



International Expert Workshop

Measuring Gender Equality

Taking Stock – Looking Forward

OECD Development Centre, Issy-les-Moulineaux Annex
7th floor meeting room A

24th-25th of May 2007
13:30, 24th of May – 12:30, 25th of May

Thursday 24th of May, 13:30 – 18:30

Registration 13:00 – 13:30 (coffee and cold beverages will be served)

Opening Remarks and Workshop Objectives

13:30 – 13:45

Javier Santiso, Deputy Director and Chief Development Economist, OECD Development Centre
Johannes Jütting, Workshop Chair, OECD Development Centre

Introduction of Participants: Tour de Table

13:45 – 14:30

Session I: Gender Equality and Social Institutions

14:30 – 16:00

Input provided by Denis Drechsler and Christian Morrisson, OECD Development Centre (20 min)

There is emerging evidence that “social institutions” matter for gender equality. This session will present and discuss the OECD’s Gender, Institutions and Development Data Base that offers a comprehensive data collection on the role of traditions, cultural practices and informal laws that shape gender outcomes.

Questions to be addressed:

- Determinants of gender equality - How do social institutions fit in?
- What variables are currently available? What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- How can existing variables be improved and what additional data are needed?
- What constraints prevent better measurement and how can they be overcome?

16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee Break**

Session II: Data Aggregation and Indicator Building: New Trends and Remaining Problems
16:30 – 18:30

Input provided by Prof. Stephan Klasen, University of Göttingen (20 min), Saadia Zahidi, World Economic Forum (15 min), Enrico Giovannini, Chief Statistician of the OECD (15 min)

Composite indicators, which are frequently used for country rankings, are very fashionable among policy makers, the media and other data users. This session will critically examine the pros and cons of composite measures and outline various options to improve existing indicators in OECD member and non-member countries.

Questions to be addressed:

- What are the uses and abuses of currently existing composite indicators that are provided by various organisations (UNDP, World Economic Forum, Social Watch, African Centre for Gender and Development, OECD)?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of composite indicators? Is there a universal indicator of gender equality or should we use a “tool box approach” that allows the building of indicators for different purposes?
- What are techniques and lessons learned of data aggregation? (e.g. number of indicators included in composite measures; usefulness of factor analysis)

All participants are cordially invited for a dinner at 20:00 in the restaurant “Les Terrasses de Saint Germain” (situated in front of the Development Centre’s offices).

Friday 25th of May, 9:00 – 12-30

Session III: Improving Data Collection and Data Quality
9:00 – 11:00

Input provided by the African Centre for Gender and Development (Thokozile Ruzvidzo), Social Watch (Karina Batthyány), the World Bank (Nistha Sinha) and UNDP (N.N.) – each 10 min.

Despite their importance, data on social institutions are scarce. This session will explore how data collection in developing countries can be improved and extended to include measures of social institutions. How can we define the issues that need to be measured, create the tools that provide quality data, and assign responsibilities to local, national or supranational entities?

Questions to be addressed:

- How can existing data be improved and new variables be defined?
- How can new variables on “social institutions” be integrated into current measurement tools (e.g. the World Bank’s Living Standard Measurement Survey, UNDP’s Human Development Report)?
- Where should data be collected and by whom (e.g. at the local, regional, national or supranational level)?
- How can activities of various stakeholders be streamlined? (e.g. the World Bank’s Gender Action Plan; initiatives of NGO’s and national governments, the work of the OECD Development Centre)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

Session IV: Conclusions and Follow-up
11:30 – 12:30

Workshop Rapporteurs: Carina Lindberg and Jante Parlevliet, OECD Development Centre (15 min)

General Discussion