SDG indicators: ongoing methodological work to improve data on women’s economic empowerment

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OUTLINE

1. Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) - Mandate and recent work

2. Overview of gender-relevant SDG indicators

3. Current status and ongoing methodological work on “selected” indicators:
   - Asset ownership, including land (SDG 5.a.1 and 1.4.2)
   - Time spent on unpaid care and unpaid domestic work (SDG 5.4.1)
1. Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics – IAEG-GS

- Established in 2006
  - To guide and coordinate the Global Gender Statistics Programme

- Composed of subject-matter experts
  - From National Statistical Offices (regional representation) + regional (ECLAC) and international agencies; UNSD is the Secretariat

- Mandated by the UN Statistical Commission
  - Decision 42/102, to advance gender statistics globally
    - Establish a global Minimum set of gender indicators
    - Guide the development of methodological guidelines

Overall goal: better data to inform gender related policies
1. Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics – IAEG-GS

Recent work:

- Providing thematic feedback to IAEG-SDGs on gender relevant indicators and disaggregation issues
- Aligning Minimum Set of Gender Indicators to SDGs indicators
- Advising on Global Forums on Gender Statistics
  7th Global Forum GS 14-16 November 2018 in Tokyo, Japan
Based on 244 indicators including repeated indicators.
The total number of indicators listed in the global indicator framework of SDG indicators is 244. However, since nine indicators repeat under few targets, the actual total number of individual indicators in the list is 232.
3. Selected SDG gender indicators:
Women’s asset ownership (SDGs cover land)

**TARGET 5.A**

IND 5.a.1

“Proportion of people with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure”

**TARGET 1.4**

IND 1.4.2

“Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with (1) legally recognized documentation and (2) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure”
Asset ownership: Development of Methods

Since 2013, the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) is a joint collaboration of UNSD and UN Women, which builds on the work of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS).

Providing guidance on collecting, processing, analyzing, disseminating individual level data on asset ownership for the production of official gender statistics.

The methodology was tested in 7 pilot countries: Georgia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, the Philippines, South Africa and Uganda.
3. Selected SDG gender indicators:
Women’s time spent on unpaid household service work

TARGET 5.4

IND 5.4.1

“Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic care work, by sex, age and location”
More time in unpaid domestic and care work (almost × 3)

Less time in paid work, education

Less opportunities

Time-use data
• **90** countries between 2000-2016, with data disaggregated by sex
  – Approximately, **85%** with further disaggregation by type of unpaid service: unpaid domestic work and unpaid care work;
  – Age: about a **third** with the recommended age-groups
  – Location (U/R): about a **fourth** with disaggregation by urban and rural

**IND 5.4.1**

How many countries with data in the SDGs global database?

- 1 data point: 30%
- 2 data points: 29%
- 3 or more data points: 15%

**But can we assess progress over time?**

**=> Need for more data regularly collected**
UNSD-custodian: ongoing work on data validation/harmonization

Process

- January 2018
  - Worked with NSOs to validate data and request additional data disaggregation
  - Data reviewed in terms of:
    - Activities included in indicator (added notes describing deviations from global metadata)
    - Age groups

Challenges (to int’l comparability)

- Instrument used for TUS
- Reference period (24H vs 7d)
- Reference/target population
- Classification of activities
- Travel time included in the calculation
- Exclusion of volunteer work
- Different age groups
- Main vs secondary activities
What are the challenges faced by NSOs with TUS?

**Cost to undertake a dedicated time-use survey**
- Economic/financial aspects
- Human resources
- Time to capture and validate information

**Granularity/quantity of information collected**
- Complexity of coding
- Respondent’s burden => Low response rate

**Use of data**
- TUS usually underutilized
UNSD plans to improve time-use statistics

Existing data:
- Continue to compile time-use data for reporting (including SDG ind. 5.4.1)
- Work on the **harmonization** of existing data

Future data:
- Research, develop and pilot a “light instrument” for TUS

**In terms of content:**
- In line with ICATUS 2016 (adopted by the 2017 UN Statistical Commission) and in collaboration with partner agencies and academia

**In terms of data collection:**
- Mixed-modes and latest technologies for data collection

⇒ Update UN guidelines to collect time-use data + provide assistance to countries
Thank you!