



**Economic Commission for Africa  
United Nations Statistical Division**

**Regional Training Workshop to Improve Use of Existing Data for  
Monitoring Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Africa**

**Kampala, Uganda  
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# SESSION ONE

## 1.1 Introduction and Background

The global goal of ensuring gender equality and empowering women and girls has gained recognition and gathered momentum over the years. The welfare of women and girls has been at the heart of the United Nations in its entire developmental agenda. Thus, it stands out clearly that the importance of women and girls' issues made the United Nations to include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goal 5; ensuring gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. Accordingly, many conferences had been held to implement policies and programmes that seek to promote gender equality and empowerment of women and girls at all levels of development.

The regional training workshop was organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in partnership with the UN Women and support from the Government of Uganda. The workshop took place from 26 to 29 September 2017.

## 1.2 Objectives of the workshop

The overall objective of the regional training workshop was to strengthen the capacity of African countries in integrating gender perspective into national statistical system in order to improve the availability and use of gender statistics at the national, regional and international levels.

The other auxiliary objectives of the training workshop were to address data availability and methodological issues related to selected indicators with the various SDGs. The workshop aimed at improving the use of existing data for monitoring gender equality and women empowerment. Furthermore, the workshop was to assist member countries to improve their technical capabilities in producing, disseminating, communicating and using statistics required to monitor gender indicators.

## 1.3 Attendance

Participants of the workshop were from 12 ECA member states and included Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Other representatives were from UN women, ECA and a consultant from Ghana.

Participants represented multidisciplinary specialist areas including statisticians, economist, sociologist, geographers, criminologist, demographers, policy analysts, lecturers, environmentalists and gender experts & advocates.

## 1.4 Proceeding of the workshop

Topics presented at the training workshop were many and varied. Session one dealt with introduction, objectives and organization of the workshop, while Session two discussed gender statistics and development agenda. Session three was devoted to integrating gender perspectives into official statistics for better monitoring and use of SDG tier I indicators. Session four examines presentation, dissemination and using gender statistics and indicators. Finally, Session five was assigned to improving gender statistics literacy among users.

For practical perspective of using gender statistics to inform national development policies and decision making, an online toolkit on gender statistics that had been developed by the ECA in partnership with the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) was presented. Discussions, group works and assignments were discussed. Lastly, the workshop made a number of recommendations for policy interventions to strengthen gender equality and women empowerment within the context of gender statistics and indicators.

## **1.5 Opening ceremony**

The workshop was preceded by an opening ceremony and ended with a closing ceremony. The representative of the Government of Uganda through the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) led the opening ceremony, and was followed by the representative from ECA.

### **1.5.1 Opening speeches**

The Deputy Director of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS), Mr. James Mwonge, opened the workshop on behalf of the Government and people of Uganda. He warmly welcomed the organizers, and particularly thanked ECA for making the event possible. He also welcomed participants to Uganda and urged them to take the workshop seriously because the regional development hinges on the extent at which gender issues could be mainstreamed, using statistics into all aspects of developments. He further urged participants to take gender statistics and indicators into consideration when designing programmes and projects because at the initial stages, if gender issues are not reflected, it would be too late to mainstream gender into development.

The representative from ECA, Mrs. Fatouma Sissoko, also welcomed participants and said that the ECA takes gender issues seriously, particularly in the context of SDGs monitoring and explained that it is the basis of this that the ECA decided to organize such workshop to strengthen the capacity of member countries to generate and disseminate gender statistics and indicators, especially for SDG Tier I gender related indicators. She said that at the end of the workshop, participants are expected to use the knowledge and skills acquired to improve data availability; presentation, analysis and dissemination of gender oriented statistics and indicators to facilitate planning and national development.

## SESSION TWO

### **Gender statistics and Development Agenda in Africa**

#### **2.1 Africa's Development Agenda: Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063**

This session was devoted to the monitoring framework of SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Africa. It was explained that the strategic framework of Agenda 2063 is an endogenous plan for structural transformation and a shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development. It consists of three dimensions: The vision for 2063: “An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in international arena”.

The presentation gave an overview of 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and informed the meeting that three approaches were used for the regional Consultation on both Agendas in Africa. These are the following: (i) Singular African approach through regional coordination and consultative process that have resulted in a common input to the global set of indicators; a regional set of indicators; and a recommended national set of indicators; (ii) Coordination among three pan-African institutions (namely ECA, AUC and AfDB), seven IAEG –SDG member countries and Statistics South Africa as the chair of the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (Core team), and (iii) Consultation with all African countries - particularly National Statistics Offices, Regional Economic Communities, other UN agencies, Civil Society.

#### **2.2 Presentation on Modules 1 and 2 of the ECA online toolkit on gender statistics**

Mrs. Sissoko presented Modules 1 & 2 of the toolkit. Module 1: Introduction to Gender Statistics. She outlined a series of presentations that depicted the importance of gender statistics and its global and African context by providing examples of how gender statistics can inform national policy and legislation. In addition, key gender terms such as gender equality, gender equity, gender gap, gender parity and the minimum set of gender indicators were discussed in the context of their importance in gender mainstreaming.

