



Economic Commission
for Africa

**Monitoring and Evaluation Programme of the African
Plan of Action to Accelerate the Implementation of the
Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action**

Part IV

A Guide to Data Analysis &
Reporting for Impact Evaluation of Gender
Mainstreaming on the Status of Women in Africa



Economic Commission for Africa
African Centre for Gender and Development

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ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

ACGD	African Centre for Gender and Development
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
HH	Household
HHS	Head of Household
HSQ	Household Survey Questionnaire
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
GDD	Gender Disaggregated Data
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MOH	Ministry of Health
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGP	National Gender Policy
NGPF	National Gender Policy Framework
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NSO/B	National Statistical Office/Bureau
PIEQ	Pre-Impact Evaluation Questionnaire
PLWHA	Persons Living With HIV/AIDS
Q.E.	Quasi-experimental
RH	Reproductive Health
RH/FP	Reproductive Health/Family Planning
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection

TFR	Total Fertility Rate
TB	Tuberculosis
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
TTBA	Trained Traditional Birth Attendant
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS & TERMS

Equal access and control (for women) = Women's ability to use and control resources, influence opportunities and decisions on an equal footing with men.

Gender concerns = Matters connected with women's and men's roles and relations and their impact on both.

Gender disaggregated data = Data that clearly show the differences in the status of women in relation to men in the various socio-economic spheres and why.

Gender gap = A measure of difference/inequality between men and women on a particular socio-economic indicator and why.

Gender mainstreaming = (Re)organization, improvement, development and evaluation of policy frameworks and processes, so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies, plans and programmes at all levels and at all stages.

Impact = Longer-term outcomes (intended/unintended) of implemented policy, plan and programme/project actions.

Impact evaluation/assessment = The process of determining whether action-related outcomes have created changes in the socio-economic status of women in the selected change areas.

Indicator = A pointer; a number, a fact or perception that measures changes in a specific condition over time. A *quantitative indicator* is a numerical measurement of change while a *qualitative indicator* is usually non-numeric, measuring perceptions and opinions.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) = The process of continuous follow-up (monitoring) and periodic assessment (evaluation) of the implementation of actions so as to identify problems and successes early on and to learn lessons necessary for re-designing or re-steering the programme/project towards its intended objectives and goals.

Productive roles = Duties and responsibilities related to the economic activities for producing, distributing and consuming items e.g. food crops

Qualitative analysis = A non-numeric system of inquiry that relies heavily on judgment, interpretation and qualification rather than quantification. Used to explain social processes and situations.

Quantitative analysis = Systematic, objective inquiry using numbers, figures, statistics to interpret and explain social phenomena. Used in measuring actual situations.

Quasi-Experimental (QE) = A type of quantitative analysis for impact evaluation which relies on comparisons between baseline and time-series data for an experimental group (which is exposed to an intervention) and a control group (which is not exposed to an intervention).

Reproductive roles = Duties and responsibilities relating to the bearing and up bringing of children.

Status of women = Women's situation/condition at any particular point in time and with regard to their needs/concerns and in relation to gender gaps in the various socio-economic spheres as measured by specific indicators.

Tally-sheet = Pre-designed, pre-structured table for collecting and organizing data relating to variables in an indicator.

Women's issues = Matters concerning women's socio-economic status and roles and their implications on their welfare.

Women's role = Women's work/involvement in the collective organization of social events and services; the triple role women play in development such as reproductive, productive and community work.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The impact evaluation of gender mainstreaming on the status of women in Africa will be done in two stages. The first stage will be a pre-impact analysis and the second will be the actual impact evaluation. Both qualitative and quantitative data analysis will be relied upon in conducting this evaluation using the indicators and tools contained in the *Tools for Impact Assessment* (Part II) document.

2.0 ANALYSIS OF PRE-IMPACT EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRES (PIEQS)

The Pre-Impact Evaluation questionnaire (PIEQ) has been largely designed as a closed-ended questionnaire (with few open-ended questions). It is expected that there will be a number of these PIEQs completed for each sector. They should be handled in a similar manner to the Household Survey Questionnaire (HSQ) as discussed in Section 3.0 below.

It is also expected that by the time the impact evaluation is being conducted, the activities of *Phase 1, Monitoring and Evaluation Programme* will have been concluded and the findings from that phase will be used as a take-off point for the PIEQs. This point is very critical because only sectors that have been passed by the Phase 1, Monitoring and Evaluation Programme as having succeeded in gender mainstreaming will be to be subjected to the PIEQs.

3.0 QUANTITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

As stated elsewhere, tally-sheets and a HSQ were prepared to collect quantitative data for the period 1995, 2000, and 2005 in order to measure changes in the status of women in the three substantive sectors of health, agriculture-food security and trade & industry. Once the evaluators have collected the data, they will process, analyse, interpret and report the findings following a reporting format described below.

It has been noted elsewhere that once the tally-sheets have been filled they will be taken for analysis using statistical package for social science (SPSS) software (for the quantitative/statistical measurements) or other appropriate software for the qualitative/descriptive analysis. Any suitable data warehousing software packages can be used to store the data in the countries where impact is being assessed. There is no need to warehouse the raw data at ECA.

3.1 Quantitative Processing of the Data

By the end of the data collection exercise, quantitative data should have been collected using two data collection tools viz. tally-sheets and HSQs.

