

South and South-West Asia Workshop on Advancing Accountability and Strengthening Statistics for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

CONCEPT NOTE

1. Background

2015 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the fifteenth anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, and the adoption of a new global development agenda, for which one of the core goals is achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

Key to translation of each global commitment from paper to practice, and to the realization of the goals and objectives of the various gender equality and development agendas, is accountability.

Reflecting the centrality of gender equality and accountability to both regional priorities and the new global sustainable development agenda, ESCAP member States adopted the "Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment"¹ and a Core Set of Gender Indicators for Asia and the Pacific².

Through the Ministerial Declaration, ESCAP member States committed to strengthening institutions, enhancing accountability, increasing financing, forging partnerships and strengthening regional cooperation as means of accelerating action on gender equality and women's empowerment.

With respect to enhancing accountability, through the Ministerial Declaration, ESCAP member States pledged to:

- create and strengthen accountability systems;
- strengthen national statistical offices and systems to produce, analyse and disseminate reliable and comparable gender statistics and data disaggregated by sex, age, disability and other relevant categories, in a timely manner
- establish nationally appropriate, measurable targets and indicators, taking into consideration international and regional agreements on gender statistics; and
- develop and strengthen participatory and inclusive monitoring, evaluation and reporting on progress and results.

¹ This Ministerial Declaration was adopted by ESCAP members and associate members in November 2014 at the "Asian and Pacific Conference on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Beijing+20 Review" and subsequently as ESCAP Resolution 71/13 on the "Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment", at the 71st session of the Commission in May 2015.

² Also referred to as the regional core set of gender indicators. See E/ESCAP/CST(4)/10 for the list of indicators.

Furthermore, the Ministerial Declaration requested the Executive Secretary of ESCAP, *inter alia*, to:

- provide ESCAP members and associate members with support in the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration at the regional and national levels; and
- facilitate regional cooperation and the sharing of best practices among member States in the implementation of the Platform for Action.

In the area of data on women and girls, as expressed by member States through the Ministerial Declaration at the regional level, and in response to the call for the improvement of gender statistics and indicators at the global level,³ the Committee on Statistics (at its fourth session in March 2015) endorsed a regional core set of gender indicators, as a guide for setting national priorities and focusing regional support for improving the production and dissemination of gender statistics. The regional core set of gender indicators and the underlying statistics are intended to respond to the need for enhanced statistical information to address issues of high priority in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in the region. The regional core set represents a minimum suite of gender statistics that all countries in the Asia-Pacific region can aspire to produce and disseminate.

The Committee on Statistics recognized the importance of strengthening user-producer dialogue, and noted that building capacity in gender statistics requires coordination among stakeholders, including national statistical offices, ministries, civil society, international organizations and other users of gender statistics.⁴

In support of the commitments and requests of its member States, the secretariat will convene a workshop for South and South-West Asia members of ESCAP to support the strengthening of national institutions, accountability and regional cooperation.

2. Purpose of the Workshop

The purpose of the Workshop is to support member States in strengthening their national accountability mechanisms through increased awareness and capacity in the collection, analysis, dissemination and advocacy of gender equality statistics and indicators.

By bringing together representatives from national women's machineries and national statistical offices, the Workshop will promote collaboration and coordination in strategizing and acting for gender equality and women's empowerment at the national level, as well as the sharing of knowledge, ideas and experiences across member States in the sub-region.

The intended output of the Workshop is a joint national action plan for each participating country with the following components:

³ A minimum set of gender indicators was developed by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) at the global level, which the Statistical Commission at its forty-fourth session, agreed to use as a guide for national production and international compilation of gender statistics. Refer E/CN.3/2015/21 for latest version of the minimum set of gender indicators.

⁴ See E/ESCAP/CST(4)/14 for the Report of the Committee on Statistics on its fourth session.

- a) actions for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data pertaining to the set of indicators for measuring implementation of the aforementioned Ministerial Declaration, and
- b) actions for the production and use of the regional core set of gender indicators, including national-level advocacy strategies for raising awareness on the regional core set across government sectors and agencies.

3. Participants

The Workshop will bring together senior government officials from the national women's machineries and national statistical offices⁵ of the member States of the ESCAP South and South-West Asia sub-region.

Participants will be expected to:

- a) be familiar with the key documents⁶ prior to attending the Workshop;
- b) actively engage in discussions and group work;
- c) share their thoughts and ideas as to successful strategies for promoting ownership, adoption and implementation of the indicators and statistics under discussion;
- d) formulate national action plans and strategies;
- e) identify a time-frame with milestones for the implementation of both components of their agreed national action plan.

4. Organizational Arrangements

Dates: 7 to 9 October 2015

Location: United Nations Conference Centre
Bangkok, Thailand

Organizer: ESCAP Social Development Division and Statistics Division

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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