She presented Module 2 and explained to participants on how to identify gender issues, described the steps to initiate and produce, analyze and disseminate studies or survey to gender statistics. The importance of a producer-user dialogue and how to conduct a gender-sensitive needs analysis were highlighted. She proceeded on with how to use the toolkit to identify gaps in existing sources of data and how to communicate the need for new data collection.

#### **2.3 General Discussion: Gender issues in Africa's Development Agenda**

The guiding vision for Africa's Development Agenda and Agenda 2063 is to ensure that women, just like men, have equal access to opportunities, services and are treated with dignity. Unfortunately, group pointed out that there are number of issues that undermine the attainment of achieving equality, equal opportunities and empowerment of women in reference to Africa Development Agenda. They include:

- Participants agreed that there are no specific gender strategies and programmes for the implementation of both SDGs, especially Goal 5 and Agenda 2063.
- While there are some existing general good laws and policies to guide the realization of Africa's Development Agenda, the political and leadership will have to implement such regulatory frameworks to enhance gender opportunities, equality and empowerment of women that have proved challenging over the years.
- Lack of sustained political and leadership will to achieve gender equality and opportunities through gender-sensitive programmes, and policies.
- Inadequate resources, especially budgetary and technical support and funding for gender policies, programmes and strategies.
- Weak traditional values and culture that makes the attainment of gender equality and opportunities for women difficult, in particular, there are debilitating cultural norms and values such as FGI, early marriage etc. that favour the education of boys over girls, as well as early child marriage.
- While regional and south-south cooperation exist for most policies and programmes in many areas of development, such frameworks do not exist for Gender for Gender development in Africa.

## **2.4 Monitoring of SDGs and Agenda 2063: Data availability issues related to selected indicators in SDGs (3, 4, 5,6,7,8, 13, 16 and 17)**

The session focused on how to improve the use of existing data for monitoring gender equality and women empowerment in Africa, focusing on the SDG Goals and Agenda 2063 that have direct impact on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. Two main broad strategies were identified as the most effective and efficient ways of making existing data available for monitoring gender equality and women empowerment in Africa: (1) Technical approach, by designing and implementing gender sensitive data collection, analysis and dissemination tools and (2) Non-Technical approach leveraging on policy, budgeting, social, economic, political, cultural conditions of a country.

The SDG indicators were classified into three tiers. On 21 September 2016, the SDG indicators revised and classified into Tiers by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEGSDGs). The indicators were classified into three tiers based on their level of methodological development and data availability.

Tier 1 indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available. In the case of tier II indicator, it is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries. For tier III indicator, there is no internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested. As of 20 April 2017: The updated tier classification contains: 83 tier I indicators, 59 tier II indicators and 83 tier III indicators.

## **2.5 The conclusions are summarized under the following discussion points**

To make gender statistics and data continually available, the region must make resources available to NSOs collect, compile and disseminate data. Subsequently, the group agreed and underscored the fact that:

- The most effective way to integrate gender issues into gender statistics is by gender mainstreaming through the integration of Gender statistics;
- Statisticians, researches and gender experts should make conscious effort to design data development and management in terms of methodologies, procedure and dissemination;
- Most of the current data do not reflect the gender situation in the continent because there are conceptual, methodological, measurement and international standards issues;
- The SDGs and African Agenda 2063 goals are reciprocally inclusive and agreed that the two frameworks are mutually supportive and consistent with each other and;
- After going through all the four modules of the toolkit, they have thoroughly understood gender terminologies such as gender parity, gender equality, gender mainstreaming, terms, definitions, concepts, principles.



## SESSION THREE

### **Integrating a Gender Perspective into Official Statistics for a Better Monitoring and Use of SDGs 3 Tier one Indicator**

#### **3.1 Integrating a gender perspective into Health Statistics: issues and Data requirements**

The session highlighted health issues and concerns that adversely affect women and girls. The second part of the session was devoted to how to effectively and efficiently integrate gender perspective into health statistics. The process of integrating gender statistics into health concerns of women was considered critical condition in achieving gender equality and empowering of women and girls. The session identified certain gender issues, including: HIV/AIDS, health and nutrition of children, maternal health, infant and child mortality, maternal mortality and causes of death.

Some of the data required to measure and monitor health perspectives of gender issues included, safe and unsafe abortions, contraceptives use by contraceptive method, age and marital status, pregnant women receiving prenatal care by number of visits to a health facility, deliveries in health facilities and cost of delivery availability of health facilities.

The main sources of data for integrating a gender perspective into health statistics include: population and housing census, surveys such as Civil Registration, Vital Statistics, Demographic and Health Surveys, Integrated Biological and Behavioral Surveillance Surveys.

In **Cameroon**, following the adoption of MDG and SDG and African Agenda 2063, Cameroon has continually been using data and indicators through the NSI, sector ministries, CSOs, and others for periodic monitoring of the ODDs. In Cameroon, official production of the indicators on health is done using the framework of the national development of statistics (NSDS). Collection, compilation and dissemination of health statistics are decentralized, and are coordinated by the INS.

