

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

Gender Responsive Standards Initiative (GRSI)

Agenda Item 7

Document reference:

[ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/8](#)

[ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/INF.5](#)

[ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/9](#)



The Gender Declaration



The Declaration, “acknowledge[s] that representation of women in standards development is almost always below parity and that the outcomes for men and women are not explicitly addressed during the standards development process.”

GRSI Survey



Purpose

- Learn about current gender and standards practices
- Improve gender-responsiveness in standardization
- Collect baseline data to potentially allow for future comparisons

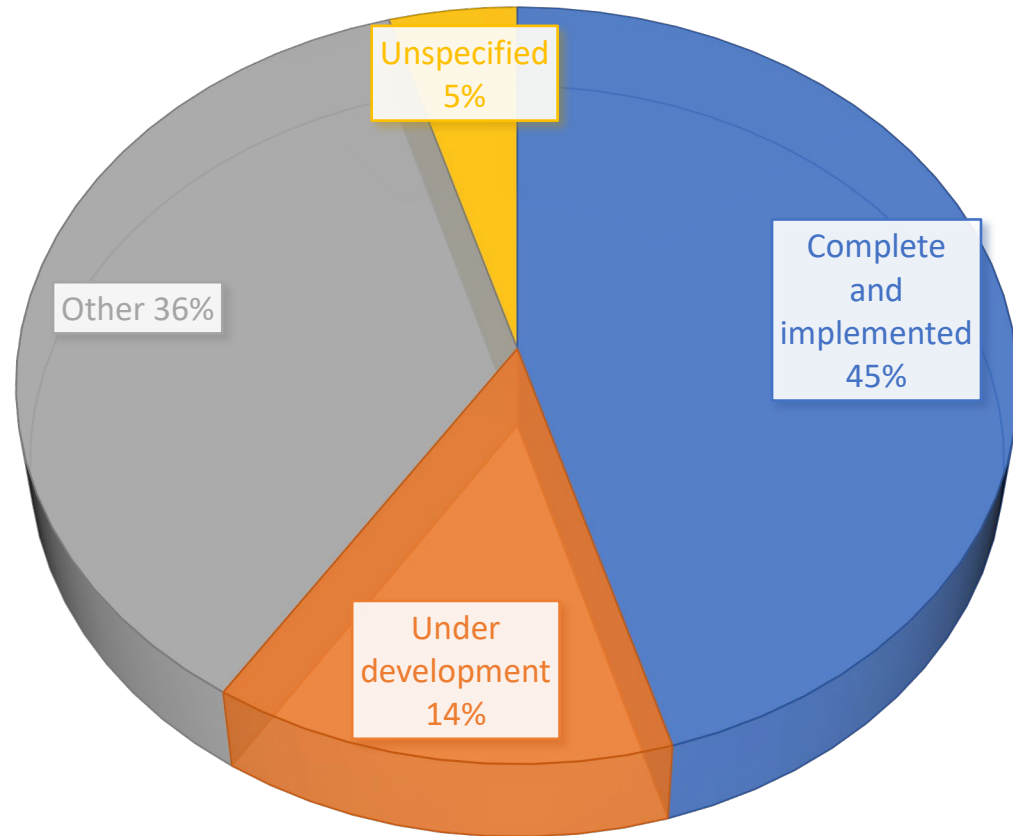
The survey covers 4 sections

- Section 1: Gender action plan (GAP)
- Section 2: Training
- Section 3: Research
- Section 4: Additional information and comments

81 signatories

- 22 responses

Gender Action Plans



- In 36% of responding organizations requirements for a periodic review of their Gender Action Plan have been established
- In 22% of responding organizations have indicators for the measurement of gender-responsiveness

Gender Responsive Standards



77% of responding organizations have a gender focal point

45% target a gender balance on their standards committees

91% do not have a process in place to assess gender impacts of it's current/future standards.

Training



Only 18% of responding organizations offer gender training for their committee members.

91% of respondents said their organization would welcome additional information to help them develop gender-responsive standards.

Guidelines on Developing Gender-Responsive Standards



PURPOSE: To ensure that standards meet the needs of men and women by developing clear guidelines on the process to be followed to ensure standards are gender-responsive.

AUDIENCE: Standards developers, specifically people involved in the development and review of standards (i.e., technical committee chair and members).

Guidelines for Developing Gender-Responsive Standards



The [guidelines](#) focus on two areas:

1. How to increase representation of women on technical committees and ensure that meetings are inclusive to foster the participation of women in standards development.
2. How to ensure that standards are gender-responsive, regardless of the number of women participating on the technical committee.

