

REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP

I. Organization and attendance

1. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) organized the Workshop on Gender Statistics Dissemination and Training for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), in cooperation with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of the Republic of Moldova and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with financial support from the United Nations Development Account and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The Workshop was held in Chisinau on 3-4 November 2015.
2. The Workshop was attended by 43 producers and users of gender statistics representing the following countries and organizations: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, CIS-Stat, UNFPA, UNDP and UN Women. The Workshop was also attended by representative from the Hacettepe University, invited by the Secretariat. UNECE Consultant Ms. Jessica Gardner facilitated the Workshop.
3. The present report contains the summary of the discussion and the recommendations of the Workshop. The presentations made at the Workshop are available at the UNECE website¹.

II. Purpose

4. The purpose of the Workshop was to enhance the capacity of national statistical offices in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to disseminate and communicate gender statistics and the capacity of users to understand and use gender statistics. It addressed the challenges for disseminating and communicating gender statistics from the perspectives of both producers and users. The Workshop also reviewed and discussed the toolkit for the training of data users prepared by UNECE.

¹ <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40150#/>

III. Summary of the discussion

A. National experience in collaboration between producers and users of gender statistics

The representative of Italy presented the country's advanced experience in the field of gender statistics and its dissemination to different types of users. The session followed by updates on gender statistics dissemination by statisticians of the following countries: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova and Tajikistan. CISSTAT presented the gender statistics data in the region. Presentations provided by users from Georgia and the Republic of Moldova were expressing their need and requirements for gender statistics data as well as expressing a need for close cooperation between users and producers.

B. Using gender statistics: a toolkit for training data users

UNECE consultant, Ms Jessica Gardner, presented the overview of the document "Using gender statistics – a toolkit for training data users" (Toolkit).

The representative of the Republic of Moldova presented their experience on using the Toolkit in the training of users in October 2015. They found the Toolkit as a very useful instrument for training of users, in particular when it is adjusted to the national context with country-specific examples. At the training, the users of gender statistics expressed interest in more information on the interpretation of the statistics and their connection to policy issues.

C. Training on employment indicators

Ms Jessica Gardner conducted the training session on the main concepts in measuring work. The related group activity focused on classifying individuals undertaking different forms of work as employed, unemployed or outside the labour force, and on the interpretation of statistical findings.

D. Training on indicators of decision-making

Ms Jessica Gardner conducted the training session on measuring power and decision-making in society. The related group activity focused on interpreting statistical findings on this topic.

E. National training in gender statistics

Participants identified the following as priority areas in gender statistics where more training to the users would need to be provided: violence against women, early marriage and forced marriage, demographic indicators, measurement of poverty by sex, migration, power and decision-making, and work-life balance.

It was suggested that on the national level, the preferred format is interactive face-to-face workshop, with suggestions for length varying from three to five days,

depending on the target group and their prior knowledge. Some components could be carried out online as follow-up. A pre-evaluation questionnaire could help determine the level of prior knowledge of participants and tailor the course to their needs. Rather short trainings could be done for journalists.

Several countries emphasised the importance of including such trainings in formal training programmes that provide a certificate to the civil servants, because this will increase their motivation to participate. Where possible, inclusion in mandatory training programmes should be promoted. Several countries could involve universities or training institutes that could support NSOs for carrying out the training.

The users expressed their need to understand better how the indicators could be used for policymaking and how to interpret the various published aggregate indexes.

IV. Conclusion

Participants expressed appreciation of the Workshop as an opportunity to discuss user and producers' cooperation and learn from different experiences. The UNECE Toolkit was considered as a comprehensive and very useful instrument for conducting national training in gender statistics.
