



Why do we need gender statistics for trade policymaking?

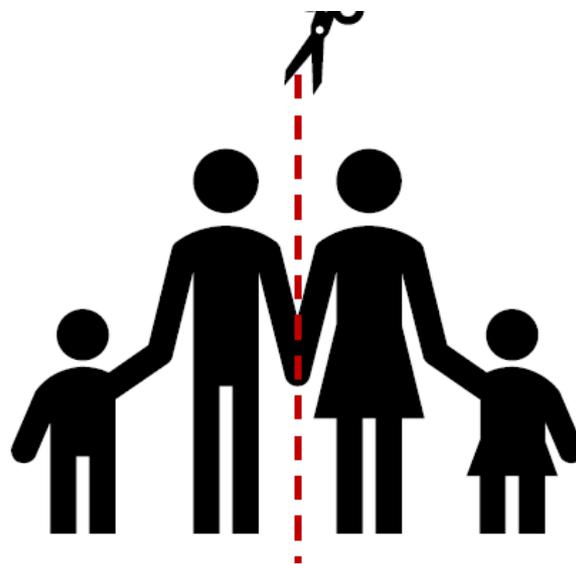
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Without gender data/statistics we are missing out on half of the world's population

A lack of gender statistics results in an incomplete picture of women's and men's lives—and the gaps that persist between them. Such data are essential for identifying key challenges and opportunities including in the trade field





What we have

Around 80% of countries regularly produce sex-disaggregated statistics on health/mortality, labour force participation, education and training, political participation

What we do not have

Less than 30% of countries produce sex-disaggregated statistics on informal employment, entrepreneurship (ownership & management) and unpaid work

We need to:

- close gender data gaps on women's economic empowerment
- make data more accessible to policymakers



In the trade field, what can we do with current gender data/statistics

We can

Assess the impact of trade on women as wage workers by using sex-disaggregated data on employment

We cannot

Assess the impact of trade on women as producers (eg, we miss data on trade made by farmers/firms, distribution of and control over incomes)

Assess the impact of trade on women as consumers (eg, we miss data on goods and services, including public services, consumed by household members)



Why do trade policymakers need gender data/statistics?

To put in place gender-responsive trade policy

- The trade community has overcome the approach "trade is gender neutral" and is aware that trade has different impacts on women and men
- Many countries believe that trade policy can be used as a tool to empower women. This would be a precondition for long-lasting development
- Recent developments: Trade & Gender Chapters in free trade agreements (FTAs)
- Buenos Aires Declaration on Women and Trade and its follow up → WTO Informal Working Group (127 MCs)
- Ex-ante gender assessment of trade reforms



Thank you for your attention!

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