

Taking action for gender equality in development projects

Gender equality is a prerequisite for sustainable development. It contributes to effectively reducing poverty and promoting the conditions for good governance. In this respect, it is essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the UN. Achieving these goals is central to the action of Expertise France.

Ensuring this equality requires addressing the structural causes of gender inequality, in order to bring about systemic and cross-cutting changes based on three areas: recognition of rights, redistribution of resources and representation in decision-making bodies.

As the French public agency for international technical cooperation, Expertise France bases its action on this approach, in line with the commitments of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. Expertise France in particular aims to integrate gender in a cross-cutting manner into all the components of its operations: governance, migration, security, health, environment, education, social protection...

PARTICIPATING IN AN AMBITIOUS STRATEGY

France's priorities for gender equality are based on five areas:

- Ensure free and equal **access to services**;
- Promote **access to resources**, control over them and access to employment;
- Guarantee free and equal **access to justice and protection** against all forms of violence;
- Ensure meaningful participation of women in **decision-making forums**;
- Ensure equal participation of women in **peace and security processes**.

TARGETING CONCRETE RESULTS

Expertise France develops projects that aim to **strengthen gender equality or take the gender dimension into account** at each stage of the project and in its four priority thematic areas of operation:

- Democratic, economic and financial governance;
- Peace, stability and security;
- Climate, agriculture and sustainable development;
- Health and human development.

By 2022, 50% of the new projects developed by the agency should **be marked 1 or 2** according to the gender marker criteria of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

RAISING AWARENESS, ASSISTING AND TRAINING

Expertise France is strengthening the capacities of its teams at headquarters and in the field by developing materials tailored to their needs:

- A "**Mainstreaming gender into projects**" training course;
- A **Gender and Development MOOC**, in partnership with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and Agence Française de Développement;
- **Forty thematic and methodological fact sheets** to promote the inclusion of gender at each stage of projects.

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EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS



EUROSociAL+ (Gender component)

2016-2021 - EUR 8.1M (EUROPEAN UNION)

The Gender Equality Policies area of the EUROSociAL+ programme, implemented by Expertise France, aims to **strengthen public policies for gender equality** in 19 Latin American countries in order to build social cohesion.

The component responds to requests from Latin American institutions and is based on **four areas**:

- Physical empowerment;
- Economic empowerment and care;
- Political empowerment;
- Gender mainstreaming: statistics, national equality plans, institutionalisation, gender-responsive budgeting.



MPACOS – Putting patients at the centre of primary healthcare in Chad

2019-2022 - EUR 4M (AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT)

Following on from the Health Sector Support Project (PASST2), the MPACOS project is contributing to the implementation of the Government of Chad's health policy, which aims to:

- Improve the **availability and use of health services** for maternal, neonatal and child health and sexual and reproductive health;
- **Raise awareness of family planning and women's rights.**

To achieve these objectives, the MPACOS project's approach is to **strengthen health systems** involving communities, caregivers and management teams.



EU4WE – European Union for Women Empowerment

2019-2022 - EUR 2.4M (EUROPEAN UNION)

The EU4WE project aims to fight against gender inequalities in Lebanon in a sustainable manner. It is based on two objectives:

- **Strengthen the empowerment of Lebanese women** in order to combat domestic violence in a sustainable manner;
- Support the institutional mechanisms working on gender issues to ensure **gender is better taken into account in public policies.**

To achieve these objectives, the project is based on three areas of operation: entrepreneurship, justice and strengthening institutional actors involved in promoting gender equality in Lebanon.

Mainstreaming gender into projects: the example of L'Initiative

Launched in late 2011, L'Initiative is a facility implemented by Expertise France and complementary to the Global Fund. It provides technical assistance and support for innovation to Global Fund recipient countries. The objective is to improve the effectiveness of its grants and strengthen the health impact of the funded programmes.

Recognising the link between gender and pandemics

The international community will not put an end to the major pandemics without paying increased attention to gender inequalities, which are major barriers to access to health services.

L'Initiative therefore considers gender as a **key development issue** and has included it in its strategy for 2020-2022.

To find out more: www.initiative5pour100.fr

The place of gender in L'Initiative



Mainstreaming the gender approach into missions and projects: **raising the awareness of experts, taking it into account in the evaluation and implementation of projects.**



Reflection on mainstreaming gender into technical assistance missions: development of an online **awareness-raising webinar** and a **toolkit**.



Strengthening calls for projects with a guidance note on gender, review and support for the projects selected by a gender mainstreaming specialist.

Expertise France is a public agency and a key actor in international technical cooperation. It designs and implements projects that sustainably strengthen public policies in developing and emerging countries. Governance, security, climate, health, education... It operates in key areas of sustainable development and contributes alongside its partners to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. **For more information:** www.expertisefrance.fr

