

# Workshop on Analysis and Evaluation of Gender Statistics

*by*

**Victoria A. Velkoff**

International Programs Center  
US Census Bureau

## Project Background

The International Programs Center at the U.S. Census Bureau is proposing a project on sex-disaggregated data. This project is a two-week workshop, "Analysis and Evaluation of Gender Statistics, which provides training on how to evaluate the quality and relevance of sex-disaggregated data and how to produce a brief report using these data which can then be used to assist policy makers in decision making. The training provided in this workshop strengthens the participants' capabilities in gender analysis and dissemination of gender related data in support of development planning. Also, this project is particularly relevant for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), as a significant proportion of SMEs are run and owned by women. Enhanced data collection, analysis, and dissemination skills will foster effective policy development for growth of SMEs.

## Goals of the Workshop

- Improved awareness of gender issues;
- Ability to evaluate the quality and relevance of sex-disaggregated data;
- Strengthened capabilities of participants in gender analysis and dissemination of data in support of development planning;
- Production of brief reports on pertinent gender issues for APEC; and
- Improved computer skills of participants, particularly in the graphical presentation of data.

## Topics Covered in the Workshop

- Cross-cutting gender issues;
- Sources and quality of data;
- Review and evaluation of data;
- Presentation of data; and

- Preparation of a gender report.

## Why Sex-Disaggregated Data are Important to APEC

The need to reinforce the important role of women in economic development was recognized at the APEC Ministerial Meeting on Women held in Manila in 1998. That meeting initiated the production of the *Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC*, which was endorsed by leaders and ministers in Auckland 1999 and included the following as principal recommendations for areas of improvement:

- Gender Analysis, and
- Collection and Use of Sex-disaggregated Data

SME Ministers recommended in their April 1999 Ministerial statement that improved education, among other issues, is necessary to help SMEs develop their capabilities. Ministers further noted that enhanced efforts regarding education should recognize the needs of women and indigenous groups. Gender analysis training will allow policy makers to further refine policies and programs to address the needs of SMEs and women.

Consistent with these recommendations, this workshop will provide training in gender analysis and use of sex-disaggregated data. These data can be used by policy planners to make informed decisions which can help achieve APEC goals, such as gender equality.

## Who Benefits From the Workshop

This workshop will benefit both government and non-governmental organizations in member economies by improving the presentation and availability of sex-disaggregated data needed to aid in integrating women more fully into APEC activities. The participants of the workshop will be able to assess how APEC programs or projects affect men and women differently. The skills that are learned in the workshop will enable the participants to better use sex-disaggregated data to aid in the decision-making process. These data can be used to monitor economic and social progress in the APEC region and identify problems and future priorities. The skills will be useful as APEC assesses progress on Human Resources Development (HRD), specifically focusing on analysis of the effectiveness of programs in education and training and future plans in this area. This seminar will also strengthen and deepen the ongoing work of the APEC Trade and Investment Data Working Group, as well as data collected as part of on-going APEC projects of the Policy Level Group for Small and Medium Enterprises (PLGSME).

Ideally, the participants of the workshop will be from government and non-government organizations. It is important that statisticians who are responsible for producing the data attend the workshop so they can learn how the data will be used to assess APEC programs and used to help plan programs that take into consideration the

different situations of men and women.

## How the Project Benefits SMEs

SMEs in all industries will benefit from the workshop, as policy planners will then be able to use the gender-specific information to focus development goals and plans. The information-gathering, analysis and dissemination capabilities developed by the workshop will be useful to both the public and private sectors, which both play a role in achieving development priorities.

In September 1999, APEC Ministers recognized "...the continuing impediments to the full participation of women in regional economic activity, and agreed that APEC should address barriers to women's participation in business, the workforce, education and leadership. As a result of this recognition, Ministers endorsed the *Framework for the Integration of Women in APEC*. Successful implementation of the *Framework* is contingent upon building capacity in gender analysis and the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data, as outlined in the *Framework*.

This workshop will help member economies to more fully realize these goals by providing training on analysis and presentation of sex-disaggregated data. These data can then be used to ensure that both women and men are benefiting from economic growth and improved education. After the workshop the participants will have the ability to assess the impact of APEC programs and to help shape future programs that will involve both men and women.