In order to effectively process, analyze and report on the findings, the following steps will be undertaken:

1. *Data cleaning and coding:* After the evaluators have collected the data, they will assess it to ensure that it is correct, relevant, informative and complete. They will also check that all data is coded and ready for computer entry. Codes will have to be created and imputed for all answers that were not pre-coded, particularly the open-ended questions.
2. *Dummy tables and data entry forms:* These will be created in SPSS and all the data collected in the tally sheets and HSQs for each respective sector should be entered.
3. *Data queries/commands:* These are needed to process the data according to the required levels of analysis for example, ask for means/averages, medians, standard deviations for each of the variables associated with each indicator; ask to test the significance of each measure; ask to calculate the difference between two measures of the same type e.g. between the mean for women and the mean for men in the number of visits to hospital/clinic; ask for a test of significance of this difference; do this for 1995, 2000, and 2005; and calculate the differences between these three time-points (show on a graph if necessary) for both men and women.

Statistical analysis will entail tests that attempt to measure the *before* and *after* status of women/men (where possible), around the indicators of each change area. The differences between the status of women and men regarding the particular indicator will be tested through a comparison of the means/medians for the measurement/indicator in the *before* and *after* states. Several explanatory variables

from the IEQs will be explored to determine what causes the difference in status observed between the women and men in the *after* state.

3.2 Quantitative Analysis and Reporting of the Data

The data will largely be analysed descriptively i.e. calculation of means, proportions/ percentages etc.; testing the significance of the differences between measures for women and men; showing the changes in these differences over time (1995, 2000 and 2005) - including in (cross) tabular and graphical form; and interpreting and discussing the observed behaviours of the data with regard to each particular indicator over the time period.

Wherever possible, if the evaluators manage to collect baseline and time-series data for the indicator, as well as other extra-explanatory variables (see last column of the *Table of Indicators & Data Sources*), multivariate statistical analyses may be attempted to determine the significance of each explanatory variable in determining the behaviour of the indicator.¹

Reporting of the quantitative analytical findings will therefore be on an indicator-by-indicator basis showing the status of women using the measures described within this section.

¹ However, due to paucity of data and time limitations, these kinds of analysis maybe not be cost-effective and will be kept to the minimum.

4.0 QUALITATIVE DATA ANALYSIS

Data for the various qualitative impact evaluation indicators should have been collected during focus group discussions (FDGs) key informant interviews using the *Interview Guide for Key Informants & Focus Group Discussions*. This data should be collected for all the three substantive sectors of health, agriculture-food security and trade & industry and should be presented in the form of written narratives/transcripts or taped FGD interviews conducted during the data collection phase. These transcripts will contain women's and men's views, opinions and perceptions about the changing status of women on a particular subject matter e.g. maternal mortality, access to services, etc. The evaluator will be interested in gauging differences in opinions, views and perceptions between the women and men on the subject matter. Deciphering these differences will require a keen sense of perception, intuition, gender analytical sensitivity and skills. The evaluator will also try to gauge what the transcripts convey regarding changes in these views, opinions, and perceptions over the time period 1995, 2000 and 2005 (questions to this effect would have already been posed during the FGDs).

Furthermore, qualitative analysis will involve in-depth examination and interpretation of the scripts/reports produced from the interviews with key informants and FGDs. Social science knowledge may be brought to bear in such examinations and interpretations. Data should be crosschecked with the facts obtained from related quantitative analysis on the subject being examined and interpreted. Most of the qualitative analysis will be aimed at shedding more light on the quantitative findings where available and on offering explanations on the status quo.

The main approach to in-depth qualitative analysis will be content analysis. This may also involve the use of descriptive numbers and figures, tables etc. without going into in-depth statistical analysis. To arrive at such figures/numbers will entail enumerating the recurrence (frequency) of themes, concepts, words etc. in the FGD and key informant verbatim reports. It is expected that these reports will portray women/men as comparatively disadvantaged/advantaged and will give indications of the effects gender-mainstreaming efforts may have had on these issues.

4.1 Reporting of Qualitative Findings

The procedure of analysis will involve the evaluator reading through the transcripts one by one, sector by sector, change area by change area. Once in a change area, the evaluator will focus on one particular indicator at a time to attempt to find out, understand and interpret what was said. Since the transcripts for women are already separate from those of the men, the evaluator will have to put what was said by one group against that said by the other group in order to begin analyzing the differences on that particular indicator. Any noticeable significant differences should be noted and recorded separately as a reporting record. Thus, a short précis of a report will have to be produced for each individual indicator showing the differences in perceptions between men and women, changes over time in these perceptions and the meaning of those changes with regard to the status of women over the 10 year period.

5.0 REPORTING OF THE IMPACT EVALUATION FINDINGS

The main output of this impact evaluation exercise would be an impact evaluation report (IER) prepared by and for each country involved in the exercise. The IER will basically focus on showing whether impact has occurred in the sectors and the change areas. The report will contain the following sections:

- Executive Summary;
- Introduction;
- Analysis and Interpretation of Findings; and
- Conclusions & Recommendations.

The Executive Summary will mainly highlight the findings, conclusions and recommendations in summary form.

The Introduction will focus on how the whole study was conducted, any difficulties encountered (in conducting field work, using the tools/methodology, accessing information etc.) and how they were resolved.

Analysis and Interpretation of Findings will contain the actual outputs/results of the quantitative and qualitative processes described in *Data Analysis* above – and the evaluator’s interpretations of those results. The presentation will centre on demonstrating the behaviour of each indicator and the reasons why the indicator behaves that way.

The Conclusions and Recommendation will contain the final word on whether what has been observed as the behaviour of each indicator and its explanatory factors have indeed significantly influenced the status of women and men at this point in time, how those influences may play out in the future and what further courses of action could be taken to further affect the indicator in the interest of ensuring continued improvement in the status of women/men – as far as that change area is concerned.

(Footnotes)

