

VAW and TUS surveys in Morocco

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Overview

The High commission for planning (HCP) is developing a national framework aiming to address gender data gaps and to strengthen the capacity building to improve gender statistics. In concordance with regional commitments and initiatives, this roadmap aims to meet users' needs, to cover gender issues and to provide relevant and reliable statistics necessary for the implementation and the assessment of policies promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

This paper intends to present two examples of good practices in bridging data gaps in violence against women and time use. The purpose is to share Moroccan experience on addressing relevant gender issues in regular data collection, dissemination and analysis. It is also in question to emphasize how crucial is adequate coordination mechanisms among relevant stakeholders and main users to bring gender into the "mainstream" of statistical processes and activities.

1. Problem statement

As a part of the National Strategy for gender equality, a Multi-sectoral Joint Program¹ was implemented (2008-2012) for fighting against gender-based violence through the empowerment of women and girls. In this context, the demand for gender based violence and time use data had been expressed by all stakeholders involved in this program and by other users.

There was a lack of information on gender based violence, the prevalence of the phenomenon breakdown by different forms, places and perpetrators profiles and their relationship with the victims. Thus, the set-up of a database of indicators on gender based violence is necessary for monitoring and assessing policies and programs aiming to fight violence against women and girls.

Concerning data on time use, Morocco conducted in 1997 a survey focusing on women TUS. It aimed only to measure the economic and social contribution of women in society. Therefore, there was a lack of sex-disaggregated data that could measure domestic production and highlight gender inequalities in terms of time allocation patterns, participation in all forms of paid and unpaid work, work-family balance, investment of time in education and health; welfare and quality of life, decision making and task sharing within the household and the couple.

As a consequence, there was neither available data nor deep analysis of gender statistics in these two areas that could better reveal population groups where gender inequality is likely to be pronounced and violence is prevalent. This hindered the opportunity to develop effective programs and efficient policies targeting women empowerment and gender equality and aiming to fight against gender based violence.

¹ This program called "Tamkine" which means empowerment in Arabic: It aims to prevent and protect women and girls from all forms of violence by addressing the inter-linkages between poverty and vulnerability and supporting survivors of violence to have greater access to legal, psychological, social and economic support.
: http://www.social.gov.ma/MdsfsFichiers/pdf/Programme_Tamkine_Fr.pdf

2. Outcome achieved

Thus in order to address this data gap, the HCP has implemented the VAW-2009 survey and TUS-2012 survey as regular surveys in its statistical plan. The main changes and outcomes achieved for these two surveys can be broken-down into five domains:

- Production:
 - VAW survey: a set of indicators are currently available on prevalence number of women who experienced violence in past the 12 months and during their lifetime disaggregated by forms, places where it occurs , demographic and socio-economic and cultural patterns, perpetrators profile, the household context, etc.
 - TUS: before there were only data on women's TUS. Currently sex-disaggregated and gender issues data are available on time allocation patterns, time spent and activities related to all forms of paid and unpaid work, etc.
- Dissemination :
 - Before this project, there were no available data on this topic. Currently the HCP website² contains documents related to the press conference held on January 2011³, W&M-2014 (page 109-110), on the main results of the VAW survey as well as a set of indicators in the gender database;
 - Before this project, data were limited to women TUS and contribution⁴, by the end of 2014 sex-disaggregated TUS data are being disseminated and the report finalized.
- Analysis:
 - VAW: Currently an analytical report is generated from indicators⁵ provided by the survey;
 - TUS: currently exhaustive estimates of household production and the set-up of a household satellite account are being conducted.
- Programs: many programs⁶ were set up such as the care services network involving five departments (women machinery, health, police, justice, NGOs), a financial and institutional support network, a process of establishing a National Observatory for Combating Violence against Women, etc.

3. Details of the good practices

Placing a particular emphasis on the processes of planning, programming and gender responsive-budgeting to promote gender equality, a participative approach was adopted. "Tamkine" program joined together 13 national ministerial departments and a network of over 40 NGOs with the support of 9 UN-agencies and international donors. Two strategic axes brought four outcomes to be achieved through the implementation of nine outputs. The second output of this program aimed to set up a data collection system to produce, use and analyze the gender indicators for monitoring and assessing gender policies and programs. In this context, many studies and surveys were programmed. The TUS and VAW surveys were planned to be undertaken by the HCP in order to meet this potential need on violence and time use. Thus, consultations involving representatives of all stakeholders were undertaken to design questionnaires and surveys' materials.

