UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Workshop on Gender Statistics
Belgrade, Serbia, 27-28 November 2017
Organized in cooperation with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia

CONCEPT NOTE

The Workshop will be held at the Hotel Metropol Palace, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 69, Belgrade 11000, Serbia, on 27-28 November 2017.

It will begin with registration at 9 am on Monday, 27 November and will finish on Tuesday, 28 November by 6 pm.

I.   INTRODUCTION

1.   The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), in cooperation with the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-Stat) and the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, is organizing a *Workshop on Gender Statistics for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia*.

2.   The Workshop will be followed by the UNECE *Work Session on Gender Statistics*, which will take place on 29 November–1 December at the same venue. Further information about the Work Session can be found in a separate information note available at http://bit.ly/unecegenderworksession2017info.

3.   The Workshop is financed by the United Nations Development Account as part of the Gender Statistics and Indicators component of the project 'Statistics and Data 2016-2019'.

II.   PURPOSE

4.   The Workshop will enhance the capacity of participants

- to understand and explain the principles of measuring and valuing unpaid care work, including data and processing needs, methodological challenges and solutions, interpretation and policy relevance
- to produce gender-oriented indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Agenda
- to disseminate and communicate gender statistics for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

III. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

5. The Workshop is designed to benefit participants from the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. The primary target group is gender focal points in national statistical offices. Users of gender statistics may also find the Workshop valuable and are welcome to participate.

IV. FORMAT AND CONTENT

6. The programme of the Workshop will consist of three sessions described below. A detailed timetable and other documents will be posted on the UNECE website at http://bit.ly/unecegenderstatsEECCA2017.

A. Valuing unpaid work

7. Target 5.4 of the SDGs, 'recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work', is founded on two important facts: that the majority of such work worldwide is performed by women; and that in general the contribution of such work to the well-being of individuals, families and societies is undervalued or taken for granted. Conventional statistics share some of the responsibility for this undervaluation, since the standard economic approaches of national accounts and employment statistics have been defined explicitly to exclude non-market production from their scope, thus grossly underestimating the economic contributions of women.

8. This measurement gap can effectively be addressed by household satellite accounts that place a monetary value on unpaid work. The recent UNECE *Guide on valuing unpaid household service work* supports statistical offices in undertaking this work.

9. This session will present the major points of the *Guide*, focusing on the main data collection and processing requirements. The emphasis of the session will be on the interpretation of results, the importance and added value of measuring and valuing unpaid work and its potential contribution to gender-responsive policymaking. Countries with experience in the measurement and valuation of unpaid household work will be invited to share their findings, challenges faced and lessons learned.

B. Gender statistics in the Sustainable Development Agenda

10. It is by now well understood that to be effective, sustainable development must have gender equality at its heart, and that the associated measurement and evaluation framework must therefore have a gender dimension interwoven throughout all its components. The SDG indicator framework therefore contains not only a set of gender-specific indicators for goal 5 (gender equality), but also an explicit call for sex disaggregation wherever possible across all other goals and targets. This is a major step towards fulfilling the long-standing goal of the gender statistics community—the mainstreaming of gender throughout statistics.

11.   The aim of this session is to assess how far participating countries have progressed in translating this aspiration into reality, and to discuss common challenges and ways to tackle them. Countries will be asked to report in advance on which gender-relevant and/or sex-disaggregated SDG indicators they now have available; gaps and challenges in producing the necessary indicators; and ongoing work to meet such challenges. The session will begin with an overview of the responses received, and participants will then share best practices for moving forward.

C.   Dissemination and communication of gender statistics

12.   As with all statistics, gender statistics are only valuable to the extent that they are used, and this relies on effective dissemination and communication. The Sustainable Development Agenda offers a new lens through which to view the key messages of gender statistics and to promote their value. This session will consider the latest best practices in dissemination and communication of gender statistics, looking in particular at examples where the communication tools and techniques for gender statistics have been adapted to take account of the SDG framework.

13.   Participating countries will be invited to showcase their latest gender statistics dissemination and communication tools and products, sharing experiences about their development and impact.

D.   Visit to the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia

14.   A visit to the Serbian Statistical Office will be organized during the afternoon of the second day of the Workshop, Tuesday 28 November. Participants will be able to learn about the gender statistics work undertaken by the Statistical Office, as well as their work on censuses, time-use surveys and dissemination tools.

V.   LANGUAGES

15.   The working languages of the Workshop are English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.

VI.   MATERIALS

16.   Workshop documents will be made available on the UNECE website in English and Russian at the following location: http://bit.ly/unecegenderstatsEECCA2017. Participants are encouraged to download papers from the website and, where feasible, to use electronic devices to read them in order to minimize paper use. Documents posted on the website before the Workshop will not be distributed in the conference room.

VII. REGISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

17. For information on registration, visas, accommodation and logistics, please refer to the information note for the Work Session on Gender Statistics, available at http://bit.ly/unecegenderworksession2017info.

18. Registered participants will be provided with further details on local amenities, social activities and event logistics closer to the meeting date.

VIII. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the content of the Workshop, contact:

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