

Women's role in Fighting Poverty and the Informal Economy

ISI Invited Paper Session, 2011 Meeting in Dublin, Ireland.

The session objective is to present surveys and innovative statistical analysis that investigate the link between gender, poverty and women's participation in the informal economy. This link is well-known between researchers, policy makers and the general public. Across the world, women are likely to be employed (or self-employed) in the informal sector, either as a strategy for fighting poverty or due to the need to accommodate family/motherhood duties with part time jobs. In this session we bring together the experience of users and producers of statistical data related to this subject in order to:

- Highlight its relevance and the continuing need for data on this subject;
- Discuss/identify difficulties in producing this type of data;
- Present innovative surveys or statistical analysis on this topic.

Three papers relevant to the areas of poverty, gender issues, labour market and the informal economy will be presented. The paper presenters come from different continents and discuss related issues in different environments. Denise Silva (denisebritz@gmail.com), a member of the Committee on Women in Statistics, is the session organizer.

The participants are:

Luay Shabaneh - Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

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Paper title: Challenges in measuring women's involvement in informal economy

Ralf Hussmanns - International Labour Organization

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Paper title: Gender differences in employment in the informal economy

Yandiswa Mpetsheni - Statistics South Africa

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Paper title: The role of the informal economy in helping women fight poverty

Discussant:

Elisa Caillaux - Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics-IBGE

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