REGIONAL TRAINING ON NSDS AND ADAPT, STATAFRIC & PARIS21

MAINSTREAMING GENDER STATISTICS IN THE NSDS PROCESS

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Outline

What?
• Essentials of gender statistics

Why?
• Importance of mainstreaming gender in statistics

How?
• Key actions on Gender Statistics in the NSDS lifecycle

Group discussion: Gender statistics and NSDS in your country
Essentials of gender statistics
What are gender statistics?

"Statistics that adequately reflect differences and inequalities in the situation of women and men in all areas of life" (UNSD, 2016)

Cross-cutting nature: important to all statistics fields

Gender statistics

- Sex disaggregation
- Gender issues
- Reflect diversity
- Avoid stereotypes
Why do we need gender statistics?

Statistics on the situation of women and men promote equality by informing social and political perceptions of gender.

Gender statistics help us…

- Improve understanding of women’s and men’s lived experience
- Advance analysis and research
- Monitor progress towards gender equality
- Create sustainable development policies
Gender statistics: examples

Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 80% of households without access to water on premises.

For every 100 men aged 25-34, there are 122 women (of the same age) living in extreme poverty.
Mainstreaming gender statistics in the NSDS
Gender mainstreaming in statistics takes place when gender issues and gender-based biases are systematically taken into account in the production of all official statistics and at all stages of data production (EIGE, 2020)
Why mainstream gender in the NSDS?

1. **Respond to data demand**: National and international commitments such as the Agenda 2063 and the SDGs which include specific references to gender-specific indicators. + COVID-19 disproportionate impact on women and girls.

2. Strengthening gender statistics has the potential to shed more light on vulnerable populations – starting with data disaggregation

3. Communication of granular data that are relatable to citizens can promote **trust in official statistics**

4. Crosscutting character of gender data: improving the coordination around gender statistics will also improve the overall **NSS collaboration** as it is a cross-cutting issue
Why mainstream gender in the NSDS?

STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT
• Opportunity to address ongoing limitations in statistical production, dissemination, and use in the medium- and long-term
• Comprehensive policy framework to address gender statistics and capacity gaps to provide a more regular and timely supply of gender statistics

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT
• As the NSDS is political in nature, bringing gender statistics to the process/document will promote their understanding and appreciation
• It can enable resource mobilization to close gender data gaps and support capacity development

PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT
• Great opportunity for non-governmental actors, including gender equality champions and advocates, to engage with the NSS to raise the visibility of priority gender issues that need to be measured and monitored
Key entry points for gender statistics in the NSDS

1. Identifying and engaging stakeholders, starting with an exercise of mapping of all gender data actors, decision makers and advocates

2. Assessing the current state of gender statistics, including data production, dissemination and use, as well as the enabling legal, institutional and political environment for gender statistics

3. Developing strategies to improve gender statistics that ensure sectoral strategies and the overall NSDS are gender data-sensitive
How to mainstream gender in the NSDS?

• Bottom-up approach that ensures alignment and cross-cutting understanding
• Commitment to collect disaggregated data (starting with sex, but also others)
• Identifying the most salient gender issues at the sector-level and the data needed to monitor progress

And in all stages:
- Preliminary
- Design
- Deployment

→ Collaborate with the Gender Ministry in your country and take advantage of their knowledge on gender issues in your context
Questions and comments so far
Gender statistics in the NSDS Lifecycle
4.1 Preliminary Stage

4.1.1 Engaging stakeholders

Map the gender data ecosystem in your country

- Identify all the existing gender data producers and users
- Seek support from the institution responsible for advancing gender equality in your country
- Define roles and mark new opportunities for collaboration with gender equality advocates
4.1 Preliminary Stage
4.1.1 Engaging stakeholders

Create space for dialogue

- Intra-institutional dialogue can be a first step to start the process
- Discussions with line-ministries help introduce the concept of gender statistics
- Dialoguing with users of gender statistics outside of the government to get their support and insights on key gender equality issues

Photo: Egypt line ministries, PARIS21 and UN Women, discussions around gender statistics, Cairo, October 2019
4.1 Preliminary Stage

4.1.2 Preparing institutional mechanisms

Share your plans on improving gender statistics with all stakeholders

- Look for strong political support on improving gender statistics in your country
- This will help you assign roles and responsibilities around gender data in the NSDS
- Don’t forget to discuss with development partners who can support your objectives!

