

Engendering informality statistics



New statistical standard concerning statistics on the informal economy

 The importance of improving the data collection recommendations and tools was underlined at the 20th ICLS.

• The projects Engendering Informality Statistics and Developing the statistics on informality in the Arab Region forms an essential part of the methodological work.

Running in parallel with the revision work, conducted by the ILO WG.

Pilot studies and tests undertaken in parallel to working group discussions which created substantial benefits

2023

21st ICLS will adopt new standards and definitions

2013

ILO Manual on

Measuring Informality



2003

17th ICLS
Guidelines
concerning a
statistical definition of
informal employment

1993

15th ICLS
Resolution
concerning statistics
of employment in the
informal sector



Engendering Informality Statistics Project, objectives:

- Developing support for gender integration in new standards for measuring informality
 - Gender-sensitive tools to support implementation of the new standards
- Produce guidance on enhancing the use of data on informality from a gender perspective

- Evidence on what works, how to effectively measure informal employment and informal sector, how to fill gender relevant data gaps.
 - Cognitive interviews to test concept and questions (Peru and Uganda).
 - Pilot LFS studies (Peru and Uganda).
 - Analysis of the results is ongoing.
 - Expect to publish the results relating to the measurement of informality and the implementation of ICSE-18 in the near future.



Developing the statistics on informality in the Arab Region, obejctives:

- Contribute to increased harmonization in the region
 - Report of countries state of play in relation to measuring informal employment and social protection coverage with a focus on gender gaps.
 - Developing gender-sensitive tools and recommendations for data collection.

- Evidence on what works, how to effectively measure informal employment and informal sector, how to fill data gaps.
 - Cognitive interviews to test concepts and questions (Lebanon and Egypt)
 - Pilot LFS study of questions (Egypt)
 - Tests and analyse are ongoing
- discussion regarding a harmonized operational definition based on the latest statistical standards.



Strong synergy between the two projects

- Similar focus in both projects
 - Testing the identification of informal employment and informal sector in LFS based on the definitions proposed in the draft resolution.
 - To fill important data gaps, explore additional topics that has importance for women and men in informality.
 - Both projects have a strong gender component.

- ▶ But at the same time, differences
- The project Developing the statistics on informality in the Arab Region
 - Has a clear focus on developing questions taken into account the context and language of the region
- Engendering informality project:
 - Have a global scope and tests have been carried out in two different regions
- Different additional topics explored.
- Enable us to widen the range of topics to test.
- The differences in timeline is an advantage
- The results from the Engendering informality project has been fed into the Developing the statistics on informality in the Arab Region



Different topics explored

Identifying informal employment and informal sector based on ICSE-18

Testing new aspects of the proposed resolution E.g., Formal jobs for CFW Formal and informal jobs for dependent contractors

Additional topics: Engendering informality project

Access to and use of ICT among informal and formal workers

Business motivation among informal and formal independent workers and CFW

Earnings for independent and dependent workers

With a focus on gender, to test the questions in a highly informal context.

Developing the statistics on informality in the Arab Region

Access to social protection

General access to pension, unemployment insurance, health insurance for women and men with formal and informal jobs

The objective is to develop tested modules that can fill data gaps of high gender relevance

International Labour Organization

- Working paper on gaps and opportunities published in November 2022: https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/working-papers/WCMS_861882/lang--en/index.htm
- Thematic reports on findings
 - First reports on ICSE-18 and identification of informality
 - Other topics to follow (earnings, asset ownership, ICT use, proxy test)
 - Dedicated report on engendering measurement of informality
 - Model questionnaire and materials being updated
 - Capacity building to be updated (e.g. informality course in Turin)
 - Additional communication materials
 - Other materials (e.g. informality manual to be updated?)



Thank you.

