

Regional Online F2F

Gender Equality & Social Inclusion (GESI)

1 - 3 December, 2020

Background

Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) are crucial issues in Eastern Europe, a region that faces growing inequalities, even more so in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. In line with Agenda 2030 and its Leave no behind imperative, Switzerland is committed to promoting gender equality and social inclusion in all its Cooperation programs. This takes place both through mainstreaming, as well as via targeted and specific projects on gender equality and social inclusion.

The issues of gender equality and social inclusion are to a large extent overlapping and closely interlinked. They both deal with a lack of realization of rights by individuals, often as a result of their identity combined with the policies, institutions and norms in the society in which they live. Besides, the gender gap that women have to face (be it in employment, education or other sectors) is often increased for certain population groups (intersectionality). The instruments and tools that have been developed by SDC and other agencies over the years to fight gender inequality and ensure that all members in society can live in dignity combine a people-centered approach with systemic changes. This requires to apply, along the project cycle management (PCM), some “analytical lens” – gender and social inclusion - which will help us, development practitioners, to design interventions that are most appropriate to respond to people’s needs.

Objectives

Organized by the Cooperation with Eastern Europe (CEE) Domain, **the purpose of this Regional Online F2F Gender Equality & Social Inclusion is to provide a platform for exchange of experience and learning among field offices.** It marks an additional step in the social inclusion peer learning process, following the Roma inclusion seminar series, and aims to respond to the request of gender focal points for more peer to peer exchange expressed during the 2019 global Gender F2F. The **specific objectives** are the following:

- Clarify the Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) concept and how it links to the Leave no one behind (LNOB) agenda;
- Reflect on the Covid 19 impact and responses from a GESI perspective
- Learn from existing regional and global practices in GESI programming and mainstreaming;
- Reflect and identify ways of improving GESI programming and mainstreaming in practice;
- Define next steps and organize concrete exchanges and support were relevant.

Programme

Day 1		
GESI in perspective		
08.50	Check-in via zoom	<i>Individually by all participants</i>
09.00	Welcome on board & technical guidance Program overview and objectives	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>
09.15 - 09.30	Opening remarks Why GESI matters to SDC? Why it matters to OZA? Link with COVID19	<i>Carin Salerno, Head WBA</i>
09.30- 10.30	Panel: Setting the stage How do we define GESI and perceive it at SDC? What are our ambitions and approaches for GESI mainstreaming? What are some challenges and limits when putting GESI into practice? What are our main messages and conclusions? Q&A	<i>Corinne Huser, Senior Gender Equality Policy Advisor</i> <i>Stephanie Guha, Poverty & Social Development Adviser</i> <i>Dimka Stantchev Skeie, Regional Adviser Social Inclusion</i> <i>Laurent Ruedin, Social Inclusion Adviser WBA</i> <i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>
Break		
11.00 – 12.30	Expert guest GESI: Exchanging with participants Applying gender and social inclusion lenses- How to apply them better? What are the tools? Sharing inspiring examples - How does it improve GESI impact on the ground and how can this be monitored?	<i>Barun Gurung,</i> <i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>
12.30	Closure of day 1	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>
Day 2		
GESI and COVID-19 response		
08.50	Check-in via zoom	<i>Individually by all participants</i>
09.00	Welcome on board & Harvesting Day 1 Program Day 2	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>

<p>09.15- 10.30</p>	<p>Panel: Covid-19 impact from a GESI perspective and policy responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the main impacts of COVID-19 on gender equality and women and what are the main drivers of domestic violence and SGBV ? • How are the Roma communities impacted by the Covid crisis? Has it been worsened by antigypsism (racism against Roma) through hate speech, more segregation ...? • Government responses: are the new policy responses addressing Covid gender and socially responsive? What were the lessons so far in reaching the most in need of support? What can we expect in terms of progress at the policy level? • Digital gap: how has the different access to IT / devices influenced the impact of Covid? What were innovative responses to close this gap and respond to the need of those on the wrong side? • What are you observing as Solidarity movements during the crisis? How far can responses to Covid build on such movements promoting social cohesion for a post covid society? 	<p><i>Dan Doghi Chief of the OSCE / ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues</i> <i>Isak Skenderi Exec Director, Voice of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians (Kosovo)</i> <i>Sagipa Djusaeva, UN Women Kyrgyzstan head of programme</i> <i>Tamar Sabedashvili, country representative, UN Women Georgia</i> <i>Lela Akiashvili, Prime-Minister's Advisor on HR and Gender Equality Georgia</i> <i>Dragana Jovanovich Manager of Social inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, Prime Minister office, Serbia</i></p> <p><i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i></p>
<p>Break</p>		
<p>11.00 - 12.00</p>	<p>Group exchange: Covid-19 and GESI What has changed? How to adapt? What are the recommendations to HQ and Koof Management?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to best mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on Gender-based violence • How to best respond to the impact of Covid on Roma communities • Fostering women economic empowerment in the time of Covid-19 • Building back better: using the crisis to promote more inclusive development 	
<p>12.00 - 12.30</p>	<p>Feedback in plenary</p>	<p><i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i></p> <p><i>Groups' moderators share back results in plenary</i></p>
<p>12.30</p>	<p>Closure of day 2</p>	<p><i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i></p>

