

ADVANCES IN MAINSTREAMING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO ALL STATISTICAL AREAS HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 54TH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

The 54th session of the Statistical Commission showed important advances in mainstreaming a gender perspective into all statistical areas. In particular, and even though the issue of gender statistics was not an agenda item for the 54th session, the importance of including gender statistics in the 3 pillars of sustainable development was highlighted in various agenda items:

Social pillar:

The [report of the Secretary-General on Social statistics](#) (item 3b) invited the Commission to express its views on the newly established [Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics](#), in particular on the proposed work priorities and deliverables. The report highlighted that the work of the group should be aligned with and promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into statistics.

The Statistical Commission “(d) Requested the FOC to (a) identify methodological and data gaps to measure social and demographic concerns, guided by the SDGs framework; (b) promote gender mainstreaming and an intersectional approach to data production, analysis and use; and (c) encourage data integration within and across pillars using traditional and innovative data sources and methods, for greater granularity in data, both spatial as well as in terms of population subgroups. In this context, acknowledged the value of geocoded data as a way to strengthen integration across data sources;” (decision 54/104 d)¹

Economic pillar:

The [Report of the Network of Economic Statisticians](#) (item 3d) invited the Commission to approve its 2023 work programme including a workstream on the “ Exploration of the feasibility of a research agenda for a new integrated statistical system for measuring inclusive and sustainable well-being, in accordance with the outcome of the “beyond GDP” sprint”. [A research prospectus for an integrated statistical framework for inclusive and sustainable wellbeing](#), was included as a background paper to the Statistical Commission. In the prospectus, the Network proposes to explore the feasibility of a research and testing agenda for a comprehensive statistical framework, which would comprise the existing standards of the SNA and SEEA alongside two main new components: 1) a system of Social and Demographic Statistics (SDSS); and 2) a central framework for inclusive and sustainable wellbeing. When researching the SDSS, the use of time use accounts and statistics will be explored as a way to contribute to “a) the measurement and analysis of quality of life or general wellbeing; (b) a more comprehensive measurement of all forms of work in extended labor accounts, including unpaid work and non-market production, and the development of household production accounts; and (c) the production of data for gender analysis and related public policies.”

¹ See the [Report on the fifty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission](#)

The Statistical Commission “(h) Approved the work programme of the Network for 2023, covering the: ... (ii) Exploration of the feasibility of a research agenda for a new integrated statistical framework for measuring inclusive and sustainable wellbeing, in accordance with the research prospectus in collaboration with the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics;” (decision 54/104 d)²

The [report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts](#) (item 3e) presented the Commission with a research agenda to broaden the National Accounting framework to better account for elements related to well-being and sustainability. Among the issues discussed under well-being and sustainability, the topic of unpaid household activities was included. The Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics (EG-TUS) and the United Nations Statistics Division (Social and Gender Section), have been providing feedback to the workstream drafting the Guidance Note WS.3 on “Unpaid household service work”, to ensure the inclusion of a gender perspective in this work and to promote coherence with the work of the EG-TUS.

The [report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics](#) (item 3f) presented to the Commission their new areas of work, which included the integration of gender measures into relevant business and trade statistics. Two task teams are including a gender approach in its work: 1) the *Task team on business dynamics, demography and entrepreneurship*, which for the next biennium will develop a guidance document on how to integrate gender aspects into relevant business and trade statistics, and continuing the discussions with countries and international organizations about business and gender statistics; and 2) the *Task team on well-being and sustainability*, that will develop recommendations for the measurement of selected key aspects of the effect of the enterprise sector on equality and social inclusion (including gender) for business.

The Statistical Commission “(c) Welcomed the development of guidance on the integration of business and trade statistics, on the integration of a gender perspective into business and trade statistics as an approach of integration of business and trade statistics with social and demographic statistics, and on data collection methodology for business statistics, such as business surveys;” (decision 54/108 d)³

Environment pillar:

The [report of the Secretary General on Environment Statistics](#) (item 5e) expressed that priority was given to the topics of health and gender in the global set of climate change statistics and indicators, since both areas contain tier 3 indicators and/or statistics.

During the side event [Implementation of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators](#) the advancement of the on the nexus between climate change and gender statistics, in response to the Statistical Commission Decision 51/115, b was presented.

² See the [Report on the fifty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission](#)

³ See the [Report on the fifty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission](#)

Crosscutting areas:

The [Report of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission on the working methods of the Statistical Commission](#) included efforts to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of the Commission during the intersessional period.

The Statistical Commission “(f) Noted other workstreams of the Bureau on gender mainstreaming and clarifying normative categories of its work and encouraged the Bureau to continue its work in those areas.” (decision 54/114 d)⁴

The [Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications](#) presented for the endorsement of the Statistical Commission, the revised Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA) as an international statistical classification. The revised classification includes gender statistics (code 503) under Domain 5: Cross-cutting statistics.

During the [Seminar and Emerging Issues: Innovation and modernization of official statistics](#) it was stressed how some gender data gaps could be bridged by using innovative methodologies and by engaging citizens in the data process.

⁴ See the [Report on the fifty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission](#)