

# Regional seminar on time-use surveys

## *Introduction to gender statistics*

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# Sex-Gender System

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- Sex and gender are two different concepts.
- Sex corresponds to the biological characteristics of individuals and it constitutes a demographic variable.
- Gender is an analytical dimension and corresponds to a cultural and social construction that is contingent in time and space.



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# Gender is...

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an analytical category, a social and cultural construction. Each society, in a point in time, determines the different responsibilities, expectations, roles, prohibitions, rewards, rights and obligations for men and women according to sexual differences.



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**RELATIONAL** because it does not refer to women or men in isolation, but rather to the social relations between one another. Constitutes a *system* of gender relations

**STRUCTURALLY INSTITUTIONALISED** because it refers to not only the relations between women and men at the personal and private level, but also a social system that is supported in law, religion, social norms.



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**HIERARCHICAL** because the differences it establishes between women and men are not neutral, attribute importance and **activities** associated with the masculine and feminine.

**CHANGING** through time because the roles and relations are modified across time and, therefore, are susceptible to changes by intervention (for example, public policies).

**RESPONDS TO A CONTEXT** because variations exist in gender relations according to ethnicity, social class, place of residence, age.



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# What is *work*?

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- a. Etymologically TRABAJO *derives from a type of **torture*** (Ancient Rome) which the name in Latin was *tripaliūm* (*three sticks*); *it was extended to the verb tripaliāre as being synonymous of torturing or **being tortured**,* subsequently in Spanish the word changed to *trebejare with the **meaning of effort and then work** emerged as being synonymous with working.*
  
- b. All human activity has the aim of producing goods, be it material or immaterial, for survival and wellbeing, which distinguishes us from animals because these activities imply social and cultural relations.



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c. In more recent terms, the notion of work is associated to the labour market and refers to the space where a wage or salary is earned for survival, but also refers to professional and personal development that connotes certain levels of satisfaction of good conditions for its exercise.



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- Beginning with the notion of work as a remunerated activity connected to the labour market and generally regulated by the State, reconceptualisations of this notion emerge through the contributions of social scientists that understand this concept as the set of tasks that are performed inside and outside the labour market and that contribute to wellbeing, and allow individuals to be in condition to integrate themselves in the production sphere.
- Thus, two *types* of work for the analysis of production in society are established:

**Paid work** from the classic perspective, labour is exchanged on the labour market for the production of goods and services through a salary or profit.

**Unpaid work:** that which is realised within domestic units (households) and makes social reproduction for which no salary or profit is earned.



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# Sexual division of labour

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- The distribution of work between men and women is called the sexual division of labour and has consisted in the differentiation of some activities over others, allocating certain spaces according to sex, fundamentally assigning women to carrying out work in the domestic sphere considered as reproductive and men in the public sphere considered as productive.



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# International Mandates

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- **CEDAW General Recommendation No. 16 (1991)**

Based on the recommendation Gral. 2 (discrimination) and 9 (about Statistics)

Recommends that Member States :

- a) Include in their reports to the Committee information on the legal situation and social development of women working without payment in family businesses;
- b) Collect statistical data related to women work without payment, social security or benefits in social enterprises owned by a family member, and include these data in their reports to the Committee;
- c) Take the necessary measures to guarantee payment, social security and social benefits to working women without such benefits in enterprises owned by a familiar.



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# International Mandates

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- **Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing 1995**

- 68b.** Devise suitable statistical means to recognize and make visible the full extent of the work of women and all **their contributions to the national economy, including their contribution in the unremunerated and domestic sectors**, and examine the relationship of women's unremunerated work to the incidence of and their vulnerability to poverty.
- 206f.** Developing methods, in the appropriate forums, for assessing the value, **in quantitative terms, of unremunerated work that is outside national accounts**, such as caring for dependants and preparing food, for possible reflection in satellite or other official accounts that may be produced separately from but are consistent with core national accounts, with a view to recognizing the economic contribution of women and making visible the unequal distribution of remunerated and unremunerated work between women and men;
- 206g.** Develop an **international classification of activities for time-use statistics** that is sensitive to the differences between women and men in remunerated and unremunerated work, and collect data disaggregated by sex.



