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How does ECLAC contribute to promote the articulated work between national gender machineries and national statistics offices regarding data use for evidence-based policy making.

The regional experience.

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This document has as an objective to introduce the discussion on the production of information and evidence for decision-making and the design of public policies for gender equality. Firstly it revises the principal purposes of producing statistics with a gender perspective; secondly it reviews the methodological aspects and the bottle-necks that gender statistics face and finally it considers the implications of the recently agreed Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in terms of production of information, adaption of indicators and analysis of gender.

1. Objectives of the production of statistics with a gender perspective

Gender statistics are a numerical representation of facts that are located in time and space and perform an important function in the elimination of stereotypes, in the formulation of policies and in the follow-up on the achievement of full equality between men and women (ECLAC, 2006). They are an indispensable tool to giving visibility to the distinct manifestations of such inequalities, since that they put into figures the magnitude and trends in diverse areas of social life for different groups of women as well as between men and women. When statistical production incorporates a gender approach it examines how determined phenomenon impacts men and women in differentiated ways, which is, to reveal situations of inequality in the different spheres people's lives.

Once specific policies are established, whether they intend to increase women's autonomy or not, it is central that the monitoring and the production of information that accompanies the policy should be sensitive to the possibilities of gender inequalities. For this reason, monitoring public policies with information and evidence sensitive to a gender analysis is not only an issue for equality policies. Although these may be the principal policies which are followed-up with gender statistics, the large majority of the public policies implemented in the countries are capable of being monitored and of producing follow-up information which allows a gender analysis. Through statistical analysis, the figures transform into a tool which leave in evidence certain phenomena of inequality (CEPAL, 2007). In the case of a gender analysis, these numbers permit a response to questions such as: Do women have the same level of access to bank accounts as men?, Has a new norm about the receipt of remittances affected women in greater measure than men?, Who utilizes the public health services more, men or women?, Does this have consequences in the use of time of men and women?

The relation between who utilizes the statistics and who produces them is very important for them to be effective and for them to target the phenomenon that is desired to be made visible, or so that the policy that wants to be measured can be followed-up. Therefore ECLAC is the Technical Secretariat of the Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA) and the Institute of Statistics of Mexico (INEGI) is the coordinator country. Together with the Institute of Women of Mexico (INMUJERES) and UN Women, this institutions work in order to bring closer the view of those who produce and who use gender statistics. To reach a common language, shared knowledge and empathy with regards to the needs and restrictions of the information is crucial in order to make good use of it. In the last decade in the majority of countries the national offices of statistics have shown a very good receptivity to the demands of information from the mechanisms for the advancement of women and other organisms. Many times this association of state agencies has resulted in obtaining budgetary and extra-budgetary resources which has made possible the experiences witnessed in

countries such as Mexico, Uruguay, Ecuador, among others, of the rise of the use of Time-Use Surveys or surveys on gender violence.

The way in which the statistics and gender indicators are communicated and diffused is key to making a better use of the information and to promoting the sensibilisation of various actors to the inequalities between men and women. To rely on public information systems, available on the web or through periodic publications on the updated figures and results, makes a significant difference to both the greater use of the information and the amplification of the audience that receive it. In this sense, over the last years ECLAC has worked to incorporate into its statistics repository¹ (CEPALSTAT) a specific area with more than 100 indicators under a gender tree that contains comparative information for all the countries of the region. For the part of the Gender Equality Observatory² (GEO) it has been another means of diffusion, as well as in the field of methodology discussion, where governments, academia, civil society organizations and the general public can access the statistical information and analytical studies such as the annual briefs which go into depth of the three autonomies that structure the GEO, namely: physical autonomy, decision-making autonomy, and economic autonomy.

2. Some methodological aspects for the production of gender statistics

To incorporate the gender perspective means to systematically include in all the stages of the process of the production of information a view which is sensitive to the inequalities between men and women. It goes further than the analyses disaggregated by sex and implicates the utilization of concepts which can be operationalised at each stage of the gathering of information (in its scope dimensions, questionnaire design, amplification of categories which describe the variable, sample design, training of survey personnel).

This process is indispensable for the diversity of information sources as they are – the censuses, the household surveys of distinct purposes, the demographic and health surveys and the administrative registers, to be the base for the production of gender statistics in the countries. Each one of these information sources has specific strengths and can offer a range of specific indicators to address the themes of inequality between men and women, always and when during the capturing process the gender dimension is appropriately incorporated³.

