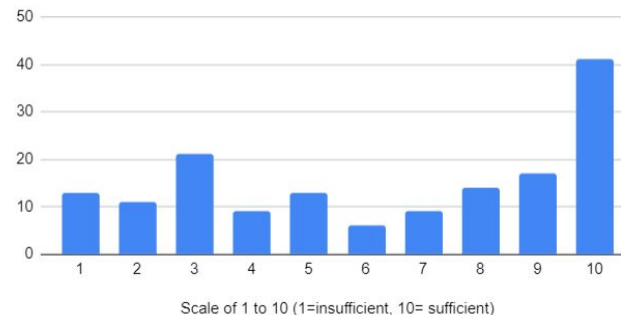
Does your community have sufficient financial resources, financing, or investment to prevent digital inequalities for women and girls?



Do you feel your data is protected and private?

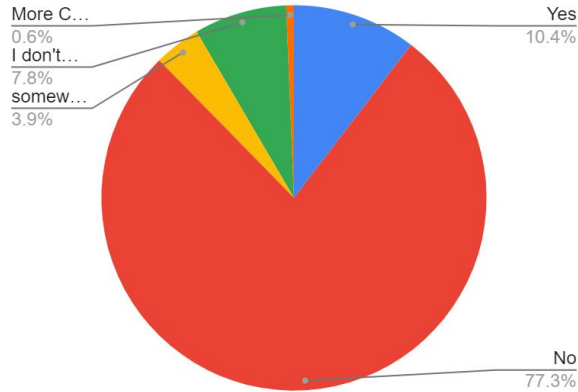


Are the internet costs for women or girls in your community affordable?



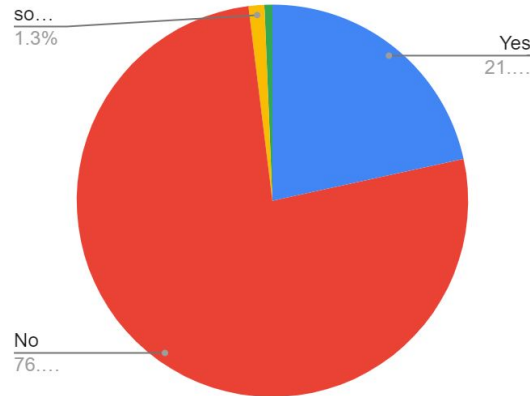
Priority Theme Concerns | Africa

- **154 total respondents**
- **76% Female | 23% Male**
- **41 countries represented**
- **31 respondents from Nigeria**



Are adaptive technologies available?

- **No: 77.3%**
- **Yes: 10.4%**



Are free Wifi zones available?

- **No: 76.5%**
- **Yes: 21.6%**

Has someone used technology to harass, bully, stalk or menace you?

- **Yes: 60.1%**
- **No: 29.4%**
- **I don't know: 9.2%**

Are the human rights of women & girls threatened by digital technology?

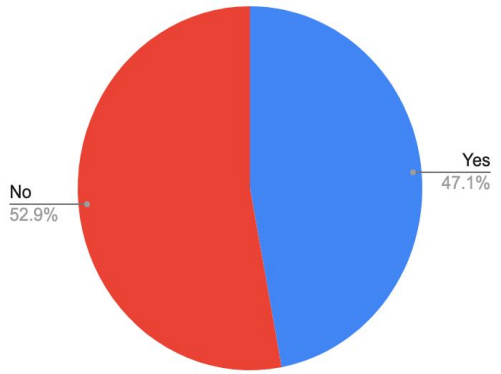
- **Yes: 53.9%**
- **No: 30.5%**
- **N/A: 13.6%**

Priority Theme Concerns | Arab States/MENA

18 Respondents

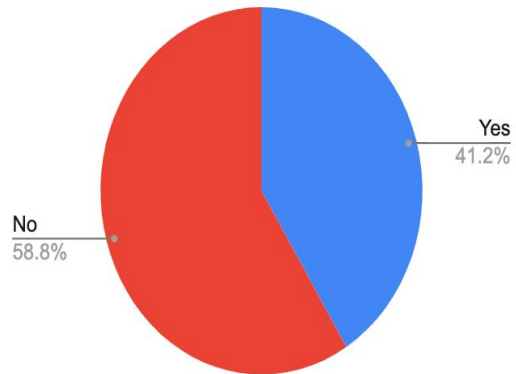
Barriers to Access and Bandwidth Equality

Are free wifi zones available or is there access to the internet through public spaces (for example, community libraries)?



