Gender Statistics: What is all about?

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Gender/Sex

Gender refers to **socially constructed** *differences between sexes and to the social relationship between women and men*

Sex: **biological differences** *between women and men*

Gender/Sex

Gender: *differences may be changed*

Sex: *differences are fixed and unchangeable*

Comments from statisticians

"Gender statistics is not a statistical field, what is special about it? (real meaning: your work is not really useful, why don't you deal with serious staff?)"

"All our data are sex-disaggregated, so where is the problem?"

"Women role is not an issue in our country, we have resource constrains and we need to concentrate in other (more relevant) areas"

"You feminists...."

Comments from non-statisticians

"You statisticians, you bureaucrats.."

"Your statistics are useless, they do not provide the data we need"

" Your statistics are always late"

"Why should we work with national statistical offices when other organizations can do the same job and they are cheaper and faster?"

What gender statistics is NOT

Women statistics

Not exclusively for women advocacy

An issue only for women's organizations

What is gender statistics?

*Statistics on women and men on **ALL** spheres of society*

Statistics by sex + statistics reflecting gender issues

What is gender statistics?

Gender statistics

- *relates to all statistical fields where individuals are observed*
- *statistics by sex + statistics reflecting gender issues*

What is gender statistics?

The order is important

Not ONLY the statistics reflecting gender issues should be sex-disaggregated

Implications

GS relates to all statistical fields where individuals are observed

Mainstreaming into national statistical systems

What does mainstreaming mean?

Sex-disaggregated data (production, methods and dissemination) in all areas:

- *Business statistics?*
- *Agriculture statistics?*
- *Transport statistics?*
- *ICT statistics?*

Message 1 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

To work in all fields of statistics (and not only social and demographic) to include sex in the production and dissemination of statistics

Message 1 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

To consider the impact on women and men in every step of statistical production

Concepts and methods used in data collection need to be adequately formulated to ensure that they reflect existing gender concerns and differentials

Production of sex-disaggregated data ECE/UNDP Assessment 2003

	Yes	No	No answer
Poverty	3	4	0
Migration	4	3	0
Informal Sector	3	3	1
Time Use	2	5	0
Violence	4	3	0
Trafficking	0	5	2

Message 1 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

Resistance

"Business statistics does not relate to gender"

"We do not want to overburden the respondents"

Message 1 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

How to operate?

1. GSFP placed in the office of the chief statistician or in other cross-cutting departments

2. Gender sensitization in national statistical offices

Message 2 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

All statistics should be analyzed and presented with sex as primary and overall classification (Internet, Yearbooks, specialized publications)

Involvement in the entire dissemination process not only in publications on women and men

Dissemination of sex-disaggregated data ECE/UNDP Assessment 2003

Always	4
Very Often	3
Infrequent	0

Message 2 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

Resistance

"*There is no space*"

"*There are no differences between women and men and therefore there is no need to disaggregate the data by sex*"

Message 2 for the Gender Statistics Focal Point (GSFP)

How to operate?

1. GSFP placed in the office of the chief statistician or in other cross-cutting departments
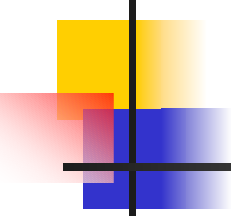
2. Gender sensitization in national statistical offices

Location and Seniority of GSFP

	Location	Level of seniority
Azerbaijan	Soc&Dem	Deputy Dir.
Kazakhstan	Soc%Dem	Head of Dept.
Kyrgyzstan	Social	Vice-Dir. Division
Tajikistan	Social	First deputy Dir.
Turkmenistan	Soc&Pop	Head Dept.
Uzbekistan	Social	Deputy Dir.
Russian Fed.	Labour	Deputy Dir.

GSFP Interacting with other Departments ECE/UNDP Assessment 2003

	Yes	Partly	No	No unit
Economic St.	5	1	0	1
Agriculture St.	4	1	1	0
Soc&Dem St.	7	0	0	0
Methodology Unit	4	1	1	0
Dissemination Unit	6	1	0	0

National Statistical Office

From this structure ....

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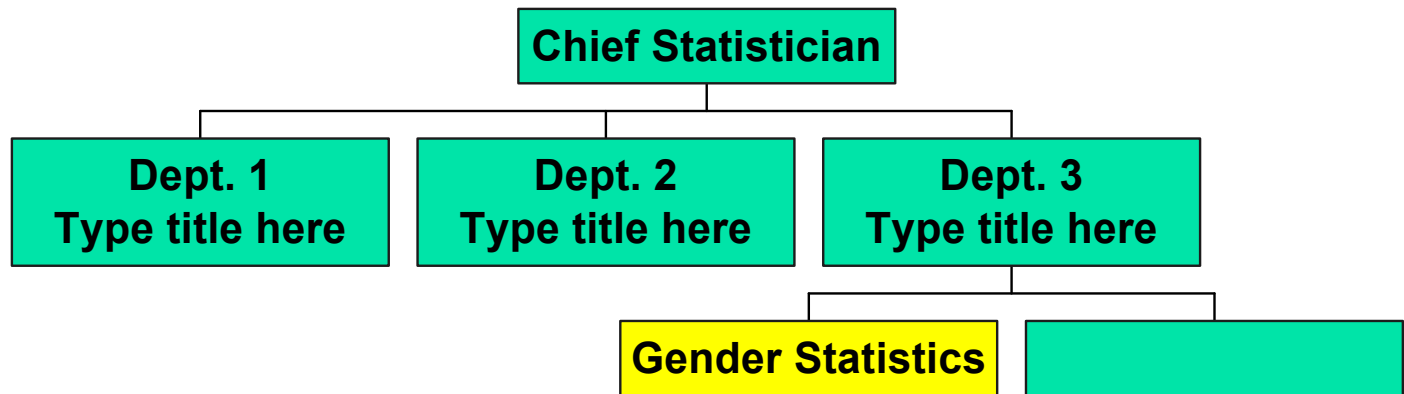
National Statistical Office