Day 3			GESI in practice		
08.50	Check-in via zoom	<i>Individually by all participants</i>			
09.00	Welcome on board & Harvesting Day 2 Program Day 3	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>			
09.15 - 10.15	Peer coaching through case clinics and sharing of good practices Peer coaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Georgia: intersectionality: differentiated target group analysis - Moldova: Digital divide as factor of exclusion Good practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BiH: Capacity development of partners on Gender mainstreaming - Moldova: Adapting advocacy of marginalized groups to covid situation - North Macedonia: active labor market measures for Roma and PwD 	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i>			
10.15 - 10.30	Harvesting from 2 days of learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What can I do more or differently? - What support do I need and from whom? 	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator - guiding a silent conversation</i>			
Break					
11.00	Sharing collective learnings and innovative ideas with HQ and SCO management	<i>Marie Marchand, Facilitator</i> <i>Exchange with the management</i>			
12.00	Closure of the online F2F	<i>Siroco Messerli, Head of the New Member States Division</i>			

Annex 1: List of participants:

The following countries will be represented: Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Moldavia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Romania, Bulgaria.

Eurasia division focal person for the topics Gender / Social inclusion

Name	Country	Function
Tamuna Tsivtsivadze	Georgia	Gender
Zahir Ahmadov	Azerbaijan	Gender
Ludmyla Nestrlyay	Ukraine	Gender and Social inclusion
Radu Danii	Moldova	Local governance
Natalia Cernat	Moldova	Gender and Social inclusion
Elena Zakirova	Kyrgyzstan	Gender
Zhyldyz Abdyl daeva (Helvetas)	Kyrgyzstan	
Shakarbek Niyatbekov	Tadjikistan	Governance
Makhbuba Saidakhmedova	Uzbekistan	Gender

Western Balkan division focal person for the topics Gender / Social inclusion

Name	Country	Function
Kristina Kolozova	North Macedonia	Gender
Mirjana Makedonska	North Macedonia	Social inclusion
Sascha Müller	Serbia	Regional adviser governance
Biljana Djusic Radmilovic	Serbia	Social inclusion
Almir Tanovic	Bosnia Herzegovina	Gender
Saranda Cana	Kosovo	Gender
Erisa Lame	Albania	Gender

European Member states Division

Name	Country
Daniela Dimitrova	Bulgaria
Roland Python	Romania / Bulgaria
Ana-Maria Curbet	Romania

Bern

Name	Function
Selina Bezzola	JPO on Social inclusion, from January 21 in Kirghisztan
Barbara Profeta	Health Adviser for CEE
Matias Andelic	Academic trainee

Management (Invited for the final session)

Name	Country	Function
Carin Salerno	HQ	Head of the Western Balkan division
Ursula Läubli	HQ	Head of the Eurasia Division
Siroco Messerli	HQ	Head of the EU Member States Division
Danièle Meuwly	Georgia	Head of Cooperation South Caucasus
Priska Depnering-Nydegger	Ukraine	Deputy Head of Cooperation Ukraine
Veronique Hulmann	Kyrgyzstan	Head of Cooperation Kyrgyzstan
Olivier Chave	Ouzbekistan	Head of Cooperation Ouzbekistan
Dominique Petter	Ouzbekistan	Deputy Head of Cooperation Ouzbekistan
Lucien Aegerter	North Macedonia	Deputy Head of Mision North Macedonia
Richard Kohli	Serbia	Head of Cooperation Serbia
Barbara Dätwyler	Bosnia Herzegovina	Head of Cooperation Bosnia Herzegovina
Chantal Felder	Bosnia Herzegovina	Deputy Head of Cooperation Bosnia Herzegovina
Katharina Stocker	Kosovo	Head of Cooperation Kosovo
Adrian Maitre	Albania	Ambassador

Resource persons and organizers

Name	Country	Function
Dimka Stantchev	Bosnia Herzegovina	Regional adviser social inclusion

Laurent Ruedin	HQ	Social Inclusion Adviser for CEE
Stephanie Guha	HQ	Focal point Poverty / LNOB
Corinne Huser	HQ	Focal Point Gender
Martina Ramming	HQ	Member of general staff CEE
Marie-Thérèse Karlen	HQ	Gender adviser for CEE (ad interim)
Barun Gurung	Hawaii	GESI Expert / independent consultant
Marie Marchand	Switzerland	Facilitator /independent consultant