

**United Nations Statistics Division – Statistics Korea  
International Seminar on Gender Statistics  
Incheon, Republic of Korea 12 – 14 November 2013**

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**MAIN CONCLUSIONS**

**Introduction**

1. An international seminar on gender statistics, hosted by Statistics Korea and focusing primarily on integrating gender into official statistics, measuring women's work discontinuity, time use and violence against women was held from 12 to 14 November in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The seminar was organized by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) and Statistics Korea (KOSTAT). Representatives from the National Statistical Offices of Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, Egypt, Indonesia, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Korea and from UNSD, UN-ESCAP and IATUR attended the meeting. The list of participants is attached (Annex 1). The meeting was opened by the Commissioner of KOSTAT, Mr. Park, and an opening statement was made by UNSD and by Ms. Lee, Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family. A keynote address was delivered by Ms. Choe, President of the Korean Women's Development Institute. The meeting was chaired by UNSD, KOSTAT, Mr. Eun from the Seoul National University, Mr. Nault from Statistics Canada, and Ms. Tovar from the Mexican National Statistical Office (INEGI).

**Agenda**

2. The meeting discussed the following topics:

Session 1: Integrating gender into national statistics

Session 2: Women's discontinuity at work

Session 3: Time use statistics

Session 4: Measuring Violence against Women

3. The agenda of the meeting is attached in Annex 2.

**Conclusions**

4. The meeting expressed its appreciation to Statistics Korea for hosting the seminar and for extending its hospitality to the participants, as well as to the UN Statistics Division and Statistics Korea for co-organizing and conducting the event.

5. The meeting took note of the different levels of development of gender statistics and mainstreaming of gender in national statistics among countries: while some countries have already integrated a gender dimension into many of their statistical processes, in other countries gender statistics are limited to mainly statistics disaggregated by sex.

6. The meeting reviewed the concept of gender statistics as data disaggregated by sex that reflect gender issues (problems, concerns and questions related to women and men) and differences in the status of women and men. Obtaining gender statistics entails the integration of a gender dimension in all statistical processes undertaken by national statistical offices. This requires: (a) identifying relevant gender issues in a country; (b) formulating the related data needs; (c) assessing the availability of such data in existing data sources, also taking into account (and correcting) any gender-based bias in concepts and methods used in existing data sources; and (d) undertaking additional data collections if needed.

7. The meeting recognized the importance of having a solid legal framework with proper provisions for regular budgets allocated to gender statistics by governments as well as the need for leadership and strong political will to ensure sustainability and continuity in the production and dissemination of gender statistics. The importance of dedicated surveys to study the situation of women and men was also stressed to ensure that statistical operations do not only capture eventual gender differences but also provide evidence on explanatory factors and potential causes behind such differences, thus facilitating formulation of effective policies for change.

8. The usefulness of producing and using gender indicators in addition to statistics was also pointed out, particularly to communicate key messages on the situation of women and men and to facilitate gender analysis.

9. The meeting acknowledged the importance of measuring and monitoring statistics on work/life balance as women and men are affected differently by their responsibilities within their families and at work. With regard to women's work discontinuity, the meeting took note of the Korean experience on the topic and acknowledged the importance of further studying the determinants of women's dropping out of the labour force. In the case of Korea the interest on the topic was triggered by the decrease in fertility over the years accompanied by an increased in female labour force participation (FLFP). Results of statistical analysis showed that while men's participation in the labour force increases steadily over the working age period and then decreased towards the end of the carrier, FLFP over the working age period suffers from significant bumps: there are drop outs from work due to marriage and/or having children. Thus a major factor contributing to quitting a job appears to be getting married or the arrival of a child, mainly due to women's overburden by paid and unpaid work.

10. Having children appears to be a major factor in women's decisions to quit their job and/or to look for more flexible working conditions. This is also the case in Australia where women appear to be more represented than men in part time jobs, in underemployment and low pay positions and are willing to accept lower wages in exchange of a more flexible job that allows them to take care of their children.

11. Many countries expressed interest in measuring this topic and want to better understand the causes and potential policy interventions needed to address this gender issue such as: improving public childcare services; providing training opportunities to women quitting their job to ensure they keep relevant skills that will allow them to rejoin the labour force; creating jobs suitable for women looking for more flexible working conditions due to family responsibilities (caring for children); promoting girls' education in sectors

(science/technology...) that will result in higher pay jobs and contribute to reducing women segregation in specific occupations with low skills and pay; promoting paid paternity leaves and their enforcement; and ensuring legal provisions are made to address barriers to women's participation in the labour market through their working age period including childbearing.

