

2023 Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Policy

The USAID 2023 Gender Policy provides the vision for USAID’s work to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment around the world – establishing our strategic objectives and guiding principles, and driving investments across our operations and programs in order to achieve these aims. USAID reaffirms that gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment are fundamental for the realization of human rights and key to effective and sustainable development outcomes. For societies to thrive, women and girls, men and boys, and gender-diverse individuals must have the agency, social support, and structures to make their own choices and live free from violence and abuse. They must have equal rights and opportunities, as well as equal and safe access to and control over resources. Achieving gender equality in society will improve the overall quality of life for all people throughout their lives.

PRINCIPLES

The following principles guide USAID’s work on gender equality and women’s empowerment.



INTEGRATED



INTERSECTIONAL



TRANSFORMATIVE



LOCALLY LED



COLLABORATIVE



ACCOUNTABLE



DO NO HARM



Photo: USAID/Uganda

OBJECTIVES

USAID investments aim to achieve four strategic objectives across all sectors.

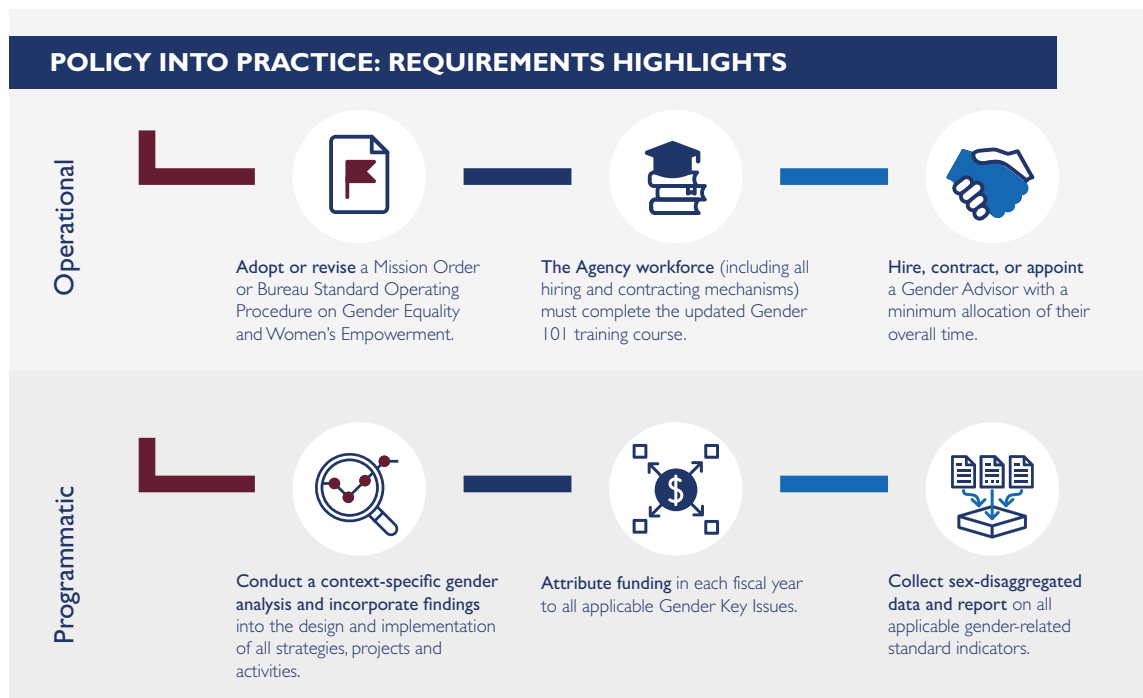
1. Reduce gender disparities in who accesses, controls, and benefits from economic, social, political, legal, educational, health, and cultural resources, as well as wealth, opportunities, and services.
2. Strive to eliminate GBV and mitigate its harmful effects on individuals and communities, so all people can live free from violence.
3. Increase the capability of women and girls to fully exercise their rights, determine their life outcomes, assume leadership roles, and influence decision-making in households, communities, and societies.
4. Advance structural changes that address the root causes of gender inequality and promote equitable gender norms.

SECTOR SNAPSHOTS

Sector snapshots briefly examine gender gaps and opportunities across 14 sectors that are priorities for USAID.

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|  Agriculture & Food Security |  Education |
|  Biodiversity, Conservation, & Natural Resources Management |  Energy, Mining, & Infrastructure |
|  Climate |  Gender-Based Violence |
|  Conflict and Insecurity |  Global Health |
|  Democracy, Human Rights, & Governance |  Humanitarian Assistance |
|  Digital Access & Technology |  Land and Property Rights |
|  Economic Growth |  Water Security, Sanitation, & Hygiene |

Deliberate action is required to advance gender equality: USAID is committed to being a leading investor, partner, and advocate to achieve this goal across societies.



Explore the 2023 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy in full at www.usaid.gov/gender-policy