

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

ECE Work Session on Gender Statistics
(Geneva, Switzerland, 23-25 September 2002)

KEY ISSUES FOR TOPIC II

Gender equality indicators at national, regional and local levels; identification of a gender perspective in statistics in order to establish feasible sets of indicators, with special attention to international comparability and policy relevance, common efforts of statisticians and policy makers¹

Policy relatedness

- Which **statistical outcomes** should be considered as an **indicator**?
- What can **policy makers** expect from indicators?
- Which roles do **statisticians** have in the creation, production and use of indicators compared to policy makers?
- Should policy makers and statisticians have a **common reality model**?

Engendering indicators

- What makes an indicator really a **gender** indicator?
- Do we need **engendered methodology** on gender indicators?
- Is the **relation** between gender **policy** and gender **indicators** special?

Making gender indicators

- Differences, shares, gaps, distances or inequalities: which **comparison logic** should be preferred?
- Should **singular or composite** indicators be preferred?
- Who should decide on the **weights** of indicators: statisticians or policy makers?
- **Successful** indicators: how? How to produce the gender champion?

¹ Prepared by Ko Oudhof

Some supplementary reconsiderations on gender indicators²

- Engendering indicators means not only sex-disaggregation from existing sources, but also the use/development of new sources
- International incomparability is equivalent to interregional incomparability; just as their solutions should be.
- Engendered indicators should reflect policy priorities. Interregional or international differences in priorities cause the same type of weighting impediments
- Gaps between female and male scores on indicators should be presented as deviations from some benchmark value (policy objective or some theoretically plausible zero point)
- The obvious similarity of many gaps between female and male indicator scores and their trends (in ECE-region?) needs more attention and explanation.

² These reconsiderations might be discussed, but do not necessarily reflect my own views.