



United Nations

# UNECE Weekly

Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 321 — 1-5 June 2009

## New director for Statistical Division



Lidia Bratanova, from Bulgaria, has been appointed Director of the UNECE Statistical Division, with effect on 1 June 2009. She brings to the post over 27 years of experience in the field of statistics, with a focus on economic statistics, in particular national accounts, and economies in transition.

Ms. Bratanova, who joined the UNECE in 1996, was Secretary of the Conference of European Statisticians and Deputy Director from 2003. She was also the Head of the National Accounts Section.

Prior to joining UNECE, she worked for three years with the Statistics Directorate of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris, specializing in economies in transition and in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

She graduated from the University for National and World Economy, Sofia, Bulgaria. From 1981 to 1992, she worked at the National Statistical Institute of Bulgaria, where among various responsibilities she headed the National Accounts and Comparative International Statistics Division.

Ms. Bratanova is the author of numerous publications, presentations and papers on technical issues in the area of national accounts (exhaustiveness of GDP, non-observed economy), price statistics, the measurement of capital, and more recently on the impact of globalization on economic statistics and on the measurement of sustainable development. ■

## 5 June — World Environment Day

World Environment Day (WED) was established by the UN General Assembly in 1972 to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment.

Commemorated each year on 5 June, WED is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action.

The theme for WED 2009 is *Your Planet Needs You-UNite to Combat Climate Change*. It reflects the urgency for nations to agree on a new deal at the crucial climate convention meeting in Copenhagen some 180 days later in the year, and the links with overcoming poverty and improved management of forests.



your planet needs **YOU!**

**UNite to combat climate change**

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 5 JUNE 2009



This year's host is Mexico which reflects the growing role of the Latin American country in the fight against climate change, including its growing participation in the carbon markets. ■

## Five regional commissions join efforts to eradicate violence against women

Representatives of the five United Nations regional commissions and the Division for the Advancement of Women met on 27 May in Geneva to initiate the implementation of the project *"Enhancing capacities to eradicate violence against women through networking of local knowledge communities"*. This interregional project, financed by the United Nations Development Account, is coordinated by ECLAC and will be executed over 24 months together with ECE, ESCAP, ECA and ESCWA, in collaboration with the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women and the UN Statistics Division.

The project seeks to strengthen national and regional capacity to take action, prevent, sanction and eradicate violence against women through enhancing the production of statistical data and indicators as well as knowledge-sharing at the regional and interregional levels. The use of a common general methodological framework for measuring violence against women will be ensured in the five regions through the basic set of indicators on physical and sexual violence that was recommended by the Friends of the Chair on indicators on violence against women and



*Not an official record - For information only*

## Five regional commissions join efforts to eradicate violence against women (continued)

adopted by the Statistical Commission at its last session (New York, 24-27 February 2009).

Achieving the project's objective to develop and invigorate a knowledge community on violence against women at the regional and interregional levels is critical to fostering effective public action to eradicate violence against women. Planned project activities will give

support to countries to respond to General Assembly resolution 61/143 on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, taking into account progresses already achieved in each region in terms of accumulation of knowledge and data collection. Each regional commission will give special attention to the specificity of the regional context and work closely with national representatives and governmental counterparts in order to maximize local ownership. ■

## FACTS AND FIGURES

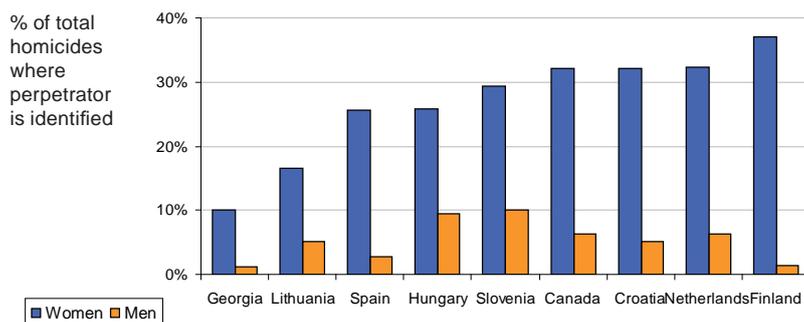
### Gender-based violence

Due to its sensitive nature, many acts of gender-based violence go unreported. One reason a victim may decide not to report an act of violence is because the perpetrator is their intimate partner or spouse. In this case the victim may fear the consequences of reporting the incident, such as further acts of violence or the economic impact of a partner being removed from the family home.

Homicide\* is different from many crimes in that in most cases it comes to the attention of the police and is recorded. However, these statistics often lack information about the relationship of the victim to the perpetrator, such as whether they were an intimate partner, spouse, ex-spouse, other relative, acquaintance or a stranger.

\* Intentional or unintentional killing of a person by another person.

Homicide victim where perpetrator is the spouse, 2006



Source: UNECE Statistical Database (<http://www.unece.org/stats/data>), compiled from national official sources.

In countries where the perpetrator of the homicide was identified in the statistics, the percentage where the perpetrator was the current spouse of the victim paints a grim picture and reveals a strong gender imbalance. In the selected countries of the UNECE region shown in the graph, the female victims of homicide who died at the hand of their spouse ranges from 10% in Georgia to 37% in Finland. For male victims of homicide, the percentage where the spouse was the perpetrator is much lower, between 1% in Finland and Georgia, to 10% in Slovenia.

The UNECE Statistical Division is working together with member countries to strengthen official statistics on gender-based violence through its program on gender statistics. This includes contributing to the development of standard definitions and classifications, so that when information on acts of violence are recorded, they are done so in a consistent and, therefore, comparable manner. ■

For more information contact Jessica Gardner ([support.stat@unece.org](mailto:support.stat@unece.org)).

## Attracting external finance for new innovative enterprises

An International Conference on Ways and Means of Attracting External Finance for New Innovative Enterprises was co-organized in Astana (21-22 May) by UNECE, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Budget Planning of Kazakhstan and the Ministry's Institute of Economic Research. Bakhyt Sultanov, Minister of Economic Affairs and Budget Planning of Kazakhstan and Murat Mussataev, Deputy Secretary-General of the Eurasian Economic Community welcomed participants.

Discussions centred on major issues of the financing of innovative enterprises throughout their life cycle with particular focus on those based in transition economies of the region. The conference considered the advantages and limitations of various sources of finance (business angels, venture capitalists and commercial banks), components of "investment readiness" of enterprises, and various policy measures used by Governments to promote the formation of new innovative companies on the one hand, and viable venture capital industry, on the other. Particular attention was paid to the commercialization of R&D results in strengthening the capacity of innovative enterprises to attract external funding. These issues were discussed in the context of finding effective ways of fighting the current economic crisis. ■

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