Integrating an intersectional perspective into the Gender Equality Index

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Workshop "Intersectional Research: How to Do It?"

AtGender Spring Conference "Bridging gender research and policy making: missing links, good practices and future scenarios" - Vilnius, Lithuania, 19-21 April 2017

Gender Equality Index

Work
- Participation
- Segregation and Quality of work

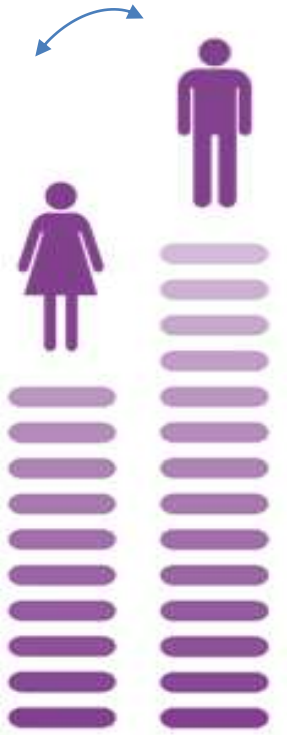
Money
- Financial resources
- Economic situation

Knowledge
- Attainment
- Segregation

Time
- Care activities
- Social activities

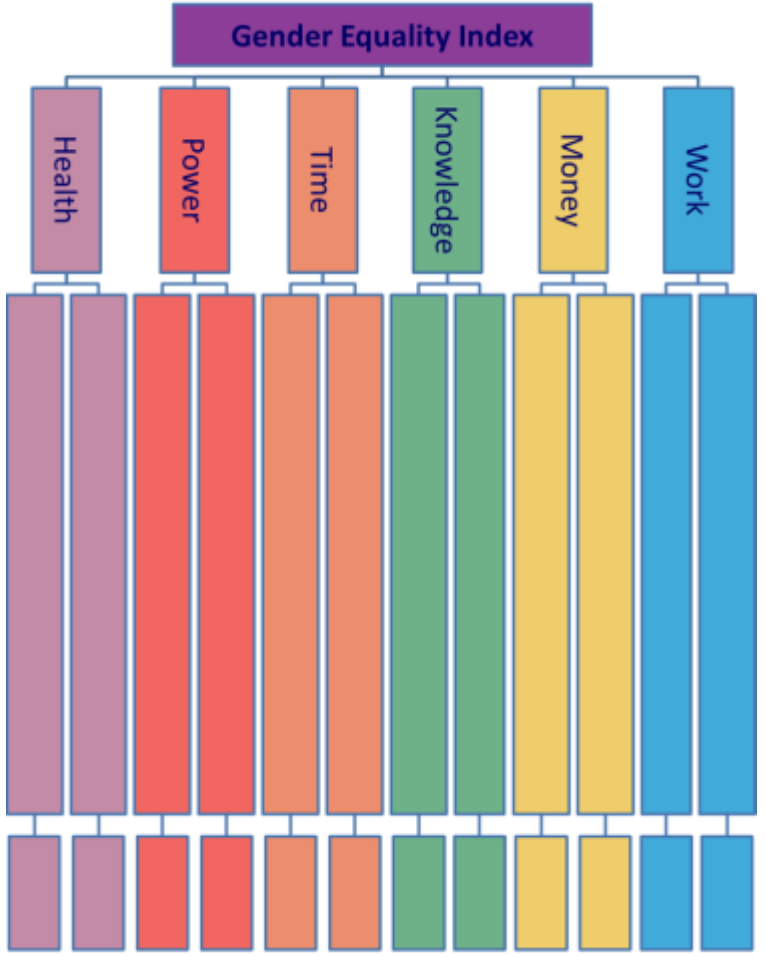
Power
- Political
- Social
- Economic

Health
- Status
- Behaviour
- Access



Characteristics of the Index

- Focus on **individual** and **outcome** variables
- **Reliable**, **comparable** and **harmonised** data for the 28 EU Member States
- No more than **10% missing** data points
- **Available** for all the 28 Member States



Intersecting Inequalities

Violence

THE RATIONALE: Intersecting inequalities as a satellite domain of the Index

- Acknowledges that gender intersects with other axes of power
- Highlights the complexity of gender inequalities

- *The term intersectionality has been used to make visible the interaction between gender, race, ethnicity, age and other axes of power in individual lives, social practices, institutional arrangements, and cultural ideologies (Davis 2008).*

THE RATIONALE: Intersecting inequalities as a satellite domain of the Index

- To provide further and more indepth analysis of the Index
- To assist with identification and crafting of effective, quality and non-exclusive policy measures and social interventions

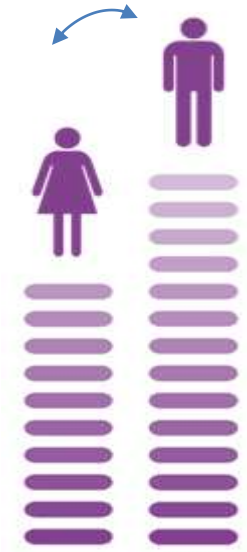
BUT HOW?

