

**STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

WORKING PAPER No. 20

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

**ENGLISH ONLY
(Country translation, as received)**

**Joint ECE/UNDP Workshop on
Gender Statistics for Policy Monitoring and Benchmarking
(Orvieto, Italy, 9-10 October 2000)**

UZBEKISTAN

MODERN CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF GENDER STATISTICS IN UZBEKISTAN

Paper submitted by Uzbekistan¹

Introduction

The maintenance of equality and equal opportunities for the women is urgent for Uzbekistan, as well as for all states of the world, and is considered as a priority direction of state politics of the country.

The independence and acceptance of Uzbek model of national revival by a radical image have changed a social, economic and political situation in Uzbekistan. The essential positive changes were planned and in gender development. The government of republic accepted the special program of measures directed on strengthening the role of the women in family, state and social construction.

In this connection it has become an urgent task to create gender statistics which adequately reflects real processes in gender development of republic. The importance of this question explains, that in Uzbekistan, like in all other republics of former USSR, the working methodology of gender statistics significantly differed from the international standards and did not reflect historical, geographical, ethnical, national and cultural specific peculiarities of the country, and accordingly did not allow to trace specific qualitative parameters of gender development in republic.

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Thereof, there was a necessity of reforming of the concepts, methods of collecting data gender, development and realization of their estimations appropriate to the requirements of the users and answering the international standards.

Considering many sides of gender problematics, the task of organizing gender statistics in Uzbekistan accrued the creation of logical system of parameters describing as a condition, and tendency of gender development in republic.

The work on creating of such a system should base on results of sectorial work and communication between various sectors by levels. Gender statistics is formed of it in Republic of Uzbekistan State department of statistics in all departments of social statistics and demography on the coordinated system of parameters. The summary department on the data of branch departments prepares the special statistical bulletins concerning the position of the women and men in economy and a society.

With formation of gender statistics the inquiries of the users are taken into account. The prospectuses of the information are developed for study of demand on the statistical information in general, and gender - in particular, in State department of statistics which are dispatched to a wide circle of the users. In view of the submitted applications the subjects and circulation of the statistical collections is formed and which are directed to the users and for sale. The users cooperation is wide practised in preparing and publishing statistical collections of gender development.

In Uzbekistan with the purposes of improvement the situation of the women and increase of their role in a society is developed and the National platform of actions is accepted.

The national platform of actions assumes association of efforts of Government, parliaments, state and public organizations, civil sector for increase of activity of the women in processes formation and development of a democratic society.

The analysis and study of the tendencies, conditions of a transitive period have caused allocation following priorities for Uzbekistan of directions of activity:

- Strengthening of health of the women, including reproductive health and development of services of family;
- Formate and increase professional and functional education of the women;
- Improvement of an economic position of the women;
- Decrease influence of ecological degradation;
- Strengthening of participation of the women in political structures;
- Creation of the special programs for support of girls;

- Formation of an image of the new woman of Uzbekistan in mass media, culture, art, overcoming of existing stereotypes;
- Maintenance of all kinds of equality for the women and liquidation of all forms of discrimination;
- Realization gender researches, including gender direction in social politics, programs, projects;
- Development and strengthening of a role of female ungovernmental organizations;
- Perfection of the national mechanism on improvement of a situation and status of the women of republic.

Basic difference of a National Platform is introduction of the account of gender problems, i.e. use of the gender concept for understanding of social processes and planning of social politics.

In development of the National Program of actions on improvement of the position of the women actively participated state and public organizations, representatives of various social groups, scientists, figures of a science and culture, experts of a various sort.

Whereas the problems of the women are problems of a society as a whole, and the work on performance of the National Program puts tasks of participation before executive organs, state structures, public organizations, mass media, wide national masses and in particular of women.

The women of Republic of Uzbekistan numbers more than half of whole population (50,2 percent by the beginning of the year 2000), 50,3 percent of all female population are in reproductive age, that provides a high level of birth rate - factor of birth rate in 1999 has made 22,3 percent.

The institute of family is supported in Uzbekistan by public and state opinion.

