Gender statistics have been an integral part of the Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) of Albania since 2011, and the institute now has a dedicated sector for gender. Gender statistics are also part of the official national statistical programme for 2017-2021. Demand for gender statistics comes from national commitments to gender equality, and legal and regulatory frameworks. Statistics incorporating a gender perspective are now essential for:

1. Decision making, advocating gender equity to boost awareness of gender concerns.
2. Planners, for economic and social policy formulation, implementation and monitoring.
3. Development experts, to review and analyse gender aspects and interactions.
4. International, government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), for project and programme design, implementation and evaluation.
5. The general public, for a better understanding of society.

Training on use of statistics in general has become more important in the institution recently. New staff receive training on all INSTAT statistics, including gender statistics. At the same time, statistical training for all ministries with which INSTAT collaborates has also been included on the institution’s agenda. This highlights the role and importance of statistics in general and the importance of including gender as a core variable in all data sources.

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda 2030 and SDGs will help to ensure inclusion of gender dimensions in all institutions. This implies not only SDG 5 dedicated to empowerment of women, but also inclusion of the gender perspective in all SDGs as a cross-cutting dimension. At the national level, the Ministry of Health and Social protection has developed a Strategy for Gender Equality, which includes a set of indicators developed by the two institutions for monitoring progress.

INSTAT has memorandums of understanding with several institutions, and gender statistics as a cross-cutting area could be a point of discussion with each of these. INSTAT has advocated designating gender as a core variable in the system of data collections of ministries responsible for administrative sources. It is considered as a core variable in almost all the surveys implemented by INSTAT. This ensures that all specific topics of surveys can be analysed from a gender perspective.

INSTAT’s yearly user satisfaction survey could be used to understand the need for gender statistics and as a feedback and monitoring mechanism for those who have attended training on this topic.

Gender statistics training at INSTAT