Assessing gender impacts in EU trade policy analysis

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Workshop on Gender Based Analysis of Trade Policies

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The trade policy evaluation cycle

Preparation
- Impact Assessment
- Ex post Evaluation

Negotiations
- SIA
- Economic Assessment of the Negotiated Outcome

Implementation

Signature - Conclusion

Commission-wide instruments
DG Trade-specific instruments
## Ex-ante impact assessment: example

1. **Economic**  
   GDP growth, sectoral effects (output, employment), impact on 3rd countries (including developing countries and LDCs), impact on SMEs

2. **Social**  
   Welfare, employment, wages, poverty, **gender**, public health and safety

3. **Human rights**  
   *Specific DG Trade guidelines*

4. **Environmental**  
   Climate change (CO2), natural resources, waste, biodiversity

5. **Other**  
   incl. administrative costs, public administration / administrative capacity, impact on budget of EU (i.e., revenue foregone)
SIA: themes

- Economic
  - Macroeconomy (including GDP, trade and investment flows, household income, consumption, terms of trade, sectoral output, government resources)
  - Labour market (including wages as well as employment overall, by sectors, by skills and by professions)

- Environmental
  - Air and climate
  - Land
  - Water, oceans, seas and coast
  - Biodiversity
  - Energy
  - Waste
  - Transport
  - Chemicals

- Institutional & Administrative
  - Institutional framework and capacity (e.g. international cooperation)
  - Governance (e.g. transparency and rule of law, integrity and corruption risks)
  - Administrative capacity (e.g. to apply and verify rules of origin issues)

- Social
  - Decent work (full and productive employment, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue)
  - Housing
  - Education
  - Health/public health

- Human Rights
  - Adequate standard of living
  - Property
  - Fair trial
  - Freedom of expression and opinion

- Women's rights

Mapping critical sectors for impact on women's employment and working conditions.
Data and information used for the gender analysis

- **Baseline conditions**: labour force participation rate, gender wage gap, full vs part-time work, temporary vs permanent employment, education, representation in senior positions, childcare and family care conditions

- **Impact**: job gains and losses, enhanced application of ILO Conventions on non-discrimination

- **Sources**: Eurostat, OECD, World Bank, World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap reports, ad-hoc reports

- **ILO**: ratification and implementation of core labour conventions, special reports
SIA: consultation is key

**STAKEHOLDERS**

- e.g. non-governmental organisations, businesses, social partners (including trade unions), academia and national administrations

**SIA Website and other electronic tools**

- All interested stakeholders
- Throughout the SIA process
  - e.g. specific feedback mechanism on SIA website

**Questionnaires**

- All relevant stakeholders, specific for SMEs and consumers when appropriate
- 2nd phase of the SIA, after publication of inception report
  - e.g. online questionnaire open to all stakeholders

**Targeted meetings and interviews**

- Identified stakeholders in a balanced representation of interests
- 2nd phase of the SIA, after publication of inception report
  - e.g. one-on-one interviews in various locations

**Meetings with civil society**

- All registered civil society organisations
- One after the publication of each draft report
  - e.g. CSD meeting in Brussels to discuss draft interim report

**PROVIDE INPUTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

**RECEIVE INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK**

**SIA CONSULTANTS**
Some considerations

- Developed descriptive analysis: baseline conditions (gender gap), enjoyment of rights, compliance with international conventions
- Assessing impacts of trade agreement at initial stages
- Verifying the impacts ex-post important, but issue of cause-effect determination
- Looking beyond employment statistics
- Modelling/quantitative analysis complemented with qualitative analysis and stakeholder consultation
ADDITIONAL WORK ON TRADE AND GENDER
1. ARE EU EXPORTS GENDER-BLIND? SOME KEY FEATURES OF WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN EXPORTING ACTIVITIES IN THE EU

- Joint work with Jose Manuel Rueda Cantuche from DG JRC.

- Available at:  

- Builds on the work that we have been developing over the past years on exports and jobs in the EU (for more: [http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/trade-and-jobs/](http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/trade-and-jobs/)).

- This is done using a Multi-Regional Input-Output (MRIO) model with the information provided by the WIOD-World Input-Output Database (Timmer et al., 2015) and the EXIOBASE-3 database (Stadler et al., 2017).
Some very useful insights

- In 2011 the jobs of nearly **12 million** women in the EU depended on exports to the rest of the world.

- These represented around 1 in every 9 jobs (**11%**) held by women in the EU.

- But only **38%** of the EU jobs supported by exports to the rest of the world were taken up by women. This share was even lower (35%) in 1995.

- This gender gap in terms of opportunities to benefit from export-supported employment was visible across the whole of the EU, albeit in different degrees.
Main conclusions from this analysis

- There is evidence of an important gender gap when it comes to exports-supported job opportunities.

- This analysis suggests that it is largely due to the concentration of female employment in the less export-oriented sectors, notably in services.

- This points to the important scope for policy intervention to promote greater gender equity in the distribution of the employment opportunities offered by exports also in areas other than trade policy.

- We need more detailed analysis on the role of trade and trade policy.
Going forward

- Update these figures with new data.

- Explore other methodologies that allow digging deeper into the role of trade: more detailed data, notably at the level of firms.
2. Micro-data collection

- Pilot project to gather micro data to better understand women’s participation in trade and to identify the barriers they face.

- This project will be grounded on a survey on EU women-led businesses’ participation in trade.

- We expect to use the insights we'll get from this to strengthen the gender specific provisions in trade agreements and/ or develop alternative strategies to address the barriers to trade faced by women-led businesses.
Information links

Better Regulation Toolbox:

Guidelines on Human Rights:

SIAs:
http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/policy-making/analysis/sustainability-impact-assessments

SIA Handbook:
http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2016/april/tradoc_154464.PDF