

Policy-data integration in the context of women's economic empowerment issues in the Philippines

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Outline

- A. Application of the Policy-Data Integration tool (EPIC) on the Magna Carta of Women (MCW)
- B. User-producer collaboration mechanisms for WEE
- C. Challenges encountered in the application of EPIC
- D. Lessons learned and way forward to adopt EPIC in national planning for WEE and gender equality

A. Application of the Policy-Data Integration tool (EPIC) in the Magna Carta of Women (MCW)

Policy document:

- RA 9710 – MCW (August 14, 2009)

National Indicators:

- IRR of RA 9710 (March 30, 2010)
- Compendium of Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

In the MCW, two sets of national indicators were determined for the different policy statements:

- mainstreaming indicators
- women empowerment indicators

Findings

- MCW reflected a total of 347 policy statements (51% of which corresponded to one core concept while 47% corresponded to more than one core concept) which increased the policy statements to 626
- All women in different sectors under different circumstances are the target groups in the MCW
- Of the 29 core concepts, **CC#4 – Compensation** was not used in any of the policy statements
- Of the 626 policy statements, 96% (or 600) were identified to have corresponding national indicators from the MCW
- Of the 600 policy statements with national indicators from MCW, 46 percent (275) were identified to have corresponding national indicators from other relevant indicator set, including Philippine SDG indicators

Findings

- Of the 275 policy statements with national indicator from any other relevant indicator set, including Philippine SDG indicators, 69 percent (or 191) have matched with regional/global indicator sets.
- The consistency between the national indicators from any relevant set of indicators and the regional/global indicators in the 191 policy statements were checked; about 25 percent of these indicators (national and regional/global) were partially consistent.
- The reason for partial consistency of the two types of indicators: the national indicators were stated in a different way that could be interpreted that such indicators could be a portion of the regional/global indicators.

Policy Gaps

- Need to be more specific about target groups for each policy issue in the MCW (women farmers; rural women workers; returning migrant workers; workers in the formal and informal economy; senior citizens; solo parents; urban poor)
- Need to develop culture-sensitive training modules for Muslim women and indigenous women workers
- Exploitation on women and girl-children engaged in informal sector or underground economy or high risk areas such as mining and quarrying, illegal fishing, etc.
- Assistance needed from the government of women and girl-children involved in crime such as drug-related crimes, theft, etc.
- Basic needs of women on water, sanitation and energy that are now part of the problem in the country

Data Gaps

- EPIC identifies the data gaps; there may be some policy statements in the policy document without corresponding indicator because there is no available data (policy issues not adequately monitored by national indicators)
 - Number of NGAs, LGUs and private sectors providing policies in the different policy sections and statements in the MC
 - Tier 3 availability of data corresponding to the MCW indicators as indicated in the Compendium of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) and Women's Empowerment, Development and Gender Equality (WEDGE) Plan 2013-2016
- EPIC is an important tool that can be applied to integrate the gender policy with existing data so that there will be no data and policy waste, which will maximize the government resources
 - data waste - there may be a lot of data available but few were used in the policy monitoring and implementation
 - policy waste - monitoring is only in paper but the line agency in charge of it has no monitoring and implementation indicator to use

B. User-producer collaboration mechanisms

The EPIC will pave the way in the following aspects:

- Strengthen the collaboration in the Philippine Statistical System in terms of data sharing, assistance in improving the data collection, processing and tabulation, dissemination of accurate and relevant WEE indicators
- Maximizing the government resources in avoiding data waste and resolving data gaps
- Strengthen the collaboration between policy makers and data producers to discuss how policies on WEE can be supported with data or indicators

C. Challenges encountered in the application of EPIC

Challenges	Solutions
Determining the policy actions and target groups if the policy/plan/program being used does directly specify the information	Study and understand well the policy/plan/program that will be used in the data-policy integration
2. Identifying the correct indicators indicated in the policy action as well as choosing the appropriate core concepts	
3. Matching the indicators from the MCW with any relevant national indicators including SDGs	Know and understand all existing relevant national indicators on WEE from the PSS and the SDGs
4. Mapping the national indicators with the regional/global indicators	Know and understand all regional core indicators and global SDGs

D. Lessons Learned and Way Forward to Adopt Policy-data Integration

- EPIC covers social, economic, environmental and institutional principles and aims to assess policies and data and official statistics for inclusive development, hence, its results can be used in preparing/revising the Statistical Work Plan in the Philippine Statistical Development Program.
- The progress assessment on Access of Marginalized Women to Social Protection can be presented to the different concerned NGAs and LGUs that are doing interventions and assistance for the marginalized women. They can compare the different indicators from official survey to their administrative data being produced in the implementation of their social protection programs.
- In the future, EPIC can also be introduced to Senate Economic Planning Office and Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department so that they will include the data producers in the initial discussion of any law or bill being written for a specific sector in the country.

Mapping Indicators to Data Sources

(Production Cycles: Annual)

Data Sources	Agency Responsible
Administrative data produced for returning migrant workers to be disaggregated by sex, age, and other characteristics by region (if possible)	Department of Labor and Employment; Philippine Overseas Employment Administration; and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration
Administrative data produced from the recipients of the social protection program of the NGAs, by sex, age and other characteristics	Department of Social Welfare and Development, PhilHealth Insurance, Social Security System, Government Service Insurance System, Local Government Units
Data from registers such as Indigenous People, Muslim Filipinos, Farmers, Fisherfolk, Poorest of the poor families, etc. (<i>socio-demographic and economic characteristics</i>)	National Commission on Indigenous People, National Commission on Muslim Filipinos, National Anti-Poverty Commission, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Agriculture
Administrative data produced for agriculture, fisheries and forestry, disaggregated by sex, age, geographic areas and other characteristics	Department of Agriculture, Department of Environment and Natural Resources and their attached agencies
Data on unpaid work and volunteerism, by sex	Philippine Statistics Authority