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# **Gender mainstreaming in Aarhus activities**

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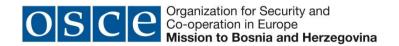
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# **Gender mainstreaming**

### **Origins of gender mainstreaming**

- 1985 conference on women held in Nairobi- term "gender mainstreaming" was officially used,
- Formally featured in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.

#### **OSCE** and gender mainstreaming

OSCE defines gender mainstreaming as:

- process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels.
- strategy for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated.
- where the ultimate goal is to **achieve gender equality.**

### **Gender mainstreaming in practice**



## **Gender mainstreaming of Aarhus Convention** Strategic Plan 2009-2014

#### Pillar I - Access to information

Objective	Proposed activities	Gender components	Actions
Public authorities at all levels and in all relevant sectors of government have well-established information policies and mechanisms, under which environmental information of high quality is routinely provided and proactively disseminated to the public in a user-friendly manner, making full use of electronic tools where available.	<ul> <li>Aarhus Centers         facilitate access to         available         environmental         information through         various tools (website, newsletters,         information boards,         etc.)</li> <li>Aarhus Centers serve         as community access         points and         repositories of         national and local         environmental         information.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Access points and information dissemination activities are organised to ensure men and women have equal access to information.</li> <li>Centres perform segregation of data based on sex where possible and available.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reach out to women's NGOs, including those in rural areas and involve them as partners in outreach activities,</li> <li>Run Facebook campaign to raise awareness of citizens,</li> <li>Present Aarhus Centers through newspapers, including women's magazines,</li> <li>Discuss cooperation with women owners of small businesses (organicf farming) to reach out to audience through their products by adding labels explaining in short Aarhus Convention,</li> <li>Create a link on Aarhus Centers' web pages providing info about gender equality standards, policy documents and domestic legislation.</li> </ul>

# Pillar II - Public participation in decision-making

Objective	Proposed activities	Gender component	Actions
To enhance the effectiveness of public participation, the development and application of innovative forms and tools of public participation beyond traditional consultation procedures are encouraged, the development of nongovernmental organizations' capacity is supported and civil society is strengthened.	<ul> <li>Aarhus Centres disseminate good practices on innovative forms and tools of public participation.</li> <li>Aarhus Centres coordinate/facilitate formulation, implementation and management of small-scale NGO projects.</li> </ul>	Good practices and tools should reflect gender aspects.	<ul> <li>Liaise with gender equality commissions in parliaments or women's caucuses,</li> <li>Invite women's NGOs to public discussions,</li> <li>Organize thematic sessions in parliaments with working bodies in charge for gender and environmental issues.</li> </ul>

#### **Pillar III - Access to justice**

#### Objective Actions Proposed activity Gender component Judges, public prosecutors Aarhus Centres Trainings for legal Consult institutional and other legal professionals include facilitate/organize gender professionals are familiar training activities for sessions on national and mechanisms/ombudsma with the provisions of the legal professionals on n institution and ask for international gender Convention and are ready relevant multilateral equality legislation, their expertise in to exercise their respective conventions and good delivering training on environmental responsibilities to uphold agreements and legal practice. gender equality Check if there are them. specifically on the standards, Aarhus Convention and domestic policies such as Consult with association update judiciary gender action plans in of women judges if regularly on new place in your respective available about content countries and include of the training, environmental legislation. references to them as Strive for equal well. representation of both women and men as speakers, presenters, trainers and participants.

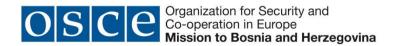
#### Practical steps to gender mainstreaming

- Do background analysis: check if what you're trying to change with your project affects women and men differently. Find statistics.
- Contextualize your project proposal: be realistic.
- Do not think of gender mainstreaming as women's issue only.
- Do not think that you need to develop new activities.
- Think who can assist with the project implementation? Are there women's NGOs, domestic gender institutional mechanism/ombudsman institution that you can consult?
- If you're developing an event, think if you can include a topic on gender related matters or in the training you're preparing.
- If you're working on legislative/ policy changes, consult legislation on gender equality/gender action plans and reports submitted to the CEDAW committee together with their recommendations. Work on bringing both women and men to speak and participate in your events.



#### **Useful publications**

- Gender mainstreaming in Aarhus activities, A Guideline for practitioners, OSCE, 2012, <a href="http://www.osce.org/gender/87675?download=true">http://www.osce.org/gender/87675?download=true</a>
- Gender and environment, A guide to the integration of gender aspects in the OSCE's environmental projects, OSCE, 2009, http://www.osce.org/gender/36360
- GEF policies on environmental and social safeguards and gender mainstreaming, Global Environmental Facility, 2011, http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.40.10 GEF Policies o n Safeguards and Gender.April 26 2011.pdf
- Gender mainstreaming in practice: A handbook, UNDP, 2005, http://www1.uneca.org/Portals/ngm/Documents/Gender%20Mainstreaming/Gender <u>Mainstreaming in PracticeRBC.pdf</u>
- **Women and the environment**, UNEP, 2004, http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=468&Article ID=4488



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Thank you for your attention.