Despite progress being made in Cameroon on gender statistics on health, the law on statistics in general is obsolete (since 1991) and needs to be revised. In addition, training for data collection officers is required.

#### **3.2 Integrating a gender perspective into Education Statistics: issues and data requirements**

##### **3.21 Presentation on issues and data requirement**

Through a synchronous facilitating process, the session elucidated the importance of education in the context of promoting gender equality and women empowerment through gender mainstreaming. It was noted that any desirable form of education gives both women and men equal opportunities, the required knowledge, skills and competencies to develop their perspectives of lives.

In developing gender statistics, the following should be considered: the statistical processes be applied diligently to this field, commitment to introduce new approaches should be client-responsive. In many Sub-Sahara African countries, girls and boys do not have equal access to basic education; girls are less likely than boys to enter primary schooling.

Data requirement for education statistics include: new entrants in primary education by sex and age, pupils enrolled in primary, secondary and tertiary schools by sex, age and grade. Sources of data for integrating education into education statistics include population and housing census, education census, household surveys, administrative data, and special studies.

In **Botswana**, the country has good experience in gender statistics on education, which focused on school enrolment. Out of the 181,826 secondary students in 2014, girls make up 94,171 (52 percent). A transition rate from lower to upper secondary for girls increased from 55.3 percent in 2005 to 70.6 percent in 2014. The main reason of the drop-outs for girls is pregnancy, while the drop-out for boys was truancy.

Botswana experience indicated that data on these aspects of education is done by gender: girls and boys. In situations where the NSO is unable to produce data on gender issues, other public institutions fill in the gaps.

### **3.3 Integrating a Gender Perspective into Employment Statistics for a Better Monitoring and Use of SDGS 8 Tier I Indicators**

During this session, participants became aware that integrating a gender perspective into employment statistics is considered very critical because of the difficulties in conceptually identifying and defining what constitutes income, especially when computing GDP from the perspective of classical economists. The problem also involved how to define the required variables to measure the contributions of women in the productive sectors of national economies.

The specific topics that were taught included: SDGs 8 tier 1 Indicators, labour force participation, employment conditions, and access to productive resources in agriculture. Reconciliation of work, family life and child work was also stressed.

Data required for employment statistics include; time use by type of activity within and outside the SNA production boundary by detailed activity, sex, age and employment status, total employment and employment in flexible working arrangements, such as flexible hours, part-time work, job-sharing and working from home, by sex and age.

The main sources of employment statistics are; Labour force surveys, child labour surveys, household surveys, such as DHS and MICS, Living Standards Measurement Study – Integrated Survey on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA), surveys on the informal sector and informal employment, time-use surveys, agricultural censuses and surveys, population and housing census and administrative records.

The National Institute of Statistics of Equatorial Guinea (INEGE) has followed up of the SDGs and the agenda to 2030 with a mission to coordinate the national statistical system to review the mandate to generate and disseminate of statistical information, including Gender statistics.

The main source of data or calculation of SDG, Goal 8 indicators are population census, survey, health census survey, survey of households, demographics and administrative registers.

### **3.4 Presentation on Modules 3A of the ECA online toolkit on gender statistics**

This session presented Module 3 A: Producing Gender Statistics of the Gender statistics toolkit. The presenter, Mrs. Sissoko took participants through the module with emphasis on how to engender existing data sources. Part 1. Using a Power Point presentation method, she explained the procedure on how to use the module to initiate and implement data collection using population and housing census, agriculture census & surveys and labour force surveys.

In conducting any of these fields production exercise, the module explained the following: identify ways to integrate gender perspective into the data production process, identify key gender issues and gender-biased language in surveys and censuses, provide feedback to your own office on how to bring a gender perspective to their statistical activities. After the presentation, participants gained understanding of how to start data production with the following nine (9) critical steps including clarifying objectives and defining outputs, design questionnaire, methodology to tabulation and data generating statistical outputs.

### **3.5 Integrating a Gender Perspective into Access to Water and Sanitation Statistics For A Better Monitoring and Use of SDGs 6 Tier I Indicators**

The session began with a discussion that there is an ongoing debate that the environment is gender neutral and is therefore considered traditionally as gender-neutral and often developed without much consideration of all the aspects and implications relating to individuals. However, both the facilitator and participants agreed that repeated studies have confirmed that environmental conditions have a different impact on the lives of women and men owing to existing gender inequalities.

However, if the debate and discussions are taken to higher analysis of cost and effect in relation to impact, no one is left in doubt that the impacts of deteriorating environmental variables such as water and sanitations have much negative effect on women and girls more than men and boys.

An experience on this topic was shared by **Equatorial Guinea** which has to do with collecting, compiling and dissemination statistics on clean water and sanitation. The National Statistical Institute of Equatorial Guinea (INEGE) has been generating and disseminating gender statistics on clean water and sanitation.

