



**Commission on the Status of Women
Sixtieth session**

Interactive expert panel:

**Key strategies for gender-responsive implementation of the
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Wednesday 16 March 2016

3.00 – 6.00 p.m.

ISSUES PAPER

1. Introduction

Under the priority theme “Women’s empowerment and the link to sustainable development,” the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 60) will hold an interactive expert panel on “Key strategies for gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

The interactive expert panel is an opportunity to identify key policy initiatives and strategies in order to accelerate implementation on the basis of an exchange of national, regional and global experiences, lessons learned, good practices and new insights. It should be based on evidence, research and evaluation, with an emphasis on results achieved. It should strengthen dialogue and commitment for further action. Experts will highlight the steps and measures necessary and planned to ensure the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the full, effective, and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. Experts are encouraged to identify what needs to be done and who should take the required steps and measures for such implementation. The report of the Secretary-General on the priority theme of the sixtieth session, on women’s empowerment and the link to sustainable development ([E/CN.6/2016/3](#)), provides further information.

2. Elements for discussion

A. Background

Achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and realizing their human rights are essential for sustainable development. Gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require a range of strategies that take an

integrated approach to the economic, social, and environmental aspects of sustainable development.

Gender-responsive, inclusive and sustainable macroeconomic frameworks and domestic resource mobilization and allocation, along with official development assistance, are needed to redress the historic underinvestment in gender equality and women's empowerment. Sufficient financing to increase gender equality across sectors will help to reduce other inequalities and discriminatory norms, with broad social, economic and political effects. Enhanced attention to such linkages and related policy responses should therefore be a key component of the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Effective and inclusive national institutions and policy frameworks, including a strong role for gender equality mechanisms, are crucial for gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Institutional arrangements and policy processes need to ensure that planning, decision-making, policy action, budgeting and monitoring reflect gender equality considerations and benefit all women and girls. Countries with national sustainable development mechanisms will need to incorporate gender perspectives in their work. In countries establishing new institutional structures, gender mainstreaming will be a priority.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development makes provision for follow up and review processes, including voluntary country-led reviews and national data and statistical production. However, the scope and ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development pose huge data challenges. Significant investments, capacity building, and technical and financial collaboration will be required to fill data gaps and effectively monitor the gender dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The interactive expert panel will explore key strategies including strengthening national institutional arrangements and policy frameworks; financing gender equality and women's empowerment; producing gender-responsive data and statistics; as well as integrating the three dimensions of sustainability – economic, social, and environmental – together with gender equality considerations, for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that delivers for all women and girls.

B. Questions for discussion

National institutional arrangements and policy frameworks

- How are countries aligning existing national strategies and policies with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and what steps and measures can be taken to ensure full and effective gender mainstreaming in this process?
- What steps are being taken to ensure that inclusive, effective and accountable institutional arrangements, including gender equality mechanisms, are in place at different levels of government for gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Financing gender equality

- How can macroeconomic policy frameworks support the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
- What measures can be taken to close the gender resource gap and effectively finance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls? What good models exist to accelerate such efforts?

Gender-responsive data and statistics

- What steps need to be taken to achieve high quality data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location, among other criteria, to ensure that no one is left behind?
- What technical, capacity, and financial investments are needed to support national statistical systems in the regular production of gender data and statistics to monitor effectively the gender dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Integrating gender equality and the three dimensions of sustainability

- What strategies exist to integrate gender equality and sustainability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
- What kind of accountability mechanisms are needed to ensure this integration? How are national gender equality mechanisms and civil society gender advocates participating in these processes?

Format

The panel will be chaired and moderated by a Vice-Chair of the Commission, who will introduce the theme of the panel and the experts. Following introductory remarks, each panellist will make a short presentation. The Vice-Chair will then open for questions from the floor, primarily from delegates and, if time permits, a few selected civil society organizations and UN entities. Experts will have the opportunity to respond to questions asked and make brief concluding remarks.