

DA10- Programme on Statistics and Data (2016-2019)

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

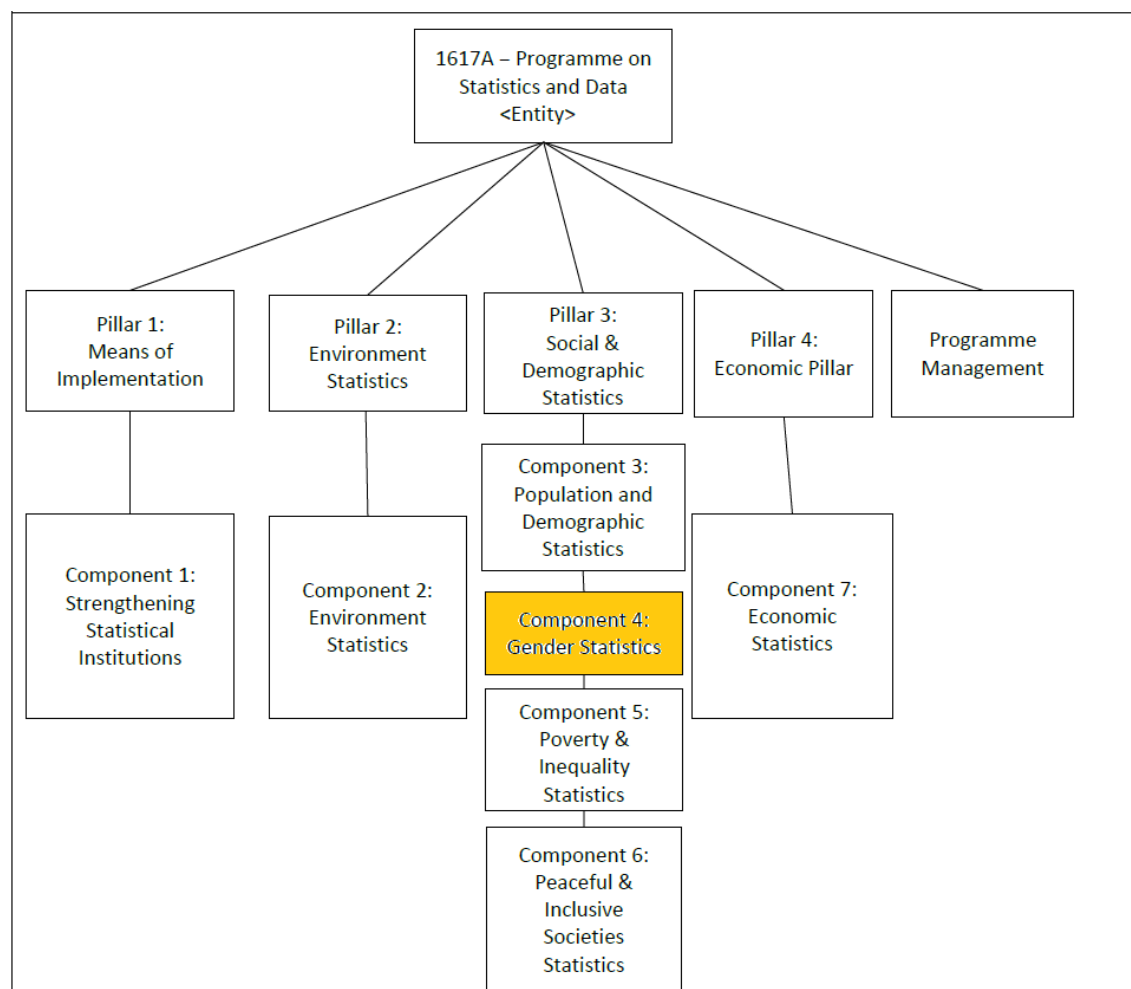
The adoption of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 brought increased attention to the international community on the need to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries to measure, monitor and report on the sustainable development goals, targets and indicators. Goal 17 specifically addresses strengthening the means of implementation, with target 17.18 calling for enhanced capacity building support to developing countries to increase, by 2020, the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic locations and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

The global indicator framework for the monitoring of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, with currently over 230 indicators, represents a tremendous challenge for producers of official statistics in all countries, developing and developed alike. Countries must absorb the new data demands which have been placed upon them if they are to meet the 2030 Agenda, including quickly defining national targets and indicators. They will need to update their National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) to respond to these demands, and to put into place streamlined processes to ensure the timely production of official statistics. They will need exposure to methodologies and tools being developed at global level to measure the sustainable development goals and targets, particularly in new statistical areas. As such, the development and strengthening of institutional and technical capacities in developing countries for the production of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data which responds to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, and which can assist policy-makers in shaping evidence-based policies which fully integrate economic, social and environmental considerations, has become critical.

