



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
8 March 2016

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of European Statisticians

Group of Experts on Gender Statistics

Work Session on Gender Statistics

Vilnius, 1-3 June 2016

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Opening addresses, adoption of the agenda and election of officers

Annotated provisional agenda

The work session will be held at the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Vilnius, Lithuania, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 1 June 2016.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening addresses, adoption of the agenda and election of officers;
2. Gender equality: subregional perspectives;
3. Gender and the Sustainable Development Goals;
4. Measuring asset ownership and entrepreneurship;
5. Gender pay and pension gap;
6. Work-life balance, time use, and decision-making in the household;
7. Future work;
8. Use of gender statistics in policymaking;
9. Adoption of the report;
10. Closing of the meeting.

II. Annotations

The Work Session is open to representatives of all member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Representatives of other Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies of the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) may also participate in a consultative capacity, according to the terms of reference of UNECE (E/ECE/778/Rev.5, paras. 11, 12 and 13). All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization.

All documents for the meeting will be available at the following website:
<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2016.6.gender.html>

1. Opening addresses, adoption of the agenda, and election of officers

The meeting is expected to adopt its agenda and to elect its chairperson.

2. Gender equality: subregional perspectives

This session will provide subregional perspectives on gender statistics and gender equality, by presenting projects that involve several countries of the UNECE region. It will summarize a report on progress towards gender equality in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, a cooperation project of Nordic gender statistics focal points and the overview of the status of women and men in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

3. Gender and the Sustainable Development Goals

The fifth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. The related targets aim to end discrimination and violence towards women and ensure equal rights for women in political, economic as well as public and private life. The implementation of SDGs will challenge statisticians to develop ways to measure progress in reaching the goals and to communicate results to a wider audience. This session will consider UNECE gender indicators and their use in the light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and discuss methods of communicating indicators to a policy audience. The role of official statistics in measuring violence against women will also be addressed. Official statistics are needed to complement non-official surveys, as for instance the survey by the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union.

4. Measuring asset ownership and entrepreneurship

The topic will focus on the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) Initiative and the last phase of the project, which consisted in pilot studies conducted in several countries in 2015. The EDGE project is used to develop measurement tools on asset ownership and entrepreneurship from the gender perspective. The session will showcase the experiences of Georgia and Mexico, two of the pilot countries, and discuss how to produce gender sensitive indicators on asset ownership and entrepreneurship. The session will also address the representation of women and men in the self-employment sector, as well as in the senior and middle management of businesses.

5. Gender pay and pension gap

Over the past several decades, women have dramatically reshaped their role in labour market, becoming much more likely to work or look for work. However, nowadays women still have a lower employment rate, work more part-time, and earn less than men. The gender pay gap and the gender employment gap are the core of gender equality indicators and are at the centre of policymaking. Although the topic has been widely discussed, there are still concepts that require further clarification. This session will discuss the measurement issues related to the gender pay gap with the aim of improving the understanding of different concepts and indicators. In the context of the ageing population, the gender pension gap is a related issue of growing concern to be discussed in this session.

6. Work-life balance, time use, and decision-making in the household

Women and men adjust their job trajectories differently to events that occur during their life course. Understanding the intersection of age and gender can reveal useful insights for policymakers and enable them to create better-targeted policies considering the different patterns women and men are facing at different stages of their life. Population ageing raises new challenges, potentially exacerbating the care role of women. Power and decision-making in the household is another important aspect of gender equality, as it impacts on gender differences in health, material well-being, and the division of paid work and household work. This session will cover work-life balance, time use, gender stereotypes, disability, the intersection of age and gender, and decision-making in the household.

7. Future work

The meeting is invited to discuss proposals for future international work in gender statistics and topics for the 2018 work session.

8. Use of gender statistics in policymaking

Reliable statistics is the corner stone of sound policymaking. High quality gender statistics support policymakers to make choices that improve gender equality. This session will focus on answering questions about how policymakers use gender statistics, where they perceive shortcomings in gender statistics, what additional data they need, and how the official statistics community could improve the provision of gender statistics for policymaking.

9. Adoption of the report

A short report outlining the conclusions and decisions taken at the meeting will be presented for adoption before the meeting adjourns.

10. Closing of the meeting