Representation



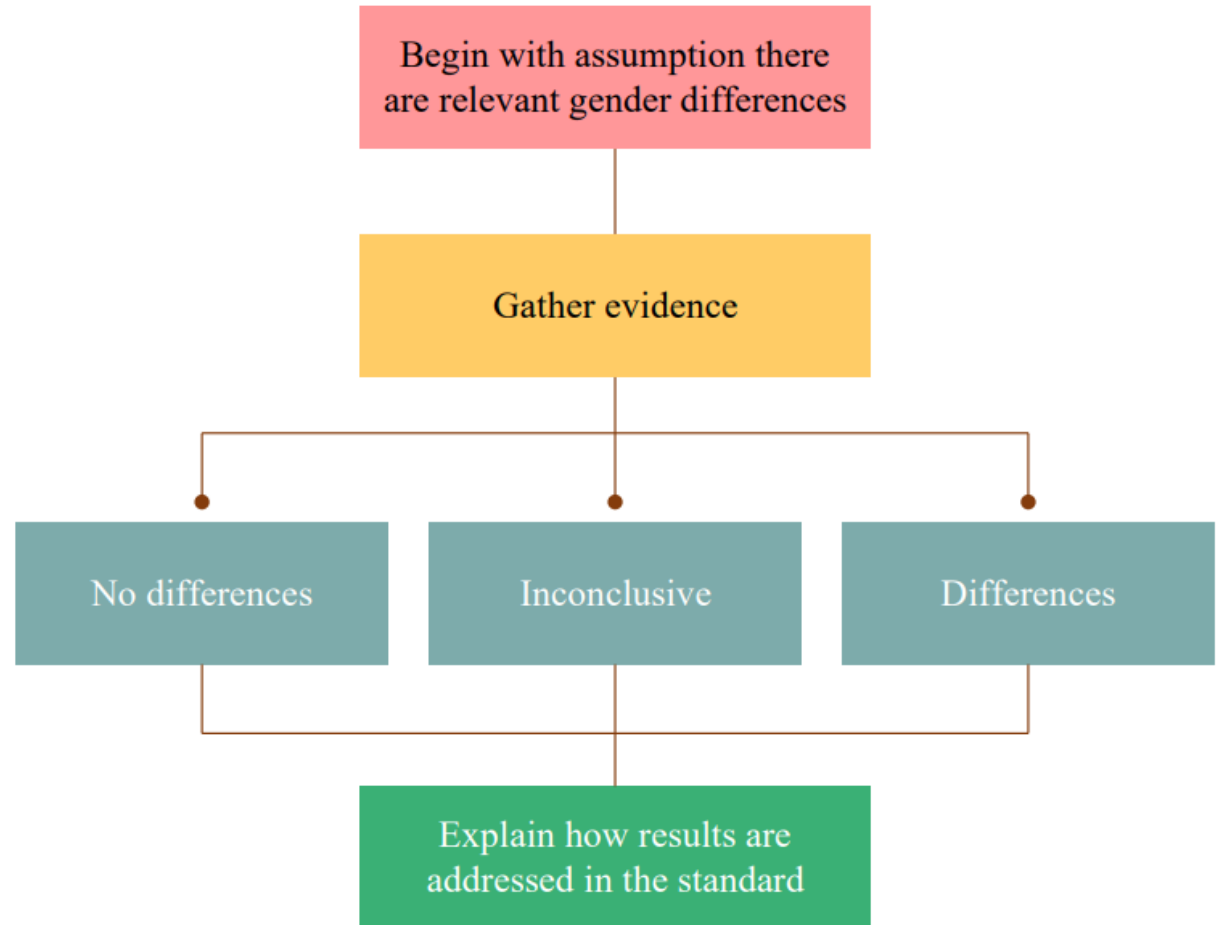
Recruitment

Inclusive Meetings

Process



Steps to ensuring standards are gender-responsive



Outreach and Awareness Raising



- Specific GRSI related events and meetings have continued to include as wide a spectrum of standards bodies as possible
- GRSI work was presented at the roundtable session of the ECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
- The GRSI supports the secretariat in its efforts to conduct an extra-budgetary project on capacity building

Terminology



Gender-Sensitive

- Indicates awareness of gender considerations, but does not include the development of remedial action.

Gender-Responsive

- Considers the impact of gender norms, roles and inequality and takes specific action to reduce the harmful effects.
- **The Bureau of WP.6 and the leadership of the GRSI confirm the appropriate term to be used to describe its work is “gender-responsive standards” and not “gender-sensitive.”**



• Proposed decisions:

- The Working Party adopts the Report on activities of the Gender-Responsive Standards Initiative in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/8. It encourages member States to engage in dialogue with standards bodies in their jurisdiction to become signatories of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Declaration for Gender-Responsive Standards and Standards Development. It further encourages member States to consider financing for follow-up work particularly capacity-building for gender action plans. It also requests the secretariat to continue its awareness-raising efforts and to report on activities at the next session. (Decision 9)
- The Working Party takes note of the endorsements from the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards and of the ECE Executive Committee on the launch of the Team of Specialists on Gender-Responsive Standards. It encourages member States to nominate experts to participate in this Team of Specialists. (Decision 10)
- The Working Party takes note of the Guidelines on Developing Gender-Responsive Standards in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2022/9. (Decision 11)

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

Merci ありがとうございました Hvala Ačiū
شكرا جزيلاً Mahalo Дякую Teşekkür ederim
Рахмат Dankon ඔබට ස්තූතියි Sagbol Ευχαριστώ
Tack Çox sağ ol Dziękuję Ci Obrigado
მადლობთ תודה 감사합니다 धन्यवाद Dankon
Hatur nuhun Баярлалаа Хвала вам
Tak skal du have Diolch Paldies
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Kiitos

Thank you

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UNECE – Working Party 6

