15th meeting, IAEG-GS

Statistical Framework for measuring the gender related killings of women and girls (also referred to as femicide/feminicide)

Prepared by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

December 2021
The United Nations Statistical Commission in its 50th session of 2019 requested UNODC jointly with UN Women and other international partners to develop a “statistical framework on gender-sensitive crime statistics, with a focus on gender-related killings of women and girls” aligned with the International Classification Crime for Statistical Purposes (ICCS).

The work will focus on gender-based killings of women and girls (“femicides”) and aim towards providing operational guidelines on production of data on victims, perpetrators and state responses.
Process of the joint work of UNODC and UN Women

- Discussed to prepare a meeting of specialists to measure violence against women and girls, gender-related killings (femicide / feminicide): Towards a gender perspective in criminal administrative records and criminal justice

UNODC and UN Women had different perspectives in the conceptualization and use of the terms femicide / feminicide

- Inter-agency meeting to discuss technical aspects of statistics on gender-related killings of women (femicide/feminicide) in Vienna, Austria June 20 and 21, 2019

Representatives of the agencies UNODC, UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, CEPAL, EIGE and MESECVI assisted to the meeting

- Development of an inter-agency working document: Towards a common statistical framework on gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)

UNODC and UN Women discussed for a few months the scope of the Statistical Framework on gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)

- A Virtual Global Consultation was launched jointly by UNODC and UN Women on a common statistical framework to measure gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)

67 responses were received from 54 countries, from: NSO, Police, Judicial System, Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of the Interior, Health, CSO, International Organization and Human Rights.

- Statistical framework on the gender-related killings of women and girls (also referred to as “femicide/feminicide”)

The statistical framework will be presented at the next session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

2019

2020

2021
Broad categories of killings of women and girls

Killings of women and girls = unnatural deaths of women and girls, inflicted by another person, with or without intent to cause death or serious injury.

Intentional homicides of women and girls = unlawful deaths inflicted upon women and girls with intent to cause death or serious injury.

Gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/ feminicide) = intentional homicides of women and girls with a gender-related motivation.
Gender-related motivation of killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)

This term lays the foundation of the statistical definition of gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide) and it refers to the **root causes that characterize the specific context in which such killings take place**

- Stereotyped gender roles
- Discrimination
- Inequality
- Unequal power relations

“Gender-related motivation” does not refer to the subjective intent of the perpetrator to commit the homicide, but to its underlying root causes. The subjective motive of the perpetrator to commit the crime – such as a specific bias against or hatred of women – may be present in some cases alongside the “gender-related motivation”.
Characteristics indicative of gender-related killings of women and girls

- Previous record of harassment/violence
- Illegal deprivation of her liberty
- Use of force and/or mutilation
- Body disposed of in a public space
- Hate crime
- Sexual violence was committed before
- Victim was working in the sex industry
- Victim of forms of illegal exploitation
Gender-related killings can occur within different perpetrator-victim relationships.

**Non-intimate partner/family-related homicides**
- Female: 10%
- Male: 90%

**Intimate partner/family-related homicides**
- Female: 58%
- Male: 42%
# Dissaggregating variables for analytical purposes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim</th>
<th>Perpetrator</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Age *</td>
<td>• Sex *</td>
<td>• Geographical location of the crime *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Marital status</td>
<td>• Perpetrator–victim relationship</td>
<td>• Location of the crime *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Citizenship *</td>
<td>• Age *</td>
<td>• Mechanism of killing *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Previous record of physical, sexual or psychological violence/harassment</td>
<td>• Citizenship *</td>
<td>• Date and time *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Intoxication with controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances *</td>
<td>• Intoxication with controlled drugs or other psychoactive substances *</td>
<td>• Criminal offence according to national legislation (the specific criminal offence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Economic activity status</td>
<td>• Economic activity status *</td>
<td>according to national legislation, such as intentional homicide, femicide, dowry death, honour killing, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Gender identity</td>
<td>• Recidivism *</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sexual orientation</td>
<td>• Being the object of a restraining order by law enforcement/judicial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Pregnancy status</td>
<td>authorities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Disability status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ethnicity status</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*: Standard categories of this variable are listed in the International Crime Classification for Statistical Purposes.
Killings of women and girls by their intimate partner or other family members

Global estimates 2020

Some 47,000 women and girls worldwide were killed by their intimate partners or other family members in 2020. This means that, on average, a woman or girl is killed by someone in her own family every 11 minutes. Where trends can be calculated, they show that the magnitude of such gender-related killings remains largely unchanged, however, with only marginal increases and decreases over the past decade.