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

29 May – 2 June 2023

Seoul, Republic of Korea

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 underpins 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 2022 Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report produced by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) shows that while there has been notable improvements in overall data availability in Asia and the Pacific since the first benchmark report in 2017, there are still significant data gaps. Notably, at the subregional level, the report highlights a lack of sufficient data for Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) and thus presents an incomplete picture of anticipated progress towards this goal for the Pacific. Strengthening capacities to produce and use gender statistics is central to closing the gender data gap.

To support Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICs) 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 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); (ii) the Pacific Roadmap on Gender Statistics, which serves as the overarching framework to

support Pacific National Statistical Systems to generate quality, relevant and timely gender data that meets users' needs to advance gender equality; (iii) the Pacific Gender Statistics Coordination Group which serves as governance mechanism for Pacific Roadmap on Gender Statistics; and (iv) targeted national trainings in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

To complement those initiatives and further strengthen the capacity of PICs, an in-person subregional training is being proposed for 29 May to 2 June 2023, in Seoul, Republic of Korea. This subregional training will be based on the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum which was developed to support national statistical offices in the region to acquire necessary statistical capacities to effectively produce and use gender statistics for tracking of progress on the SDGs.

This training is jointly organized, funded and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC), UNSIAP, the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and hosted by UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality.

II. Learning objectives

Participants will:
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. Analyse 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 policy making

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, as well as opportunities for sharing good practices.

Although some of the modules are at introductory level, other modules cover more advanced statistical analysis, that would be applicable for participants who are engaged in data production or more experienced data analysts. R will be the software used for analysis during the training. Thus, participants (data producers) are requested to bring their own computers to perform such analysis, with the R and R-Studio software package installed in advance and a recent household survey dataset to use for the R sessions.

The training is expected to cover the following modules from the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum:
- What is gender data and how to use it 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 policy making

A draft agenda will be circulated to confirmed participants.

V. Participants

The subregional training is targeted at PICs that were engaged in the past in developing the Roadmap for Gender Statistics in the Pacific, namely: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Each country will be invited to nominate **TWO** participants, including:
- One data producer from the national statistical office who has responsibility for gender statistics.
- One data user, such as a gender focal point or representative from line ministry and civil society organization 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. SDG Voluntary National Review
3. National gender data and statistics and gender policies

Participants are required to bring their own laptop for the workshop to complete the practical exercises.

One component of this training will require the use of the R software. Participants from the NSO (gender statistics focal points) are required to: (i) have R and R Studio software installed on their laptops for those sessions; (ii) bring their latest census dataset (unit record) for the workshop to use in producing statistical cross-tabulations for the practical exercises. <u>Pre-training in R will be provided to ensure participants are well oriented for the training.</u> More details will be circulated to confirmed participants.

VIII. Resources

- Gender Statistics Training Curriculum
- Roadmap for Gender Statistics in the Pacific