More than 65,7 percent of women in the age of 16 are married, 1,04 percent of women and 0,75 percent of men in the age of 50 and over have never been married. In 1999 more than 90,5 percent of children were born at spouses in a registered marriage.

Last years the tendency to decrease in birth rate was observed in the Republic and its regions. It was stipulated by changes in reproductive behavior of women and decrease in share share of women aged 20-29 years (from 36,6 % in 1991 to 33,2 % in 1999), at which the most high level of birth rate was marked. As a result, the average number of children born by a woman during the childbearing period decreased from with 4,2 in 1991 up to 2,7 in 1999.

In Uzbekistan as a result of realization of a large-scale measures on health, maternity and childhood protection, infant mortality has decreased appreciably – only for a period from 1993-1999 the infant mortality rate has decreased from 32 to 20,2 pro mille. The decrease of this indicator has steady character.

The indicators of maternal morbidity have sharply decreased for the same period. So, in 1999 against 1993 the number of women who have died as a result of complications of pregnancy, childbirth and puerperium decreased from 167 to 80, the maternal morbidity rate decreased from 24,1 to 14,6 accordingly.

The education level of the women in Uzbekistan is high in comparison with the developing countries and is close to an educational level of the women in the industrially developed countries. In 1999 the total number of literate persons in the Republic made up 99,13 %. In 1998 the number of women in total enrollment of higher educational institutions was 38 %. The most part of all women are trained in educational institutions of public health services, physical culture and sport, education, art and cinematography – 48.8 percent of total enrollment.

For the years of independent development in Uzbekistan the network of humanitarian and technical higher educational institutions has extended at the expense of opening them at the regional centres. The national program on personnel training provides the creation of colleges and lycea in all regions of the Republic. It will enable girl to receive professional and technical education not leaving far from house with less economic expenses.

The structure of persons engaged in economy of Uzbekistan as a whole testifies to high economic activity of the population - 72,6 % of a manpower has made an economy (in 1999). The share of working-age women engaged in economy makes up 63,5 % against 78,1 % of men. This ratio is caused both by higher share of women with voluntary unemployment and greater share of women in total number of unemployed persons.

The social structure of the unemployed persons testifies that persons with low educational level prevail among unemployed population as a rule 59,7 percent (1999) of all persons addressed the state bodies of labour had general secondary education. And significant distinctions between educational level of unemployed men and women were not observed. The share both women and men having high and specialized secondary education is approximately equal in total number of persons seeking for job.

The Republic is known by the growth of employed persons. In 1999 63,5 percent of all registered persons were supplied with job that was 1,1 percent points more, than in 1995.

The structure of employment of women depends, in many respects, on priorities of social and economic development of the country. It should be noted positive changes in distribution of female workers and employees between the spheres of economy. The number of women engaged in branches of material production has decreased both in absolute and relative terms. And at the same time, the share of women engaged in non-production branches has increased.

The number of the women in legal establishments is rather high: among the judges of a different level - 21,6 percent. As a whole, share of women in justices makes up 41 percent, in notary offices - 47,8 percent, among judicial executors - 5 percent, in the Bar - about a half, in vital registration bodies women make up the most part of the workers. The share of women in system of public health services and education is great. In 1999 the number of women engaged in branch of

public health services and physical culture made up 76,1 percent, culture and art - 52,4 percent, national education - 64 percent.

The data of the survey conducted by the state statistical bodies show that by the beginning of 1998 the average age of women engaged in national economy branches was 34 years, men - 35,5 years.

The number of women in total certificated specialists makes up 47,1 percent.

Among the workers occupying posts of the chiefs in economy - 24 percent woman, and - 57,6 percent among the experts.

Thus, independent Uzbekistan pays great attention to the problems of gender relations such as employment and well-being of women; interrelation of production, economy and situation of women; political and economic representation of women and their participation in democratization of the society. At the same time, gender relations ensuring is one of the most difficult tasks in evolution development of the society. It requires to changing the psychology and thinking during short historical interval of time not postponing its decision on them. It is necessary condition for normal transition in the following millenium.

In this connection, the development and improvement of information base for estimation of gender development are of great importance.