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# Regional Agreements

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- **Statistical Conference of the Americas, Santiago 2013**

**Agreement 19 R** Reaffirms the targets established in the work plan of the Working Group on Gender Statistics with a view to continuing to **improve time-use statistics, the satellite account on households' unpaid work**, statistics on violence against women, poverty measurement from the gender perspective and the debate on indicators to be included in the United Nations post-2015 development agenda and urges countries to redouble their efforts to generate gender statistics;

- **Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, Quito 2012**

**Agreement 11** Urges the member countries of the Working Group on National Accounts and the Working Group on Gender Statistics to work together, with technical support from ECLAC, in order to establish a **standardized methodology for calculating the satellite account on households' unpaid work for the countries of the region**;



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# Working Group on Gender Statistics (WGGGS) of the CEA

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- In 2006, it was agreed to propose to the SCA-ECLAC to submit to its Executive Committee creating a Working Group on Gender Statistics (WGGGS). Proposal approved in 2007.
- The creation of WGGGS has been a key to the progress made in the definition and generation of statistical information from a gender perspective. It has allowed the design of guidelines, concepts, definitions and methodological recommendations to promote the generation of information and the harmonization of gender statistics in the region.
- Coordinating country : Mexico
- Secretariat: DGA-ECLAC
- Representatives: Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Dominican Republic and Venezuela.
- Participants: INMUJERES and UN Women.



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## **WGGS central themes:**

- Time use;
- measurement and valuation of household unpaid work;
- statistics of domestic violence;
- measurement and characterization of gender poverty;
- the institutionalization of gender perspective in national statistics offices;
- the strengthening of the relationship between those who produce and those who use the statistical information.

## **WGGS objectives:**

- training;
- strengthen the partnership between national statistical offices and mechanisms for the advancement of women;
- further promote horizontal cooperation, technical assistance and international collaboration under the program work of the CSA.



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# Regional Agreements

## Regional Conference on Women

- **RCW, Santo Domingo 2013**

*Agreement 45 Strengthen e-government policies from a gender perspective, including through the production and dissemination of sex-disaggregated information, administrative records and statistics on government and public service administration, to promote a culture of accountability using technology tools and contribute to strengthening mechanisms of citizen participation;*

- **RCW, Brasilia 2010**

*Agreement f) To strengthen the production of the disaggregated statistical information needed to raise the profile of gender inequality issues in the spheres of physical and economic autonomy and decision-making;*

- **CRM, Quito 2007**

*Agreement xxiii) To develop instruments, especially time-use surveys, for periodically measuring unpaid work performed by women and men in order to make such work visible and recognize its value, to incorporate their results into the System of National Accounts and to design economic and social policies accordingly;*

<http://www.cepal.org/mujer/>



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# Regional Agreements – Economic valuation of unpaid work

- **Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Santo Domingo 2013**

*Agreement 56 Urge States to establish satellite accounts for unpaid domestic work in the countries of the region;*

- **Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Brasilia 2010**

**Agreement d)** To encourage the establishment, in national accounts, of a satellite account for unpaid domestic and care work performed by women;

## **CRM, Quito 2007**

**Agreement xxiii)** *To develop instruments, especially time-use surveys, for periodically measuring unpaid work performed by women and men in order to make such work visible and recognize its value, to incorporate their results into the System of National Accounts and to design economic and social policies accordingly;*



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# **Time: key to understanding the inequalities between men and women**

- Time-Use Surveys contribute to the visibility of unpaid work and thus to the contribution of women to social wellbeing.
- Contribute information on the unequal distribution of total work (paid and unpaid work) between women and men.
- Allows for the calculation of the economic value that unpaid work contributes to the economy.

LATIN AMERICA (8 COUNTRIES): AVERAGE TIME SPENT ON PAID AND UNPAID WORK OF THE POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER, BY SEX, BY COUNTRY, FOR THE LATEST AVAILABLE DATA  
(Average hours per week)



LATIN AMERICA (2 COUNTRIES): AVERAGE TIME SPENT ON PAID AND UNPAID WORK OF THE POPULATION AGED 15 AND OVER, BY SEX, BY COUNTRY, FOR THE LATEST AVAILABLE DATA  
(Average hours per day)





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# What about policies?





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# Characteristics of the care

Care implies:

- Actions
- Knowledge (gender bias)
- Time
- Feelings



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The caregiver takes the responsibility for another person establishing different types of effort:

- ❖ Mental
- ❖ Physical
- ❖ Emotional

Fulfilling this responsibility generates a mutual, emotional bond between those who provide and who receive care.



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# Why it is a circle?

- Feminized work
- **Social mandate and gender stereotypes**
- Low social recognition but high emotional effort
- Bad working conditions and long working periods



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# What we need in terms of policies?

- Public policies that understand the issue as a whole
- High quality public care services
- Implement Convention 189 ILO
- Regulate care services at households that are not domestic service
- Improve working conditions in Education and Health sectors

THANK YOU

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