World Summit on the Information Society
Geneva 2003 Tunis 2005
Turning targets into action

PARTNERSHIP ON MEASURING ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT

Improving the availability of gender ICT statistics

Nancy Hafkin
WSIS Forum
14 May 2013

Purpose of this presentation

- Look at data on gender and ICT and its availability
- Propose priority areas where more data are needed
- What data is needed to help decision makers ensure gender equality in the information society?
- Starting point: internationally available ICT indicators for which sex-disaggregation is relevant and important
- Identification of priority areas in which data is not currently collected – both gender-specific and sex-disaggregated

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Principles in selecting gender-related ICT indicators

- Information society policy relevance above all, at national, regional and international level
- Simple, realistic and measurable
- High probability of country response
- Minimization of data collection burden
- Possibility to add items to existing instruments rather than to initiate new surveys

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Gender-related core indicators on individual use of ICT

- HH5 Proportion of individuals who use a computer (from any location), by sex
- HH7 Proportion of individuals who use the Internet, by sex
- HH8 Location of individual use of the Internet (8 possible response categories), by sex
- HH9 Internet activities undertaken by individuals (14 possible response categories), by sex
- HH10 Proportion of individuals who use a mobile cellular telephone, by sex
- HH12 Frequency of individual use of the Internet (3 possible response categories), by sex
- Data collected by ITU at the global level

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Gender-related core indicators on ICT in education

- ED6 Proportion of learners who have access to the Internet at school (ISCED levels 1-3), by sex
- ED7 Proportion of learners enrolled at the post-secondary non-tertiary and tertiary level in ICT-related fields (ISCED levels 4-6), by sex
- ED8 Proportion of ICT-qualified teachers in primary and secondary schools, by sex

- Data not currently being collected on all of these, but sex-disaggregated data exist regionally and at country level
- Data collected by UIS at the global level

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Other potential core indicators on ICT in education

- Over 20 gender-relevant collected indicators identified but not presently internationally collected
- Some of the most important:
  - ED4 Student-to-computer ratio (ISCED levels 1-3)
  - ED53 No. of female graduates per 1000 male graduates in ICT-related fields (ISCED levels 4-6)
  - Proportion of students enrolled in courses offering basic computer skills or computing (ISCED levels 1-3)
- Currently collected but not in core list
  - ED37 Proportion of primary and secondary school teachers who currently teach subjects using ICT facilities, by sex
- Which are most important for policy makers?

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Possible gender-related core indicators on ICT use in business

- Core indicators on use of ICT by businesses
  - B4 Proportion of persons employed routinely using the Internet
  - Currently collected by UNCTAD
  - Could be disaggregated by sex
- Policy relevance: shows relative business use of Internet by sex
- Limitation: doesn't show skill level or occupational level

Gender-related core indicators on e-government

- Seven E-government core indicators were added to Partnership's Core list of indicators, 2012, but not yet collected.
- Two of these can be sex-disaggregated
  - o EG1 Proportion of persons employed in central Government organizations routinely using computers
  - o EG2 Proportion of persons employed in central Government organizations routinely using the Internet
- Presently collected (HH9)
  - Getting information from government organisations/public authorities via websites or email
  - Using Internet to interact with government organisations
    - Both disaggregated by sex)

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Data availability from official statistics outside OECD countries remains a major challenge

- *2010 Census round data contains indicators on ICT use by individuals*
  - Very few countries collected data on ICT use
  - ICT use data, when available, can be disaggregated by sex
  - Kenya- a rare exception with data on 5/6 indicators on ICT use by individuals, which can be sex-disaggregated
- ICT-use data (sex-disaggregated) from official households surveys rare outside Europe and the Americas
  - 89% African countries did not report any
  - 81% Arab States did not report any
  - 76% Asia and Pacific States did not report any (including China, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia)
  - 67% of CIS countries did not report any
- Similar situation with ICT in Education statistics

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Gender-related ICT data is available from other sources

