

German cooperation with UNECE to promote gender-responsive standards

Side Event of UNECE Regional Forum 2022:
Standards are a catalyst to achieving the SDGs
6th April 2022

German Development Policy

Two Priorities of the new German Government:

- Feminist Foreign Policy
- Feminist Development Policy

Aim of Feminist Development Policy:

the realization of human rights and the equal social, political and economic participation of all people - regardless of their gender, their gender identity, their ethnicity, their migration status, their age, a possible disability or other identity characteristics.

Gender-responsive standards contribute to this goal.

German Support for Standards Development

Standards are part of a Quality Infrastructure system.

The goal of standards is to ensure the safety, quality and reliability of products and services and facilitate trade, protect our health and the health of the environment.

Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) supports countries worldwide to set up functioning Quality Infrastructure Systems. E.g. cooperation with National Standards Bodies to harmonize or to develop new standards.

Cooperation with international Organizations leverages the impact of these activities.

Cooperation with UNECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

Germany supports Working Party (WP.6) for many years.

Promotion of gender-responsive standards is a common concern of Germany and WP.6 helps to achieve SDG 5 on gender equality.

Since 2018 funding of WP.6 project: “Enhancing Usage and Uptake of Standards for Sustainable Development, Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls”

- Showcase good practices in the uptake of gender-responsive standards
- Develop training material and support stakeholders in the development and implementation of gender-responsive standards
- Organize awareness-raising among policy makers

Outlook

- Germany welcomes the international focus of the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative.
- Germany considers the implementation of the Gender Responsive Standards Declaration important.
- Germany works at a national and international level to support the implementation of gender-responsive standards.
- Looking forward, Germany will continue to advocate for gender-responsive standards in while taking the gender dimension into account in its development cooperation.