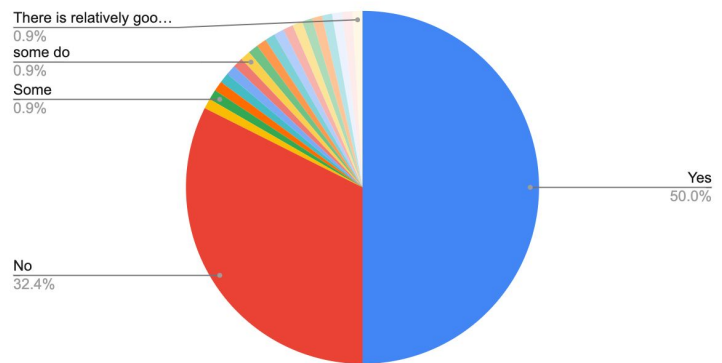
Accessibility and Inclusion for People with Disabilities/Need for Accommodations

Are adaptive and assistive technologies available in your community for women and girls from vulnerable groups such as those with disabilities and the elderly?



Overall internet coverage

Do women and girls in your community have reliable and consistent internet coverage?



Positive developments:

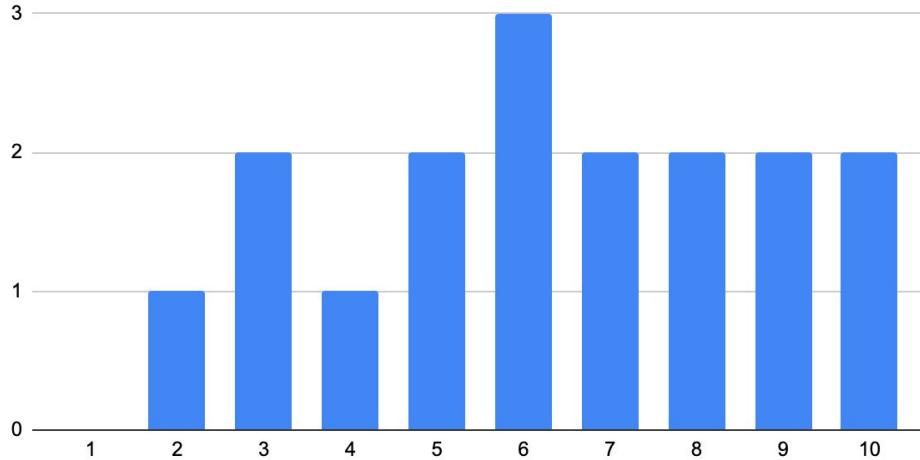
- Overall coverage and access is increasing

Challenges:

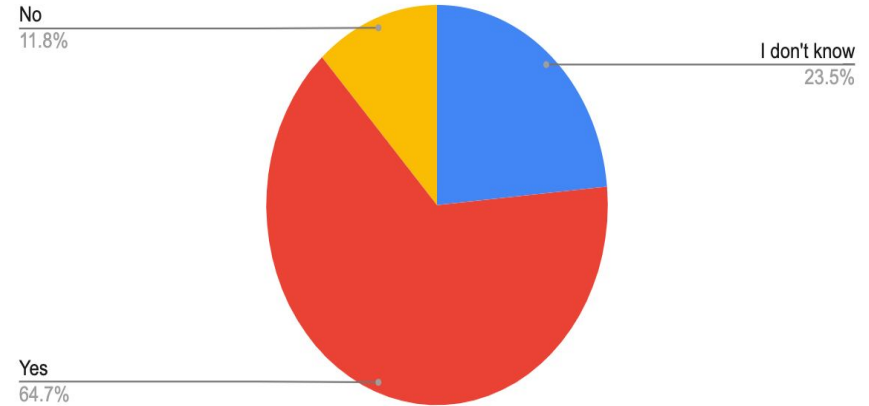
- Lack of coverage in public spaces where girls and young women can freely access

Priority Theme Concerns | Arab States/MENA

On a scale of 1 to 10, do discriminatory norms, persistent gender gaps, or inequality result in the under-representation of women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in your community?

