

# Introduction to Gender Statistics

Workshop on communicating official statistics and  
measuring gender-in-trade

Astana, 19-21 October 2022





# What are gender statistics?

1. sex-disaggregated data
2. data that reflect gender issues
3. concepts and definitions accurately capture information on women and men
4. no gender bias in data collection methods

# Sex versus gender: what is the difference?

## **Sex**

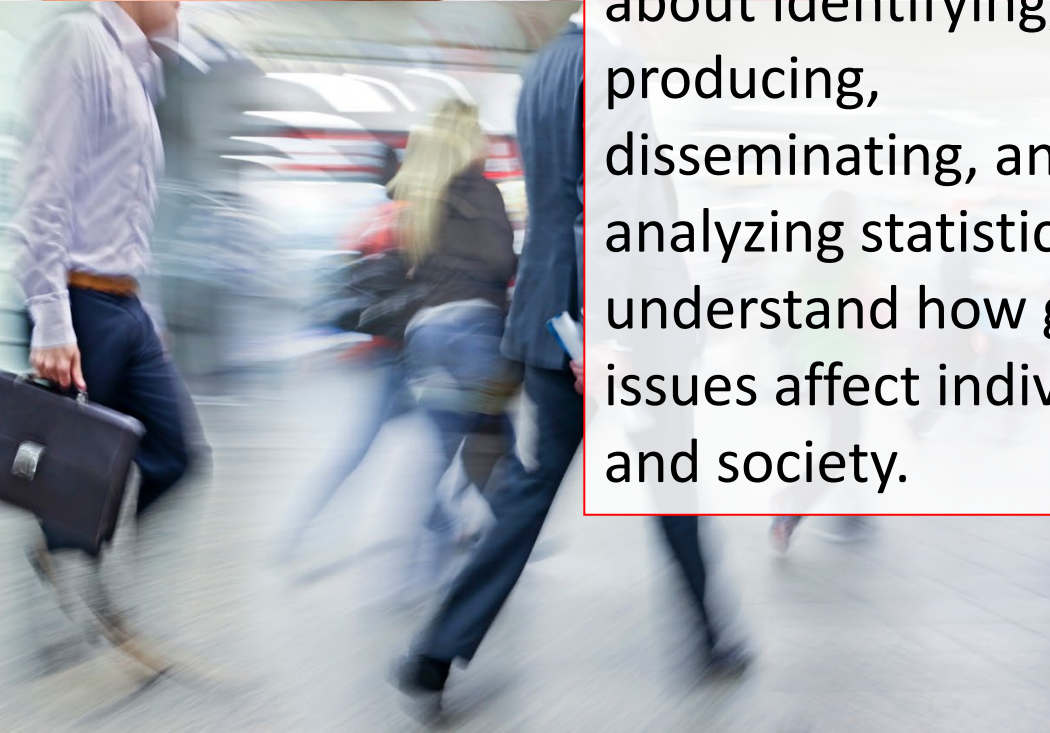
- Male / female
- Biology – how we are born
- Relatively fixed

## **Gender**

- Social norms
- Expected roles of women, men, girls and boys
- What it means to be 'masculine' and 'feminine'
- Can change over time

