



International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization

&

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



ESCWA

## Mainstreaming Gender in Labour Statistics

VENUE:	Turin-Italy
DURATION:	9 – 12 December 2008
LENGTH:	4 days
PARTICIPANTS:	30
REGION:	Regional
LANGUAGE:	English/Arabic
CODE:	A501159

### Background

Government agencies and others involved in the design and implementation of effective employment and training policies need a solid understanding of the nature of labour markets, how women and men are functioning within them and the changes taking place therein. In many countries, however, the necessary labour market information is unavailable, outdated, unreliable, badly presented or misunderstood, or otherwise inadequate. Reasons are often found in a limited mastering of basic concepts and methods, including gender related ones, a lack of analytical skills, and inadequate institutional arrangements for the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender related labour statistics and other labour market information.

Efforts are needed to strengthen the capacity of the government institutions and relevant personnel involved in the collection, production, dissemination or analysis of gender labour statistics and labour market information obtained through surveys of the labour force. Improving governments' competence to grasp the realities of local labour markets with a gender perspective is key to enhancing overall national employment policy implementation and monitoring. As key to this process is the recognition that major users of these statistics and information such as training institutions, enterprises, workers' and employers' organizations and civil society are important actors who must be consulted and informed. Labour, after all, is a critical production factor in terms of availability, quality and cost.

The design of the present course is a response to the request expressed by ESCWA, in line with the specific needs of the Iraqi Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (COSIT). ESCWA and the International Training Center of ILO are co-organizing a training workshop on Mainstreaming Gender in Labor Statistics in Turin, Italy from 9 to 12 Decembre 2008. The workshop is convened under the umbrella of the UNDG-ITF funded project entitled "The Development of National Gender Statistics in Iraq" which ESCWA is implementing with COSIT to raise aware-

ness on the importance of gender statistics and indicators, and to build capacities to produce quality gender statistics.

## Training objectives

The overall objective of this course is to enhance the quality and hence the impact of various national employment and training policies in Iraq from a gender perspective. Upon completion of their training, participants will have improved or refreshed and updated their knowledge of labour force type surveys with a gender perspective. They will have a better understanding of the process of collecting gender statistics on the labour force through appropriate household surveys in order to observe what happens in labour markets. Moreover, participants will be lectured on the analysis and dissemination, and will acquire knowledge of labor force statistics and indicators for policy planning and decision making. They will also learn about pertinent institutional arrangements for conducting labour force surveys as well as other labour force sources and training observatories, and will gain awareness of the importance of key gender-related statistics and indicators for the labour market as a pre-requisite for the formulation of appropriate and effective strategies for employment and training policies.

## Contents

The four day programme will go into the content of Module 1 of the international training compendium on labour statistics entitled “Statistics of employment, unemployment, underemployment: economically active population” prepared by the ILO Bureau of Statistics as well the ILO manual “Surveys of Economically Active Population, Employment, Unemployment and Underemployment, an ILO manual on concepts and methods”, the ILO technical paper on Measuring the informal economy: From the employment in the informal sector to informal employment, in addition to UNSD manuals - one on Methods of Measuring Women's Economic Activity- Technical Report (1993), and the other on the Methods of Measuring Women's Participation in the Informal Sector (1990) which will serve as a resource materials for the workshop

. The course will present the following items:

- The international guidelines on concepts of employment, unemployment, underemployment, currently active population and the informal sector
- Methodology for producing sex-disaggregated labour data and gender-sensitive indicators
- Issues and good practices in the design and implementation of labour force surveys with a gender perspective
- Data mining and improving data availability
- Data analysis and reporting from a gender perspective
- International examples or case studies

## Target group

The present one-week course is addressed to women and men who are staff of Iraqi government departments that are responsible for collecting, analysing or using statistics on the labour force.

Participating women and men should typically be involved in the planning/design of national surveys, employment and related policies and plans and have:

- Professional knowledge of statistics (preferably labour or economic statistics) or equivalent experience;
- Direct work experience or familiarity with their national statistical office, statistical departments/units of relevant government ministries or the Ministry of Labour, Planning or Social Affairs; other formulating bodies; applied research institutes in the field of labour or economics, trade unions or employers' associations;
- Responsibility as statisticians, economists, technical managers, analysts or researchers carrying out work in, or who are significantly responsible for the collection, production, analysis or use of labour statistics, particularly statistics on the labour force;
- The strong commitment: i) to actively participate in group discussions; ii) to report on their national experience; iii) to learn from each other as well as the international experts.

Interested participants are kindly requested to complete the attached nomination form and send it no later than October 30, 2008 to Ms Farah Ramadan [ramadanf@un.org]. Participants are also asked to attach a clear copy of their passports in order to initiate the visa arrangements to Italy, which usually require at least three weeks of processing.

## **Travel and accommodation arrangements**

**T**ransport arrangements will be handled directly by UN-ESCWA. Pick up and drop off from/to the Turin airport will be arranged by ILO Turin Centre.

Accommodation on a full board basis will be arranged by ILO-Turin Centre for the whole duration of the training.

## **Methodology**

**T**he methodology employed in the course will be based on a combination of individual presentations by recognized subject-specialists, participant panel discussions, and group work of a "hands-on" nature.

Participants are encouraged to bring with them any other information elaborating the production or use of statistics on the labour force in their respective systems so as to facilitate exchanges of experience, such as the latest labour force survey and related questionnaires and output tables.

## **Course evaluation**

**I**n conformity with UNESCWA and Turin Centre procedures, an evaluation of the course will be carried out to determine the perceived relevance of course content to participants needs and the effectiveness of the methodology and materials employed in achieving the course's training objectives.

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