



# Online Discussion on key priorities for EIGE's Gender Statistics Database

**Date:** 13 December 2016  
**Time:** 10:00am to 16:00 (CEST)  
**Place:** [EuroGender](#)

**Background  
document**

## Main conclusions and suggested EIGE's actions from experts' meeting on EIGE's Gender Statistics Database

### I. Expand the scope of the database

*'My question is related to one of the challenges you have mentioned. It is about how you plan to deal with data collected by Member States without following harmonised methodology. Are you planning to upload this kind of data in the database? If so, what kind of exercise are you planning to do in order to highlight the fact that it is not comparable?'*

*'Have you thought of publishing non-harmonised data, for example, of some countries, that have statistical production on particular indicators, however such data is not available across countries? Collaboration with Members States should be promoted by EIGE aiming to improve statistical production under such required areas.'*

*[Experts' Comments]*

#### **EIGE's actions:**

- Establish an exercise for collecting and disseminating non-harmonised data produced at the national level on the basis of the experience initiated with statistics on gender-based violence.
- Improve the current format of non-harmonised data dissemination and display it in convenient and user-friendly way.
- Provide a clear reference on the technical aspects and quality standards in collecting administrative data for the Member States authorities.
- Further dissemination through the Database of the quantitative and qualitative information collected within the gender-based violence area, namely on:
  - administrative data,
  - female Genital Mutilation, and
  - costs of violence.
- Update the database in line with results of EIGE's project on improving administrative data collection on intimate partner violence and any other EIGE's projects that entail with statistics data collection.

*'It could be a good idea that EIGE's Gender Statistics Database would have close cooperation with other existing databases. For instance, EIGE could also create and display useful links directing to statistical databases of different Member States. It would emphasize the fact that such databases exist.'*

*'Finally, also there was a discussion on the fact that EIGE should entail highlighting the efforts of the Member States on gender statistics collection through the Gender Statistics Database'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Consider presenting Member States' databases within EIGE's website and highlighting their data availability and gaps on gender equality.

*'EIGE should consider integrating data from sources that would not be regular statistics sources – for instance, Grevio reports from CoE. There are also other committees at the Council of Europe, which are monitoring decision making, have longer periods of data and might be of interest to some of EIGE's database users. The same was said about OSCE'.*

*'If we want to integrate data from the non-state data, there are international NGOs, such as IPPF, CSO, and Amnesty International or social partners like trade unions.'*

*'I'd include the global data. However, the question need to be asked here – is this information good and reliable? How can it be treated? Nevertheless, this is definitely the source of data. One of the main challenges might be related to data reliability and availability. This global data issue is something that needs to be addressed and considered in EIGE's database project'.*

*'I am supporting the idea of the need to render the visible data from NGOs. Due to proximity to victims, NGOs have the very first idea about the reasons and type of information/help people are asking for. However, this type of data is not comparable. Perhaps, it is too much to ask, but EIGE should have a role in rendering visible information from NGOs'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Assess feasibility of possible integration of data from additional sources, such as GREVIO (Council of Europe), OSCE.
- Data from NGOs should be considered, namely under the area of gender-based violence.

*'Mixed opinions on geographic coverage of the database. It should be considered covering the Nordic countries, European free trade area'.*

*'Referring to the question on enlarging geographical coverage of the database, the common answer was that the more away from Eurostat you get, the more work there is usually with the data collection and cooperation. EIGE's team has to think about this'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Assess feasibility of enlarging geographical coverage to the European free trade area countries (Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, and Liechtenstein).
- Update of the database with new statistics for IPA countries where data is missing.

## **II. Improve functionality**

*'The biggest issue was the fact that currently graphs and data tables are only secondary. So, you cannot see complex tables, you cannot customise the tables very easily. The default table that shows up is not always very informative. The current interface does not display the defined default table'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Improvement of the database interface functionalities and structure, namely what refers to showing customising data tables.

*'There should be more prominent short instructions on how to use the database. Some people were not able to find a tutorial video while others mentioned that video was not necessarily helpful. The instructions on the database – both text and video – should be improved'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Improve the instructions on the usage of the database.
- Make more tutorials available – both textual and video.

*'The glossary should be more connected with conceptual and statistical definitions, to have a couple of layers that could allow people to understand what indicators are used both from conceptual and statistical perspective'.*

*'There was a suggestion to connect the glossary with the Gender Statistics Database. However, this is risky on one hand because we are trying to connect concepts which have been developed politically and conceptual purposes are not exactly the statistical purposes. The suggestion to have multiple layers might help to overcome this'.*

*'The main observation is that a limitation of keyword system. We just have a collection of keywords that are somehow attached to data sets. But it is not explicitly specified how a keyword specifically relates to dataset. [...] Key word could describe a general concept that the dataset is related to, it could describe specific phenomenon that the data set measures. It could name a specific measure through which a dataset provides*

*data. [...] So, it would be nice to move to link system, where we specify how they link to the data. That would create a statistical information system instead of just a database'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Glossary and Thesaurus:
  - Expand and enrich the current list of general terms.
  - Develop a richer set of relationships between terms, and, most importantly, a set of relationships/ linkages between the terms and the statistical database.

## **III. Tell a story**

*'We still need to tell more stories about the database. So, the statistical briefs that we have been planning to publish could be an option. We have not published yet statistical briefing notes with the focus on the database specifically and this should be done'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

### **EIGE's actions:**

- Production and dissemination of regular briefing notes identifying trends in the EU and Member States based on data collated in the database. It should be complementary to other EIGE's publications and should tell a "statistical story" which can:
  - provide general awareness/perspective/context, and
  - inform about specific issues.
- These statistical briefs should be about:
  - catching the reader's attention with a headline or image,
  - providing the story behind the numbers in an easily understood, interesting and entertaining form, and
  - encouraging journalists and others to consider how statistics might add impact to, practically, every story they have to tell.

## **IV. Link with other data sources**

*'What are you doing to mainstream EIGE's gender statistics database into other databases? When I go to Eurostat or some other sources you are using and look at gender equality, for instance, Men and Women in Decision Making, there is hardly any mentioning of EIGE and EIGE's resources. I think it is very important to have those links'.*

*'It is important to mainstream Gender Statistics Database not only on the EU but also the Member State level'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

**EIGE's actions:**

- Strengthen links with other databases and its main contact persons in order to disseminate information through their websites and other communication channels.
- Promote the mentioning of EIGE's resources throughout national and international statistics data providers/producers.
- Consolidate the current cooperation agreements and initiate negotiations with key stakeholders which expressed will on such cooperation/work agreements. A clause on mentioning EIGE's gender statistics database by other party could be included, if agreed, in such agreements.

*'One big topic discussed was the process of taking over the data collection on Women and Men in decision-making. There was a suggestion to make sure that EIGE will be communicating in advance the transfer of the database to the users who will be looking data on DG Justice's website. EIGE should, if possible, to continue to display the database there as well that the users still would be able to find the updates on Women and Men in decision-making at DG Justice's website'.*

*[Experts' Comments]*

**EIGE's actions:**

- Coordinate with the DG Justice of the European Commission responsible for the database on Women and Men in decision-making, in order to allow a smooth transfer of all required activities to EIGE's Gender Statistics Database taking into consideration the users' needs.
- Ensuring coherence and consistency with the previous work of the European Commission on collecting and disseminating data.