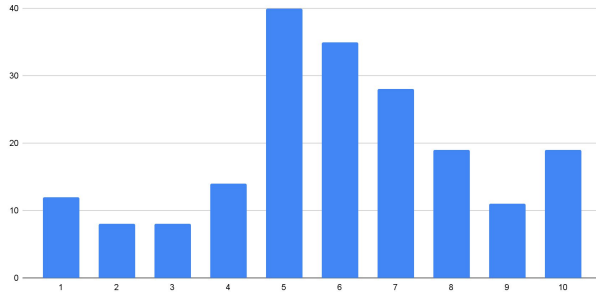


If Artificial Intelligence (AI) used biased data to learn how to make decisions, it could perpetuate existing patterns of inequality and discrimination, including in the algorithms used in AI-based solutions. Do you view this as a problem for women and girls in your community?



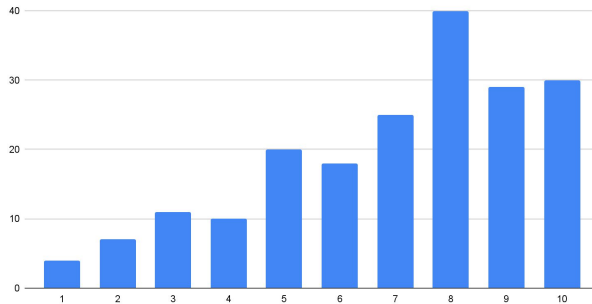
Priority Theme Concerns | North America & Europe

Increasing amounts of digital devices, applications, data traffic and digitalization, have increased energy consumption, which contributes to large volumes of electronic and consumer waste, contributing to climate change. On a scale of 1 to 10, does this specifically affect women and



Increasing energy consumption contributing to climate change

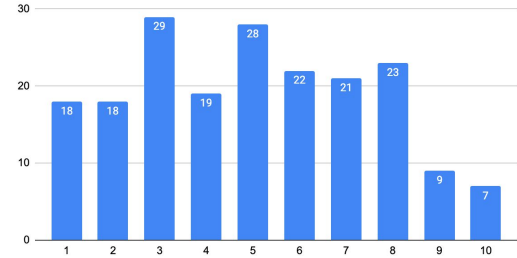
On a scale of 1 to 10, do discriminatory norms, persistent gender gaps, or inequality result in the under-representation of women and girls in STEM (science, technology,



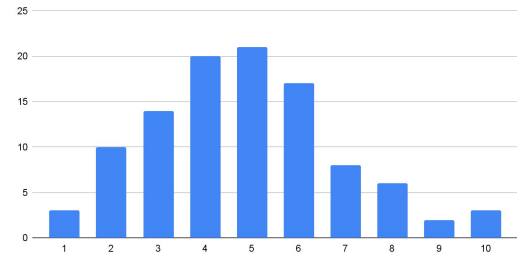
Gender norms & inequality causing underrepresentation of women and girls in STEM

Lack of awareness around data and its protection and privacy

On a scale of 1 to 10, do you feel your data is protected and private?



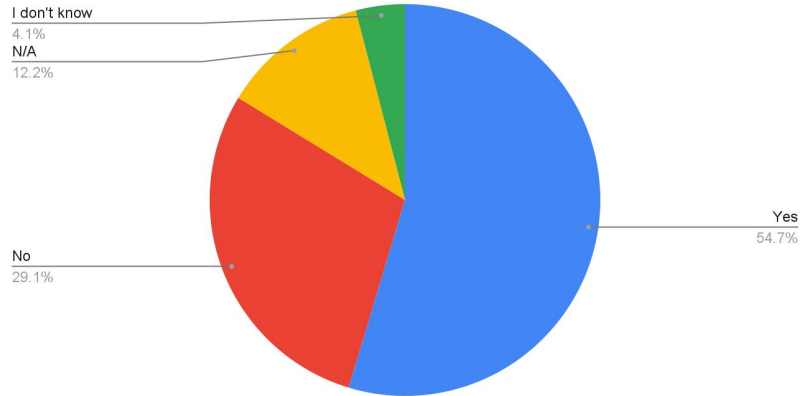
On a scale of 1 to 10, how aware are users about their personal data being used by apps/websites?