² http://www.hcp.ma/Etude-sur-la-violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes_a784.html

³ http://www.hcp.ma/Conference-debat-La-violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes-au-Maroc-Rabat-10-Janvier-2011_r168.html

⁴ Les Emplois du temps de la femme au Maroc (1999) : http://www.hcp.ma/downloads/Niveau-de-vie-et-pauvrete_t11884.html

⁵ Enquête nationale sur la prévalence de la violence à l'égard des femmes au Maroc : 2009

http://www.hcp.ma/downloads/Violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes_t13077.html

⁶ <http://www.social.gov.ma/MdsfsFichiers/pdf/Lag.pdf>

Objectives

The main objectives of the 2009-VAW survey, the first survey conducted in Morocco to address the data gap on violence are:

- Providing a database of indicators allowing a deep understanding of this issue, necessary for gender policies aiming to fight violence against women and girls.
- Measuring the prevalence of violence against women in Moroccan society by form (physical, sexual violence, economic, etc.) occurring in different spaces (work, public life, domestic, etc.) at national level and by place of residence;
- Covering different topics on the socio-economic environment and the characteristics of victims, their households, the perpetrators and their relationship to the victims.

The main objectives of 2012-TUS⁷ conducted to address the lack of sex and age disaggregated data are:

- To measure the amount of time spent in different activities carried out by women, men and children;
- To provide data on socioeconomic and demographic context in which they undertake these various activities;
- Highlight gender inequalities and differences between population groups in terms of time allocation and welfare.

The main uses

- Providing detailed and accurate measurement of all forms of work: this data source can supplement those provided by conventional LFS by the apprehension of time actually worked in all its forms;
- Estimating unpaid and domestic work to set up the satellite accounts that extend measurement of gross domestic production to include non-SNA production;
- Highlighting the gender inequalities in terms of time allocation patterns, participation in all forms of paid and unpaid work, work-family balance, investment of time in education and health; welfare and quality of life, decision making and task sharing within the household and the couple.

Areas covered

- The sampling design of VAW survey is a probabilistic stratified and multistage sampling; it concerns about 8,990 households (8,275 eligible women selected by using Kish table) covering the whole country (urban and rural) and representing all regions and socioeconomic classes.
- The sampling design of TUS is based on a probabilistic stratified and multistage sampling; about 9000 men, 9000 women and 3000 children. It covers the whole country (urban and rural) and represents all regions and socioeconomic classes. The fieldwork lasted 12 months in order to cover all seasonal activities.
- The VAW-2009 survey's questionnaires :
 - Household questionnaire: contains questions on the demographic and socio-economic environment and housing as well as a module compiled to identify and select eligible women for individual questionnaire.
 - Individual questionnaire: divided into 17 modules: violence (forms, places, circumstances, severity of violence, and type of services accessed) and perpetrator profile, relationship with the perpetrator, and additional breakdowns. Those modules concern woman background, health issues, public life, employment, education, family context, relationship with the partner/husband/boyfriend, pregnancy/maternity, divorce and widow allowances and issues and other marital

⁷ The last TUS was conducted in 1997 concerned women and aimed only to measure women contributions in society.

events, childcare, economic and financial issues, legacy and general lifetime events related to sexual and physical issues.

- The TUS-2012 survey's questionnaires :
 - Household questionnaire : It covers the following modules: Socio-demographic and socio-cultural characteristics of household members; Socio-cultural characteristics of household members; Health; Employment; Housing conditions; Household equipment; Support and services received by the household as a volunteer; Household income; Use of services and communal facilities.
 - Individual questionnaire: completed for selected reference person. It covers the following aspects: Cultural activities; participation in civic life; time management and quality of life; behaviors and decisions within the couple (partnership).
 - 24h-diary : open intervals of time (start and finish times, duration), where, paid/unpaid, for whom, simultaneous activities;

Executing agency: both the two surveys were conducted by the HCP with the technical support of UN-WOMEN. A participative approach was adopted and consultations undertaken involving all stakeholders⁸ of the project enabling them to express their needs. It should also be noted that expert councilors (sociologists, anthropologists, psychologists, etc.) from NGOs have kindly and effectively made available contributions.

