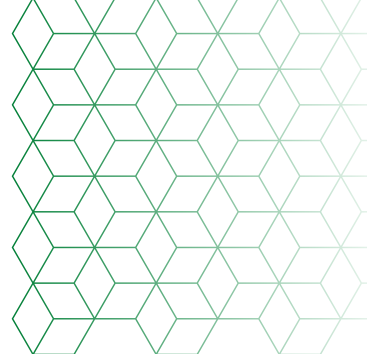




REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
PERMANENT MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK



Strengthening rural women's capacity in natural resources management through improved data

CSW67 side-event

co-organised by the Permanent Mission of the Republic Slovenia in New York and
UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme

8 March 2023, 13:15 – 14:30
UNHQ CR8

Background:

Gender equality is a prerequisite for achieving all goals and targets of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. In natural resources management at large, gender differences and inequalities still persist and often affect women's abilities to sustain their rural livelihoods and take part in resources governance. In the water domain, for example, gender equality is inextricably linked to attainment of the human rights to water and to sanitation for all. Gender inequalities in the water domain are deep and persist at all levels, undermining international efforts to achieve sustainable development.

A key stumbling block to achieving more robust gender-integrated national and international water policy is the lack of trustworthy and comparable data on gender-related water indicators. These data are indispensable for revealing the underlying gender and power dynamics within water resources management.

Gender defines the roles, responsibilities and opportunities of people in society, and very often, determines the potential they can achieve. This leads to women and men having different knowledge, talents, opportunities and needs. Gender also determines one's relationship with natural resources because it shapes the needs, access, use and benefits with respect to this vital resource.

When collecting disaggregated data, these differences become evident. Good data and robust gender analyses are indispensable to reach the ultimate goal of gender equality: when all have equal conditions for realizing their human rights and for contributing to, and benefiting from, economic, social, cultural and political development.

Emerging evidence shows that natural resources management projects, including water projects - designed and implemented with full and meaningful participation of women may be more sustainable and effective than those without it. For instance, women usually put particular attention to environmental risks, which adds value to the governance of water infrastructure. The collection of data disaggregated by sex, age, and other dimensions is a crucial step to better understand how natural resources are used, managed and distributed. Therefore, conducting gender analyses allows us to identify and understand gender issues, and how to adequately address these in planning, projects and policy.

In this roundtable discussion, we would like to explore the following questions:

- What are the tools and strategies available for improving gender-disaggregated data and information for more effective and inclusive policies and programming of natural resources management, such as water, land, watersheds, forests?
- What kind of strategic approaches are needed for improving skills and enhancing capacity in data collection not only at level of technicians but also at local level of resource users, particularly in terms of capacity development of rural women as resource managers?

It is expected that the outcomes of the event will contribute to inform relevant stakeholders on concrete opportunities for producing and using more and better data to advance equality in natural resources management. The focus will be on water and land resources, and on how these support livelihoods of rural women.

Programme:

Opening remarks:

- Ms. Saša Jurečko**, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations
- Ms. Begoña Lasagabaster**, Director of the Gender Equality Division of UNESCO

Keynote address:

- H.E. Mr. Luka Mesec**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Roundtable discussion:

Moderated by **Ms. Anna Gawel**, Managing Editor, Devex

-Representative of OACPS

- Ms. Sarah Keener**, Social Inclusion Team Leader, World Bank Water Global Practice
- Ms. Laura Imburgia**, Water and Gender Program Specialist, UNESCO World Water Assessment Program
- Ms. Huda Alsaifi**, Social Policy Officer, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality, FAO
- Ms. Elizabeth A. Koch**, Senior Manager, Environmental Law Institute and Process Support Lead for the Women in Water Diplomacy Network
- Ms. Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo**, lecturer and researcher at the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA) in Nigeria

Q & A followed by concluding remarks

