

Measuring intra-household power and decision-making

Progress so far

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The story so far

STATISTICS

- Not a new idea
- Official Statistics on 'power and influence' or 'women in decision-making' usually limited to public sphere
- Access to power outside the home will always be limited if power is gender- divided within the home
- Concept note, literature review, business case...



The story so far

- Business case gave arguments for
 - why intra-hh power & decision-making is a distinct topic
 - why it merits investigation
 - what mandate there is for the work
 - what the value-added of statistics on this topic would be
- Linked to but different from division of labour (unpaid and paid)
- SDGs refer to ‘all levels’ of decision-making
- End 2016: ToRs developed & consulted across CES member countries
- Feb 2017: CES bureau established Task Force



Task Force

- NSOs of all CES member countries were invited to participate
- 19 members
- 16 countries and organizations
- Chaired by Pierre Turcotte, Status of Women Canada

Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Serbia, Italy, Canada, Mexico, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Turkey, Mongolia, Colombia, Belarus, Montenegro, Philippines, Armenia, Russian Federation, EIGE



Terms of Reference

Objective: to make an inventory of indicators and sources and provide recommendations to statistical offices on measuring the gendered dimensions of intra-household power and decision-making



ToRs: activities

- Activities
 - a) Compile an **inventory of existing indicators**, including information about the statistical surveys in which they are included;
 - b) **Evaluate the existing indicators** in terms of conceptual validity, coverage, frequency, quality and standardization across sources and UNECE countries;
 - c) Identify aspects of the topic for which there are currently **no adequate indicators**;
 - d) Make proposals for **methodological work to fill gaps** where indicators do not exist or are poorly defined or where data availability is limited: such as by developing and testing new survey questions, or by conducting research to investigate how better to pose questions to collect valid data;
 - e) Define **headline and supporting indicators**;
 - f) Evaluate the prospect of the production of these indicators as **official statistics**;
 - g) **Analyze** intra-household power and decision-making in selected countries, using available indicators;
 - h) **Draft recommendations** for statistical offices based on findings from above activities



Review of TF countries: topics covered

- Reproductive decision-making
- Health care
- Labour market participation
- Social life and leisure time
- Child-related matters
- Household finances
 - Expenditure and saving
 - Resource allocation/sharing
 - Control over household finances and permission-seeking
 - Asset ownership
- Perception of control, satisfaction, resolution of disagreements



Review of TF countries: gaps & challenges

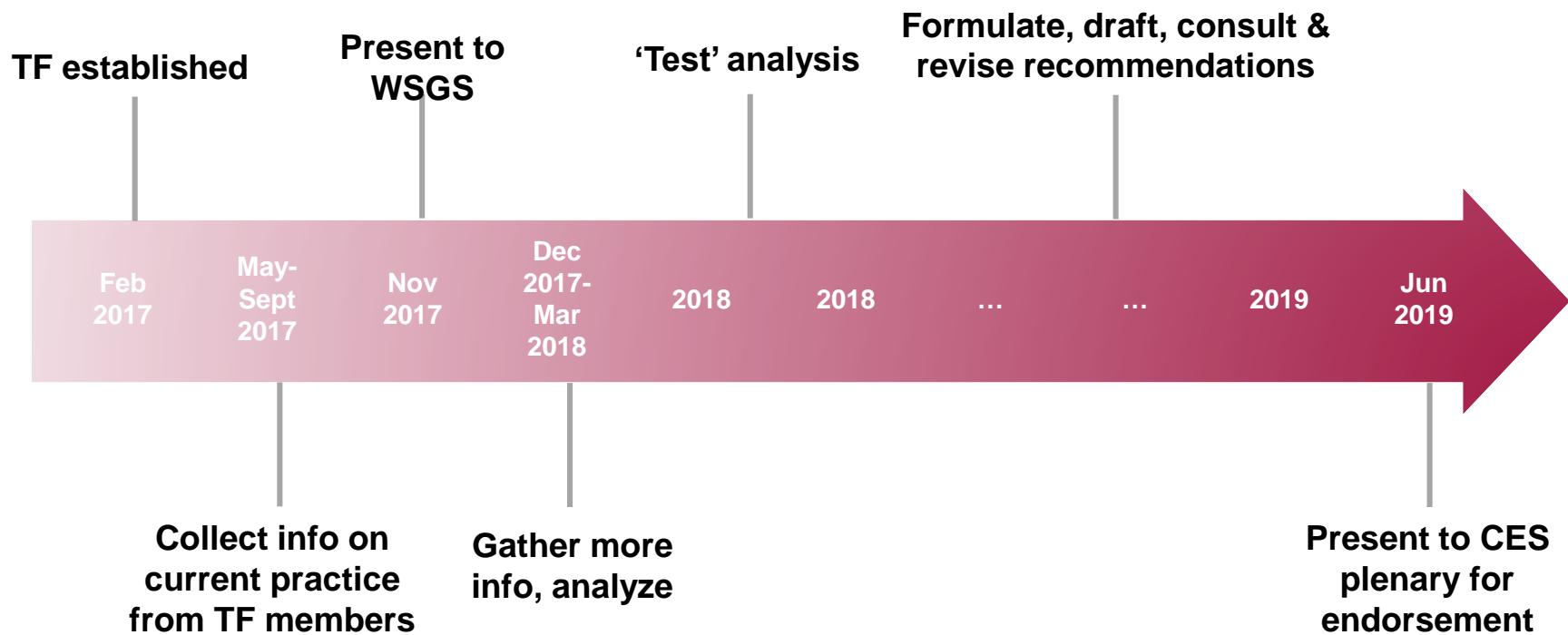
- Thematic gaps: lots! Esp health, child-raising, satisfaction & perceived control
- Methodological challenges, e.g.
 - Perception of q's as intrusive → non-response
 - Need for respondent to be alone
 - Inaccuracy/impossibility of proxy responses
- Variation in wording, purpose, surveys in which they are included, samples and units of analysis
- Very little dissemination & communication through power & decision-making lens



STATISTICS



Tentative timeline





Where next?

- Present to Work Session on Gender Statistics in Belgrade
- Face-to-face side meeting of TF in Belgrade
 - More country inputs → richer view of existing practice
 - Assign leads for work streams
- Looked at surveys, sources, questions, now need to look at indicators (what already exists, what could be done?)

Thank you for your attention!

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