Methodological challenges

- Composite nature of the Index and its characteristics
- Individual-based variables – reliance on statistically developed and available categories
- Big data set - potentially large number of variables and groups/intersections for comparison and analysis

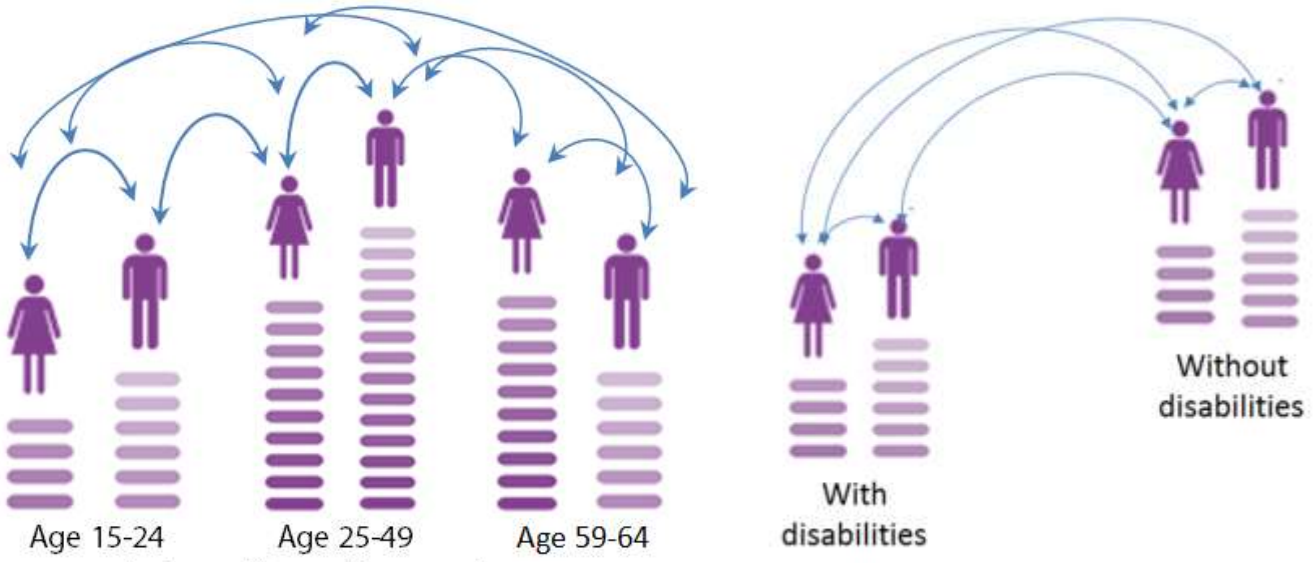
How are we planning to do it?

Core Index



Gender gaps adjusted for **levels of achievement**

Intersectional analysis



Gaps between **intersecting groups**

Data availability – or rather a lack thereof

- Data does not allow covering all the key groups identified in the literature and policy review (e.g. sexuality, gender identity, race and ethnicity, urban-rural)
- Data does not allow covering all variables and domains of the core index
- In most cases, data does not allow investigating more than intersection of two dimensions (e.g. age and gender; (dis)ability and gender)

Categories

Conceptual	Measurement
Age	Age group 15/16-24 by gender Age group 25-49 by gender Age group 50-64 by gender Age group 65+ by gender
Country of birth	Born in the reporting country Not born in the reporting country a) Born in a foreign country within EU b) Born in a foreign country outside of EU
(Dis)ability	Health related restrictions in everyday life No health related restrictions in everyday life
Family status	Single person by gender Lone parents by gender Couple with children by gender Couple with no children by gender
Level of education	Low educated Medium educated High educated

Challenges for analysis

- Are the selected intersecting categories justifiable?
- How to adequately integrate both gender gaps and levels of achievement into analysis?
- How to avoid 'the Olympics of oppression'?
- How to avoid generalizations about different groups?
- How to communicate intersectionality?

Gender Equality Index

http://eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics/gender-equality-index
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