To adopt and monitor the compliance of the SDGs including the production and dissemination of gender statistics on clean water and sanitation, INEGE has identified the following interventions: adoption and agreed objectives of clean water and sanitation, categorization and formulation of indicators, main sources of data for the production of indicators, distribution and accountability of indicators to sector ministries. The main sources of data for measuring and monitoring SDG6 are: population censuses, demographic and health surveys, household surveys, MICS and administrative registers.

### **3.6 Integrating a Gender Perspective into Energy Statistics for a Better Monitoring and Use of SDGs 7 Tier I Indicators**

This session discussed energy statistics and gender issues which are correlated to promoting, monitoring and use of gender statistics in respect of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls. The session noted that SDGs 7, tier 1 indicators on the management of the environment and how some aspects of it identified gender-differentiated impacts.

Communities in poor areas affected by deforestation or where nearby forests are protected, women and men may need to take longer trips to collect firewood. However, the purpose and time spent by women and men collecting firewood are often different. When the wood is being collected for household needs, women tend to spend more time than men. However, when the wood is being collected for selling and gaining income, men tend to spend more time than women.

Some of the sources of data include time-use surveys, household surveys (CWIQ, DHS and MICS), administrative records, and population and housing censuses.

### **3.7 How to Improve the Availability of SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 5 (Gender Based Violence) for a Better Monitoring and Use of SDGs Tier I Indicators**

This session outlined how to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls as stated in the SDG 5, as the surest and sustainable development goal that seeks to change the course of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Goal 5 is known as the stand-alone gender goal because it is dedicated to achieving these ends. Achieving gender equality addresses key challenges such as poverty, inequality, and violence against women.

It was agreed that achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will require more vigorous efforts, including legal frameworks, to counter deeply rooted gender-based discrimination that often results from patriarchal attitudes and related social and cultural norms. The session focused also on some critical gender issues prevailing in Africa such as: forced marriage, female genital mutilation, gender pay gap, women's unpaid reproductive work, gender based violence etc.

Other challenges that were also discussed during the session included; gender equalities, the role of the judiciary and the private sectors to promote gender equality and women empowerment. The session also dwelled on how to utilize the media to promote gender equality by creating awareness, educating and sensitizing the public about the importance of attaining gender equality and empowerment of women in society.

Data which are required to measure gender inequality, violence, FGM and human trafficking are many and varied. They include; victims of gender inequality, physical violence, victims of sexual violence, victims of economic violence in the past 12 months by sex, age, sex of the perpetrator and relationship with the perpetrator. Sources of data include surveys, court records, police records, and administrative data.

In **South Sudan**, Gender Based Violence Factsheet has been prepared. It was observed that gender-based violence (GBV) undermines the health, dignity, security and autonomy of survivors, yet it remains shrouded in a culture of silence. He said that government of South Sudan has come out with some targeted objectives to reduce or minimize GBV while at the

same time integrating gender statistics on GBV in South Sudan by expanding availability of the basic package of multi-sectoral GBV services.

These challenges include; the overall response to GBV in relation to the levels of need remains inadequate in reach, quantity and quality. The majority of women and girls, men and boys at risk for GBV in South Sudan currently do not have access to even basic life-saving GBV services. Secondly, although collectively there are services available in each sector, a multi-sector response is not available in most locations.

Information and data presented by **Ethiopia**, the Central Statistical Agency (CSA-ETHIOPIA) shows that the institution has strong experiences in availability and improvement of gender statistics, SDG 5, tier I indicators. Ethiopia had prepared a five-year growth plan called GTP II, which started since 2015/16 and ends by 2019/20. He further explained that Ethiopia experience on mainstreaming gender in each sector and administrative level has been consistent with gender equality and women empowerment.

Ethiopia has been given a high priority to gender statistics. He noted that lack of, or limited information on gender statistics as a significant data gap in National Statistical Systems (NSS) is a big challenge to evidence-based policy information and awareness for a better planning and equitable distribution of resources and opportunities in the country.

Some of the important sources of gender statistics in Ethiopia include; population census, household-based surveys such as time use surveys, DHS, labour force survey, agriculture survey, gender disaggregated development data, vital statistics and administrative data on health, education, environment.

Addition, in **Malawi**, data, including Gender statistics have been collected through census and major statistical surveys to improve the use of existing data for monitoring gender equality and women empowerment. The NOS in collaboration with other public institutions generates data with the aim of establishing attributes that qualify the social economic status of the people. Data on gender issues are collected in collaboration with colleagues from the Ministry of Gender, Children and disability.

Comparable statistical data come from different statistical sources. These sources include: census, DHS, welfare monitoring surveys.

The National Statistics Institute of **Egypt**, presented a summary of activities that have been undertaken by the United Nations Statistics Division, the Inter-Agency Task Force and gender statistics experts during past decades to improve the availability of SDG, Goal 5. They include organizing regional workshops on gender statistics, production and publications of statistics on violence against women.