The 2030 Agenda, which is centered on the achievement of the sustainable development goals, calls for enhanced efforts by the international community working together to augment its capacity development efforts, particularly in the domain of statistics and data, so that developing member States will be able to accurately measure progress against the SDG targets and determine where gaps remain. The repeated emphasis by member States on the importance of developing robust national statistical systems should not be overlooked. Given this call for increased support, the Development Account Programme on Statistics and Data, hereinafter referred to as “the Programme”, strives to maximize its resources by working jointly with all 10 implementing entities which receive funding under the Account (DESA, UNCTAD, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UN-ODC and the 5 Regional Commissions – ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA). The Programme will also seek partnerships with agencies within and outside the UN system, with the donor community, academia, civil society and the private sector.

The emphasis of the Programme will be to refine existing methodologies, tools and approaches for Tier I and Tier II indicators and commence analysis which will inform the development of new statistical methodologies for Tier III indicators within the environmental, social and economic domains. It will also orchestrate the roll-out of a vigorous capacity development programme to support countries in improving statistical capacities to monitor indicators and targets in all data areas. The Programme will work across all regions, and at the national and local levels, raising awareness within developing countries on the statistical data requirements to meet the 2030 Agenda; on strengthening of institutional environments to respond to the data demands; on

streamlining of statistical production processes and exposing countries to the use of new and innovative data sources, including new tools and techniques. The Programme will also, through its capacity development efforts, promote resource mobilization and new partnerships so that developing States have the right tools, mechanisms and technology to drive their production of official statistics.



Component on Gender Statistics and Indicators (Component 4)

Implementing Entities: UNSD (Lead), UNECE (Co-lead), UNODC, UNEP, ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, and ESCWA

(a) Development Challenge

Promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment continues to be at the forefront of global policy concerns, as recently reaffirmed in the 2030 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development that includes a stand-alone goal on “achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls”. Furthermore, around one third of the 230 indicators selected by the IAEG-SDGs are gender relevant. It is expected that this will translate into an increased demand for high-quality

gender statistics that are regularly produced and that provide solid and objective evidence on the status of women compared to men.

However, countries' capacity to produce gender statistics is still insufficient, particularly in less traditional areas of official statistics, including on environment statistics. Countries are facing many challenges in mainstreaming the gender dimension into the production, analysis and dissemination of statistics and in addressing gender equality and women's rights for different demographic and social groups. Better use of existing data, including administrative records, additional disaggregation of statistics, life-course analysis of gender equality and improved users-producers and producers-producers dialogue will provide better statistics even on traditional areas of gender concerns such as health, education and work.

Furthermore, specific areas of concerns for gender analysis suffer from lack of data and lack of data comparability across countries and over time. For instance, time use data and statistics on time spent on domestic chores and caring (SDG indicator 5.4) are available in around a third of countries of the world, and even a smaller proportion of countries "value" this unpaid work through satellite accounts for household production. As another example, only half of the countries produce statistics on domestic violence against women (SDG indicator 5.2.1). Yet this extreme form of discrimination affects women everywhere in the world. Additionally, there is very little data available linking gender to the environment, either in terms of vulnerability to environmental change or to access to natural resources.

Gender issues clearly span beyond the SDG 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls", as several key aspects of gender equality and women's empowerment relate to the areas identified under other goals, such as access to paid work under goal 8, health in goal 3, education under goal 4, access to water in goal 6, access to energy in goal 7, vulnerability to climate change in goal 13 and homicide under goal 16. While there has been progress in the availability of data for gender analysis and new and emerging methodological developments in some of these areas, for example, in measuring asset ownership and entrepreneurship from a gender perspective³, other key areas of gender concern demand further attention from the international community.