Timeframe

VAW survey

- The project lasted two years from consultations to the dissemination of the final report.
- Fieldwork : from June 2009 to January 2010 and pilot survey was conducted during April 2009 in three regions;

TUS survey

- The project took three years from consultations to the dissemination of the results.
- TUS data collection: October 2011 till September 2012 (one year in order to cover all seasonal specificities).

Estimated total cost: 1.5 million \$: Co-financed by national budget (HCP) and funds provided by MDGIF executed by UN Women.

Processes involved: The 16 regional directorates were involved in the implementation processes of these two surveys, from training and data collection to data cleaning. Almost 140 people were mobilized for the VAW survey and more than 90 people for the TUS.

4. Success factors

Many factors related to organizational aspects and the institutional environment contributed to make those significant changes and enabled the two surveys to be conducted:

Institutional level: in order to complete this project and conduct the VAW and TUS surveys in accordance with the HCP's statistical plan, there was a set-up of:

- A consultative committee piloted by the HCP and involving all stakeholders : gender statistics focal point of **13 ministries** (Ministry of Women Machinery (Social Development, Family and Solidarity), Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior (DGCL and Police), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Agriculture and Maritime Fishing, Ministry of Education, Employment and Vocational Training, Ministry of Communication) and

⁸ Women machinery, 12 other ministerial departments and a network of 40 NGOs and scholars.

9 UN agencies UN-WOMEN, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNHCR, ILO, FAO, UNESCO and MDGIF and representatives of a **network of more than 40 NGOs** militating for women's rights and empowerment, children and development as well as **researchers representing universities** and research centers working on various gender issues;

- An internal pilot committee (within the HCP) composed of statisticians and researchers with multiple background and specialties, working on gender statistics and gender issues belonging to the Directorate of Statistics, the Observatory of Living Conditions and Poverty, the Center Demographic Researches and Studies, the Directorate of national accounts ;
- A technical committee (within the Directorate of Statistics) involving household surveys, sampling design and gender departments, GIS and IT departments, Human resources and budget department.

Coordination mechanisms: those structures and committees were set up in order to ensure a solid coordination mechanism involving relevant stakeholders within the national statistical system, from both the producers and the users' side. The coordination mechanisms involving gender statistics focal point of ministries is a systematic and institutional mechanism set up a decade ago for gender responsive budgeting indicators and reports.

During the development of the conceptual and methodological framework of these surveys many consultations were made. In accordance with the UN-recommendations on VAW and TUS, the main concern was how to better meet all users' needs, better fit the Moroccan context and bring gender issues to statistics through effective modules, questions and classifications for efficient questionnaire design. Thus, participative approach was intended to meet this objective and to validate the various outputs developed by the team responsible for the surveys.

Systematized training and capacity building: In accordance with international recommendations, tools, and manuals, the HCP set up an ongoing process for capacity building on gender statistics based on:

- Attending many international and regional meetings (UNESCWA, UNECE, UNECA, MEDSTAT,...), benefiting from trainings of trainers on gender statistics and issues especially on VAW and TUS covering several items such as methodological frame, classification, sampling, questionnaires design and data processing, etc. in addition to items related to TUS (diaries, ICATUS, how to estimate unpaid and domestic work, etc.) and related to VAW (ethical issues and confidentiality and the safety of the interviewees and interviewers, violence forms definitions, etc.) ;
- Organizing study visits to other countries to learn from their experiences (France, Canada, etc.);
- Beneficiating from technical assistance provided by international experts with the support of UN-Women and MEDSTAT, Moroccan-French cooperation to support Moroccan experience;
- Developing training resources on gender statistics and conducting regular training on classifications, manuals, data collection materials and ethical issues to respect during the interviews, data processing, dealing with non responses, data-mining and analysis.

