

Regional Training Course on harnessing gender data for SDG monitoring, policy making and action

21 - 24 July 2025

Seoul, Republic of Korea

Concept Note

I. Background and rationale

Gender equality is a fundamental principle embedded within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is not only a standalone goal (SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) but also a crosscutting topic that influences the achievement of the goals of the 2030 development agenda.

High quality, timely, comparable, and disaggregated gender data provide the evidence needed to measure progress towards achieving the gender-related SDG goals and targets. Such data are also indispensable in identifying gaps, informing policy decisions and implementing effective interventions. Some countries in Asia and the Pacific have made substantial progress to set up enabling environments for gender data and producing related statistics. However, challenges remain regarding the uptake of gender data either linked to gender data accessibility (openness, dissemination and NSO engagement with partners and stakeholders across the government and beyond) or to data literacy and documentary evidence of data use. According to the [UN Women and Paris21 Gender Data Outlook \(GDO\) Index](#), multiple countries in Asia could improve in this regard. In the Pacific, GDO data are not available for most countries.

To support countries in Asia and the Pacific in producing and using gender data and statistics for SDG monitoring and decision-making, several initiatives and mechanisms have been launched at regional, subregional, and national levels. Among them is the [Gender Statistics Training Curriculum](#), developed in 2020 as a joint initiative of 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) 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.

Against this backdrop, a face-to-face regional training is being proposed for 21 - 24 July 2025, in Seoul, Republic of Korea. This regional training aims to equip practitioners in the Asia-Pacific region with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills in utilizing gender data for effective SDG monitoring, policymaking, and broader decision-making. It will also serve as a forum for sharing good practices that promote the uptake and use of gender data and statistics and provide practical opportunities for participants to enhance their gender data communication skills; and equip them to effectively contribute to dialogues between data users and producers for policy design or monitoring. In the long term, this investment will contribute to more effective monitoring and reporting on the gender-relevant SDG indicators as well as evidence-based decision-making and policy formulation.

This training is jointly organized by the Pacific Community (SPC), SIAP, the UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the UN Women Knowledge and Partnerships Centre.

II. Learning objectives

By the end of the training, participants will:

1. Understand what gender data is and explain how to use it for SDG monitoring, policy and decision making
2. Learn about national practices on data uses for other countries.
3. Describe common mistakes in using and analyzing gender data
4. Identify quality gender data sources
5. Communicate gender data clearly and effectively
6. Integrate a gender perspective across documents of key national relevance (e.g. VNRs, NSDS, national gender policies, etc)
7. Engage in data user-producer dialogues to promote better gender data availability and use
8. Promote lessons learned about gender data uses and apply learning to their day-to-day jobs

III. Expected outcomes

1. Increased knowledge, coordination and cooperation between gender data users and producers

2. Improved technical capacity to communicate gender statistics for evidence-based decision-making
3. Enhanced collaboration within government to improve gender data use

IV. Training design and contents

To achieve the learning outcomes, maximize participation and enable the sharing of knowledge and experiences, this training will be designed with a mix of theory and discussion sessions and hands-on and practical exercises covering selected modules in the curriculum. In addition, in pursuit of the longer-term objectives of contributing to enhanced use of gender statistics in the Asia-Pacific region, this training will also include an applied component that will require participants from the same country to:

(i) jointly prepare (prior to the training), a presentation that highlights both challenges and good practices in the use of gender data and indicators for policy making in their country;

(ii) based on their specific country context as well as existing or planned initiatives (such as upcoming policies and plans, National Development Strategy, or other thematic strategies on social, economic or environmental issues) derive an action plan for evidence-based policy design, or evidence-based policy monitoring after the training.

This is expected to help ensure the training has the desired impact and participants apply/ implement the new skills and knowledge, in their respective countries. A detailed guidance document outlining the requirements and expectations for these presentations will be provided to confirmed participants in due course.

The training will be based on the Gender Statistics Training Curriculum. The training is expected to cover the following modules from the curriculum:

- What is gender data and how to use it for SDG monitoring?
- Gender data literacy and avoiding mistakes
- Finding the right gender data and conducting basic analysis
- User-producer dialogue
- Communicating gender data
- Utilizing data for policy making

A draft agenda will be circulated to confirmed participants.

V. Participants

The regional training targets selected countries in Asia and the Pacific region based on the results of the Global Survey on Gender Statistics and identified needs for gender data use: Cambodia, Fiji, India, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

To meet the objectives and outcomes of this training, participants should ideally be individuals who already engage in producing or using gender statistics as part of their regular duties, but who have not yet benefited from formal training in that area. Each country will be invited to nominate **TWO** participants, including:

- One data producer from the national statistical office who has responsibility for gender statistics or SDG statistics.
- One data user, such as a gender focal point or other representative from the line ministry, department or bureau responsible for gender equality who typically participates in policy committees or contributes to policy development processes in their daily work.

VI. Evaluation

Quizzes will be integrated throughout the training to encourage participation and the reinforcement of concepts. Participants will also be required to complete a pre- and post-test to assess their learning progress. At the conclusion of the training, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate of participation and will be required to complete an electronic feedback form (evaluating elements of the training design and delivery).

VII. Language

The working language for this training is English.

VIII. Training requirements

Participants are expected to be familiar with:

1. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Key national priorities of relevance to gender equality regarding social, economic or environmental policies in their countries.
3. National processes for evidence-based policy design.

Please note! - Participants are required to bring their own laptop for the workshop to complete the practical exercises. They are also required to liaise with their national counterparts to prepare one presentation ahead of the event, as described in section IV of this note.