

Making Every Woman and Girl Count

Dear colleagues, dear Papa,

I would like to thank you for the opportunity given to be part of such a special event to discuss together about Gender Statistics Development.

Gender-related indicators have long been part of the agendas of national statistical offices which have brought a strong bond and fruitful collaboration between national institutions and international organization in highlighting the role of statistics for better gender related policies.

The agenda 2030, given the central role that official statistics have in monitoring the achievement of the goals, poses an unprecedented opportunity for any NSO.

The SDG's address development in economic, social and environmental issues, and holistically respond to the challenges of equality between women and men, including gender in all its dimensions.

Nevertheless it is also a big challenge for NSO's, in particular for developing countries like Albania, where there is lack of data and comparable methodologies in particular related to administrative data systems.

But we can use the AGENDA 2030 as an opportunity to mobilize resources in order to focus on producing this important information which will lead to a better decision making in and evidence-based policies for better lives and ensure that no one will be left behind.

The progress will be faster if us, the statistical offices and mechanisms already in place for the advancement of women maintain a continuous dialogue and join efforts to revolutionize the way in which information is produced, analyzed and disseminated, taking into account the growing demand for gender statistics.

In this view and in the view of the 25th anniversary of the Beijing declaration and platform for action and its linkages with 2030 Agenda, INSTAT have expressed its readiness to support development of a statistical annex for the national Beijing+25 report.

During these years, with the support of UNWOMAN, INSTAT has intensively worked to improve data on Gender Statistics as well as increase the communication with users by using modern tools.

As the coordinator of the NSS we have included Gender statistics in our 5 year program. The successful implementation of the upcoming PHC 2020 in Albania as

well as the implementation of sample surveys will help to increase the number of gender disaggregated indicators.

In terms of increase communication, in 2018, for the first time, the yearly Women and Man in Albania publication was presented as an **interactive tool to increase communication for gender statistics**.

To further increase communication Instat has developed a statistical literacy strategy which foresees the organization of training courses for public and institutions, as well as building literacy programs with a focus on youth through collaboration with high schools.

These initiatives will allow us to increase knowledge production and gender disaggregation analysis while mirroring the social issues encountered on the cross-cutting policies monitoring, in the framework of achieving gender equality.

We are very pleased that UN WOMEN, accepted Albanian request to be part of the UN Women's flagship program, Making Every Woman and Girl Count with commitment from both side, INSTAT and UN WOMEN. The program will allow creating an institutional environment by prioritizing gender data and effective monitoring of the respective SDG's achieving the increase of the availability of accurate information on gender equality and women's rights in order to improve decision-making and user-producer dialogues.

Last but not least, I want to say a couple of word concerning regional cooperation, even if considerable work has been undertaken to further develop statistics, I believe more cooperation between countries in production of gender disaggregated statistics should be considered.

Mexico launched last year the establishment of a Global Centre of Excellence in Gender Statistics, to research and produce quality gender data. This can be used as a best practice for other countries too, as a tool to enhance cooperation and joining forces to advance knowledge in gender statistics thus strengthening global monitoring of the SDGs between countries and increased statistical capacity in gender statistics.

We are looking forward to the starting of the program MEGWC, and we are committed in its successful implementation.

Women's rights are fundamental for sustainable development, peace and international security and it is our role as statisticians and as woman to contribute to the positive changes related to the development of our societies.