Priority Theme Concerns | North America & Europe

Women & girls' human rights being threatened by/via technology

Are women's and girls' human rights being threatened in your community by digital technology?



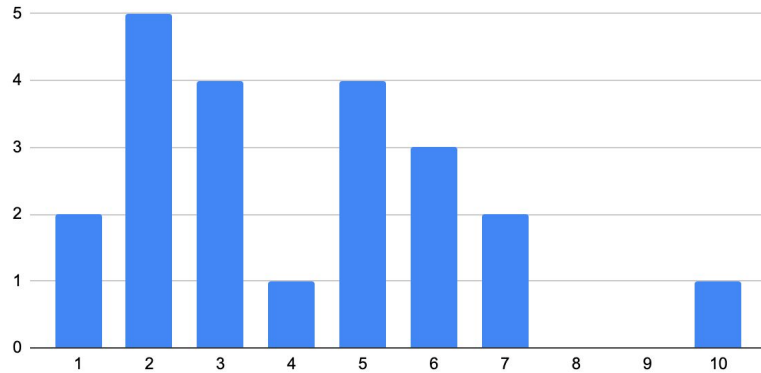
Other notable concerns:

- **Older, migrant, and/or low-income women not having access to digital literacy training**
- **Resources (especially financial) are available but are not being allocated effectively and to those who need it**
- **Lack of awareness of the risks of technology, social media, the internet, etc.**

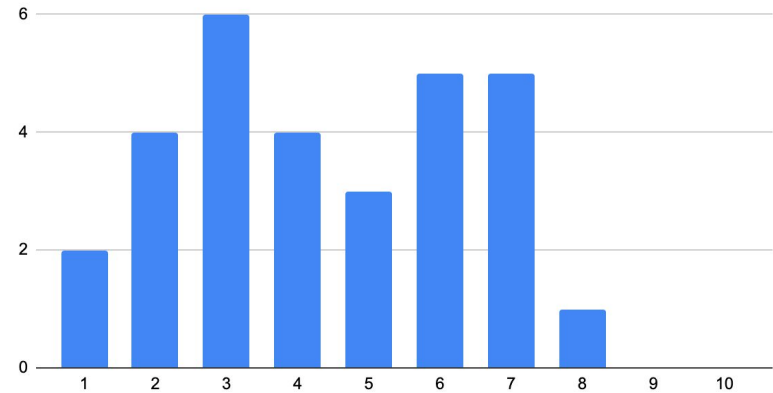
Priority Theme Concerns | Latin America & The Caribbean

54 Respondents

On a scale of 1 to 10, does your community have sufficient financial resources, financing, or investment to prevent digital inequalities for women and girls?

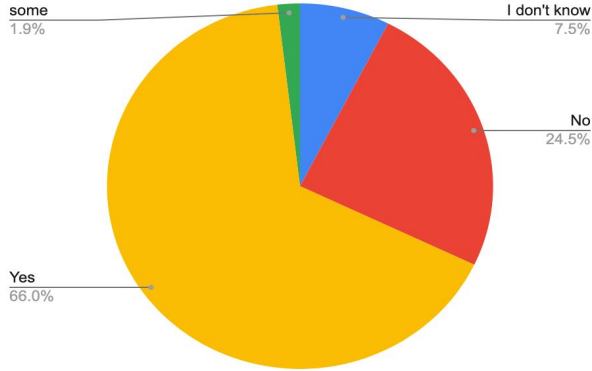


On a scale of 1 to 10, are the internet costs for women or girls in your community affordable?