One of the principal challenges for the production of gender statistics at the regional level is the capacity for comparison between the countries. Even with much progress since the creation of the GEO and of other fields which promote methodologies and similar calculations in the region, there remains distance

¹ http://estadisticas.cepal.org/cepalstat/WEB_CEPALSTAT/estadisticasIndicadores.asp?idioma=i

² <http://oig.cepal.org/en>

³ There are multiple examples, among them, that the categories of a variable should describe all the possible phenomena that affect men as well as women. In many of the employment surveys one classic question which refers to why one doesn't work or why not more hours still does not integrate reasons appropriate to women. Often the categories there for the response are very androcentric and do not mention possibilities such as family responsibilities or the caring of dependent persons, which are the most frequent reasons for which women do not insert themselves into the labour market. If these categories are not contemplated in the surveys it will be difficult to gain knowledge of the reasons for not working on a remunerated basis which are relevant to women.

to travel in key themes such as the measure of the use of time. In this field, in the last 10 years the advances have been spectacular and already 19 countries have achieved some kind of measurement in this regard (see table 1). The challenge now becomes a methodological and criteria agreement which will allow for the comparison of the position of the countries in terms of the burden of time spent on unpaid work. One milestone has been the passing of the Classification of Activities of the Use of Time for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL) which orders the activities of remunerated and non-remunerated work according to the production boundary of the System of National Accounts (SNA) and is consistent with the recommendations of the International Labor Organization's (ILO) 19th International Conference of Labor Statistics (ICLS). This is due to the relevance of work in people's lives and its involvement for the obtaining of goods and services required to meet their needs and to contribute to well-being (ECLAC, 2015).

Table 1. Latin America: Countries with Surveys the Use of Time.

Países	Fecha del levantamiento	Tipo de relevamiento
Argentina	2013	Módulo en la Encuesta Anual de Hogares Urbanos (EAHU)
	2010-2011 (Rosario)	Módulo en la Encuesta Permanente de Hogares
	2005 (Buenos Aires)	Encuesta independiente
Bolivia (Estado Plurinacional de)	2011, 2010	Encuesta de Uso de Tiempo en Hogares
	2001	Módulo en Encuesta Continua de Hogares
Brasil	2009-2010	Encuesta piloto en cinco estados de Brasil
	Desde 1992	Preguntas en la Encuesta Nacional de Hogares (PNAD)
Colombia	2012	Encuesta Nacional de Uso del Tiempo
	2010, 2009, 2008, 2007	Preguntas en la Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares
Costa Rica	2011	Encuesta sobre Uso del Tiempo en la Gran Área Metropolitana
	2004	Módulo en la Encuesta de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples (EHPM)
Cuba	2001	Encuesta levantada en cinco provincias
	1997, 1988, 1985	Encuesta Nacional de Presupuesto de Tiempo
Chile	2015	Encuesta Nacional sobre Uso del Tiempo
	2008-2009	Encuesta Experimental sobre Uso del Tiempo en el Gran Santiago
Ecuador	2012	Encuesta Específica de Uso del Tiempo (EUT)
	2012, 2010, 2007, 2005	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional de Empleo, Desempleo y Subempleo (ENEMDU)
El Salvador	2010-2011	Módulo en la Encuesta de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples
	2005	Lista corta de preguntas en la Encuesta de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples (EHPM)
Guatemala	2014	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional de Empleo e Ingresos
	2014, 2011, 2006, 2000	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional de Condiciones de Vida (ENCOVI)

Honduras	2011, 2009	Módulo en la Encuesta Permanente de Hogares
México	2014, 2009, 2002, 1998	Encuesta Nacional sobre Uso del Tiempo (ENUT)
	2010	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional de Ingresos y Gastos de los Hogares
	1996	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional sobre Trabajo, Aportaciones y Uso del Tiempo (ENTAUT)
Nicaragua	1998	Módulo en la Encuesta Nacional de Hogares sobre Medición del Nivel de Vida (ENHMNV)
Panamá	2011	Encuesta Nacional de Uso del Tiempo
	2006	Módulo en Encuesta de Propósitos Múltiples
Paraguay	2016	Encuesta sobre uso del tiempo (EUT)
Perú	2010	Encuesta Nacional de Uso del Tiempo
	2006	Preguntas integradas a la Encuesta Continua de Hogares
República Dominicana	2006-2007	Pregunta en la Encuesta Demográfica y de Salud
Uruguay	2013, 2007	Módulo en la Encuesta Continua de Hogares
	2003	Encuesta en Zona Metropolitana (Universidad de la República)
Venezuela (República Bolivariana de)	2011, 2008	Encuesta de Uso del Tiempo

Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Another important methodological aspect to the generation of gender statistics is to be aware of the balance between the disaggregation of the information and its representativeness. A gender analysis requires at least that the information is disaggregated by sex, which demands that the informative available be representative for both men and women. However sex as a variable is not sufficient to provide evidence on situations or population subgroups where inequalities are more profound, this means that, a) the moment of design of the data-capturing instrument should clearly have the variables which help explain inequality, and b) the selected sample with adequate stratification allows for greater disaggregation and for more crossings of the information.