Some of the important sources of data on gender issues include; population and housing census, agriculture census, demographic and health surveys, labour force surveys, migration surveys, time use surveys gender based violence survey. In addition, she mentioned administrative sources: vital statistics and health and education.

### **3.8 Data Collection: Integrating a Gender Perspective into Data Collection: Census, Survey, Administrative Data (Including CRVS)**

The session discussed the integration of gender perspectives into data as important aspect of work of the United Nations on gender equality and women empowerment. On the issue of

why gender statistics now, the session dwelled on the fact that gender statistics is a field that cuts across all areas of statistics and is about identifying, producing, disseminating, and analyzing statistics to understand how gender issues affect individuals and societies.

The session made it clear that Gender statistics is a way to show how gender differences can affect the economic and social development of societies. It also highlighted that when comprehensive, reliable and timely data and statistics are made available, minimizing stereotypes would be effectively dealt with because facts on the roles and contributions of women would be available. In addition, support for gender mainstreaming would be enhanced by providing the required data for analyses which would form the basis of gender-sensitive policies and legislation.

The National Bureau of Statistics of **Tanzania's** experience in time use survey has been long. However, in Tanzania, time use module was integrated into the Labor Force Survey for the first time in 2014. Most of the surveys and studies on SDG, Goals 5 are done by the National Bureau of Statistics in collaboration with Ministry responsible for Works and Employment.

Challenges of producing and disseminating gender statistics on SDG, Goal 5 include; lack of training and capacity building, lack of technical and financial resources and no strategies to produce and disseminate gender statistics.

To resolve these challenges, a technical working group involving producers and users of gender statistics from Ministries, MDAs, NGOs, UN Agencies, researchers and experts on gender issues had been established to supervise and coordinate data production and dissemination activities.

In reference to **Zimbabwe**, the main source of data has been the administrative source especially on education, health and policies. In the past, these data sets used to be disaggregated and consolidated at all levels. However, due to financial challenges and lack of personnel, data disaggregation into locality, gender, age etc. are no longer being done. The NSO- ZIMSTAT main concern at the national level is the type of data on diseases or crimes by locality, how many people are affected.

As a strategic approach to resolve these challenges, ZIMSTAT has set up a national committee made up of stakeholders of statistics, producers and users of statistics from different sectors to discuss and formulate appropriate policies, programmes and strategies to improve the production and dissemination of statistics, including gender statistics in the country. In addition, a five-year blue print of the country on statistics, focusing on gender issues has been developed.

In **Burundi**, though the country does not conduct a stand-alone survey or census on gender statistics, most of the data collections being done in the country have gender statistics dimensions. The level of consideration of gender in national surveys conducted at the level of Burundi includes; DHS, modular survey on the living conditions of households (ECVMB).

At the level of the DHS, there are three types of questionnaires: household, women and men. At the level of each of these questionnaires gender issues including children are dealt with. A section of literacy is treated which will allow to find a few indicators to the theme of gender and education.

### **3.9 ECA online toolkit module 3B**

This Module took participants through a case of conducting a time-use survey to produce and disseminate gender statistics by using an imaginary country called Aquitania. The presentation started by defining objectives of the time-used survey and the expected outputs. To come out with any meaningful objectives of the survey and concrete outputs, a producer and user dialogue of data was considered very important.

The idea is to make an extensive consultation between producers and users of survey to identify their concerns, expectations and needs. In such a producer and user consultation, representatives of interest groups are National Statistical Organization (NSO), gender specialists, politician, journalists, civil society groups, academia & researchers, gender focal point officers, policy makers, women groups.

Practical session was arranged for participants to go through this part of the Module.

### **3.10 Group work-Discussion question: What are the strategies for integrating a gender perspective into data collection?**

After the group work, a harmonized response to the strategies for integrating a gender perspective into data collection was presented.

- National statistical systems need to regularly collect, analyze and disseminate data that address relevant gender issues;
- Collecting new types of data and expanding data collection in some areas to fill existing knowledge gaps and better disseminating data already collected;
- Building a strong collaboration between users and producers of data is important to produce and disseminate gender statistics;
- Strengthen internal coordination within the national statistical office and the national statistical system and;
- Using the guidelines provided by the Gender toolkit when designing data production, analysis, use and dissemination.

### **3.11 The conclusions of this session are summarized under the following discussion points**

- Participants observed that to integrate gender perspective into official statistics, stakeholders consultation and producer-user dialogue are essential to define the objectives and outputs of censuses and surveys, adopt good dissemination strategies out of the many data collection methodologies, time-use survey was identify as the most appropriate to solicit contribution of women in the economic and social development of countries, especially when computing GDP.
- The establishment of solid and reliable statistical system in member countries are faced with some challenges including lack of statistical culture at all levels of society, funding of statistical operations and inertia on the part of the leadership of NSO to consider Gender issues;

- Gender sensitive budgeting and resource mobilization strategies are considered effective in integrating gender perspective into official statistics for a better monitoring and use of SDG 3;
- Scaling up advocacy, sensitization and continuous dissemination of the existing gender statistics and highlighting of the uses and importance of gender statistics are considered effective in integrating gender perspective into official statistics for a better monitoring and use of SDG and;
- Apart from the NSOs, other public and academic institutions collect official statistics. Unfortunately, their methodologies and concepts are not harmonized leading to inconsistency and unreliability in published data. Thus, integrating gender perspective into official statistics for a better monitoring and use of SDG would require harmonization of all statistical concepts and methods of data collection.



