EIGE's Gender Statistics Database: new datasets on Environment; Covid 19 and EU Funding

Agenda for Online Discussion

Date: 7th December 2021
Time: 10:30-13:30 (CET)
Place: EuroGender

Welcome (09:30-09:35 CET)

[EIGE's Gender Statistics Database](#) helps to support the promotion of gender equality by providing policy-makers, researchers, activists and journalists with the data that they need to understand the current situation, identify where progress is needed, and observe the impact of policies to bring about change. In this respect, EIGE is constantly reviewing the scope of its data collection on women and men in power and decision-making to identify new areas that can input into the current policy debate.

This discussion will be held in two parts. The first will inform on recent expansions of the data related to some of the core challenges affecting the EU today, including the green transition and the European Green Deal[1]. The second will inform on some further developments that are in progress related to COVID-19 and the use of EU funding to mitigate the impact of the pandemic and make European economies more sustainable and better prepared for the challenges ahead.

In both cases the objective of the discussion is, firstly, to inform on the work EIGE is doing and the key messages coming out of the data and, secondly, to get inputs from the participants about the usefulness of the data, how it can be used to inform policy, and what further developments might be considered.

Part 1: Environment, climate change and transport (09:35-11:00 CET)

This discussion will explore new datasets on women and men in decision-making, firstly in relation to environment and climate change and, secondly, in relation to transport.

Context of Discussion: EIGE regularly monitors the gender balance in key positions of power in the **environment and climate change** arena within the EU. Key datasets with a time-series back to 2012 provide data for monitoring progress with implementation of Area K of the Beijing Platform for Action through the indicators proposed by EIGE and then adopted by the Danish Presidency in 2012[2]. Recently, working closely with DG MOVE to meet their needs for additional data in the area of transport and mobility, EIGE has expanded its data on environment and climate change in three ways:

■ Firstly, by further disaggregating existing datasets to highlight decision-making in organisations or bodies working in relevant areas: committees in national parliaments, European agencies, and European level social partner organisations.

■ Secondly through additional data collection to cover new areas of decision-making; European level NGOs.

■ Thirdly by exploiting existing data provided by Eurostat: data on farm managers.

Horizontal segregation remains a persistent problem in European labour markets. The **EU transport** sector is a prime example, employing only 22.2% women workers, and is one of three sectors identified for gender mainstreaming actions in the Commissions latest Gender Equality Strategy[3]. While there is gender specific data as regards the industry side, there was little knowledge as regards the decision making level, which is shaping the design of transport policy in the EU. EIGE has been working with DG MOVE to address the lack of relevant data on decision-making in the sector. The new datasets made available on EIGE's Gender

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[1] https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en

[2] https://eige.europa.eu/publications/gender-equality-and-climate-change-review-implementation-beijing-platform-action-eu

[3]
https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/aid_development_cooperation_fundamental_rights/gender_equality_strategy_factsheet_en.pdf

Statistics Database have been developed through disaggregation of existing datasets covering both national and EU levels. The discussion will share key findings from this data. Input from participants is welcome in relation to possible future developments in this area.

Structure of discussion: For opening the session, EIGE invited guest speakers from DG CLIMA, DG MOVE and DG ENER followed by Presentations of data on key findings, methods of data collection and functionality of the database. Finally, a facilitated discussion will take place with participants, along with concluding remarks.

Key questions for discussion:

Existing data on environment and climate change, shows a mixed picture. Gender balance is greater amongst the European Commission and in European level NGOs than in national politics and European social partner organisations.

1. To what extent do you think this is a structural issue affecting different types of organization (e.g., parliaments or social partners) rather than a sectoral issue?
2. How does this impact on the messages that can be delivered through the data?

With the exception of the European institutions, **existing data on transport** reveals more significant gender imbalances.

3. How can the information be used to generate wider awareness of the issues affecting the sector?

Regarding the **further development of data** in the areas of environment/climate change and transport:

4. Are there specific issues related to decision-making in environment and climate change or in transport that you would like to see covered?

Break: (11:00-11:20 CET)

Part 2: COVID-19 and EU funding (11:20-12:30 CET)

Context of Discussion: The **COVID-19** pandemic has generated unprecedented disruption to the economic and social well-being of all EU citizens. Although it is a universal problem, there are potentially differential gender impacts in many areas (e.g. health, employment, access to benefits) and it is crucial that these are taken into account in the decision made regarding how to both tackle the health emergency and mitigate its impact.

EIGE is already publishing some statistics on the impact of COVID-19 on the lives of women and men[4] and is currently in the process of developing datasets on the key decision-makers involved in managing the situation. Some of this data will derive from disaggregation of existing datasets (e,g, health ministers, parliamentary committees dealing with health and/or COVID-19 specifically, European agencies), while other data is being collected specially (e.g. composition of the European Commission's coronavirus response team and of the scientific advisory bodies convened to guide and advise national governments through the pandemic).

As the EU strives to overcome the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and build a better and more sustainable future, prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the green and digital transitions, the resources made available to Member States through the Resilience and Recovery Facility (RRF) and the various EU funding instruments can make a crucial contribution if used effectively. EIGE is currently developing a collection of data designed to

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[4] https://eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics/dgs/browse/ta/ta_covid

inform on the gender balance amongst key decision-makers within the allocation processes for each of the main EU funding streams.

Structure of discussion: Presentation on first results from the disaggregated datasets and some preliminary findings from data collected, followed by discussion with participants.

Key questions for discussion: Below are key questions to structure the discussion in relation to COVID-19 and to EU funding:

Value added of the data:

1. What are your views on the relevance of the data being collected? How might it be used?

Frequency of data collection:

2. How often should such data be collected?

3. Data on COVID-19 decision-making could, for example, just be a one-off. Would that be enough or should some future updates be considered?

4. For EU-Funding, the key decisions about fund allocations are taken early in each programming period. Is one collection per programming period enough or should there also be intermediate updates?

Coverage of the data:

5. What are your views on the coverage of the data being collected?