

## **Background**

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted by consensus Resolution 70/1: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda). The Resolution states that "realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress". The prioritization of gender equality and women's rights is reflected in a cross-cutting manner throughout the 2030 Agenda, including the declaration, goals, targets and indicators, means of implementation and follow-up and review.

The historic and unprecedented ambition set out in these commitments must be matched by an equally ambitious drive to ensure their implementation at the regional and national level. Translating these goals and objectives into tangible national action and monitoring their implementation is imperative and will require an adequately resourced and authoritative monitoring and accountability framework. Robust indicators and quality data are of critical importance and will to a large extent determine whether policy efforts are marshalled, and the goals and targets are achieved or missed. Building integrated information systems that address gender equality and women's empowerment in all its dimensions will provide a credible evidence base that can inform such policies and catalyse actions.

Over the years, the government of Mexico, through the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografia (INEGI) and the National Institute for Women, has positioned itself as an important regional and global leader in the production and analysis of gender statistics, particularly on the use of innovative methods of data collection on key issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment. In this regard, the government of Mexico, through INEGI, in partnership with UN Women joined efforts to establish a Global Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS) to advance the knowledge on new frontiers of gender statistics in the efforts to strengthen global monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals.









## About the Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics (CEGS)



The CEGS with headquarters in Mexico, is an innovative, first of its kind initiative, that contributes to the strategic efforts of UN Women and INEGI to strengthen the production, availability, analysis and use of internationally comparable data and statistics about key and emerging aspects to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. The CEGS aims to strengthen gender statistics through collaboration, knowledge sharing, research and innovation.

The CEGS brings together partners, including governments, private foundations, international agencies and civil society organizations to achieve measurable results in three interlinked areas:



Promote global collaboration on gender statistics by serving as a marketplace to match the supply and demand for cooperation for the development, strengthening, harmonization, comparability and dissemination of gender statistics, particularly in emerging areas/techniques for gender statistics but also in some more traditional areas where measurement and data quality challenges persist (e.g. measurement of unpaid care and domestic work and extreme forms of violence against women).



Lead methodological innovations, knowledge and best practices at the global level to give timely responses to the emerging needs and structural challenges of national statistical systems. Work will initially focus on the integration of gender and geospatial data and applying big data analytical techniques to gender equality.



By developing training materials and tools in emerging areas of gender statistics, including initially in the measurement of unpaid care and domestic work, extreme forms of violence against women such as femicide and in the analysis gender and geospatial data.

To implement its program of work, the CEGS will forge partnerships with key actors working on gender statistics to harness efforts, identify opportunities and develop initiatives in the framework of its thematic priorities and programmatic strategies. The CEGS will also harnesses with efforts of UN Women within the global framework of its flagship programme on gender statistics: Making Every Woman and Girl Count; UN Statistical Division within the Global Programme on Gender Statistics; UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

## **Objectives**

To kick-off the work of the newly established CEGS, the government of Mexico, in partnership with INEGI and UN Women, are organizing a high-level launch event to discuss the aims and objectives of the CEGS and how it can help to close gender data gaps and contribute to sustainable development globally. The launch event will then be followed by a global conference on the measurement of unpaid care and domestic work and its relevance for policy making.

As one of the key areas of work of the CEGS, the conference will focus on the importance of measuring unpaid care and domestic work for achieving gender equality. Topics to be explored include time use research and measurement, including whether current measures adequately capture gender inequalities in unpaid care and domestic work; methodological difference in the measurement of unpaid care work and how this affects global monitoring of SDGs; innovations in measurement, including use of technology; and policy and programmatic uses of unpaid care and domestic work data.

The two-day event will take place on 10-11 September in Mexico City, Mexico. Findings and recommendations from the Conference will feed into the programme of work of the CEGS. The event will also provide an opportunity for the global community to signal their commitment to contribute to the important work of the CEGS. Speakers and participants will include government officials, leaders from private foundations, civil society organizations and academy, as well as United Nations officials.