

Side event: Pathways for Empowering Women in National Statistical Office Leadership
Monday, 26 February 2024, 08:00-09:30 hours

In-person, UN Women Meeting Room, 19th floor, Daily News Building, New York TBC

Co-organized by: ESCAP, ECLAC, ESCWA, ECE, ECA, PARIS21, UN Women and UNFPA (TBC)

Empowering women within the leadership of national statistical offices (NSOs) is essential across all organizational levels, particularly in decision-making roles. There is a global need to foster and promote gender equality in statistical leadership as well as ensuring that women in leadership roles are empowered to fully contribute to the success of their organisations. NSO leaders face multiple pressures, however for female leaders these challenges can be even greater. It is essential to address the specific challenges faced by female NSO leaders and create a conducive environment that empowers and encourages female leaders within NSOs.

The event aims to shed light on gender equality in NSO leadership positions, the unique challenges of female leaders in NSOs, and pathways for achieving gender equality. This session will be an opportunity to explore the barriers and opportunities for promoting female leadership within NSOs.

Proposed agenda

Facilitation: Rachael Beaven, Director, ESCAP Statistics Division



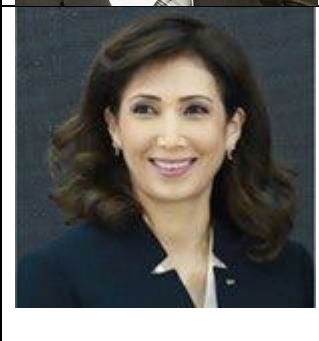


8:00-8:15	Coffee and bagels TBC
8:15-8:20	Welcome remarks –Rachael Beaven to moderate and introduce session <i>Papa Seck (Chief, UN Women Research and Data Section, TBC)</i> (3 mins)
8:20-8:40	PANEL 1: Initiatives to promote female leadership in statistics (20mins) <i>Papa Seck</i> to introduce speakers and moderate discussion (Flash presentations 3 mins each plus discussion 8 mins) Peer-to-peer support for women’s leadership in Lao PDR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ola Awad (President, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics)</i> Community of female NSO leaders in Latin America and Caribbean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Miosotis Rivas Peña (Director General, Dominican Republic, NSO)</i> Human resource policies to encourage female participation in NSO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Batdavaa Batmunkh (Chairperson, NSO, Mongolia TBC)</i> Womens leadership training in Africa <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Oliver Chinganya (Director of African Centre for Statistics at ECA)</i>
8:40-9:10	Speed networking (24 mins, Key takeaway messages 6 mins) Led by <i>François Fonteneau (Deputy Head, PARIS 21)</i> (Participants get into pairs and then move round every 2-3 minutes) Dialogue on opportunities, challenges and lessons learned for female leadership in statistics. List of suggested questions for discussion in Annex 1 and will be printed on A6 cards for participants
9:10-9:25	PANEL 2: Inspiring women’s leadership in statistics (15 mins) <i>Rachael Beaven (ESCAP)</i> to introduce speakers and manage discussion (Perspectives from female leaders, 3 mins each, discussion 3 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Aishath Hassan, Chief Statistician, Maldives Bureau of Statistics</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What were some of the challenges or barriers that you faced (as a woman) in your pursuit of this leadership role as head of NSO? • Graciela Márquez Colín, President, INEGI, Mexico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How can female statistical leaders help foster a culture in the NSOs that encourage other women to pursue and thrive in statistical leadership roles? • Elsa Dhuli, Director General, Institute of Statistics Albania <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If you had an opportunity to mentor another woman aspiring for a statistical leadership role, what are some of the 2 lessons or pieces of advice that you would offer to her? • Priscilla Idele, Chief Population and Development Branch, UNFPA, TBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What initiatives can be effective to encourage and inspire more women to pursue statistical leadership roles?
9:25-9:30	<p>Closing remarks –</p> <p>Rolando Ocampo (Chief, ECLAC Statistics Division) and</p> <p>Francesca Grum (Assistant Director, UNSD) (5 mins)</p>

ANNEX 1: SPEED NETWORKING QUESTIONS (To be printed on A6 card for each person)

- What is the greatest challenge or obstacle you have overcome in your career? How did you overcome this?
- How do you balance work and personal life?
- Which female has been a positive role model for you and why?
- What advice would you give to a young female starting a career in a national statistical office?
- What is the best piece of career advice you have ever received? And from whom did you receive it?
- What made you choose this career?
- What was the best boss that you have ever had like?
- What skills are the most important for your job?
- What is something which you are passionate about?
- Which book has had the most influence on your life?
- What is your favourite—and least favourite—part of your job?
- Share one interesting fact you have learned recently.
- What is an invention that would make your work life infinitely easier?

