

CONCEPT NOTE: SPOTLIGHT 4

Gender Equality & Development Effectiveness Tuesday, 13 December 2022, 8:30 – 9:30 AM CET

Background:

The intersecting challenges facing the world, including COVID-19, intensified geopolitical conflict, economic shocks and increased threats to democracy and human rights, require multi-dimensional and coordinated responses. These crises have a disproportionate impact on women and girls, as evidenced by high rates of job loss and income insecurity, exacerbated risks of poverty and food insecurity, and increasing levels of violence. All stakeholders must act in solidarity to chart out sustainable development pathways and strengthen transparency and accountability to ensure resources are used effectively and equitably to advance inclusive, resilient, and sustainable recovery. Gender equality and women's empowerment is a cornerstone of an effective, inclusive development cooperation agenda. The session will highlight the importance and potential of promoting gender equality throughout development cooperation. Specifically, it will emphasize how development effectiveness principles can be used to advance gender equality objectives, and how gender responsive development co-operation supports effective and inclusive results in countries. It will feature Member States, multilateral organizations, and civil society organizations to build and expand trust-based and accountable partnerships for delivering impactful results for women and girls, and to leave no-one behind

Objectives:

- Strengthen political commitment for gender responsive development cooperation to accelerate implementation of global, regional and national gender equality.
- Highlight policy implementation gaps for gender equality and identify how development effectiveness principles can be used to mobilize and target resources to address these
- Exchange country experiences and lessons learned on strengthening country systems to allocate and track public resources for gender equality
- Enhance trust-based partnerships to promote alignment of national, regional and global resources for gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

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Guiding Questions:

For Government Representatives:

- One of the Session's objectives is to accelerate political will to reduce the gaps between policy commitments to gender equality and their implementation. Could you speak to how your country addresses this issue and what additional actions are recommended?
- How can more effective development cooperation support country systems to mobilize and finance gender equality objectives? What do you see as the roles of different stakeholders in these efforts?

For All Panelists:

- Inclusive partnership is an important principle for effective development co-operation. Please share your reflections on what is most important to promote these partnerships and how they can be used to advance gender equality and women's empowerment?
- What actions are required by development partners and country governments to enhance transparency and accountability on financing for gender equality?
- What measures should be taken to institutionalize women's groups' participation in budget planning including for gender equality and women's rights?
- What measures need to be introduced and/or expanded to ensure sustainable resources exist for local women's organizations?

Guiding question for discussant:

- What are the main themes that emerged from the panel interventions in terms of effective partnerships, country ownership and addressing policy-implementation gaps for gender equality?
- Drawing on the panel discussion and your own expertise, what actions are necessary to strengthen integration of gender equality into development cooperation and ensure effectiveness principles are used to address gender inequalities