



**UNITED NATIONS
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
(UNEP)**

Programme objectives

In accordance with the relevant decisions of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, UNEP focuses its efforts on ensuring gender equality in UNEP personnel practices, and gender sensitivity in all projects and programmes. Gender equality considerations are addressed in all sectoral and thematic work of UNEP.

In formulating programme plans and budgets, UNEP pursues a process to ensure the incorporation of the gender perspectives. All UNEP projects adhere to the UNEP Manual on Project Formulation, Approval, Monitoring and Evaluation, which contains a chapter on gender sensitivity guidelines which places emphasis on gender considerations in project documents and steps for including gender in UNEP's relationship with collaborating and supporting organizations. The guidelines are supplemented by practical recommendations on gender planning to facilitate the participation of women and other major groups.

Operational activities

UNEP has developed a strategy on mainstreaming gender in its policy, programming and operational procedures. The strategy aims to establish mechanisms and accountability processes to ensure the integration of gender equality in the policies, programmes and operations of UNEP, building capacity of UNEP staff members to carry out the strategy, and facilitating the contribution of UNEP to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

UNEP also endeavours to ensure gender balance during meetings and workshops and strives to mainstream gender issues in all programmatic activities. A global database of gender and environment focal points, consisting of focal points not only of Governments, but also of relevant global non-governmental organizations and relevant civil society entities serves as an information exchange and data collection tool and provides the information required for capacity building at the national, regional and global levels. ■

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