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Work Session on Gender Statistics
Neuchâtel, 2019
Purpose of the Presentation

- Reminder: Background and composition of the Task Force
- Summary of the work conducted by the Task Force
  - Overview of main work strands of the Task Force
  - Dimensions of decision-making
- Main conclusions and recommendations.
- Next steps
Background and Composition

• Business case gave arguments for
  • why intra-household power & decision-making is a distinct topic
  • why it merits investigation
  • what mandate there is for the work
  • what the value-added of statistics on this topic would be

• Composition: 30 individuals representing 19 countries and organizations

Objective: to make an inventory of indicators and sources and provide recommendations to statistical offices on measuring the gendered dimensions of intra-household power and decision-making
• Gender equality: Women increasingly fill important roles in positions of power in business, politics, justice, culture and sports
• Power and decision-making recognized as an important domain of gender equality
• Official statistics on 'power and influence' or 'women in decision-making roles' usually limited to public sphere
• However, access to power outside the home may very well be limited if power is gender-divided within the home
• The main question is, who decides?
  • Who decides how money is spent, how time is spent, who goes to work, when to have children?
Main Work Strands of the Task Force

- Information gathering
- Assessing data quality and methodological considerations
- Reviewing existing research and practice
- Test analyses of existing datasets
- Developing a set of proposed indicators
Overarching Recommendations

- Power and decision-making are complex - Many kinds of decisions taken within a household and modalities of reaching each kind of decision are not the same
- Specific question wording or response categories can rarely be put forward as the ‘ideal’ formulation—but the qualitative testing can be very informative
- Interpretation and acceptability of questions will vary across countries – but international comparability is important
- Likelihood of cross-country differences must also be taken into consideration in deciding which indicators are relevant to a given country
- Inherent subjectivity of the topic needs to be accepted and embraced by data producers
Methodological Recommendations

• “Gold Standard” is to interview both partners in a couple – but…
• Purposes of the investigation will determine most appropriate survey vehicle
• Different approaches to sampling and to target population(s) may be needed - Nationally-representative samples; intersectionality
• Complete picture of intra-household power requires indicators from each of the seven dimensions.
• Core indicators will be identified and should take priority – with proposed supporting indicators
• Task Force recommends that countries pay particular attention to dissemination and communication
Future Work

• Measurement of intra-household power and decision-making is in its infancy
  • Need for developing clear concepts, robust methods and harmonized, comparable indicators

Thus:

• More qualitative testing is needed
• More validity testing
• More data reduction work
• More international collaboration to share testing results and data analysis
• Final draft report to be circulated to Task Force members for final comments.

• Final report of the Task Force to be submitted by the Task Force to the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians in October this year.
Thank you for your attention!

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