12. The meeting proposed to further discuss work life balance and women's career discontinuity at a dedicated session at the fifth Global Forum on Gender Statistics co-organized by UNSD and INEGI taking place from 3 to 5 November 2014 in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

13. The meeting expressed interest in the methodological developments under the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) project aiming at measuring asset ownership and entrepreneurship from a gender perspective and countries asked to be regularly updated on the project developments.

14. The meeting recognized the importance and usefulness of Time Use Statistics and Surveys (TUS) as evidence for many policies questions, particularly on gender issues including time spent on unpaid work and the total contribution of women to the economy. The meeting discussed other uses and potential gender analysis based on time use data such as: understanding time and "space" limitations for people caring for children and adults, that due to their responsibilities can not move far from the people under their care; measuring national well being accounts based on information collected through time diary and providing an indication of "momentary" or current satisfaction on specific activities undertaken by respondents; measuring the impact of environment and weather conditions on people's use of time; measuring life balance beyond the working age period, including for the elderly by looking at how they spend their time and balance it between their responsibilities, economic resources and health conditions.

15. The meeting stressed the importance of activity classifications for meaningful and relevant gender analysis and was informed of the ongoing revision of ICATUS, the UN *Trial International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics*, and its expected finalization in 2014 before its adoption at the 2015 session of the Statistical Commission. The meeting was informed of the new definition of work recently adopted by the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians and of UNSD plans to harmonize ICATUS with the new agreed concept.

16. The meeting also acknowledged the importance of archiving time use data and making them available to researchers for long term analysis.

17. The meeting took note of the practice in Thailand of recording in the questionnaire if answers have been provided by a proxy respondent, allowing for quality control of data obtained. However, using "proxy respondents" for time use diaries was not recommended, with the exception of their use to answer on behalf of people with disabilities. It was also pointed out that in the case of young respondents, such as in the case of Cambodia where the minimum age to participate in time use surveys is 5 years old, other household members may assist the respondents in their answers.

18. The CAPI system used by INEGI Mexico to collect time use data mainly from urban areas was praised and countries expressed their interest in learning more on the use of this system in the context of time use surveys. The meeting was informed about the UNECE Guidelines for harmonising time use surveys that will be released shortly as a resource for national statistical offices considering conducting a time use survey; to improve the overall comparability of time use surveys internationally and building on previous work by the United Nations and Eurostat. The UNECE Guidelines provide a contemporary companion to the UNSD Guide to Producing Time Use Statistics released in 2005, by providing new and best practice experience on data collection, methodology and the use of new technologies, as well as by covering the policy relevance of TUS and related key measures required to inform policies.

19. The meeting discussed strategies to improve the response rate of TUS and noted the experience of Korea and their strategy to ensure a high response rate consisting of providing benefits and incentives to respondents: monetary incentives of around \$15-20 are given to adult respondents, while students get credit for their mandatory community service time when they participate in the time use survey. The importance of properly budgeting these monetary incentives was also highlighted.

20. The meeting commended the new UN Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women for providing detailed information on how to measure sexual, physical, psychological and economic violence from population-based surveys and discussed the special features of these surveys (such as, questionnaire design, training of interviewers and ethical considerations) due to the sensitivity of the topic they cover. The meeting acknowledged that the Guidelines are only covering specific types of violence, evidence of which can be collected through population-based surveys. There are other types of violence such as violence against older women and trafficking of women that are out of scope for the Guidelines.

21. The meeting took note of the importance of conducting qualitative research through in depth interviews and focus groups prior to field operations and quantitative data collection to contextualize violence at the country level. It is essential to adapt the international standards to properly reflect the national context of violence in the country and pilot the questionnaire and other elements of the survey.