At the first stage in creating gender statistics the basic efforts were directed on creating a system of indicators reflecting gender processes and reducing national methodological and organizational bases in conformity to the international standards and the modern requirements of statistical supervision.

The developed system of indicators represents integration of existing and new indicators, which can be received by expansion of working statistical supervision in the field of a demography and social sphere, results of lumpsum selective special inspections and sociological surveys.

Only 176 statistical indicators reflect various sides of gender development are included in the system, not counting sections of development of those or other indicators. The basic sources of collecting information were:

1. Reporting of ministries, departments, enterprises, establishments of organizations (monthly, quarterly and annual periodicity).
2. Selective inspections of housing conditions.
3. Administrative registers of a service of employment.

In a basis structure of the system of indicators were put the major characteristics of gender development. Under the contents the parameters are grouped in II units, each of which contain this or that aspect of gender development. It is the block of parameters: a demography, public health services, education, culture, economic activity, science, economic conditions of life, social protection, children and orphan children who have no parents, management and participation in political life, criminal sphere, housing conditions.

The estimation of working system of indicators of gender development has revealed absence of large number of indicators necessary for illumination for major aspects of gender development. Particulary there were no indicators in the following blocks:

Demography

- 3.1 Marriage rate of both sexes;
- 3.2 Divorce rate of both sexes;
- 3.3 Net rate of reproduction;
- 3.4 Average age of mothers giving birth to the first child;
- 3.5 Total number of children having one parent;
- 3.6 Total number of children having only mother.

Public health services

- 3.7 Access to medical services ;
- 3.8 Number of women in urban population;
- 3.9 Number of women in rural population;
- 3.10 Number of doctors of both sexes;
- 3.11 Number of pediatricians of both sexes;
- 3.12 Access to medical services (as a percentage of the total population);
- 3.13 Access to safe water.

Education

- 3.14 Number of learning in schools of both sexes;
- 3.15 Rate of students of repeated education in secondary schools, both sexes;
- 3.16 Total of admittance to primary and secondary education, both sexes;
- 3.17 Number of students of secondary special, professional educational institutions of both sexes;
- 3.18 Dropout rate of students of secondary special, and professional educational institutions of both sexes;
- 3.19 Number of students of both sexes undergoing a repeated year of education;
- 3.20 Availability of school manuals;
- 3.21 Publication of school textbooks and books for children;
- 3.22 Number of women in national sports teams, and in international sports teams.

Economic activity

- 3.23 Currently economically active population of both sexes;
- 3.24 Employees of both sexes ;
- 3.25 Employers of both sexes ;
- 3.26 Average wages of both sexes;
- 3.27 Hours of works at main and additional jobs during a surveyed week of both sexes;
- 3.28 Economically active people of both sexes ;
- 3.29 Economically active people in the informal economic sector of both sexes;
- 3.30 Self-employed people of both sexes;
- 3.31 Family members of both sexes working without remuneration;
- 3.32 Members of manufacturing cooperatives, both sexes;
- 3.33 Level of economic activity of people of both sexes;
- 3.34 Level of unemployment of people of both sexes;

3.35 Duration of unemployment by sex;

3.36 Heads of households by sex.

Science

3.37 Number of postgraduate students of both sexes, by scientific branches and professions;

3.38 Enrolled postgraduate students of both sexes, by scientific branches and professions;

3.39 Number of postgraduate students of both sexes who supported their dissertation, by scientific branches and professions;

3.40 Number of postgraduate students of both sexes who dropped out before finishing their studies;

3.41 Number of postgraduate students of both sexes who dropped out before finishing their studies, by scientific branches and professions;

