



Status of Women
Canada

Condition féminine
Canada

Measuring Intra-Household Power and Decision-Making

Fiona Willis-Núñez
UNECE Statistical Division

12th meeting of the IAEG-GS
Tokyo, Japan, 13 November 2018



STATISTICS





Background

- Power and decision-making recognized as an important domain of gender equality
- SDGs refer to 'all levels' of decision-making
- Official statistics on 'power and influence' or 'women in decision-making roles' usually limited to public sphere
- However, access to power outside the home may very well be limited if power is gender-divided within the home
- Linked to but different from division of labour (unpaid and paid). Who *decides*, not who *does*.



- Feb 2017: CES bureau established Task Force
- NSOs of all CES member countries were invited to participate → 21 members from 19 countries and organizations
- Chaired by Pierre Turcotte, Status of Women Canada

Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Serbia, Italy, Statistics Canada, Status of Women Canada, Mexico, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Turkey, Mongolia, Colombia, Belarus, Montenegro, Philippines, Armenia, Russian Federation, EIGE, OECD, MPIDR

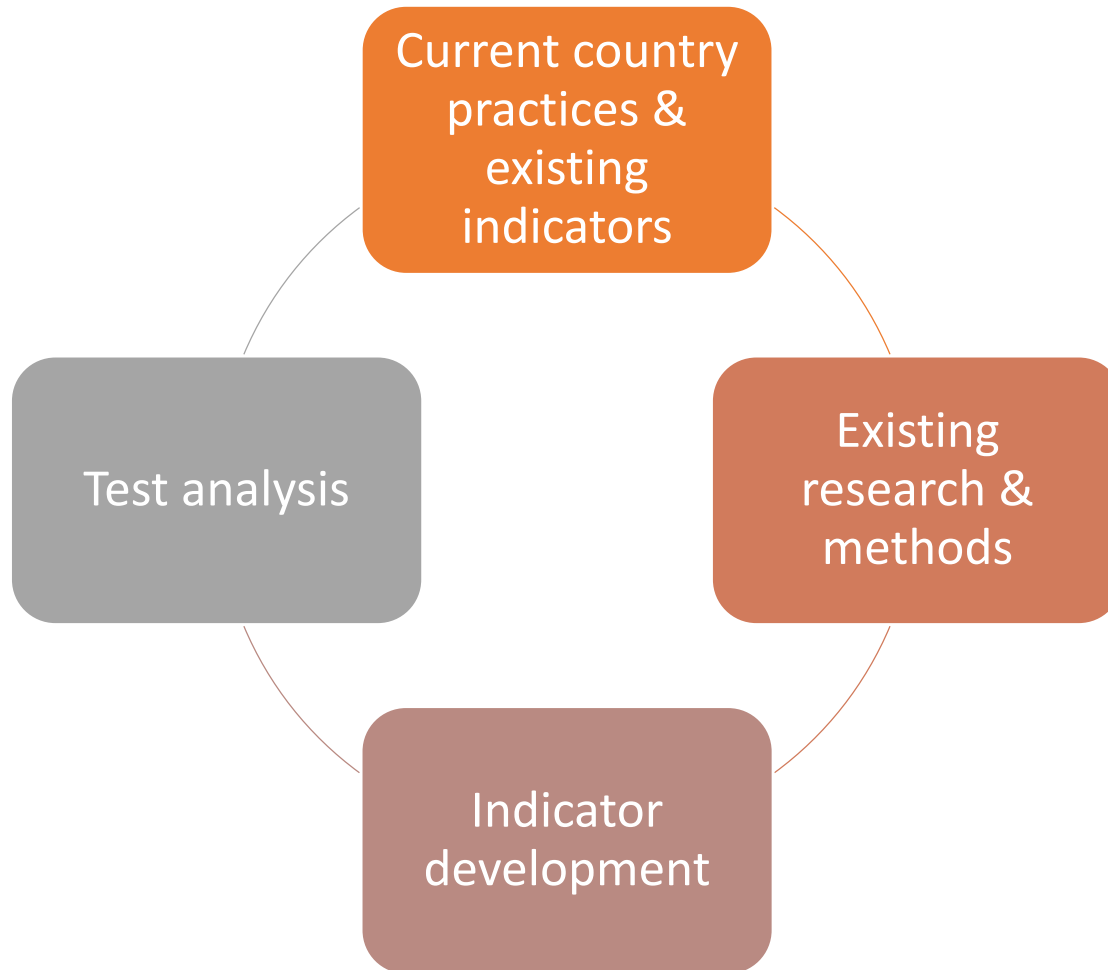


Terms of Reference

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



Work streams





Existing research & methods

- Agricultural surveys and censuses
- Development programming esp. nutrition, rural development
- Demographic and reproductive health surveys
- Large-scale social survey programmes:
 - Generations & Gender Surveys
 - International Social Survey & European Social Survey
 - LSMS
 - MICS
- EU-SILC 2010



Test analyses

- Basic indicators produced with data from Turkey & Serbia
- Extensive analysis of
 - GGS wave 1
 - Canada: General Social Survey & Financial Capability Survey
- Analysis currently underway of Mexico's ENDIREH
 - to seek methodological insights & shape recommendations



Methodological considerations

- Sampling units:
 - individuals or couples
 - cost & feasibility
 - proxy responses
 - discordant responses
- Internal dynamics
 - preferences, values & attitudes
 - path-dependency
 - implementation vs. orchestration power
 - choice vs constraint
- Response bias
 - self-selection, social desirability, recall
 - presence of others
 - interviewer, instrument & mode effects
- Sensitive & complex topics
 - family formation, reproduction, relationships, finances, violence



Dimensions

1. Union formation, sexual & reproductive decision-making
2. Decisions about division of labour
3. Health-related decisions
4. Decisions about social life & leisure
5. Decisions about children's education & upbringing
6. Financial decisions
7. Perception of control & satisfaction with decision-making



Where next?

- Consolidating recommendations:
 - recommended indicators (several sub-dimensions per dimension)
 - recommended questions & response categories
 - recommendations about survey methodology
 - recommendations about compilation & interpretation
- Next step: qualitative testing of questions in Canada early 2019

Thank you for your attention!

fiona.willis-nunez@un.org

UNECE Statistical Division



STATISTICS