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Chief Statistician

Gender Statistics

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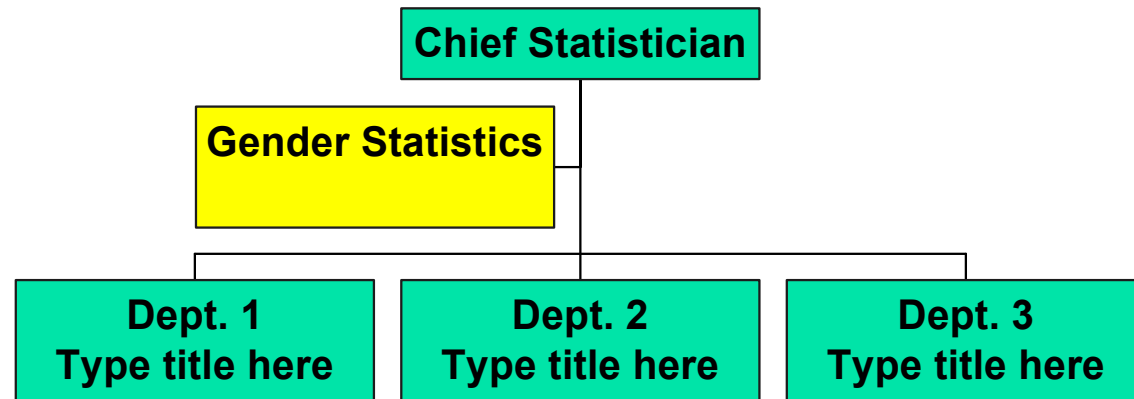
Message 1 for Users

Sex-disaggregated data provide an unbiased basis for policy needs

The improvement of gender statistics involves all the statistical system

Stimulate the production of GS

Provision for sex-disaggregated data in Gender Equality Laws

Legal Framework for GS

ECE/UNDP Assessment 2003

	Stat. Law	Gender Eq. Law	Other
Azerbaijan			X
Kazakhstan			
Kyrgyzstan		X	
Tajikistan	X (not specific)		
Turkmenistan	X (not specific)		
Uzbekistan	X (not specific)		
Russian Fed.		X (Action Pl)	

GS: More than sex-disaggregated data

GS: Production of statistics that adequately reflect gender issues considering the different socio-economic reality women and men face in society

An issue not only for statisticians

Message 2 for Users

Need to work with statisticians to identify the areas where the social and economic reality of women and men are different and need to be addressed

GS: More than sex-disaggregated data

Beijing Platform for Action

1. Improve production and use of GS
2. Improve concepts, definitions, classifications, measurements and collection of statistics by sex on:
   1. Power and decision making
   2. Work and employment
   3. Violence and crime
   4. Health and disability

GS: More than sex-disaggregated data

More... next session ......

What are the objectives of Gender Statistics Programmes

	Always	**Occasionally**
Gender Publications		✓
Review of methodology	✓	
Approve methodology	✓	
Have knowledge of gender-relevant issues	✓	
Lobby with other depts.	✓	
Answer to users' requests	✓	

What are the objectives of Gender Statistics Programmes

	Always	**Occasionally**
Work with the dissemination dept.	✓	
Gender-specific data collection		✓
Work with substantive depts.	✓	
Understand users needs	✓	
Teach users HOW to use GS		✓

Comments from statisticians

"Gender statistics is not a statistical field, what is special about it? (real meaning: your work is not really useful, why don't you deal with serious staff?)"

GS is cross-cutting field of statistics (such as sampling, questionnaire design, are they real issues?). As sampling is a method to assure that all the data are representative, GS is a method to assure that all data adequately reflect the situation of women and men in society

Comments from statisticians

"All our data are sex-disaggregated, so where is the problem?"

Go to the bookshelf and pick up a yearbook

Comments from statisticians

"Women role is not an issue in our country, we have resource constrains and we need to concentrate in other (more relevant) areas"

How do know that there are no differences between women and men if you do not have the data? We are all women and men, are we not the most relevant "area"?

Comments from statisticians

"You feminists...."

Are you saying that you do not agree with us that women and men should have equal rights? ....Than you are a feminist too!!!