- LIRNEasia, Research ICT Africa, Women in Global Science and Technology research and publish sex-disaggregated and gender-specific ICT indicators
- Proprietary sources are available as well
  - Operators data
  - Consulting firms research
- Drawbacks:
  - Often geographically specific
  - May not follow international standards
  - Can't be used for international comparability

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Difficulties facing developing countries

- Least data available in low-income and least developed countries
  - Lack of human resources and funding to carry out ICT surveys
  - Lack of national baseline data on ICT sector
- Factors not specific to gender-related statistics, but…
- …general data gaps affect gender-related statistics
  - Still major data gaps in measuring use of ICTs by individuals in households and business employees, which show who is on the Internet, where they access it, how much time they spend on it, what they do online

Unanswered questions: data needed

- Critical questions:
- To what extent do males and females use certain ICTs?
- *Where* do females and males use ICTs?
- For *how long* and *for what* do females and males use ICTs?
- To what extent are females and males involved in ICT production?
- Are females and males benefitting equally from ICTs?

- Based on the findings, what can policy do to ensure gender equality?

Potential new areas for Gender ICT Statistics

- ICT Skills & Literacy

- ICT Employment and Occupations

- ICTs and Health

- E-government Services

- Entrepreneurship

- ICT Policy

- ICT-related Gender-based Violence

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT Skills & Literacy

- *Policy relevance*
  - Importance of ICT skills and literacy for economic individual and national advantage in the growing global knowledge society
  - Increasing necessity of ICT skills for everyday functions
  - Lack of skills subject women to increasing social and economic inequality
- *Potential indicators*
  - Computer skills of individuals, by sex
  - Female share of those with high-level computer skills
  - Currently collected by Eurostat

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT employment

- *Policy relevance*
  - Growing importance of ICT skills across occupations
  - Need to know gender distribution of ICT employment and skills in order to ensure women's competitiveness in the marketplace
- *Potential indicators*
  - Proportion of persons employed in the ICT Sector (as defined in ISIC Rev 4), by sex
  - Female share of employment in ICT occupations
  - Female share of employment in occupations requiring use of ICT as a tool
  - Use of ICT in occupations, by major occupational groups (ISCO, 2008) and sex

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT and health

- *Policy relevance*
  - Widespread use of ICTs in the health area can convey an array of beneficial health outcomes in which women should share equally, especially in their role as guardians of family health.

- *Presently collected*
  - *HH9 Using Internet for getting information related to health*, by sex

- *Potential indicators*
  - Use of ICT by health professionals, by sex
  - Use of mobile phones for health-related activities, by sex

E-government services

- *Policy relevance*
  - E-government is of special benefit to women who often have less mobility and income than men and experience discrimination or harassment in utilizing government services in person. Indicators in this area can also identify gender awareness or lack thereof in the services and information provided.

- *Potential indicators*
  - Users of e-government services (e-participation), by sex
  - Satisfaction with usefulness of e-government websites and/or services, by sex

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT and entrepreneurship

- *Policy relevance*
  - Policy awareness is increasing globally on the importance of entrepreneurship in increasing opportunities and fueling economic growth. There is a serious gender gap in entrepreneurship, especially in ICT-related businesses.

- *Potential indicators*
  - Employers and self-employed in ICT-related businesses, by sex
  - ICT use for productive purposes by employers, managers and self-employed, by sex
  - ICT-related nascent entrepreneurial activity, by sex

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT policy

- *Policy relevance*
  - Policy is the basis for implementation. If there is no gender awareness in ICT policy, it is unlikely that strategies, programs and projects will consider gender issues.

- *Potential indicators*
  - Share of ICT policies that refer to gender issues in ICT, by country
  - Share of national ICT strategies with gender issues

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

ICT-related Gender-based Violence

- Policy relevance
  - Numerous incidents have been reported of women experiencing violence as a result of their using cell phones and the Internet or visiting cybercafes or telecenters. Cyberbullying has also become a phenomenon, with girls as well as boys as victims.

- Potential indicators
  - Men's attitudes towards women accessing and using ICT
  - Reports of violence related to girls' and women's ICT use

PARTNERSHIP ON
MEASURING ICT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

What do you think are the key areas for which gender ICT statistics are needed?