



# Training Workshops on Gender-Responsive standards

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**Gender-responsive standards: bringing standards for sustainable development and gender-equality to standards development bodies**



YELLOW WINDOW

# What is Yellow Window?

- Active in *industrial design, service design, policy design*
- Offices in Antwerp, Paris, Lyon
- Team of researchers, designers, practitioners, consultants
- Diverse: multi-cultural, -national, -disciplinary, -lingual, ...
- Specific expertise in gender equality, institutional change for gender equality, Gender Action Plans, training & capacity-building
- More information and references: [www.yellowwindow.eu](http://www.yellowwindow.eu)

# 4 Training workshops

## What:

- Online training workshops on Gender-Responsive Standards

## Commissioned by:

UNECE – [Working Party 6](#)

## Aims:

- *Overall:* Ensure that standard setting contributes to gender equality, in line with the SDG 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”
- *Specific:* Strengthen standard-setting bodies’ capacity to develop gender-responsive standards



# Training specifics

- 4 Online, one-day training workshops
- 3 Sessions of 1,5 hours per training
- Developed and conducted by:
  - UNECE (session 1)
  - Yellow Window (sessions 2 and 3)
- Hand-out with further reading / interesting resources
- Exit questionnaire



# Training specifics

- **Timing:** 26 & 27 April, 3 & 4 May 2022
- **Languages:** English, French, Russian
- **Target group and audience:**  
Staff of standard-setting bodies, mainly signatories of the UNECE Declaration on Gender-Responsive Standards and Standards Development
- **Total number trained:** 151



# Training contents

- **Session 1: How standards can help to achieve the SDGs**
- **Session 2: Gender-responsive standards**
  - women's participation in standard-setting processes at all levels (user perspectives, expert input, gender-balanced committees and decision-making bodies)
  - content of standards themselves (who do they engage with, whose lives and bodies do they affect, how can impacts be different for different groups)
- **Session 3: Gender Action Plan**
  - Instrument to operationalize the organizations' commitment to change processes and procedures structurally, so that gender-responsive standards can become a reality



# Results of exit questionnaire

- **Response rate:** 24,5%
- **Participant satisfaction:**  
Average score across all 29 evaluation items: 8,6/10
- **Some quotes:**
  - “Super clear information, very lively presentation, all questions addressed. Particularly liked the stakeholders' engagement focus, super useful!”*
  - “It was a very comprehensive workshop and a lot was covered despite the limited time.”*
  - “The training will help me with prioritizing actions and finding a way to set up a Gender Action Plan.”*

# Results of exit questionnaire

- 81% is 'absolutely' interested in further training oriented towards skills development and practical implementation
- Topics:
  - the specifics of Gender Action Plans and practicalities of their design and implementation with stakeholders' engagement
  - how to work with participatory techniques
  - how to set SMART targets and indicators for Gender Action Plans
  - how to deal with resistances





# Conclusions and recommendations

- Participants highly appreciated the opportunity offered to them by UNECE
- But... training sessions reached only a fraction of the staff of standard setting bodies who should engage with gender-responsive standards
  - Setting up **more workshops** would help progressing towards reaching a critical mass of people who can push forward the required changes
- Much knowledge has been transferred in a relatively limited time, but there remains a need for **more practice-oriented sessions**



# Conclusions and recommendations

## Key messages:

- Capacity-building is an indispensable step towards realizing the change that is intended.
- All actors in standard-setting processes need to be aware of how they can contribute to making standards gender-responsive.
- Awareness-raising and training are actions that should feature in every gender action plan.





# Thank you

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