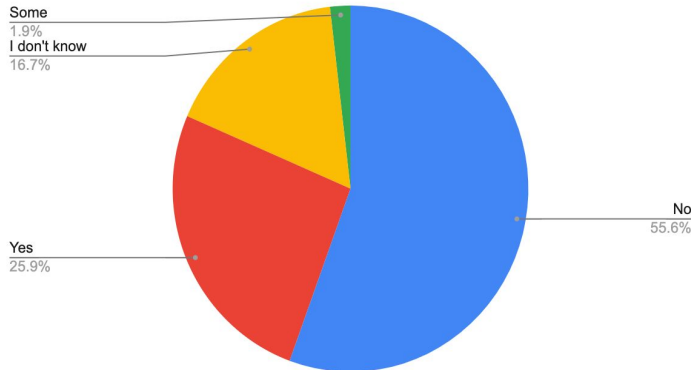


Priority Theme Concerns | Latin America & The Caribbean

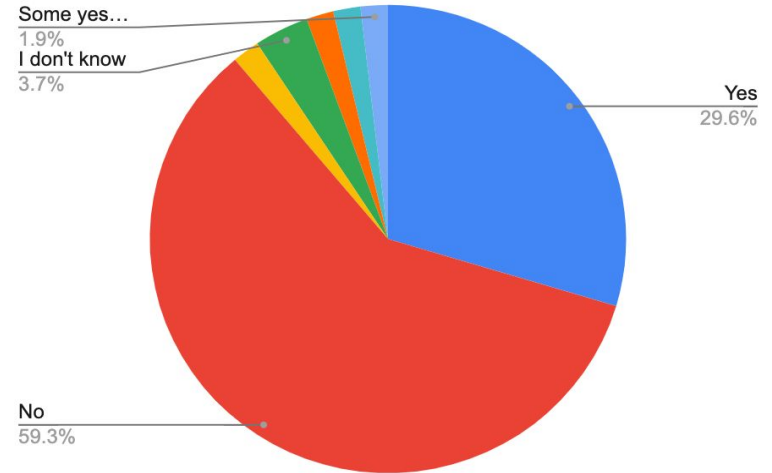
Are women's and girls' human rights being threatened in your community by digital technology?



Are adaptive and assistive technologies available in your community for women and girls from vulnerable groups such as those with disabilities and the elderly?



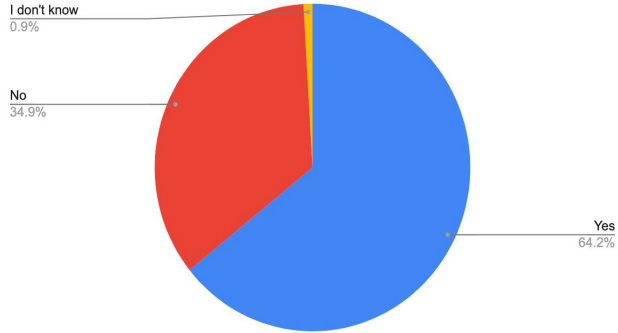
Do women and girls in your community have reliable and consistent internet coverage?



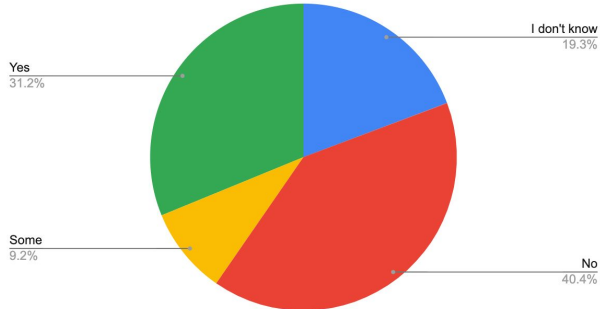
Priority Theme Concerns | Asia - Pacific Region