3. The challenges in the production of information, indicators and analysis of gender for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Since 2000, the efforts dedicated towards the follow-up of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) have driven a greater investment in the improvement of the production of data for monitoring and accountability purposes. As a consequence, now we know more about the state of the world and, in particular, about the world's most impoverished people. Yet, despite this important advance, there continues to be an enormous lack of data and knowledge about some of the greatest challenges that we face, and still there are many people and population groups that do not feature in the statistics (United Nations, 2014). In the case of women, Latin America and the Caribbean have advanced a lot and for more than 15 years the arrival of the MDGs was above everything a motor for statistics on educational

enrollment by sex, the economic participation rate of men and women, the salary gap and rates of maternal mortality.

With the passing of the 2030 Agenda a still more ambitious initiative is proposed for the region. A new agenda for development based on the Sustainable Development Objectives (ODS) implies a greater effort in the deepening of the production of statistics. The achievement of the SDGs will require the adoption of integrated measures focused on an inclusive development that forgets no one in front of the social, environmental and economic challenges. At the same time, this will demand a further important growth in the production of information. This time the approved agenda puts an emphasis on the disaggregation of data for monitoring and follow-up which generates an additional challenge in terms of perfecting and ensuring a greater coverage (expanding sample sizes, extending the territories in which surveys are used, shortening of the interval periods between surveys, etc.) in the production of information. This is substantial in terms of gender considering that for any type of calculation or estimation we should count on databases which are sufficiently robust to permit the characterization of the population between men and women, as well as making possible generational crossings, variables on ethno-racial ancestry or on residential areas of people. This will permit us to know with greater certainty if countries are advancing in the correct direction in terms of gender equality – for example regarding the goals on education (goals 4.3, 4.5 and 4.a), on improvement of the employment market (8.3, 8.5, 8.8, 8.10) or on the expansion of the social protection system (1.3, 5.4, 10.4). These elements on robustness and analytical capacity in the production of information are crucial for the measuring of gender equality, diagnosing its failures and designing efficient policies under the 2030 Agenda framework.

For this reason, in terms of gender analysis and statistics, the 2030 Agenda opens a great opportunity for the real mainstreaming of the production of information since that it no longer refers to measurements only with respect to SDG 5, but also penetrates the rest of the SDGs by merit of requiring a breakdown by sex and the calculation of appropriate indicators for the region which allow for the observation of the principal gaps between men and women across all of the themes dealt with by the Agenda. The following diagram exemplifies the centrality of the SDGs for gender equality and places SDG 5 as well as 1 and 8 in the centre by understanding that there will not be autonomy for women without a clear overcoming of poverty with a gender approach and nor without women reaching the labour market in conditions of equality.

Figure I.1

Proposal for mainstreaming the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the language agreed upon in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Source: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Another of the crucial themes of the 2030 Agenda pertinent to the production of gender statistics is the measurement of poverty. There will not be good information on the attainment of SDG 1 if measurements in the region do not take into account the advances and calculations that already have been made, for example the Index of poor and vulnerable female households, or the proportion of women without their own income. These two indicators are of utmost importance for the understanding and evaluation of women's economic autonomy and show a regional-level reality that cannot be ignored by active policies for overcoming poverty when 1 in 3 women do not have access to an income of their own and that for those between 20 to 59 years of age (productive and reproductive age) it exists that 117 women live in poor households for every 100 men.

The indicators taken up at the global level for the measurement of these goals and those agreed on and amplified at the regional level should be available for governments, civil society, businesses and international organizations seeing as they will have to plan, monitor and account for their actions. It will require an enormous increase in capacity for many governments, institutions and enterprises in order to offer and utilize the data in an efficient manner. This comes hand in hand with the process propelled by the General Secretary of the United Nations with regards to the Data Revolution and the challenge that

this revolution poses not only for governments but also for the private sector, international organizations and civil society.

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