## SESSION FOUR

### Presenting, Disseminating and Using Gender Statistics and Indicators

#### 4.1 Introduction

This session considered that while data availability remains a critical issue in measuring and monitoring SDGs on gender issues; presentation, dissemination and use of gender statistics and indicators are equally important if gender issues are to be mainstreamed and integrated into the regional development agenda and policy framework. The session observed that effective presentation is guided by principles and rules that must be adhered to in order to maximize effect and use of the data.

The session also explained that data serve no purpose unless they are made available for usage. In dissemination gender statistics, it is noted that there is a wide range of users with different skills set, technical knowhow and other specific abilities for data analysis and utilization. Thus, data must be made available and accessible in the formats that each category of users would appreciate.

In **Madagascar**, studies and data produced and disseminated have shown that there is gender inequality in respect of job, income, level of religion, political level and education. The private companies hire more men than women with men earning more salary than women. In respect of religion, the proportion of men as Pastors, Catholic Priests and Muslims are overwhelmingly high. In some instances, women are forbidden to lead prayers in a few religious sects. At the policy and political levels, only few Parliamentarians and Ministers are women, with the President and the Vice President being men.

Some of the sources of data are; the general census of the population, household surveys, DHS, national surveys on the follow-up of the objectives of the Millennium Development (ENSOMD-2013) Statistics.

According to the representative of **Namibia**, women make up more than half the country's population and about 44 percent of these women are heads of households. At the regional councils, out of the 228 representatives, 84 percent are men, while only 16 percent are women. At the local authority representation, women form 29 percent out of the 171 representatives with men representing 71 percent.

The conclusion presented was that though a lot has been done regarding data disaggregation; there are areas to improve in order to address gender issues such as: power and decision making in government and private sectors, gender based violence, among others. The NSO has a dedicated vision to work on gender statistics, but at the moment it is not operating fully e.g. data is still collected from various institutions but reports are not produced.

There is no doubt that **Tanzania** had made progress in integrating gender statistics in national development. It was explained that the NSO (NBS) is not producing data on women's representation in local government because the Act (Act No. 9 of 2015) does not mandate it to do so. However, the NSO advises the government and public at large on all matters related to statistics and statistical development such as methods, standards, concepts and definitions for the production of official statistics. The NSO coordinates and supervises the national statistical system in the country.

There are a number of challenges which restrict the production of gender statistics in Tanzania, including lack of access to women's political participation data and bureaucratic nature of the administrative system prolongs the process and procedure of accessing these data sets.

Measures that are being considered to improve data availability of gender statistics include legislation, policy, comprehensive plans and strategies to improve the production and dissemination of gender statistics.

## **4.2 Gender Index outlook**

The African Center for Gender of ECA presented a topic on "Use of Existing Data in ACG's Research in the context of African Gender and Development Index (AGDI)." According to the facilitator, Dr. Selsah Pasali of ECA, AGDI has two components: (1) Gender Status Index (GSI): A quantitative snapshot of 44 indicators capturing gender disparities in social, economic and political domains and (2) African Women's Progress Scoreboard (AWPS).

Construction of gender index in Africa has no doubt encountered certain challenges and opportunities. These impediments include accessing national data is a big challenge. Even if accessed, comparability and aggregation to sub-regional or regional levels is daunting due to differences in definitions and year of data collection. In addition, it was acknowledged that getting information or data from the rural areas are extremely scarce while majority of vulnerable women are in the rural areas. Thus, member states were urged to provide technical and financial support to gather and analyze data and statistics from the deprived areas in the continent.

## **4.3 ECA online toolkit Module 4**

This sub-session was devoted to the presentation on Module 4: Communicating and using statistical outputs as a tool for change. The presenter outlined how to analyzed, disseminate, communicate and use the results of surveys, census and research conducted on gender to uncover the similarities and differences between women and men to inform policy decisions.

In module 4, the strategies on how to undertake effective communication and using gender statistics as a tool for change were stressed. Participants learnt to describe a few ways to disseminate gender statistics and explain how they address needs of different audiences. They were further taught on how to prepare reader-friendly tables highlighting meaningful differences and similarities between women and men. This section also highlighted on how to determine which charts are best suited to illustrate different types of data. Finally, participants were taken through the principles and procedures on how to make policy recommendations based on analysis of data.

