

## Mainstreaming Gender in Project Implementation and Management

Building on the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Policy and Strategy for Gender and the Environment 2014–2017, a **guiding document for mainstreaming gender in project implementation and management** was developed to support implementation of the national projects/activities under the SwitchMed programme. The purpose of this guiding document is to i) help implementing partners understand the relevance of gender in their specific field of projects; ii) provide entry points for the integration of gender in project cycle activities and communications; and iii) provide practical guidance for strengthening gender considerations within the management of the SwitchMed II implementation at country level.



In the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 12, gender equality is key for the switch to sustainable consumption and production patterns, which promote equitable access to and control over resources and services as well as access to decision-making. The sustainable consumption and production national action plans are the key policy instruments at national level that create the enabling policy environment to achieve SDG 12.

## Opportunities in SwitchMed II:



The second phase of SwitchMed will continue integrating the application of sustainable consumption and production best practices contributing to the development of enabling policies, green businesses and transition toward circular economy models. Project implementation partners will be encouraged to support gender balanced participation in training and capacity building activities and benefit from other supporting measures.

The sex disaggregated data collection and analyses will be carried out according to the project components. Based on a gender analysis, the project will identify beneficiaries. The project will provide evidence of equal and meaningful participation of women and men in the project activities. The sex disaggregated data will be used for monitoring project performance and for the evaluation of impact.

Links with government agencies, NGOs, community-based organizations, and women’s associations or groups whose work focuses on gender and the specific area of intervention will be utilized to mainstream country-specific gender sensitive actions to mirror the project’s logframe and to both strengthen and benefit from national expertise. Initial unanticipated risks and/or negative gender impacts of the project will be discussed with the relevant groups and mitigating strategies developed.

# Gender Mainstreaming in SwitchMed II

## Guidelines on Mainstreaming Gender in Project Implementation and Management:

Under UNEP’s support to countries on SwitchMed implementation at national level, special attention will be given to mainstreaming gender in projects and activities through assuring: (i) inclusive communication; (ii) gender issues are observed in publications, reports and assessments; (iii) gender issues are included in workshops, conferences and high level meetings and (iv) national implementing partners are supported to integrate gender concerns.

Suggestions on gender entry points are provided to guide not only the development but also the implementation, managing local partnerships and the monitoring framework of the projects through i.e. background situation analysis, designing activities, outcomes and outputs, budgeting, and communication etc.



The inclusion of gender considerations is closely linked with results-based management by conducting a stakeholder analysis and focusing on expected outcomes. Gender considerations become an integral part of project development.

Gender equality cannot be measured by the mere ‘presence’ of men and women. Presence does not necessarily mean ‘participation’, and neither does it inherently imply ‘influence’: the nature of people’s participation differs from context to context. It is therefore recommended to work with local partners to determine the best way to include gender perspectives.