Photo: PARIS21 and UN Women workshop on conducting a national assessment of gender statistics, Dakar, Senegal, November 2019
4.1 Preliminary Stage

4.1.2 Preparing institutional mechanisms

Launch a media strategy and adapt your communication to different audiences

• This will help you ensure transparency and high-visibility throughout the process

• Additional media attention can help to mobilise political interest, but also raise the profile of participating institutions and actors

• Improving gender statistics will require articulating different arguments to speak to policymakers, civil society or public at large through targeted products
4.2 Design Stage
4.2.1 Assessing gender statistics

Identify tools and experts to help you assess the state of gender statistics

• There are tools to guide you on assessing gender statistics in your country: PARIS21 and UN Women developed a framework with this in mind

• Provides a step-by-step guide on how to assess the state of gender statistics

• Don’t forget to include gender data gaps, statistical capacity and user needs analyses in your assessment – they are the pillars to better gender statistics
4.2 Design Stage

4.2.1 Assessing gender statistics

PARIS21 and UN Women Framework for assessing data and statistical capacity gaps for better gender statistics
4.2 Design Stage

4.2.1 Assessing gender statistics

Agree on the priority frameworks for gender equality and gender statistics

- The gender indicators for your data assessment should come from national, regional and global commitments.
- This will ensure that your data gaps assessment is demand-driven.
- Developing a list of priority indicators that aligns with your country’s development priorities will help you gain political support and funding.
- Don’t forget to consult the Gender Ministry and the Ministry of Planning or Finance in this step.

Remember to remain user-oriented! by engaging users in the assessment process and validation of results.
Envision a human rights-based approach to data

- A human rights-based approach to data will help you set goals that ensure data-disaggregation, inclusiveness, transparency, privacy, accountability and participation.

- The assessment of gender statistics will shed light on some areas that need strengthening to make data more representative.

- All your NSDS goals and activities should follow this principle!
4.2 Design Stage

4.2.2 Envisioning and identifying strategic goals

Adopt a gender lens throughout the whole NSDS process

top-down:

- a gender-sensitive approach can be applied throughout the full NSDS lifecycle
- an explicit commitment to advancing gender statistics will be an integral part of the core NSDS document and will also radiate to sectoral strategies
- For example, as key “pillars” or dedicated strategic objectives in the NSDS
4.2 Design Stage

4.2.2 Envisioning and identifying strategic goals

Adopt a gender lens throughout the whole NSDS process

Bottom-up:

- Address gender issues when developing statistical strategies for different areas and sectors across.
- An inter-agency mechanism for gender statistics can play an important role in this regard by carrying the mandate to guide the design of gender-sensitive administrative systems and encourage quality gender analysis of sectoral statistics.
- Sectoral efforts and commitments should be reflected and summarised in the core NSDS document, for example in a section highlighting cross-cutting areas.
4.2 Design Stage

4.2.2 Envisioning and identifying strategic goals

Develop a strategic framework and implementation plan for gender statistics

• Build on the findings from the gender statistics assessment to directly address the areas that need strengthening

• Sex-disaggregation and new survey modules on special topics will need to be added to existing data collection exercises to address prevailing gender data gaps

• The PARIS21 guidelines compile a list of available resources that could be helpful!

Consolidate a strategy for gender statistics

• It may not always be possible to fully mainstream gender statistics across the NSDS process. In such cases, NSS stakeholders can develop a stand-alone strategy for the development of gender statistics

• However, be aware of the challenges of this approach such as securing funding and getting buy-in across NSS institutions
4.3 Deployment Stage

4.3.1 Implementing and monitoring

• Ensure that the overall NSDS communication plan is designed using a gender-sensitive lens, with an aim to disseminate key messages about the role of gender statistics in the NSDS

• Develop the capacity of NSO, ministries and media to use gender statistics in their communications content

• Engage with (or establish) mechanisms to coordinate the implementation of gender statistics strategy, such as a thematic working group

• Engage with advocates of gender equality to inform them about the NSDS publication to get their support for implementation and monitoring
4.3 Deployment Stage
4.3.2 Evaluating

• Mid-term and final NSDS evaluations represent important opportunities to advance gender mainstreaming in the NSS.
  • entry-point to introduce a standalone gender statistics strategy or other gender-related objectives and actions in NSDS implementation
  • opportunity to reflect on the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and to some extent, the impact of the envisaged strategic outcomes for gender statistics

• As the NSDS follows a circular lifecycle, the evaluation of the existing NSDS impact on gender statistics can provide the basis for their improvement going forward
Group discussion

• Are gender statistics included in your country’s NSDS or statistical planning?
  • If yes, how?
  • If not, do you think they could be included in upcoming processes?

• What are some of the challenges your NSO faces in mainstreaming gender in statistical activities?

• Is there a gender statistics mechanism in your country?
  • If yes, who belongs to it and how is it coordinated? What are the main results?
  • If not, how are gender statistics coordinated?

• Does your NSO hold consultations with gender statistics users? What are the (potential) benefits of this collaboration?