3.42 Number of fellow applicants for scholarly degrees of the candidate of science of both sexes;

3.43 Number of fellow applicants of both sexes who supported their candidate dissertations;

3.44 Number of doctors of sciences of both sexes;

3.45 People of both sexes enrolled to write a doctoral thesis;

3.46 People of both sexes who supported a doctoral thesis;

3.47 People of both sexes who did not finish their doctoral studies;

3.48 Number of employees of both sexes who were involved in a scientific research;

3.49 Number of technicians of both sexes who were involved in a scientific research;

3.50 Number of accepted employees of both sexes who were involved in a scientific research;

3.51 Number of employees of both sexes who stopped to work on scientific research;

3.52 Number of employees of both sexes who stopped to work on scientific research because of redundancies;

Social protection

- 3.53 Number of women having three and more children and children invalids from childhood who receive child allowances;
- 3.54 Number of women and men invalids;
- 3.55 Number of pensioners by age, both sexes;
- 3.56 Number of women and men receiving social pensions;
- 3.57 Number of branches providing social welfare to families and children;
- 3.58 Budget time of the working woman;
- 3.59 Time spent by women for keeping house;
- 3.60 Daily norm of consumption of calories by women and men;
- 3.61 Distribution of women by income;
- 3.62 Number of disabled children;
- 3.63 Number of people who are disabled since childhood;

Management and participation in political life

- 3.64 Number of women and men participating in political ballotings as the candidates for elective posts;
- 3.65 Number of women and men in elected administrative bodies of different levels;
- 3.66 Number of women who have taken part in elections;
- 3.67 Number of women in governing and / or other parties;
- 3.68 Number of women's NGOs (female nongovernmental organizations);
- 3.69 Employees of both sexes, responsible for acceptance of the decisions in state, political, social and private organizations classified as law-makers, senior state officers and managers;
- 3.70 Number of women and men in a service of the public order and security, including judges, people's assessors, lawyers, officers, public prosecutors, and public procurators.

Criminal sphere

3.71 Number of women and men convicted;

3.72 Number of women and men convicted by types of crime;

3.73 Crimes against women;

3.74 Victims of violence by sex;

3.75 Share of the people by sex who consider themselves to be relatively safe from attacks;

Housing conditions

3.76 Number of people per one room, including kitchen and bathroom;

For extending the analytical base of gender development and gender balance, it has been proposed to supplement the existing system of statistical indicators and data of administrative bodies by adding 76 indicators that cover 9 areas of life:

Table 1 2 Offered parameters

¹	Area	Offered additionalQuantity of parameters
2.	Demography	9
3.	Public health services	4
4.	Education	9
5.	Economic activity	14
6.	Science	16
7.	Social protection	11
8.	Participation in administration and political life	7
9.	Criminal sphere	5
10.	Housing conditions	1
	TOTAL	76

The overwhelming part of these indicators are included in the questionnaires for the enterprises, organizations and establishments and in the year 2001 and will be received on results of the year 2000.

At the same time special thematic inspections are necessary to supply available blanks about the situation of women and men in the market of labour, about the structure of the chiefs and experts, size of average wages of the women and men on separate professions and posts, about the use of the budget. It's an urgent goal for introduction of the National classifier of employment based on the International standard classifier of employment YSCO - 88, International classifier of illnesses - 10 reconsiderations (MKB-10).

In view of the done work, priority directions of the further perfection of gender statistics in Uzbekistan are:

1. Continuation of work on introduction of the international standards, including methods of statistical supervision, collecting and processing data.
2. Automation and reorganization of statistical works.
3. Perfection of methodology of the economic analysis.
4. Development of the publications and distribution of the statistical data according to the international standards.
5. Interaction with international organizations.
6. Training the staff.

The basic users of gender statistics are Parliament and Government, Women Committee of Republic of Uzbekistan, executive organs of territories of all levels, nongovernmental bodies, public organizations, scientific establishments, public, international organizations and funds etc.

By the State department of Statistics in view of needs of the users of a various type, were prepared and published three statistical collections on gender problematics:

” Family in Uzbekistan in 1997 ”, ” Gender and development in Uzbekistan in 1998 ”, ” Woman in Uzbekistan in 1999 ”.

Nowadays publication devoted to youth, containing gender section is in a preparatory state. All these publications were designed for a wide circle of the users, including people engaged in problems of gender.

In the year 2001 planned an issue of the statistical collection devoted a situation of the women and men in Uzbekistan with a wide circle of indicators, introduced in 2000 in statistical practice to republic.

With the purposes of the further development of gender statistics in Uzbekistan the development of cooperation with international organizations in questions of methodology and statistical practice, publication, analytical work on gender development, and training of the staff is important.