

CONCEPT NOTE

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Statistical Division of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will organize a workshop on gender statistics at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 17-18 March 2014. The workshop will be organized in the framework of the project “Interregional cooperation to strengthen national capacities to measure progress in achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment” financed from the United Nations Development Account and carried out jointly by three United Nations regional commissions: for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Western Asia (ESCWA) and Europe (UNECE).

2. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Task Force on Indicators of Gender Equality has consolidated and systematized statistical indicators of gender equality into a set of 123 indicators recommended for use in CES member countries. These are grouped in eight thematic domains inspired by the Beijing Platform for Action (1995) and categorized into headline (47 indicators) and supporting indicators (76). The proposed indicators, also referred to as “the UNECE set of gender indicators” hereafter, are based on the consideration of policy needs, existing indicator frameworks, relevance to the measurement of gender equality and international availability.

3. The report containing the proposed indicators is currently under consultation by countries and international organizations that participate in the work of CES. It is important to understand in-depth the applicability of the indicators for countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, in view of attuning some of them to the specific needs of that sub-region or recommending additional indicators for the sub-region.

4. A review of data availability for the proposed indicators has confirmed important data gaps in countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. To improve the monitoring of gender equality in those countries, it is important to understand the aspects where the statistical capacity of these countries needs to be improved and how internationally coordinated capacity-building could better target their needs.

II. PURPOSE

5. The main purpose of the workshop is to identify ways of improving data availability on the proposed indicators of gender equality in countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and plan concrete further steps in this regard. The workshop will also assess the suitability of the UNECE set of gender indicators for the situation of the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and may propose additional indicators for the sub-region.

III. PROGRAMME

1. Opening and introduction
2. Background information:
 - a) Project “Interregional cooperation to strengthen national capacities to measure progress in achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment”

- b) Results of the 2012 global review of gender statistics on countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- 3. UNECE set of gender indicators: overview and data availability
- 4. Discussions by topic, organized for each topic as follows:
 - i) Introduction by the topic moderator
 - ii) Presentations by a country or countries on their national experience
 - iii) Discussion on the suitability and production of the indicators, nationally used alternatives, and capacity-building needs
 - iv) Summary by the moderator
- a) Poverty
- b) Education
- c) Health
- d) Violence
- e) Economy
- f) Power and decision-making in society
- g) Power and decision-making in the household
- h) Media
- i) Environment
- j) Children and adolescents
- 5. Proposals on indicators: summary and discussion
- 6. Capacity-building needs: summary and discussion
- 7. Closing of the workshop

IV. PARTICIPATION

6. The workshop targets gender statistics focal points in national statistical offices in countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Participation of gender statistics experts from other countries is encouraged.

V. LANGUAGE

7. The working languages of the workshop are English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided between these two languages.

VI. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

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