22. The meeting emphasized the importance of special training of interviewers to ensure they are able to create a rapport with the respondent and allow for the disclosure of their experience of violence. To avoid burning out of interviewers due to the rather lengthy interviews (for instance, 1.5 hours in Vietnam) and to ensure their psychological well being, some countries recommended not to have more than three/five interviews per day. In terms of sample design for a dedicated survey on violence against women, the meeting discussed the importance of having an up to date list of households (through a population census) to avoid the need to create ad hoc lists at the enumeration unit level before undertaking the survey. Strategies to replace/substitute respondents not available or not willing to participate in the survey were also discussed and the need to have a second and third option/choice for randomly selected household stressed.

23. The meeting recognized the importance of undertaking dedicated surveys to measure violence against women to ensure all the special features are considered and respected.

However, the meeting also took note of other national practices such as the Canadian one which has opted for a module attached to a victimization survey, still ensuring levels of prevalence for violence against women comparable to those obtained in previous dedicated surveys they conducted on the topic.

24. The meeting discussed the importance of measuring gender-based violence by considering both women and men as potential victims of the selected forms of violence and by including the relevant measures of prevalence in their analysis and results. The experience of Australia, Canada, Korea and Philippines were particularly enlightening on this point.

25. The meeting took note of the Canadian experience in using both administrative records (mainly police and criminal court data) and surveys data for the measurement and monitoring of violence against women and men. The importance of linking multiple data sources was pointed out to ensure a more comprehensive picture on the magnitude of violence as well as on causes, determinants and consequences of violent acts.

26. The meeting proposed to: (1) strengthen the relationship between NSOs and social science research institutes and national data archives to ensure proper exploitation of their data from a gender perspective; and (2) to build statistical capacity of NSOs on gender relevant data analysis, including on time use statistics and violence against women.

27. The meeting also stressed the importance of establishing a strong dialogue between data producers and data users, particularly for identifying gender issues and formulating gender-relevant policy questions. In this context the need for NSOs to establish in advance an “analytical framework” as well as the importance for NSOs to promote the use of data produced among policy makers was also highlighted. A good example of how data produced by NSOs have been used to promote change is the enactment of a law against stalking in Italy as a result of the 2006 dedicated survey on violence against women. This resulted from a high level commitment to gender statistics in the NSO as well as a strong relationship between the NSO and relevant ministers or vice-ministers and involvement of the NSO in government commissions in charge of proposing elements useful for laws. It was emphasized that: (a) data need to be translated into key messages that are easily understandable by the public; and (b) examples of how to effectively communicate data produced by NSOs as well as uses of data for policies should be compiled at the international level and shared with countries.

28. Particularly for statistics on violence against women the meeting stressed the importance of adhering to the ethical guidelines during data production and when disseminating the results.

29. The time frame for the production of meaningful statistics on violence against women was discussed. Several countries shared their experiences, and it appears that the time frame can range from one year from the planning stage to the dissemination of results--mainly for modules attached to the DHS surveys, to more than two years for comprehensive types of surveys including dedicated ones as outlined in the international *Guidelines*.

**Incheon, 14 November 2013**

## Annex 1. List of Participants

No.	Country / Organization	Contact Person Information
1.	AUSTRALIA	Ms. Caroline DALEY Director Australian Bureau of Statistics
2.	BANGLADESH	Mr. Mohammad Alauddin FOKIR Joint Secretary Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
3.	CAMBODIA	Ms. Lina HANG Director General, National Institute of Statistics Ministry of Planning
4.	CANADA	Mr. Francois NAULT Director Statistics Canada
5.	EGYPT	Ms. Eman Mohammed ALASMAR Specialist in Gender CAPMAS
6.	INDONESIA	Ms. Mariet Tetty NURYETTY Head of Division of Health and Housing Statistics NSO, Indonesia
7.	ITALY	Ms. Sara DEMOFONTI Senior Researcher ISTAT
8.	JORDAN	Ms. Amani JOUDEH Statistician Gender Division
9.	KAZAKHSTAN	Ms. Ainur DOSSANOVA Head of Division of the Gender statistics and MDG indicators
10.	LAO	Ms. Phuangmala RASASY Technical Staff Lao Statistics Bureau
11.	MALAYSIA	Ms. Sharifah Rahimah Wan ZAIN Assistant Director Department of Statistics, Malaysia
12.	MEXICO	Ms. Jimena TOVAR Sub-director of analysis INEGI
13.	MONGOLIA	Ms. Jargalsaikhan TSOGZOLMAA Officer of Population and Housing Census Bureau NSO of Mongolia
14.	NEPAL	Ms. Ganga Devi DABADI Deputy Director General Central Bureau of Statistics
15.	PHILIPPINES	Ms. Anna Jean CASANAS Statistical Coordination Officer National Statistical Coordination Board
16.	VIETNAM	Ms. Nga NGUYEN Statistician General Statistics Office