## **4.4 Group work-Discuss key strategies in dissemination Gender statistics**

Participants were grouped into three with leaders and repertoires and were asked to discuss the topic. All the three groups presented separately. The key issues of their tasks were summarized as follows:

- Steps in Dissemination: they include identification of target users and needs, choice of dissemination format, scope and contents, identification of data needs, dissemination materials, and presentation;

- Dissemination of gender statistics should be done on a definitive time lines such as monthly, quarterly, annual bulletins;
- Identify producers and users of gender statistics in respect of public organizations, national women's machinery, donors, civil society groups, media and researchers.
- Some of the channels of disseminating gender statistics include websites on NSOs, print publications and CD-ROMs, news medium, email or interview;
- Challenges of disseminating gender statistics include: delays in the publication, users' access to large amounts of data/information and;
- Solutions to such challenges include, engaging a regular producer-user dialogue, training both producers and users in gender statistics, improving the NSO statistical capacity by using IT.

#### **4.5 The conclusions of this session are summarized under the following discussion points**

- Participants agreed on key definitions and concepts used in presenting, dissemination and using gender statistics such as sex, gender and gender parity, must clearly be defined;
- Sex-disaggregated data by sex or gender are needed to analyze, present and disseminate gender issues;
- The group agreed that data needs of users and other stakeholders of gender statistics such as donors, academia, data providers, researchers, civil society organizations should be identified;
- Production, analysis, presenting, dissemination and use of gender statistics could be more useful if easy-to-use formats are adopted;
- Free on-line access to gender data, press briefing and meetings are needed to making gender issues visible and meaningful and;
- Regular stakeholders' consultations are important for effective presentation, dissemination and usage of gender statistics and indicators.

## SESSION FIVE

### Improving Gender Statistics Literacy Among Data Users

#### 5.1 Improving Gender Statistics Literacy among Data Users

This session considered improving gender statistics literacy among data users as a very critical exercise because the sad reality in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is that women and men are faced with different kinds of gender inequalities with women at the receiving end. A working definition of statistics literacy was provided by the United Nations (UN, 2014)<sup>1</sup> when a conclusion was reached that statistical literacy is about the critical thinking of numbers, about statistics used as evidence in arguments and the ability to read and interpret number in statements, surveys, tables and graphs.

The purpose of the session was to explain how countries could effectively improve the dissemination of gender statistics and indicators to ‘adequately’ reflect the living conditions of women and men in all spheres of lives. It focused on some strategies used to improve gender statistics literacy among data users such as (i) target and engage in discussions and dialogue with top political and authorities on the relevance of gender statistics literacy, and (ii) promote data awareness among users through a motivation for users to want to learn statistics.

Unfortunately, lack of, or weak statistical literacy serves as peddle on forward advancement on gender equality. In a sense, measures needed to follow step-by-step approach to measure women and men contributions through awareness to reflect the contributions in any given economy in Africa is lacking. This background information makes dissemination of gender statistics a core mandate of promoting gender equality and promoting women empowerment through statistical literacy.

**Côte d'Ivoire** places high priority on reliable gender statistics because such statistics are essential to national planning and gender equality. The National Statistical Institute of Côte d'Ivoire has developed important policies to improve gender statistic in the country. The institute has also provided an effective solution to the national statistical system by making sure that there is integration of gender in all statistical proposals and demographics of the INS.

Despite the efforts being put in place by the National Statistics Institute, there are some data gaps and limitations including lack of national database on gender, challenges, funding for data collection, promotion and equality of women and men are issues that hold back the consent of Côte d'Ivoire and African decision makers.

Sources of data include INS households’ surveys, census of population and housing, household based surveys which include demographic and health indicators multiple (EDS-MICS), survey on the state of governance, peace and security in Côte d'Ivoire (GPS), household living conditions and administrative data.

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Statistical Division (2014).Communication, Dissemination and Statistical Literacy of Users Interregional Workshop on Good Practices in Gender Statistics

## **5.2 The Role of UN Women in Production and Use of Gender Statistics in Uganda**

### **Status and Challenges**

The session was facilitated by Dr. Sadananda Mitra of Gender Statistics Unit, UN Women Uganda. The topic was “The Global Framework: FPI on Gender Statistics: Making Every Woman and Girl Count (MEWGC)”. She said that a lot of progress has been made in the production and dissemination of gender statistics in Uganda. However, she indicated that certain challenges and gaps remained unresolved.

Some of the data gaps listed include: (1) about 80 percent of indicators in SDG5 (11 out of 14) do not have accepted international standards for measurement and/or data collection, (2) across SDGs, about 21 per cent of the data needed to monitor gender equality in SDGs, (3) important areas are neglected in SDGs due to lack of standards and measures (e.g. gender dimensions of poverty, gender and the environment), etc., and (4) measurement of gender and intersecting inequalities needs to be prioritized – huge methodological and data requirements.

Despite progress being made, there are common issues which serve as peddle to accelerated progress in pursuing gender equality and women empowerment in Africa, the continent has weak policy space and legal and financial environment to produce gender statistics at national level. In addition, there are serious technical challenges within National Statistical Systems that limit the sustainable production of gender statistics (Tier I), and lack of access to data and limited capacity on the part of policymakers and other users to analyse data to inform policies and international agreements (CEDAW, SDGs).