ANNEX 2: Short Bios for speakers

	<p>Ms. Rachael Beaven, Director Statistics Division, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.</p> <p>She has over thirty years of experience in government statistics. Prior to joining ESCAP, Ms. Beaven led the Data for Development Team at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK. She is one of the founders of the Inclusive Data Charter and established a data science hub with the Office for National Statistics, UK.</p>
	<p>Papa Seck, Chief Statistician, UN Women.</p> <p>Since joining UN Women in 2009, he has led statistics and data work at UN Women and has also contributed to the Research work of UN Women more broadly, including co-authoring two editions of Progress of the World 's Women as well as various other research products. He leads UN Women's efforts to monitor the SDGs and for the past year has coordinated the UN System 's efforts to ensure the inclusion of strong gender indicators in the SDGs.</p>
	<p>Ola Awad, President, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)</p> <p>Dr. Awad has been the President of PCBS since 2009. Prior to that, Awad was the first woman elected from developing countries and the Arab region to lead the International Association of Official Statistics (IAOS). She is the Co-Chair of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination, and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLG-PCCB) and the Co-chair for the Program Committee for the UN World Data Forum 2023.</p>
	<p>Miosotis Rivas Peña (Director General, Dominican Republic, National Statistical Office)</p> <p>She has held the position of General Director of the National Statistics Office of the Dominican Republic since August 2020. She has a degree in economics with master's degrees in Economic Policy, Gender and Development and Human Development. She has extensive work experience in the Central American and Caribbean region in matters of regional integration, development and public policies, public equality policies, gender mainstreaming and trade negotiations.</p>
	<p>Batdavaa Batmunkh (Chairperson, National Statistical Office, Mongolia.</p> <p>He was appointed Chairperson of the National Statistical Office in early 2021. He graduated from the Ming Chuan University of Taiwan and University of Luxembourg and worked at the Bank of Mongolia from 2007 to 2021.</p>



Oliver Chinganya, Director at the African Centre for Statistics of UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

He is Vice President of the International Statistical Institute and a Chartered Statistician of the Royal Statistical Society-UK . Prior to joining UNECA in 2016, he held other senior leadership roles, at African Development Bank as Manager for the Statistical Capacity Building Division, at the International Monetary Fund as Regional Advisor, and at the Zambia Statistical Office as Deputy Director in charge of research and dissemination respectively.



François Fonteneau, Deputy Head of PARIS21.

He has 15 years of international experience working on data production and use with developed and developing countries. He started his career in PARIS21 as the Coordinator of the Accelerated Data Program funded by the World Bank, contributing to the International Household Survey Network on survey microdata management and open data.



Ms Aishath Hassan, Chief Statistician, Maldives Bureau of Statistics.

She has worked in various roles in the National Bureau of Statistics for over twenty years. She has a BSc in Economics and Management, and an MA in Econometrics.



Graciela Márquez Colín, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, INEGI, Mexico.

She was appointed President of INEGI in 2022 and had previously been appointed as Vice-president of INEGI in 2021, where she oversaw the National Subsystem for Economic Information. Previously she was Professor of Economic History at the El Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City where she was a full professor at the Centro de Estudios Historicos. She was also a Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago.



Mrs. Elsa Dhuli, General Director of the Albanian Institute of Statistics (INSTAT).

She was appointed Director General of INSTAT in November 2020, previously she was acting Director General for more than a year. She has 28 years' experience in the field of statistics. Previously, she was the Director of the General Directorate of Statistical Production and before that the Coordinator of Quality Statistics, Director of Economic Statistics.



Priscilla Idele, Chief Population and Development Branch, UNFPA
She has worked in a range of roles across the UN including leading the Global Data and Analytics team at UNICEF New York. Her work over the past 30 years has focused on strategic direction and leadership of efforts in data and analytics, monitoring and evaluation, research, and evidence generation and use to inform global and national policy, advocacy, and strategic planning.



Rolando Ocampo, Chief Statistics Division, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Previously, he collaborated in the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), in the General Directorate of Statistics (1984-1989) and the Coordination of Methodologies, Analysis and Procedures (1994), where he put into practice the Power Parity Program of Purchase in coordination with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). He also worked in the International Comparisons Program (PCI).



Francesca Grum, Chief of the Social and Gender Statistics Section of the United Nations Statistics Division.
She is leading the work of two UN Expert Groups established by the UN Statistical Commission to develop methodological standards to measure and advance statistics on International Migration and on Time-use and Unpaid Domestic and Care Work. She oversees the UN Global Gender Statistics Programme and has been working on methodological, analytical and capacity development activities related to demographic and social statistics since 2000 when she joined the UN Statistics Division in New York.