

OECD Gender Project

Report to eS4W on attendance at a roundtable discussion, hosted by the Sex Discrimination Commissioner at Australian Human Rights Commission on Wednesday, 16 April 2014 from 2pm – 4pm.

The topic was gender equality statistics and data relating to unpaid caring work and the post-2015 development framework.

The discussion followed a presentation by Keiko Nowacka, Policy Analyst, Gender Project, Social Cohesion, OECD Development Centre and focused on the work of this centre.

Discussion included

The importance of an active and vocal civil society i.e. in our case, the involvement of women's organisations.

The importance of time use surveys as they identify the ways social norms are transmitted, e.g. women's role in unpaid care. We discussed ways of using Time Use Survey results e.g. we have a less efficient workforce because we are not dealing with the impact of unpaid care. In many countries, the time girls and women spend on household activities corresponds to the rates that girls drop out from school.

Measuring women's empowerment and social transformation in the post 2015 Agenda: Indicators need solid data and member countries will need to invest in data collection;

Measures of gender pay gap; there is no one preferred method. The OECD uses the median hourly wages rate.

That education remains a high priority, and while females are doing well in completing education this is not being translated into increasing representation in non-traditional occupations and industries.

Summary of the presentation

The gender team's work at the OECD Development Centre highlights the central role of discriminatory social norms in perpetuating gender inequalities in non-OECD countries i.e. developing countries and emerging economies (e.g. Brazil, China, India). Increasingly, OECD countries are being included in any comparisons and or rankings.

Work includes

1 *Looking at the underlying causes of gender inequality through Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI)*

The Social Institutions and Gender Index is an innovative measure of underlying discrimination against women for over 100 countries.

While other indices measure gender inequalities in outcomes such as education and employment, the SIGI helps policy-makers and researchers understand what drives these outcomes.

The SIGI captures and quantifies discriminatory social institutions - these include among others, early marriage, discriminatory inheritance practices, violence against women, son bias, restrictions on access to public space and restricted access to productive resources.

<http://www.genderindex.org/>

2 *Engaging in a dialogue through the platform Wikigender.*

The team also produces research linking social norms with a range of development outcomes on a regular basis, and works in close co-operation with other OECD Directorates on gender equality and post-2015 development issues.

www.wikigender.org

Other key pieces of OECD work on gender include:

1 *Closing the Gender gap*

This 2012 OECD report focuses on how best to close these gender gaps under four broad headings: 1) Gender equality, social norms and public policies; and gender equality in 2) education; 3) employment and 4) entrepreneurship.

<http://www.oecd.org/gender/closingthegap.htm>

Particular mention was made references to unpaid care work in the key findings of this report:

- Women do more unpaid work than men in all countries, while the gender gap increases with the arrival of children.
- Women often work part-time as it facilitates combining work and family responsibilities, but this frequently comes at a cost to their long-term career and earning prospects.

2 *Global Gender Statistics Program*

OECD works with this program which includes 52 indicators

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/default.html>

Initiatives to harmonise data across countries

EDGE and the Special Session on Gender at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness at Busan

New initiative by UN Women and UNSD, in collaboration with OECD and World Bank Partnership among countries that wish to strengthen their capacity to produce gender statistics, development partners and international agencies (especially South-South exchange).

The ultimate objective is to improve the integration of gender issues into the regular production of statistics for improved evidence-based policies for gender equality and women's empowerment

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2011/11/177889.htm>

[unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/Jordan_Mar2012/Presentations/Panel 5.a/Panel 5.a_2_EDGE Presentation GFGS Jordan.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/Jordan_Mar2012/Presentations/Panel%205.a/Panel%205.a_2_EDGE%20Presentation%20GFGS%20Jordan.pdf)

3 *Violence against women*

European Institute Gender Equality

<http://eige.europa.eu/content/document/international-activities-on-data-collection-on-gender-based-violence-across-the-EU>

4 Time use and unpaid care

There is a renewed focus on unpaid long term care and its cumulative effects on women over the age of 50 years, that needs to be addressed before 2050 due to the aging population in OECD countries.

The previous focus has been on 16-64 age group, workforce participation with attention now turning to pensions and retirement savings.

Post 2015 Development Agenda: Development Goals

OECD is not part of United Nations (UN) and can only work with its member states, who are also members of the UN.

This brief, [Financing the unfinished business of gender equality and women's rights; priorities for the post 2015 Framework](#), analyses investments by OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors in six policy areas that are priorities for the post-2015 agenda because of their catalytic impact on achieving gender equality and women's rights: girls' education; sexual and reproductive health and rights; women's economic empowerment; women, peace and security; women's participation and leadership; and, violence against women and girls.¹

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/Short%20version%20-%20FINALFinancing%20the%20unfinished%20business%20of%20gender%20equality.pdf>

http://www.oecd.org/dev/poverty/Time%20use%20_final_2014.pdf

For information on the OECD's work on gender data see: <http://www.oecd.org/gender/data/>

The OECD Gender Data Portal includes selected indicators shedding light on gender inequalities in education, employment and entrepreneurship. While much progress has been accomplished in recent years, there are still relevant dimensions of gender inequalities that are poorly monitored and measured. The Portal is thus a work in progress that aims at filling these gaps through new indicators. The data cover OECD member countries, as well as Russia, Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, and South Africa.