Statistical methods and gender statistics are still lagging behind in many subject areas including: decision-making positions in local government (SDG indicator 5.5) and in the private sector (SDG indicator 5.5); poverty based on individual-level data, highlighting the unequal decision-making power and resources within the household (SDG 1); the quality of education and lifelong learning (SDG 4); the gender pay gap (SDG 8.5.1); social protection measures, (SDG 1.3, 8.b, 10.4), including pensions and unemployment benefits; access to land, natural resources and land tenure (SDG 1.4.1, 5.a.1 and SDG 2, 6 and 7); universal health coverage (SDG 3.8); and vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters (SDG 1.5.1 and 13).⁴

The component on gender statistics and indicators aims at enhancing national capacity to produce, analyse, disseminate/communicate and use timely and reliable gender statistics, in particular for some of the SDG indicators mentioned above, that are policy relevant and meet the increasing demand for high quality information on the situation of women compared to men at the national, regional and international levels.

(b) SDG Goals, Targets and Indicators

The gender component will address data availability and methodological issues related to selected indicators in SDG 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 16 and 17. In particular, the component's activities described below will support countries covered by the project in their efforts to measure indicators 5.2.1,

5.2.2, 5.4.1, 16.1.1 and contribute to the integration of the gender dimension in the monitoring of SDG 3 (health); 4 (education); 8 (work); and 6, 7 and 13.

(c) Stakeholders

The primary stakeholders that will benefit from the gender statistics component are staff in the NSOs, staff from other Ministries such as those covering women's affairs, and women's advocates and NGOs. Each group of stakeholders presents different gaps in terms of capacity in gender statistics and will be involved in different activities of the component. A full listing of stakeholders can be found in Annex 15.2.

(d) Results Strategy

Based on the agreed timeframe, the strong national focus of the development account, and the variation in statistical capacity across the regions, the gender statistics component will focus on:

(i) Providing technical assistance through regional and national level activities to ensure Tier I SDG gender indicators, in particular those related to health, education and work, are produced, disseminated and communicated to the broad user community. Guidance will be provided to enhance capacities in producing gender statistics from administrative records for better use of existing data, and through additional data disaggregation to ensure better mainstreaming of the gender dimension into the production, analysis, and dissemination of statistics from all official sources.

(ii) Refining the methods to improve measurement of selected indicators classified as Tier II or III in the SDG framework. The gender statistics component will ensure that statistical methods proposed to countries fulfil new requirements derived from the SDG framework. This aspect of the work will include two streams of activities:

(iii) Research and piloting, in selected countries, and promoting the use of these methods across countries through regional training workshops and ad hoc country missions. The selected indicators address the following gender concerns: physical, sexual, psychological violence against women perpetrated by an intimate partner and sexual violence against women perpetrated by a person other than an intimate partner (SDG 5.2); time spent on unpaid domestic and care work (SDG 5.4); and femicides (SDG 16.1).

(iv) Research and development of a guidance document for better measuring the nexus between gender and the environment in the context of the SDGs, including case studies in selected countries. How the nexus of gender and the environment should be measured in the context of the SDGs is a new area of work and this research will greatly contribute to improving global knowledge and national capacities to begin tackling the challenge of bringing women into the picture when it comes to the environment.

Logical Framework

Objective: To strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in social and demographic statistics areas.

(i) Expected Accomplishments

EA4 Strengthened capacity of countries to produce Tier I SDG gender indicators through better integration of a gender perspective into national statistics.

EA5 Enhanced capacity of target countries to adopt and apply statistical methods to assess gender gaps in selected key areas of women's empowerment, classified as Tier II or III indicators in the SDG framework.

(ii) Indicators of Achievement

A.4.1 90% of workshop participants confirm improved knowledge and skills on the production, interpretation and use of Tier I gender relevant indicators;

A.4.2 Increased volume of data on Tier I SDG gender indicators in target countries;

A.5.1 90% of workshop participants confirm improved knowledge and skills for the production of statistics for selected Tier II gender relevant indicators;

IA.5.2 Increased availability of gender-relevant Tier II/III indicators for target countries.

(iii) Main Component Activities

EA4 Strengthened capacity of countries to produce Tier I SDG gender indicators through better integration of a gender perspective into national statistics.

A.4.2 Regional training workshop to improve use of existing data for monitoring gender equality and women's empowerment

Regional training workshop for staff of national statistical offices, statisticians in line ministries and other stakeholders including women's advocates and NGOs, to improve their technical capabilities in producing gender statistics to monitor SDG Tier I gender indicators and in disseminating, communicating and using statistics and indicators. The workshops will cover topics such as: integrating a gender perspective into official statistics; presenting, disseminating and communicating gender statistics; and improving gender statistics literacy among data users.

