Minimum Set of Gender Indicators

Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics

4th Global Forum on Gender Statistics
(Dead Sea, Jordan, 27-29 March 2012)
IAEG-GS advisory group on database

• The initial focus of the advisory group on global gender statistics and indicators database was the development of an international database.
• In 2009, the focus shifted toward identifying a list of key gender indicators.
• The 2011 UN statistical commission also requested the IAEG-GS to:
  – *Establish a minimum set of gender indicators for international compilation and dissemination to facilitate global comparisons of the state of gender statistics and to evaluate the situation of women and men and the capacity of countries in this regard* (EN/CN.3/2011/3, Para 50c).
Work of the Sub-group on Gender Indicators

- In 2011, the subgroup developed the proposed minimum set of indicators for gender statistics.
Establishment of the minimum set

- The minimum set is at the **International** level
  - Regional and national contexts are being developed by regional and national entities and are not part of this exercise.
- The set is meant to include the key indicators for statistics on gender equality and women’s empowerment, representing global gender issues and concerns.
- It forms the basis for regional and national exercises.
Domains

• Gender indicators:
  I. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources
  II. Education
  III. Health and related services
  IV. Public life and decision-making
  V. Human rights of women and the girl child

• Gender indicators related to national norms:
  I. Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources
  IV. Public life and decision-making
  V. Human rights of women and the girl child
Criteria

*Underlying assumption:* selected indicators should be broadly consistent with other global lists and avoid imposing an unnecessary burden on national statistical systems, national Government agencies and other partners.

*Three criteria:*
1. Address relevant issues related to gender equality and/or women’s empowerment
2. Be conceptually clear, easy to interpret and have an agreed international definition
3. Be regularly produced by countries with sufficient coverage to allow tracking progress over time.
Tier structure

- *Tier 1* includes indicators that meet all the criteria.
- *Tier 2* includes indicators that meet criteria and 2.
- *Tier 3* includes indicators that meet criterion 1.
Next steps

• Areas still to be addressed:
  – Social norms and attitudes and stereotyping of women;
  – Migration;
  – Institutional mechanisms;
  – and critical areas, such as strategic objectives E, on women and armed conflict (already covered in part by indicators for Security Council resolution 1325 (2000)), J, on women and the media, and K, on women and the environment of Beijing Platform.
  – Indicators will be disaggregated, when possible, to address inequalities based on geographical area, rural/urban, income level, ethnicity, disabilities.
Next steps

• Initiating international data compilation of indicators in tier 1;
• Promoting capacity-building activities to expand the data coverage of indicators in tier 2;
• Discussing with IAEG partners possible modalities and resources to prepare guidelines/handbook on the compilation of the indicators;
• Undertaking methodological work on indicators in tier 3 and emerging issues.