MEASURING REFERENCES TO GENDER STATISTICS IN POLICY DOCUMENTS

And PARIS21 solutions to improve the uptake of gender statistics

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Outline

1. Measuring the use of gender statistics in policy documents – results
2. Methodology
3. PARIS21 tools to support countries in scaling up the use of gender statistics
Key findings

Using text mining we analysed 134 policy documents
- national development plans
- poverty reduction strategies
- gender policy documents
to assess the use of gender statistics in policy documents

RESULTS

- The overall use of gender statistics is low, only around 17% of reference to statistical facts contains gender dimensions
- In 55 countries the use of gender statistics increased slightly in the last decade (2016-2020), compared to the pre-SDG era
- the Americas and Europe lead the way in the use of gender statistics, while Asian countries have a higher average score in quoting actual numbers
Significant improvements only observed in a few regions
History of the indicator

• Introduced in 2010 by PARIS21 to assess impact of international statistical capacity building activities in developing countries
• In 2015 the manual analysis was partially replaced with data mining and machine learning
• In 2018, PARIS21 improved the indicator by updating the keyword list and scoring methodology
• In 2019, following the partnership with UN Women “Women count”, PARIS21 start to apply the scope of the indicator to gender statistics
A multi-level measurement

- Based on Watson and Callingham (2013), three levels of use were defined
- The level 1 (Basic) use of gender statistics is defined as reference to key statistical indicators
- “Diagnosis” captures the level 2 use of gender statistics. It is defined as quoting actual number while referencing to a gender-statistical concept
- “Analysis” captures the level 3 use of statistics. It is defined as using advanced mathematical concepts while referencing to statistical concept
Other text mining facts

• **Policy disaggregation (by sectors)** was used as another dimension of the upstream measurement.

• A broader set of disaggregation keywords has been implemented to combine with the three-levels, for producing a more subtle metric.

• The structure and keywords of disaggregation originates from the [standards for data disaggregation of UNSD](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/demographic/)

• Currently available for 3 languages: English, Spanish and French.
Creation of the keyword list

• A list of keywords gender statistics keywords were generated from multiple sources, including the 53 gender-specific SDG indicators, gender-related indicators in the WBDB, keywords generated from a set of gender policy documents, etc.

• A list of 150 keywords to identify “analytical” use of statistics were generated with guidance from development partners, policy makers and education specialist.

• A list of 50 keywords to identify “disaggregation” when use statistics besides gender were generated based on the UNSD standard.
### Level 1 key words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Key Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contraceptive</td>
<td>Female genital cutting, Empowerment of women, women in especially difficult situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female employer</td>
<td>Family care work, Equal opportunities of women and men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maternal death</td>
<td>Female engineering graduates, Equal treatment of women and GDI men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal</td>
<td>Female manufacturing graduates, Gender bias, Forced marriage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertility rate</td>
<td>Female construction graduates, Gender balance, Adolescent birth rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genital mutilation</td>
<td>Women with secure tenure of land, Gender budgeting, Maternity leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic work</td>
<td>GPI, Gender mainstreaming, Sexual harassment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender gap</td>
<td>Sexual violence, Gender statistics, Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender parity</td>
<td>Women in parliament, Gender sensitive, Femicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seats held by women</td>
<td>Women, Sex-disaggregated data, Maternal parity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women in managerial positions</td>
<td>Female ownership, Work-life balance, parity indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female police officers</td>
<td>Female top management, Women in decision making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female judges</td>
<td>Unpaid work, Violence against women, Gender parity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical violence</td>
<td>Gender roles, birth attendant hen skilled health personnel, Gender-related</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women married before age 18</td>
<td>Gender inequality, girl marriage, Gender specific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner violence</td>
<td>Gender equality, Gender pay gap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family planning</td>
<td>Gender discrimination, sex ratio, gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women with land title</td>
<td>Discrimination against women, rape, gender-related</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **GPI**: Gender parity index
- **GDI**: Gender development index
- **GEM**: Gender Empowerment Measure
Way forward

- Refining the methodology
- Inclusion of more gender related documents
- Publish the tool to allow countries to evaluate their own policy documents
- Country implementation
Towards better use of gender statistics

Increased capacity leads to increased use

Two areas of PARIS21’s action:
• Integrating gender statistics in the strategic planning
• Improving the communication of gender statistics for a better uptake by policymakers

Demand driven capacity development

From increased use to better governance
Demand driven capacity development

Two areas of PARIS21’s action to increase demand for gender statistics:

1. Integrating gender statistics in the strategic planning

In 2021 PARIS21 developed a special module to integrate gender statistics in strategic planning for statistics as part of the revised guidelines on preparing the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics.

The module is based on PARIS21’s and UN Women 3-year pilot project which supported 9 countries in this endeavour.
The module for gender statistics presents to the NSOs how to address gender-issues in:
• capacity and data planning
• resource mobilization
• partnership building
Demand driven capacity development

Two areas of PARIS21’s efforts to increase demand for gender statistics:

2. Improving the communication of gender statistics for a better uptake by policymakers

PARIS21 and UN Women developed two e-learning courses on communicating gender statistics for national statisticians and journalists.

This includes materials on conveying statistics in a user-friendly manner, improving data visualisations and the use gender-sensitive language.

https://academy.paris21.org/
THANK YOU!