United Nations

Guidelines for Producing Statistics on Violence against Women

Francesca Grum
Statistics Division, DESA
United Nations, New York

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, Dead Sea, Jordan
25 - 26 March, 2012
Outline

- Why new Guidelines
- Content of the Guidelines
- Finalization and Promotion
**International Guidelines- mandated by UNSC**

- **2006**
  - GA requests UNSC to develop indicators for measuring VAW

- **2007**
  - ECE-DESA organize EGM on indicators on VAW

- **2008**
  - UNSC establishes FOC on indicators

- **2009**
  - UNSC adopts list of indicators + requests inter’l guidelines

- **2011**
  - UNSD reviews inter’l guidelines with FOC and other experts

- **2013**
  - UNSC endorses Guidelines

**UN Regional Commissions** develop a survey module to measure the FOC indicators in surveys: model questionnaire; interviewers’ manual; other support material... e-learning course; training of trainers
Need for international Guidelines

- Several initiatives aiming at standardizing VAW measures and methods across countries
  - UN Statistical Commission – FOC Group in 2008
    - Core set of indicators (requested in 2006 GA res.)
  - UN Development Account project – UN regional commissions
    - survey module (model questionnaire) + related material
    - E-learning course
    - Training of trainers workshops
  - International surveys
    - WHO-Multi country study
    - International VAW Surveys
    - DHS and MICS module

- Guidelines as a tool for NSSs to produce statistics on VAW from statistical surveys, incorporating/referencing to previous/current initiatives in a single methodological resource

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, Dead Sea, Jordan
25 - 26 March, 2012
Overview of Guidelines

- Provide detailed methodological advice on:
  - What to measure
    - UN core and additional topics, (prevalence, severity, impact of VAW)
  - How to measure
    - population-based surveys, steps required to plan/organize and execute, recommended tabulations, data analysis and dissemination of results
  - Special features of surveys on VAW
  - All other relevant issues for NSOs to conduct statistical surveys on VAW

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, Dead Sea, Jordan
25 - 26 March, 2012
Overview of Guidelines

- What to measure
Eight sets of indicators:

- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months (severity/perpetrator/frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to physical violence during lifetime (severity/perpetrator/frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months (severity/perpetrator/frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of women subjected to sexual violence during lifetime (severity/perpetrator/frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by intimate partner in the last 12 months (frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by intimate partner during lifetime (frequency)
- Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner
- Total and age specific rate of ever-partnered women subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner
Core indicators - Summary

- Selected forms of violence (that can be measured through household sample surveys) - Any act of:
  - Physical
  - Sexual
  - Psychological*
  - Economic*

  violence perpetuated on women by intimate partners and other perpetrators (*=only intimate partners)

- Prevalence
  - Percentage of women aged 15 and older

- Reference time
  - Last 12 months
  - Lifetime experience

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, Dead Sea, Jordan
25 - 26 March, 2012
Topics/variables required to compute inds.

- **Core**
  - Type of violence
  - Severity of violence
  - Frequency
  - Relationship to perpetrator
  - Age
  - Marital/relationship status

- **Additional topics/variables**
  - For violence
  - For respondents
  - For perpetrators
How to measure
How to measure 1.

- Dedicated Surveys (preferred approach)
  1. To measure phenomena in all its complexity
  2. To facilitate disclosure of sensitive topic through properly designed questionnaire
  3. To ensure the essential features of Surveys on VAW are considered
    - Special training of interviewers
    - Ethical considerations
How to measure 2.

Alternatively,

- Use a Module in women’s health type of surveys
  - When dedicated survey is not feasible due to lack of capacity or funds
  - Only as long as previous principles are followed
Annexes – Additional resources

- Proposed tabulations for core indicators
- Model questionnaire (DA inter-regional project)
- International instruments and conventions on VAW
- Countries that undertook VAW surveys
- Examples of questions for additional topics

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, Dead Sea, Jordan
25 - 26 March, 2012
Finalization and promotion

- Guidelines
  - Finalized in 2012 (after final round of virtual review within FOC members and other experts)
  - Submitted to 44th Statistical Commission session for endorsement

- Training workshops to improve countries’ capacity in collecting/analysing/disseminating and using statistics on VAW