

7<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Gender Statistics

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# Linking data to policies. The experience of Italy

Sara Demofonti

Istat

# Summary

- ✓ **Which data for policies**

The well-being indicators in the economic planning

- ✓ **The indicators to monitor policies**

The SDG indicators in the performance plans of the Italian ministries

- ✓ **The story of a fruitful collaboration**



# Which data to orient policies



# An important innovation

- ✓ Law no. 163/2016: the reform of the State budget
- ✓ The well-being indicators into the budget process for public policies
- ✓ Not only traditional economic measures, but also measures of the dimensions of well-being for assessing public policies
- ✓ Italy is the first EU and G7 country whose budget planning includes equitable and sustainable well-being indicators in addition to GDP
- ✓ ISTAT played an essential role in defining the indicators



# The Committee for indicators of equitable and sustainable well-being

- ✓ Set up at ISTAT
- ✓ Chaired by the Minister of the Economy and Finance
- ✓ Member: the President of ISTAT, the Governor of Banca d'Italia, two experts from universities and research bodies
- ✓ Established on 28 November 2016
- ✓ Principal task: to choose the indicators to be included in the economic planning process

### ISTAT

Making available the data of the indicators selected for the last three-year period

### Ministry of Economy and Finance

The annex to the Economic and Financial Document

A report to be submitted to the Parliamentary Committees

# The testing phase

- ✓ The objectives were difficult to achieve
- ✓ A small group of indicators to be increased over time was chosen
- ✓ Four indicators meaningful for citizens' quality of life

per-capita adjusted available income

available income inequality index

labour force non-participation rate

emissions of carbon dioxide and of other climate-changing gases

# Towards the 12 indicators

- ✓ The update of the four initially identified indicators provided as of April 2017 was based on two approaches

Data from the current production process: per-capita adjusted available income and labour market non-participation rate

New and ad hoc methodologies: available income inequality index and emissions of carbon dioxide and of other climate-changing gases

- ✓ The Committee concluded its work on 20 June 2017 with the delivery of the final report on the activities conducted



## Characteristics of the 12 indicators

- ✓ The 12 indicators identified among the 130 included in ISTAT's 2016 equitable and sustainable well-being report
- ✓ Characteristics of the indicators:
  - theoretical soundness of the indicators
  - guaranteed quality of the statistical measurement
  - selection based on an extended participatory process
  - ability to grasp the specific nature of the Italian case
- ✓ Recognition for ISTAT of the reliability and methodological soundness of an equitable and sustainable well-being project
- ✓ ISTAT's presence in the Committee → examine the production processes  
→ attention to the quality and timeliness of the data

## Non-hierarchical criteria

- Sensitivity to public policies
- Thrift
- Feasibility and timeliness
- Extent and frequency of the temporal series

# The 12 indicators

1. Per-capita adjusted available income
2. Available income inequality index
3. Index of absolute poverty
4. Healthy life expectancy at birth
5. Excess weight
6. Early leavers from the educational and training system
- 7. Labour market non-participation rate with breakdown by gender**
- 8. Ratio between the employment rate of women 25-49 years old with children of preschool age and childless women**
9. Predatory crime index
10. Civil justice efficiency index
11. Emissions of carbon dioxide and of other climate-changing gases
12. Illegal construction index

# The two gender relevant indicators

- ✓ They both monitor the reconciliation of work and family times
- ✓ The labour market non-participation rate with breakdown by gender is not the generic unemployment rate, but one of its broader measures
- ✓ The ratio between the employment rate of women 25-49 years old with children of preschool age and childless women responds to the need to take account, in the well-being calculation, of a variable that considers the possibility of reconciling paid work with family care work

# The connection between indicators and the political planning



# Indicators to monitor policies

**Index of absolute poverty**



Ministry of Labour and social policies

**Emissions of carbon dioxide and of other climate-changing gases**



Ministry of the environment

# The story of a fruitful collaboration



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# The backstory: a long standing relationship

## Presidence of the Council of Ministers – Department for Equal Opportunities

Survey on sexual harassment against women

Survey on integration and living conditions of foreign citizens in a gender perspective

Survey on discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity

Survey on women safety

## Institute for the Development of Training for workers

Survey on maternity and female participation in the labour market

## Ministry for Health Italian Regions

Survey on health conditions and use of health services



# The backstory: a long standing relationship

## Means



## Results



## 2008-2010



# Main actors and roles



Coordination, data and inputs



Ask for data and funding



Inputs

## ✓ **Grant agreement**

- Expansion of the sample to obtain estimates of the most important health indicators with a sub-regional detail
- Thematic focuses on the screening of female cancers and on motherhood

## ✓ **Commission on woman's health**

- Introduction of specific questions to define indicators on breast-feeding

# The final results

- ✓ Data used for monitoring



- ✓ Regional plans of prevention



- ✓ Campaign in favour of breast-feeding

# Conclusions

- ✓ Linking data to policies means to establish a close collaboration with policy makers in order to respond to their needs
- ✓ Awareness of the importance of having indicators adequate to support political decision-makers should become part of the cultural heritage of countries
- ✓ A law that rules the importance of statistical data in the political decision process of the country is really a very strong instrument to link data to policies and to orient policies better
- ✓ Further steps can be moved on the field of the connection between the highest level of the strategic planning in the public administrations and the way the policies are measured

# Thank you!