### **5.3 Group discussions: Way forward-strategies to address gaps, challenges and constraints in gender statistics literacy among data users:**

- The first set of recommendations address national needs;
- Mainstream strategic planning of statistical systems and prepare national statistical development strategies for all low-income countries;
- Mainstream Strategic Planning of Statistical Systems;
- Engage in a continuous consultation between producers and users of gender statistics;
- Increase financing for capacity building in gender statistics, especially integration and the importance of gender statistics in nation building;
- Investment in training and capacity building in gender statistics;
- Train and build the capacity of media in gender statistics issues because statistical literacy is an aspect of media literacy;
- Continue advocating and providing training and financial support for producers and users of gender statistics;
- Developing statistical literacy at all levels of education/schools;
- Develop and implement training programs for employees in official statistics and;
- Develop and implement different services for gender statistics for different user groups.

## SESSION SIX

### Conclusions and recommendations

#### 6.1 Main conclusions of the workshop

- Gender equality and women empowerment are considered as prerequisites for national and global development. The group agreed that it is the most effective way to integrate gender statistics into national development agenda;
- Production and dissemination of SDG, Goal 5; tier 1 & II indicators are weak in member countries because the required priorities have not been given to gender statistics;
- Participants observed that most of the current data do not adequately reflect the gender situation on the continent because of incoherent natures of administrative source of data, challenges with methodologies and delays in conducting census and surveys;
- The importance of time-use survey approach to produce and disseminate data was identified as the most effect way to measure, monitor and report on women's contribution to national economic development, especially when computing GDP;
- Consulting and engaging stakeholders, especially producer-user dialogue are critical aspects of producing and disseminating accurate, reliable and timely gender statistics.
- Participants agreed that the ECA online toolkit is a useful tool of mainstreaming gender statistics. However, access it in areas where there is no or weak internet access would pose problems;
- Participants stressed the importance of disaggregating data on gender because in most countries, there is little disaggregation of gender statistics by gender, age, place of residence etc. Thus, gender issues and concerns are not captured and reflected adequately in the various national data base.
- The production and dissemination of gender statistics are effective and visible in countries where management and leadership of the NSO give the necessary attention to gender issues-policies, programmes and;
- Using classical approaches in computing national economic outputs have either excluded or make little effect on women's contribution to GDP. Participants agreed that time-used approach is a better way of reflecting women's contribution to national development, especially when computing GDP figures.

#### 6.2 Key recommendations

Having gone through all the sessions with open understanding and appreciation of the scope and nature of gender statistics in terms of gender mainstreaming, certain key policy recommendations were made for governments of the participating countries and development partners to embrace:

- Africa should continuously adopt and implement the frameworks of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 to improve and accelerate national, sub-regional and global developments efforts;
- Member countries should promote the production, analysis, and dissemination of gender statistics as the most effective tool of making the realization of Goal 5 of the SDG; gender equality and women's empowerment and girls a reality;
- Apart from Goal 5; gender equality and women's empowerment and girls, integrating gender perspectives into official statistics for a better monitoring and use of other SDGs, especially on health, education, employment, access to clean water and sanitation, energy, among others are critical in fulfilling the aspirations and dreams of women, because these thematic areas also have both direct and indirect effects on promoting the welfare and opportunities of women and girls;
- Improve all sources of data collection methodologies, including population and housing census, surveys, administrative data, civil registration/vital statistics in accordance with international standards so that women's contribution to national development could effectively be measured and delineated from men. Time-used survey methodology has been singled out as the most effective and efficient method of accurately reflecting and computing the economic contribution of women to GDP.
- Develop and implement national plans, policies and strategies that seek to strengthen the production, use, dissemination of gender statistics and indicators;
- Undertake regular and inclusive producers and users of statistics dialogue at all levels to ensure ownership and integrity of data, statistics and indicators that will come out of any gender data management and development processes;
- After a thorough discussion of the prospects and challenges of producing and disseminating gender statistics, it was observed that there is the need for member countries to engender national budgets by providing both technical and financial support to support the strategies of integrating gender statistics and indicators into national development;
- Improve and quicken the pace of the African Gender Index Framework. The African Gender and Development Index (AGDI), which outlines the principle guidelines on the construction of a composite index, will provide African countries with a comprehensive, accurate and timely gender-accountability tool to implement and assess their progress against the commitment of the region, focusing on the individual countries.
- The online training toolkit on gender statistics should be given priority as is the most effective and important tool for mainstreaming gender statistics and gender issues into national development agenda, especially in respect to the SDGs, focusing on indicators of SDGs, especially Goal 5 and;
- Develop, implement, monitor and improve gender statistics literacy among data users to spur advocacy, sensitization and resource mobilization to promote the integration and mainstreaming of gender statistics into national development framework and implementation of policies and programmes.

## **APPENDICES**

Annex I. Self-assessment Guidance Questionnaire

Annex II. Workshop Evaluation results

Annex IV. Agenda of the workshop

Annex V. Attendance list