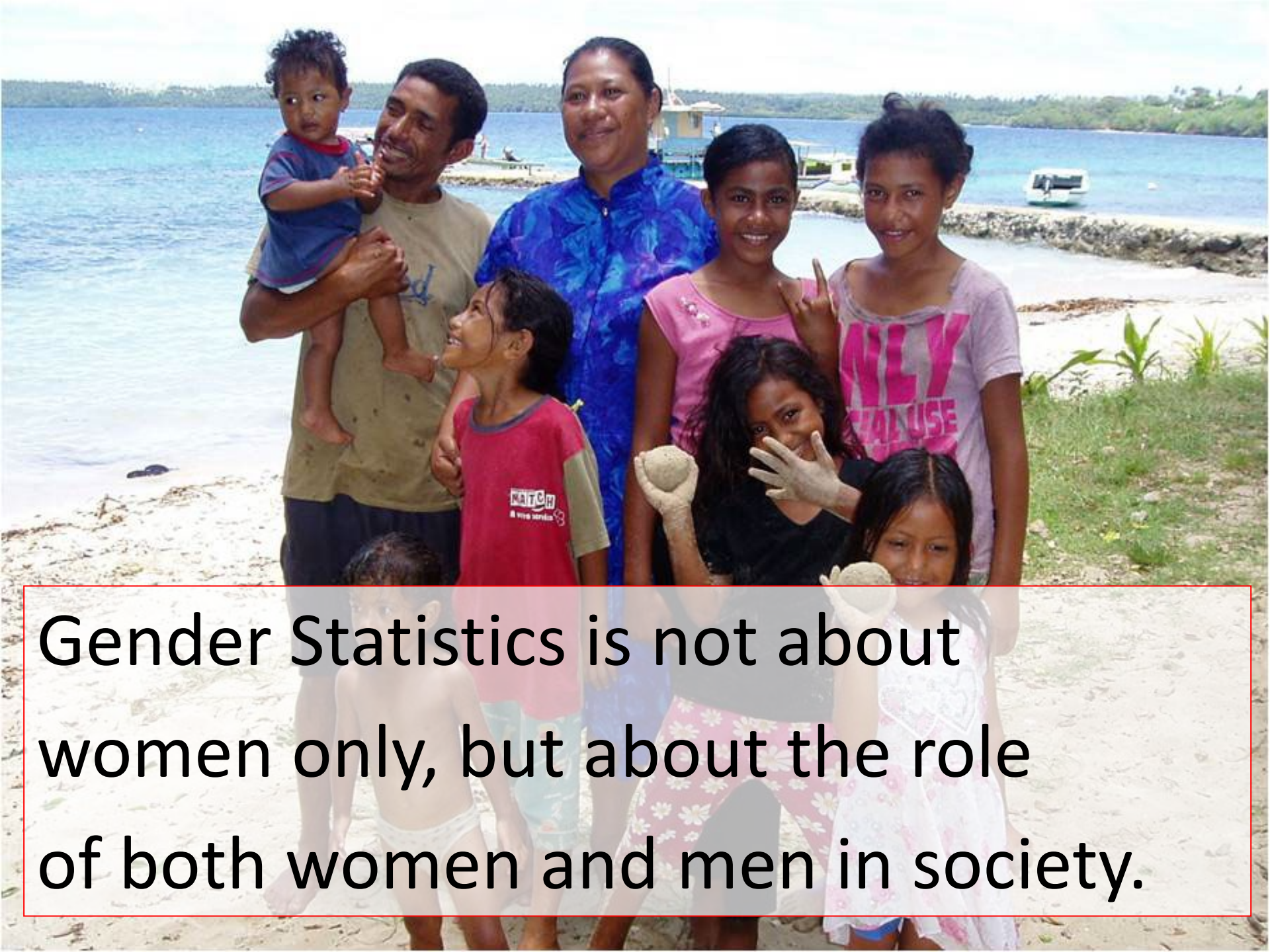
# Sex or gender?

- Women give birth to babies, men don't (Sex)
- Little girls are gentle, boys are tough (Gender)
- Men are more capable leaders and decision-makers (Gender)
- Men's voices break at puberty, women's do not (Sex)
- Women tend to work as nurses and school teachers, men tend to work as doctors and university professors (Gender)



**Gender statistics** is about identifying, producing, disseminating, and analyzing statistics to understand how gender issues affect individuals and society.





Gender Statistics is not about women only, but about the role of both women and men in society.

## Economic statistics

- Business statistics
- National accounts
- Tourism
- Transport
- Prices
- Government finance
- Trade and balance of payments

## Social and demographic statistics

- Population
- Migration
- Labour
- Health
- Education
- Income and poverty
- Justice and crime

## Environmental statistics

- Climate change
- CO2 emissions
- Pollution
- Waste management
- Protected areas

