



Gender Responsive Standards

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Initiative



By Royal Charter

Introduction – British Standards Institution

- ★ National Standards Body for the UK by Royal Charter and MOU with UK Government
- ★ UK member of ISO, IEC, CEN, CENELEC, etc.
- ★ ~13,000 individual standards-makers on ~1,200 committees
!! <20% are women
- ★ ~2,200 stakeholder / nominating organizations represented in standards development
- ★ ~14,000 subscribing members



By Royal Charter

BSI Group – assessment, certification, compliance support, training, and advisory services

UNECE Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards & Standards Development



What is it?

- ❖ A collaboratively authored declaration designed to enable standards development organizations to pledge their commitment to gender equality and inclusion in standards development and standards

Who can sign?

- ❖ Any type of standards development organization anywhere in the world

UNCECE Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards & Standards Development

What do signatories have to do?

- ❖ Create a gender action plan for their organization which will enable them to:
 - ✓ Improve the gender balance in their community of standards-makers
 - ✓ create a gender inclusive standards development environment
 - ✓ Systematically develop gender responsive standards



60 +

Signatories

How can we develop gender responsive standards?

Diversify representation / voice

Proactively encourage more women to get involved
Seek out and engage women's organizations
Recognize gender expertise

Broaden definitions

Broaden definition of "relevant stakeholder"
Acknowledge direct and indirect stakeholders / impacts



How can we develop gender responsive standards?



Question the data

Ensure standards-makers understand the data they are using and its biases

Interrogate information used to make decisions

Improve the process

Make the right tools available (e.g. for gender-based analysis)

Make gender-responsive an imperative

Strive for adjustability instead of neutral or “one size fits all”