Outcome: These workshops will assist countries in their efforts to mainstream gender into their national statistical systems, which will result in improved availability and use of gender statistics at the national, regional and international levels for better evidence-based gender policies.

A.4.3 National training workshops with producers & users of gender statistics

Regional Commission, in collaboration, will organize national workshops in four selected countries involving staff of national statistical offices, government agencies, NGOs and academic users of gender statistics. These workshops will utilize the regional gender statistics toolkits in support of the training.

Outcome: The aim of these workshops is to strengthen capacity of statistical offices in communicating their statistics, in particular for selected Tier I indicators (SDG 3, 4, 5, 8), to different user groups and to improve gender statistics literacy of data users. These workshops will also be useful for the preparation of national reviews and reports for the review and follow up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as of national publications on the situation of women and men.

Enhanced capacity of target countries to adopt and apply statistical methods to assess gender gaps in selected key areas of women's empowerment, classified as Tier II indicators in the SDG framework.

A.5.1 Refinement/improvement of statistical methods to measure violence against women
UNSD in collaboration with UNODC and WHO will undertake methodological work to refine and improve methods to measure VAW in line with new requirements in the SDG framework and focusing primarily on statistics on elderly abuse, psychological violence and femicide. Activities proposed include: review of literature and development of instruments; EGM to present/discuss/agree on methods; and piloting of methods in selected countries.

Outcome: Updated/improved methods (data collection instruments) will be available for countries to use for the production of statistics on violence against women in line with SDG requirements.

A.5.2 Refinement/improvement of statistical methods to the nexus between gender and the environment

UNEP in collaboration with UNSD with inputs from UNECE (on climate change), and UNESCAP and UNISDR (on disasters), will undertake methodological work to refine and improve methods to measure gender in the context of access to water, access to energy, access to natural resources and climate change and disaster vulnerability . Activities proposed include: review of literature and a proposed list of sex-disaggregated and supplementary indicators which can be used to measure the nexus between gender and the environment in the context of the SDGs; EGM to present/discuss/agree on methods; and, piloting of methods in selected countries.

Outcome: Updated/improved methods (data collection instruments) will be available for countries to use for the production of statistics on gender and the environment in the context of the SDGs.

A.5.3 Regional training workshop on statistics and indicators to measure violence against women (VAW) and time use (TUS), particularly domestic work and caring activities.

UNSD in collaboration with three UN Regional Commissions (ECA, ECSWA, and ESCAP) and UNODC, WHO and ILO, will organize training workshops for staff of national statistical offices, statisticians in line ministries and other stakeholders, to improve their capacity in producing gender statistics to monitor Tier II gender indicators, in particular on violence against women (5.2) and time use (5.4). Three workshops will be organized, one in each region, covering both areas of concern.

Outcome: These workshops will improve the understanding of and adoption by national statisticians of international methods to measure violence against women and time use.

A.5.4 Technical assistance missions to support statistics on violence against women and time-use in selected countries

Regional Commission will undertake technical assistance missions to support statistics (in terms of data collection, data analysis or data dissemination/communication) on selected Tier II gender indicators, in particular on violence against women or time-use, depending on the need and capacity of the beneficiary country.

Outcome: Advisory missions will assist target countries in their efforts to produce relevant gender statistics on selected Tier II indicators, on violence against women or time-use, in line with international methods.

(e) Management arrangements and partnerships

UNSD and UNECE as the lead and co-lead entities of the component will be responsible for the overall coordination as well as the implementation of specific activities under their responsibility. UNODC, UNEP and the other UN Regional Commissions (ECA, ESCAP, ECLAC and ESCWA) will be responsible for implementing select activities. The activities and areas of gender concerns covered by the project are in line with the priority areas of work identified by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) mandated by the UN Statistical Commission to coordinate international activities on gender statistics. The IAEG-GS should be regularly informed on progress achieved in the implementation of the planned activities.

Coordination with other international entities such as specialized agencies working on topics highlighted in this component (including WHO, ILO, UNWomen, and UNFPA) will need to be undertaken for each component activity to extend the pool of experts with specific technical know-how and to ensure optimization of human and financial resources.