No.	Country / Organization	Contact Person Information
17.	IATUR	Ms. Kimberly Diane FISHER Secretary International Association for Time Use Research Centre for Time Use Research
18.	United Nations Statistics Division	Francesca GRUM Chief, Social and Housing Statistics Section United Nations Statistics Division
19.	United Nations Statistics Division	Linda HOOPER Statistician, Demographic Statistics Section United Nations Statistics Division
20.	THAILAND	Ms. Chalermkwun CHIEMPRACHANARAKORN Director of Statistical Forecasting Bureau National Statistical Office
21.	United Arab Emirates	Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim Ahmed Al BALOOSHI Manager of Social Statistics Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi
22.	UNESCAP –	Ms. Yuko KITADA Associate Social Affairs Officer ESCAP - Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia Incheon, South Korea
23.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Hyungsoo PARK Commissioner Statistics Korea
24.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kyunam JUNG Deputy Commissioner Statistics Korea
25.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Sangyool LEE Director General for Planning & Coordination Bureau Statistics Korea
26.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kwangsup KIM Director General for Population & Social Statistics Bureau Statistics Korea
27.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Keumsook CHOE, President Korean Women’s Development
28.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Youkyoung MOON, Senior Reseach Fellow Korean Women’s Development Institute
29.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Seungah HONG Research Fellow Korean Women’s Development Institute
30.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Mijeong LEE Research Fellow Korean Women’s Development Institute
31.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Jonghee CHOI Statistics Korea Deputy Director
32.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Kyunghee KIM Statistics Korea Deputy Director

No.	Country / Organization	Contact Person Information
33.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Kisoo EUN Professor Seoul National University
34.	Republic of Korea	Ms Miyoung AN Professor Kookmin University
35.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Insook JEONG Director Statistics Korea
36.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Youngtae SON Director Statistics Korea
37.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Youngsoo LEE Deputy Director Statistics Korea
38.	Republic of Korea	Ms. Heekyung SON Assistant Director Statistics Korea
39.	Republic of Korea	Mr. Junyeong CHOI Assistant Director Statistics Korea

ANNEX 2. Agenda

United Nations Statistics Division

Statistics Korea (KOSTAT)

Venue: Grand Ballroom (3F) - Sheraton Incheon Hotel

Closed Meeting (by invitation only)

□ Program

Time	November 12 (Tue)	November 13 (Wed)	November 14 (Thu)
09:00-10:00	<i>Registration &amp; Coffee Break</i>	<b>Session 3</b> Mr. Kisoo EUN Ms. Jimena TOVAR	<b>Session 4</b> (Continued) Ms. Linda HOOPER
10:00-11:00	Opening Remark	Ms. Miyoung AN Ms. Lina HANG <i>Coffee Break</i>	Ms. Amani Joudeh Jargalsaikhan Tsogzolmaa <i>Coffee Break</i>
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 1</b> Integrating a Gender Perspective into Statistics Ms. Francesca GRUM Ms. Youkyoung MOON Ms. Sara DEMOFONTI Ms. Anna Jean CASANAS	<b>Session 4</b> Measuring violence against women Ms. Linda Hooper Ms. Nga NGUYEN Ms. Jimena TOVAR	<b>Session 5</b> Wrap-up and Closing Remarks
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Farewell Lunch
14:00-15:30	<b>Session 2</b> Women's career discontinuity statistics Ms. Seungah HONG Ms. Kyunghye KIM Ms. Caroline DALEY	<b>Session 4</b> (Continued) Ms. Linda HOOPER Ms. Sara DEMOFONTI Mr. Francois NAULT	Cultural Excursion
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
16:00-17:30	<b>Session 3</b> Time use Ms. Francesca GRUM Ms. Kimberly Diane FISHER Ms. Jonghee CHOI Ms. Mariet NURYETTY	<b>Session 4</b> (Continued) Mr. Fokir ALAUDDIN Ms. Mijeong LEE Ms. Anna Jean CASANAS	
17:30-18:00	Cocktail Reception		