National Training on Gender Statistics for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

23 – 26 February 2025
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Concept Note

I. Background and rationale

Within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), gender equality is not only a standalone goal but also one of the crosscutting universal values that underpin the SDGs and a necessary precondition for achieving the goals of the 2030 development agenda. Good quality, timely, comparable, and disaggregated gender data provide the evidence needed to measure progress towards achieving the gender-related SDG goals and targets. The Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals – The Gender Snapshot 2024 produced by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) shows that while there are notable advancements, including reductions in poverty, narrowing gender gaps in education, and progress toward legal reforms, there remains progress to be achieved across all indicators, with only five years left to reach the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal deadline.

To produce gender data and statistics for SDG monitoring and decision-making, several initiatives and mechanisms have been launched at the regional, subregional, and national levels. Among those are: (i) the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum, developed in 2020 through a joint initiative by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the

Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP); and (ii) the Women Count programme which serves as a global initiative to create a radical shift in how gender statistics are used, produced and promoted to inform policy and advocacy on gender equality.

Since 2018, Women Count in Bangladesh has enhanced the production, use, and analysis of gender data to support SDG monitoring and reporting in collaboration with the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS). Now in its second phase, the programme has integrated gender considerations into the Bangladesh National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS 2024–2030), promoted evidence-based policymaking using gender data, and highlighted the economic value of women's unpaid work through the country's first Household Production Satellite Account, using 2021 Time-Use Survey (TUS) data.

To complement these initiatives and continue strengthening the production and use of gender statistics in Bangladesh, an in-person national training is being proposed for 23 to 26 February 2025 in Dhaka. This national training will be based on the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum, which was developed to support national statistical offices, and relevant data users in the region to acquire the necessary statistical capacities to effectively produce and use gender statistics for tracking progress on the SDGs.

This training is jointly organized, funded and implemented by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), UN Women Bangladesh Country Office, SIAP, the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and UN ESCAP.

II. Learning objectives

The primary objective of the training is to enhance the capacity of statisticians, gender focal points from BBS and relevant ministries, as well as civil society organizations and policy specialists, in the production and utilization of gender statistics.

The specific objectives of the workshop are to enhance the capacity of participants to:
1. Understand what gender data is and how to use it for SDG monitoring
2. Avoid common mistakes when using and analyzing gender data and learning about quality gender data sources
3. Calculate gender statistics for SDG monitoring
4. Understand how to collect and compile gender data

5. Analyze microdata with a gender angle, including generating estimates with multiple disaggregation
6. Communicate gender data
7. Engage in data user-producer dialogues to promote better gender data availability and use
8. Understand how gender data is used for policymaking

III.   Expected outcomes

1. Increased knowledge, coordination and cooperation between gender data users and producers
2. Enhanced technical capacity to produce gender statistics
3. Increased technical capacity (knowledge) to analyse gender statistics in relation to plans, policies and SDGs
4. Improved technical capacity to communicate gender statistics for evidence-based decision-making
5. Enhanced knowledge of sources of gender statistics (regional and global databases)

IV. Training design and contents

The training will consist of a mix of theory and discussion sessions and hands-on and practical exercises covering the modules in the curriculum. The training will allow participants time to interact with the training materials and facilitators and with their peers from other countries and opportunities for sharing good practices.

This training workshop will be delivered in person over 4 days. The target audience is a mix of users and producers, and there will be some separate 'break out groups' to allow facilitators to focus on and address the specific training needs of each group while meeting the overall learning objectives and promoting exchanges between produces and users of gender data and statistics. Joint sessions will enable hands-on and practical opportunities for interaction, sharing best practices and gaining knowledge. The training programme includes facilitated and open sessions for producers and users to cross-learn and share experiences and lessons learned.

Although some of the modules are at an introductory level, other modules cover more advanced statistical analysis that would apply to participants engaged in data production

or experienced data analysts. **Stata software** will be used for analysis during the training. Thus, participants (data producers) are requested to bring their own computers to perform such analysis, with the Stata software installed in advance and a recent household survey dataset to use for the Stata sessions.

Training workshop facilitators will meet with the training workshop conveners (BBS) to identify participant training needs, training modules, country objectives and outcomes prior to the workshop.

The training is expected to cover the following modules from the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum:

- What is gender data, and how can it be used for SDG monitoring?
- Gender data literacy and avoiding mistakes
- Calculating gender statistics for SDG monitoring
- Finding the right gender data and conducting basic analysis
- User-producer dialogue
- Methods for gender data collection and estimation
- Analyzing microdata with a gender angle
- Multi-level disaggregation analysis to monitor the SDG from a "Leave No One Behind" perspective
- Finding the right gender data and conducting basic analysis
- Communicating gender data
- Utilizing data for policymaking

A draft agenda will be circulated to confirmed participants.

V. Participants
The following participants will attend the training:

- 15 data producers from BBS who have responsibility for gender statistics.
- 10 data users, such as a gender focal point or representatives from the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief.

-   10 civil society organizations and 05 media representatives[1] using or providing gender-related information for policy setting or advocacy.

VI. Language

The working language for this training is English.

VII. Training requirements

Participants are expected to be familiar with:

1. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Voluntary National Review 2020
3. SDG Progress Report 2022
4. National gender data and statistics and gender policies

Participants are required to bring their laptops to the workshop to complete the practical exercises.

One component of this training will require the use of the **Stata software**. Participants from the BBS (gender statistics focal points) are required to: (i) have Stata software installed on their laptops for those sessions; (ii) bring their latest household survey dataset (e.g. Demographic and Health Survey) for the workshop to use in producing statistical cross-tabulations for the practical exercises. More details will be circulated to confirmed participants.

VIII. Resources

-   Gender Statistics Training Curriculum
-   Report on User Satisfaction Survey (USS) 2024

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[1] Media representatives will attend one half-day session based on select modules.