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UNSD Questionnaire on National Gender Statistics Programmes and Activities *

Prepared by

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UNSD Questionnaire on National Gender Statistics Programmes and Activities

PART	A:	BACKGROUN	D
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Department or Unit: ISTAT - Survey on Conditions and Quality of Life Division

Director's Office

Persons/institutions consulted: Linda Laura Sabbadini

Director of Survey on Conditions and Quality of Life Division

PART B: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

1. Is there a special unit/desk/j Office (NSO)?	focal point responsible f	for gender stati	istics in your National St	atistica
	Yes	X	No	
If no: How is gender statistics has the responsibility for gender	-	hin the NSO? W	Which section/department/	division
Even though within ISTAT the real policy for the promotion specific gender issues. The mogender that conditions the social the economic field, however, to gender.	and development of get st relevant sector in this I sphere, which, in turn, i	nder statistics, s respect is that s interpreted fro	many surveys are condu- t of social statistics. In fa om the point of view of ge	cted or ict, it is nder. Ir
PART C: GENDER STATIST	ICS ACTIVITIES ANI	O ACHIEVEM	<u>IENTS</u>	
User-producer dialogue				
2. Has your NSO established a ı		gender statistics X		

While a special user-producer-unit does not exist, permanent contacts are offered to the institutions that make most use of gender statistics for their activities.

Materials and capacity-building activities

3. List all materials and activities produced/conducted by your NSO in the area of gender statistics, including those that have addressed issues related to the mainstreaming of gender into statistics. Include such materials and activities as: technical handbooks and manuals, dissemination materials (analytical publications, wall-charts, brochures, etc), other resource materials, training packages, workshops, seminars, and conferences. For each material and activity, provide the title, type of material or activity, and reference year.

Title	Type of material	Reference year
Violenza di genere e statistiche	Report	2006
ufficiali in Italia	Deputy Chamber	
Partecipazione politica e	Report	2006
astensionismo secondo un	Deputy Chamber	
approccio di genere		
Italian survey on violence against	Article	2005
women	Stastical Journal of the UNECE	
	22 (2005)	
Conciliazione dei tempi di vita e	Report	2005
denatalità	Deputy Chamber	
Come cambia la vita delle donne	Book	2004

4. Which of these materials and activities have been most effective in promoting the development of gender statistics? What specific aspects have made the material and/or activity particularly effective? What was the purpose and what were the accomplishments?

The documents listed are all research material of a very popular character and represent a new model for diffusing statistical information as the data are being accompanied by explanations and comments. They are user-friendly, transparent, and easily obtainable by trade unions, political parties, associations and representatives of the institutions that are the principal users of gender statistics. The main result produced by these documents is that the explanation of the figures leads to a clearer understanding of the phenomena and to a better use of the data.

5. In the past five year statistics?	rs, has any NSO staff participated in a regio	onal or international forum on gender
	X Yes	<i>No</i>
If yes, a. List the region	al or international forums on gender statistics	s in which your NSO has participated.
UNECE Work Session	on Gender Statistics, 11-13 September 2006.	Geneva Switzerland

FAO, Meeting on Gender Equality, 22 November 2005, Rome, Italy

UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics, 18-20 October 2004, Geneva, Switzerland

Joint UNECE-UNPD-UNFPA-WHO Training Session on Gender Statistics, 21 October, Geneva, Switzerland

UNECE/UNDP Task Force Meeting on the Gender Statistics Website for Europe and North America, 25-26 September 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics, 23-25 September 2002, Geneva, Switzerland

UNECE/UNDP Workshop on Gender Statistics for Policy Monitoring and Benchmarking, 9-10 October 2000, Orvieto, Italy

UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics, 11-13 October 2000, Orvieto, Italy

b. Indicate what aspects of the regional or international forums listed above have made the forum particularly beneficial to the development of gender statistics in your country.