95 Respondents

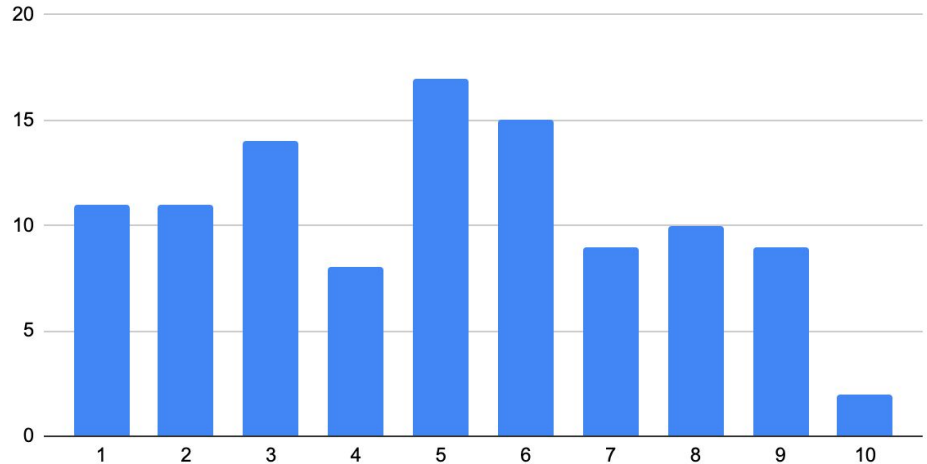
Are women's and girls' human rights being threatened in your community by digital technology?



Are adaptive and assistive technologies available in your community for women and girls from vulnerable groups such as those with disabilities and the elderly?

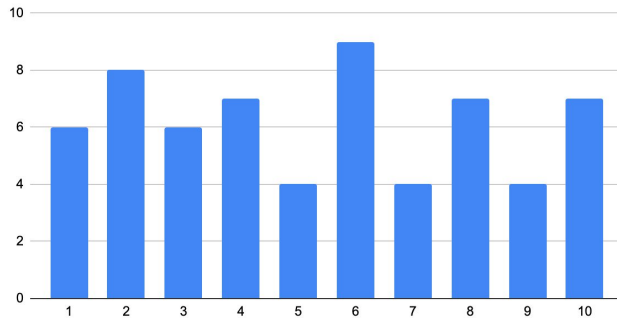


On a scale of 1 to 10, is access to technology restricted by social or cultural norms in your community?

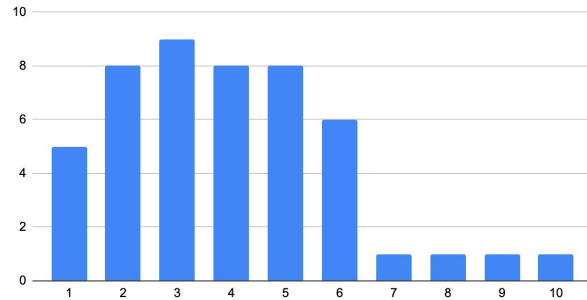


Priority Theme Concerns | Asia - Pacific Region

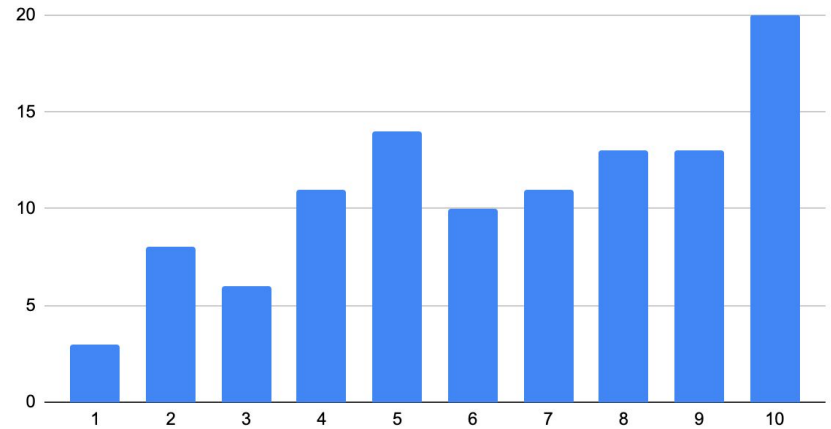
On a scale of 1 to 10, do women and girls in your community have sufficient access to digital literacy training and education?



On a scale of 1 to 10, how aware are users about their personal data being used by apps/websites?



