Launch of Global Center of Excellence on Gender Statistics and the First Global Conference on Gender Equality and the Measurement of Unpaid Care and Domestic Work

10 – 11 September 2018
Mexico City
Experiences and lessons learned from Finland’s time use survey (TUS) and options for innovation

11 September 2018
History of the TUS in Finland

- The first TUS was carried out in 1979.
- Conducted approximately every ten years.
- Funded by many organisations.
- Used by several universities, research institutes and ministries.
- TUS data have been exploited for a large variety of purposes.
- The TUS provides data for a variety of policy uses.
Finland’s Time Use Survey

• A diary based survey
  • reflects actual social behavior more accurately than other measurement techniques.

• A detailed activity classification
  • increases opportunities for alternative uses of the data.
Examples of applying FTUS findings to policies
The Finnish TUS was utilised in the national programme for increasing the attraction of work life (the VETO Programme 2003-2007)
• To make work attractive both in the immediate and long term.
• To establish and implement a comprehensive family policy programme.

Programmes on rural women’s employment
• To increase women’s work opportunities in the countryside
• Activated rural women to create new work opportunities in co-work with municipalities and organisations
• Built a national network for rural women, organised training and sought funding to support women’s entrepreneurship, etc.
• Production of Household Satellite Accounts
  • TUS data can be used for calculating the value of unpaid work made in households
  • In Finland, satellite accounts have been compiled already four times: 2001, 2006, 2009 and 2012.
  • Work done in households is economically significant.
    • In Finland, the national GDP would be around 40\% higher if all household production were included in national accounts.
  • To complement the picture of the welfare of households.
  • To complement the picture of the shifts in services between economic sectors.
Examples 3/3

- The information on intra-family differences has been used in planning and improving the family leave system in Finland.
- Information on the changing patterns of the domestic work.
- TU data are also extremely important also in showing the attitudes and choices of families – even the change of attitudes may be slow.
- The government uses TU data to plan transport, social and leisure services, for example.
- The Finnish government introduced a tax reduction on buying domestic services in 2001.
- Time famine among Finnish employees.
Options for innovations

- New research topics
  - Air pollution
  - Generations of households
  - Consumption of electrical energy
  - Sustainable development of countryside
  - Generations satellite account

- TU data could be more utilised after lengthening the opening hours of stores (needs of 24/7 day care), for example.
What is important?

- Communication and dialogue between users
- Easy access and support to the data
Contact information

marjut.pietilainen(at)stat.fi
hannu.paakkonen(at)stat.fi

Time Use Survey:
http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/akay/index_en.html

Gender Statistics:
http://tilastokeskus.fi/tup/tasaarvo/index_en.html