Violence

Collection and compilation of gender statistics

2003

Survey

Conection and compnation of gender statistics									
6. Has your NSO bee specific gender issu		or conduct	ed a survey, or o	a component of a	survey (survey module), on				
conducted or modules: title	has been inv e, date, type tution condu	olved in. In of survey (1	clude the follow household, insti	ing details for all tutional), coverag	er issues that the NSO has relevant surveys or survey ge (national, sub-national), cy of the survey (one-time				
Title	Date	Type	Coverage	Primary institution	Frequency				
Violence against women Survey	2005- 2006	Survey	National	ISTAT	One time survey				
Time Use Survey	2002- 2003	Survey	National	ISTAT	Every five years survey				

b.	Has any of these surveys become a regular part of the work-programme of the NSO?
	X Yes

National

ISTAT

Every five years survey

<i>7</i> .	Does	your	country	have a	specific	initiative	to co	llect/compile	gender-	sensitive	data	from
	admini	strativ	e sources	on such	topics as	decision-	making,	crime and v	iolence, i	access to	credit	/land,
	etc?											
					37	37		N T.				

If yes,

Family and Social

Subjects Survey

a. Please describe a specific initiative, if any, that you consider has been particularly successful.

Paper for the Council of the European Union on "Indicators on the representation of women and men in economic decision-making centres" put forward by the Italian EU Presidency.

What has made the initiative successful?

The above mentioned document has been adopted as recommendation by the EU Council.

What organizations are/were involved in the initiative?

The Council of the European Union, the Permanent Representatives Committee, ISTAT.

What has been the role of the NSO?

ISTAT proposed the indicators, analyzed the questionnaires collected by the Greek Presidency and wrote the final report.

8. On what specific gender issues have users requested statistics in the past five years? What is been done to address the gaps?

Violence, Time Use, Political participation.

Which of these requests have been met and which have not been met?

All requests have been met.

PART D: INTERNATIONAL REPORTING

9. Please indicate whether your NSO is/has been involved in the preparation of the listed country reports. If involved, please describe the role played by your NSO (provide sex-disaggregated statistics, write report, etc.)

Report	NSO Involvement		If yes, NSO's role
	Yes	No	
Beijing Platform for Action	X		Member of the Italian Delegation to the Beijing Conference 1995
CEDAW	X		Member of the Italian Government Delegation in New York. The ISTAT's staff edited the Statistical Appendix
MDG	X		Participation within the Working Groups

PART E: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

10. In the past five years, has ye gender statistics?	our NSO hosted a stu	dy tour/exch	ange visit related to the devel	opment of
	Yes		XNo	
11. Has your NSO provided government agencies within you			opment of gender statistics	to other
	X	_ Yes	<i>No</i>	
Seminars of diverse nature have of Equal Opportunities, and vari	•		C ,	e Ministry

PART F: GAPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

12. Provide your recommendations for improving international and national programmes aimed at supporting the development of gender statistics: Where are the gaps? What areas should be prioritized? What types of initiatives are most effective?

Italy hopes this important meeting to be followed by a relaunching of gender statistics, which has gone through a period of fierce crisis on the international level. Maximum progress had been reached in the field of gender statistics at the Beijing Conference, after which, however, UNSD has pulled back. The danger is that if UNSD withdraws, the National Institutes of Statistics of the different countries act accordingly. An important example is that of the *World's Women*. Once an important instrument for comparison between the gender statistics on the international level, and extremely useful for understanding the different realities from the gender angle, it has by now become just a list of data disaggregated according to gender. Yet, it would be most useful to refashion the *World's Women* into an efficient instrument for the interpretation of social and economical phenomena from the point of view of gender.

It is necessary, then, to call a halt to this disengagement and to bridge the enormous gap between, on the one hand, social statistics, with its strongly developed gender approach but at a permanent risk of financial cuts, and, on the other hand, economic statistics, which is less threatened by cuts but in which the gender approach stands rather neglected.

Moreover, being of the opinion that the gender perspective should be transverse and not only – and necessarily – guaranteed by gender units inside organs and National Institutes of Statistics, Italy emphasizes the necessity of creating a high-level body, in order to revive gender statistics and provide a permanent platform for comparison on a high level, with the participation of the most authoritative experts of the relevant international organizations as well as those of countries, both advanced and developing, which have distinguished themselves in applying a gender approach to statistics. Such High Level Group should become an instrument that monitors the conduct of the various interested parties, so as to prevent them moving away from the positive positions obtained, and, in addition, guarantees maximum cooperation between the parties involved, and, finally, provides a framework for discussion on which new emerging themes to measure.

Finally, Italy proposes the creation of a World Forum on gender statistics, and declares itself prepared to act as host. The intention of this initiative is to restart from the statistic proposals of Beijing, the most advanced to date, and then to go beyond, by reproducing and exploiting the best past experiences in gender statistics.