The selection and the training of relevant staff was a crucial step in both the two surveys:

- VAW survey: the training of interviewers (women only) and supervisors took place in four regional centers: Rabat, Marrakech, Agadir and Fes. The field data collection was undertaken between June 2009 and January 2010. Almost **140 people** (female interviewers, supervisors) mobilized from the 16 regions of Morocco. Also, central and regional managers were mobilized during the data collection. They were trained on ethical issues and the respect of confidentiality and the safety of the interviewees and interviewers, on the attention to be paid to regional specificities and traditions and how to isolate the eligible interviewee especially in large families, etc. It should also be noted that five main NGOs had kindly made available contributions as gender expert councilors (**17**: sociologists, anthropologists, psychologists, etc.). Concerning data cleaning and processing, **30 people** were trained and involved. Moreover, **10** statisticians,

demographers, and econometricists were deeply involved during the data analysis and the report writing.

- TUS survey: The field data collection was undertaken between October 2011 and September 2012. Almost **90 people** female interviewers (interviewing women) and men (interviewing men), supervisors and coders were involved coming from the 16 regions of Morocco, central and regional supervisors were mobilized during the data collection. They were trained on the surveys materials, questionnaires, diaries and classification. In accordance with the ICATUS, this classification was adapted to take into account the Moroccan specificities and context; it was based on an anthropological study on different activities carried out by women and men. Concerning data cleaning and processing, **25 people** were trained and mobilized for data control and codification and operating results. Moreover, **12** statisticians, demographers, and econometricists were deeply involved during data analysis and the report writing.

The questionnaires were designed in consultation with a wide range of VAW and TUS matter specialists, having a deep knowledge of gender issues. Classification and coding experts were also involved. The concerns were to ensure the gender-specific conceptual and measurement issues were adequately reflected in the questions, also, the capacity building and the training presses of field supervisors, data processing staff, and data analysts.

5. Challenges and solutions

The key challenges that were faced in establishing the two surveys, but practically handled, were essentially:

1- Concerning the VAW survey:

- The survey's name: because of the sensitivity and complexity of this topic, the term violence itself has been a major problem; the decision was taken that it should not appear on the questionnaire especially when introducing the subject. The name: "National Survey on facts' life of women and girls" was chosen to deal with this matter.
- Classifications and concepts of violence forms: Current statistical measurements of violence against women provide limited statistical tools and classifications. More efforts to harmonize and to adapt to regional context are required to provide clear definitions which are statistically measurable. All forms of violence are concerned especially physical, sexual and psychological violence. Besides, sexual violence is very difficult to report especially in Arab and Muslim countries;
- Sampling design issues: Women belonging to minority groups are harder to reach (specific profiles). A specific sampling design is needed to deal with this problem;
- Data collection issues: Attention was paid to ethical issues, confidentiality and the safety of the interviewees and interviewers. Thus, special training was provided to relevant staff carefully selected in order to complete their mission with minimum bias and risk; Because of fear of reprisal or lack of knowledge of legal rights, some women underreport domestic violence, intimate violence and perpetrators profile.

2- Concerning the TUS :

- Classification: In reference to the ICATUS, the first challenge was to adapt the 2012-TUS classification, covering all activities carried out by women and men, in order to take into account Moroccan and regional specificities (distinguishing leisure, religious activities or sociability activities, routes, waiting time for an activity). The second challenge was the implementation of children activities. In fact, as the third of the survey sample concerns children aged from 7 to 14 years' old, discussions were undertaken involving main stakeholders and statisticians from the NSA and LFS departments;
- Questionnaire design: to bring relevant gender issues to TUS. Consultations and discussions were undertaken to design individual questionnaire and to improve contextual information and subjective module (time use perception, work-life balance, welfare, decision making within the couple, contribution in civic and public life);

- Data collection : dealing with non responses (partial and complete) caused by the questionnaires burden and the complexity of the topic;
- Data mining and analysis: Evaluating the domestic work. The concern was about making a good assessment by using the specialized substitute method that allows an interesting representation of « what should have been paid to get the work done ». The right profession choices to be considered as a substitute to a particular domestic activity. Those challenges were overcome with the support of national and international experts working on these issues.

6. Future plans and sustainability

This chapter intends to outline the main needs for sustaining the practice in the future, including institutional, technical, financial and human resources aspects.