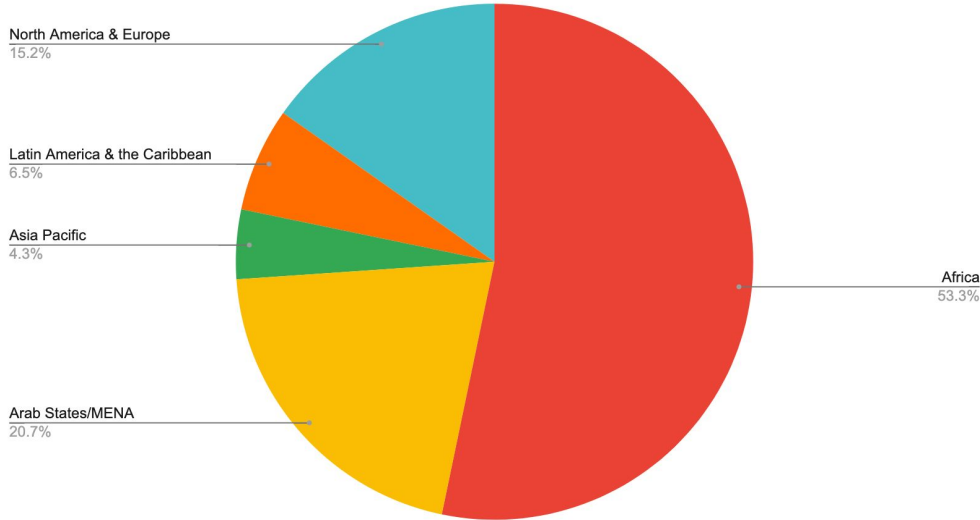
On a scale of 1 to 10, do discriminatory norms, persistent gender gaps, or inequality result in the under-representation of women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) in your community?



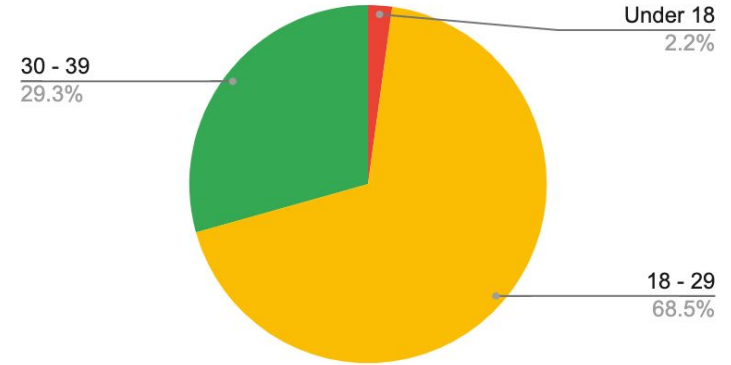
Demographics | Youth Leaders & Young Professionals

92 respondents

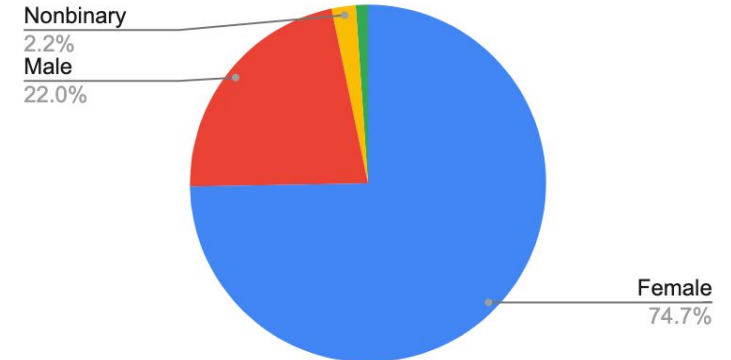
Region



Age



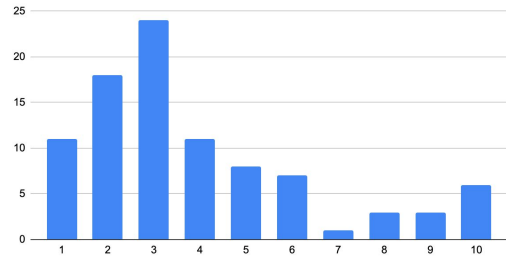
Gender



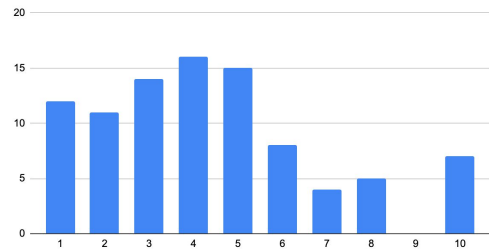
Priority Theme Concerns | Youth Leaders & Young Professionals

Lack of awareness around data and its protection and privacy; and concern over its security

On a scale of 1 to 10, how aware are users about their personal data being used by apps/websites?