## Gender Statistics





# The three main sources of official statistics

## **Censuses**

- Population and housing census
- Agricultural census

## **Surveys**

- Based on a representative samples of the population or businesses

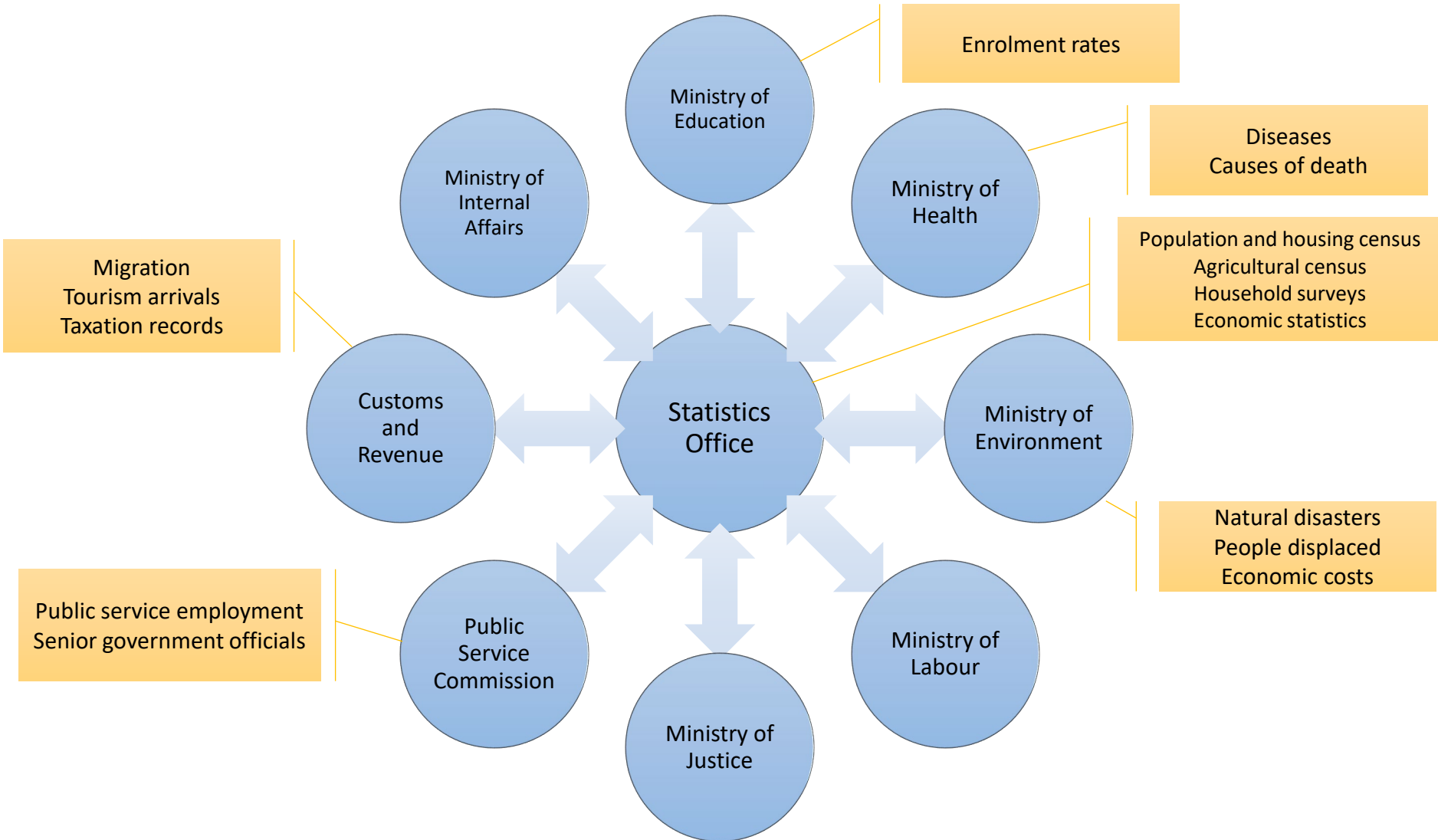
## **Administrative data**

- Product of administrative processes
- Hospital records
- School enrolment records
- Civil registration
- Business register

# Official statistics

- Representative basis
- Economic, demographic, social and environmental phenomena of a country
- Produced by national statistical offices and other agencies formally part of a national statistical system
- Fundamental principles of official statistics (10)
  - Relevance impartiality and equal access
  - Professional standards and ethics
  - Accountability and transparency
  - Prevention of misuse
  - Sources
  - Confidentiality
  - Legislation
  - National coordination
  - Use of international standards
  - International cooperation

# National Statistical System



Committee for the Coordination  
of Statistical Activities (CCSA)



World Health  
Organization



United Nations Statistical Commission  
meets annually in New York

Latin America  
and Caribbean

Africa

Asia-Pacific

Europe

Western Asia

United Nations Economic  
Commission for Europe  
Conference of European  
Statisticians

## Gender statistics

- Core set of gender indicators
- Guidelines, manuals and training materials
- Technical assistance
- Global and regional reviews
- Standards, methods, classifications
- Financial support
- Sharing experiences
- Databases and gender analysis

# Sustainable Development Goals



# Summary

- Sex and gender are different concepts
- Official statistics are those published by national statistical offices and other agencies formally part of a national statistical system
- Statistics provide impartial evidence
- Gender statistics cuts across all fields of traditional statistics to provide accurate information on women and men, boys and girls
- The entire statistical system is involved in producing gender statistics
- The international statistical system provides support and guidance