In order to sustain this practice, the HCP is scheduling a new VAW survey in 2015 programmed as an activity in the government gender equality plan. A light module on violence in accordance with WHO recommendations is also planned to be integrated in the next DHS survey. Further research and further investigations are planned and will focus on several analytical aspects concerning violence against women related to perception and determinants of violence, the estimates of the socio-economic costs of violence.

Concerning TUS, the HCP is planning to conduct this survey every ten years. On the other hand, many discussions are undertaken concerning the implementation in addition a light time-diary, on activities carried out by women and men, into some regular socio-economic surveys.

Due to financial issues and budget restrictions in our country, the increasing demand of data on these two gender issues could support the HCP in its advocacy for this complex and resource demanding surveys. The UN agencies and other donors are kindly invited to mobilize additional resources and funds to support such initiatives. Concerning capacity building, the HCP plan is focusing on tools and programs for strengthening gender statistics in order to ensure sustainable and effective work. The exchange and share of good practices and learning from others' innovative approaches in these meetings, as well as within regional groups, is also very supportive for their sustainability.

7. Feedback from beneficiaries of the practice

Immediately after the conference debate held by HCP in January 2011 for presenting the main findings of the VAW survey, attended by media and main stockholders, big societal debates were generated. The survey results has stimulated significant feedback from civil society, NGOs, decision makers especially women machinery, bodies responsible for monitoring and/or implementation of human rights, researchers and universities that are making use of this data. The findings have also been used by the Media as well as NGOs to stimulate a collective awareness and to support the advocacy for the respect of human rights and condemnation of any act of violence that violates these rights.

All those reactions have generated an active demand for data and reports related to the survey. In fact, more than 500 hard copies of the detailed report were disseminated and almost 4,500 electronic copies (PDF) were downloaded. In general, more than 9,000 downloads were done from the HCP official website of the main results release and the methodological note. In addition, analysis in depth was undertaken and thematic reports and papers were developed using the results of these surveys.

Conducting this major project has therefore highlighted the potential of surveys (vs. register data) to cover and measure the phenomenon of violence that continues to grow with its consequences, social and economic costs. It has also emphasized the rate of unreported cases of violence and the limits of registers. In 2009, the number of cases reported according to institutional information system was about 34,000 (12,710 reported by the Listening Centers, 7,903 by Gendarmerie, 7,784

by the courts, 4,340 by the Police and 1,389 registered in hospitals), whereas the VAW survey estimated the number of women having experienced violence to be nearly 6 million.

Expected uses of TUS results:

- To measure un-paid work and non market production (estimates of domestic production and the set-up of the household satellite account), emphasizing well-being/welfare and work-life balance, gender equality, other issues (health, work, transport, ITC, sport, religion, etc.);
- To provide key indicators necessary to implement effective policies targeting specific groups. Example: the Ministry of education has expressed its interest on the correlation between the market child work/the substantial burden of girls' domestic work and school attendance/drop out of school (gender inequality to access to education and paid and decent work, etc.).

9. Supporting documents

Methodological note VAW: http://www.hcp.ma/Etude-sur-la-violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes_a784.html

The VAW: http://www.hcp.ma/Enquete-nationale-de-la-prevalence-de-la-violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes_a105.html

Press release: http://www.hcp.ma/downloads/Violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes_t13077.html

Conference Docs: http://www.hcp.ma/Conference-debat-La-violence-a-l-egard-des-femmes-au-Maroc--Rabat-10-Janvier-2011_r168.html

TAMKINE program: http://www.social.gov.ma/MdsfsFichiers/pdf/Programme_Tamkine_Fr.pdf

Promoting Gender Equality and combating VAW: <http://www.social.gov.ma/MdsfsFichiers/pdf/Lag.pdf>

Government plan for gender equality: http://www.social.gov.ma/MdsfsFichiers/pdf/ikram_anglais.pdf

Gender responsive budgeting website:

<http://www.finances.gov.ma/fr/Pages/BSG/Accueil.aspx?m=Budget%20Sensible%20au%20Genre>

Gender responsive budgeting reports : http://www.finances.gov.ma/fr/Pages/BSG/Rapports-genre.aspx?m=Budget_Sensible_au_Genre