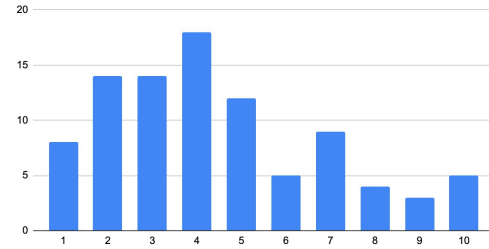


On a scale of 1 to 10, do you feel your data is protected and private?



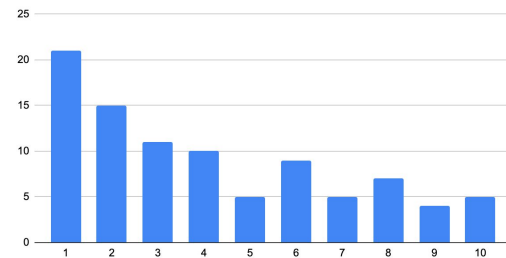
Lack of access to digital literacy training and education

On a scale of 1 to 10, do women and girls in your community have sufficient access to digital literacy training and education?



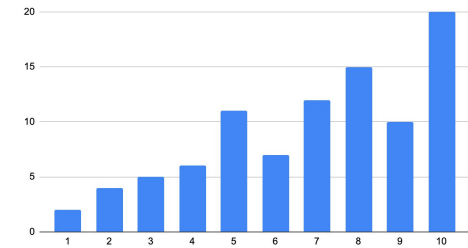
Cultural and social norms preventing tech access

On a scale of 1 to 10, is access to technology restricted by social or cultural norms in your community?



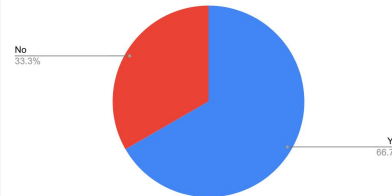
Gender norms & inequality causing underrepresentation of women and girls in STEM

On a scale of 1 to 10, do discriminatory norms, persistent gender gaps, or inequality result in the under-representation of women and girls in STEM (science, technology, engineering,....)

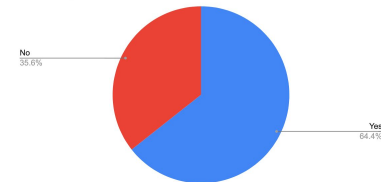


Technology threatening women and girls' human rights through cyberbullying, harassment, etc.

Are women's and girls' human rights being threatened in your community by digital technology?



Has someone used technology to harass, bully, stalk, or menace you?



TOP PRIORITIES

RELATED TO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS & EMPOWERMENT

According to participants' survey responses and input during NGO CSW/NY's September Monthly Meeting.



TOP TOPICS OF CONCERN

(in no particular order)

Availability of financial resources for digital tech for women and girls

Accessibility to tech in rural areas, among elders and people with disabilities

Access to and availability of technical/digital education and training

Training on and increasing awareness of online data privacy and protection

Underrepresentation of women and girls in STEM (science, tech, engineering & math)

Technology and digital impact on women's and girls' human rights

Online safety from harassment, cyberbullying, etc.

The large gap between the Global North and Global South across all topics



ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP

TOP FIVE CONCERNS

Access to and availability of tech/digital education and training (including underrepresentation of girls in STEM)

Tech and digital impact on women's and girl's human rights; Online safety from cyberbullying, harrassment, etc.

Accessibility to tech in rural areas, among elders and people with disabilities

Availability of financial resources for digital tech for women and girls

Youth and adolescent cross-cutting theme

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ADVOCACY & RESEARCH GROUP:

[NGOCSW.ORG/ADVOCACYRESEARCHGROUP](https://ngo-csw.org/advocacyresearchgroup)

**EMAIL US AT
INFO@NGOCSW.ORG**



@NGO_CSU_NY



@NGO_CSU_NY



NGO CSW/NY



NGO CSW/NY