



ADVISORY GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS TRAINING ACTIVITIES AND CURRICULA

Terms of Reference Updated 1 July 2009 (Membership only)

I. Background

The demand for training in gender statistics has increased over the years as national statistics offices and women's machineries have responded to the call of Beijing and other international fora for timely and reliable statistics on gender equality. While a lot of effort and resources have gone into training workshops to build national capacities in the production and use of gender statistics, needs remain largely unmet. Given the high turnover of staff in national statistical offices and among gender statistics focal points, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics considered it necessary to develop a comprehensive set of training courses (package/modules) for statisticians, mid-management officials and planning officers, across sectors, to enhance the production, dissemination and analysis of gender statistics. To this end, the Group requested UNSD to conduct a survey of training activities and needs to guide the development of the gender statistics training component of the Global Gender Statistics Programme (GGSP). It also recommended the setting up of an advisory sub-group to provide guidance to the Secretariat of the GGSP in the establishment of the training programme and in the development of relevant training activities, curricula and materials.

II. Objectives and tasks

The primary objective of the Advisory Group is to provide guidance to the Secretariat of the GGSP in the planning, design and implementation of a gender statistics training programme to improve the production, dissemination and analysis of official gender statistics at the national, regional and global levels. Specifically, the Advisory Group will support the GGSP with the following responsibilities:

- 1) Assist with the drafting of a "code of conduct" or Guiding Principles for Statistical Training as a means to promote gender mainstreaming into regular statistical training (see Annex I)
- 2) Conduct a review of past and current training activities in gender statistics:
 - a) Identify key organizations conducting the trainings
 - b) Review the types of training conducted, including: format, scope, focus, target audience, length, resource requirements/fees, etcetera, identify best practices and key gaps
 - c) Review the curricula and training materials used in the trainings, identify best practices and key gaps
- 3) Identify, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the GGSP, specific training needs and priority areas for training



- 4) Based on the review of training needs, priority areas and existing resources, suggest gender statistics training activities for implementation at the global, regional, and sub-regional levels, identifying:
 - a) Potential partner organizations
 - b) Types of training (format, scope, focus, length, etcetera)
 - c) Target audiences
 - d) Training curricula
 - e) Training materials
- 5) Suggest new training curricula and materials for development and provide inputs as needed
- 6) Assist with the selection of institutions to administer training programmes
- 7) Review and comment on relevant drafts and proposals

III. Membership

- Chair: India
- Secretariat: UNSD
- Members:
 - Ghana
 - Jordan
 - Nigeria
 - United States of America
 - African Development Bank
 - ECOWAS
 - UN ESCAP
 - UNECE
 - UNDP
 - UNIFEM
 - World Bank
 - World Bank Institute

When appropriate a regional team will be constituted to conduct region-specific reviews and make recommendations to the parent Advisory Group.

IV. Organization of Work

The Advisory Group will work through electronic exchanges, conference calls and occasional physical meetings. Where feasible, one of the meetings will be conducted in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics. Other meetings will be convened on the basis of need and specific tasks to be accomplished.

The chairperson will report to UNSD, the Programme Secretariat, on work progress, problems identified, solutions recommended and decisions to be made.

V. Expected duration



The Advisory Group will conduct its activities starting December 2007 and until completion of its tasks. An initial duration of 2 years (December 2007-December 2009) is expected.



VI. Programme of work and outputs

For 2008 the Advisory Group is expected to provide to the Secretariat of the GGSP the following outputs:

- 1) Detailed plan of work for 2008
- 2) Inventory of institutions conducting training
- 3) Inventory of existing training materials that can be used in the curriculum development
- 4) Review of existing training activities, best practices and gaps
- 5) Review of specific training needs and priority areas (to be developed in conjunction with UNSD based on assessment of training needs), including suggestions for training activities to be developed and implemented

The work plan and outputs for 2009 will be discussed by the Group at the end of 2008.



Annex I: Draft text provided by ILO for the development of a “code of conduct” or Guiding Principles for Statistical Training as a means to promote gender mainstreaming into regular statistical training

1. Gender training is pertinent for all topics of official statistics and should include specific mainstreamed gender coverage, irrespective of the statistical topic or focus.
2. All training interventions should have integrated, top-level political support in the country(ies).
3. Training initiatives should have primarily a national focus; all existing and new national, regional, and international training should take stock of and be conceived in terms of, international requirements (PRSP, MDG, etc.).
4. To be truly gender-comprehensive, gender-based training tools will address and/or approach topics from the perspective of statistical production at the national level.
5. The audiences/participants in all training initiatives should be selected so as to enable proper implementation of gender coverage and concerns - (actors from all possible spheres, including to empower women users).
6. All training initiatives will impose, at the least, a 50% female participation.
7. To facilitate all of the above, a gender training focal website (portal) should ensure an open discussion forum and relevant links