

Pre-Conference Workshop Report

The Centre of Demography of Gender (CDG), International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai successfully conducted a one-day pre-conference training workshop on the theme ‘Understanding Data through the Gender Lens’ on November 7 2023 at the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela, Odisha. The workshop was organized in collaboration with the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) and Centre of Excellence on Public Health and Nutrition, Department of Humanities, NIT Rourkela. The workshop was designed into four sessions. The first session was conceptual, dealing with concepts related to gender, gender inequalities versus gender gaps, need and approaches to measure gender inequality, SDG goal 5, etc. In the second session, participants were introduced to various sources of gender data, such as Census, NFHS, IHDS, etc. The third session was devoted to exploring NFHS data through the gender lens. The second half of the day comprised of the fourth session in which participants had hands-on-practice for generating gender inequality indicators using STATA.

The response to the call for the workshop was phenomenal and exceeded our expectations, with an overwhelming number of participants expressing keen interest in attending the workshop. Initially, the plan was to include only 40 participants in the workshop. But, considering the interest shown by the potential participants, the number of participants was increased to 48. Of the 48 participants, 23 were females and 25 were males. The participants included MA/MSc. (31 participants) and PhD (15 participants) students and a couple of faculty members. The selected participants represented various academic and research disciplines. The participants represented 15 state- and central- universities and Institutes of National Importance spread across India. The list of state- and central- universities and Institutes of National Importance which the participants represented is given below:

1. NIT Rourkela, Odisha
2. Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha
3. Sambalpur University, Sambalpur, Odisha
4. Gangadhar Mehar University, Sambalpur, Odisha
5. Kalahandi University, Kalahandi, Odisha
6. SOA University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
7. Central University of Odisha, Koraput, Odisha
8. Sikkim Manipal University, Gangtok, Sikkim

9. Central University of Karnataka, Gulbarga, Karnataka
10. Fakir Mohan University, Balasore, Odisha
11. Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
12. University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
13. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
14. NIT Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu
15. Path, New Delhi

Of the 48 participants, 38 participants submitted their qualitative feedback. In sum, the participants were happy with the deliberations of the workshop. A vast majority of the participants stated that the workshop enhanced their understanding of gender-based inequalities and the importance of its measurement. All the participants were grateful to the CDG for organizing such a wonderful workshop and giving them an opportunity to participate in the workshop. A few selected feedbacks are given below:

“This workshop was very helpful and increased our knowledge. I am very happy to join this workshop. Thanks for organizing the workshop and building our knowledge.”

“Actually, it was a very good experience about gender inequality, gender gap, SDG goal 5, and measuring some of these using NFHS-5. Thank you and it's best workshop I have ever attended.”

“The sessions were highly informative. I am expecting this type of workshop in future. I have learned some new techniques from the sessions. I am very thankful for getting the opportunity to attend it”.

“I learned a lot of things from this workshop like data, knowledge about gender-based inequalities and utilities of its measurement.”

While a majority of participants were satisfied with the workshop, a few suggested to extend the duration of the workshop from one-day to 2-3 days. A couple of participants stated:

“It was a very good workshop on the basis of education and information. But one day of the workshop is not enough. At least 2-3 days of it may help more to the students who are interested. Overall, it was a very good workshop.”

“Would have been good if more time was there for hands on training.”

Some participants requested to organize such workshops in their universities. A couple of participants stated:

"Same kind of workshop can be conducted at Fakir Mohan University Odisha as we are having dedicated departments for Population Studies, Social Work and Anthropology. Thank You!"

"Please organise a workshop on Data Analysis on NFHS, NSSO & LASI Dataset. Please make it possible to conduct a workshop in Central University of Karnataka regarding large scale data analysis."

Overall, the feedback indicates a significant positive impact on participants' knowledge of gender issues aligning with the workshop's objective. Additionally, a vast majority of the participants reported that the workshop met or exceeded their expectations in terms of overall deliberations and the quality of the workshop.

The President, General Secretary and the Treasurer of the IASP were grateful to the CDG for taking such an important initiative. Considering the importance, utility and success of the workshop, the President and General Secretary of the IASP requested the CDG to organize such pre-conference workshops in the various regional conferences of the IASP.