

# RSB Presentation

*“RSB’s Experiences In Implementing A Gender Action Plan In Standards Development”*

By  
Florence Uwatwembi

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**Rwanda Standards Board**

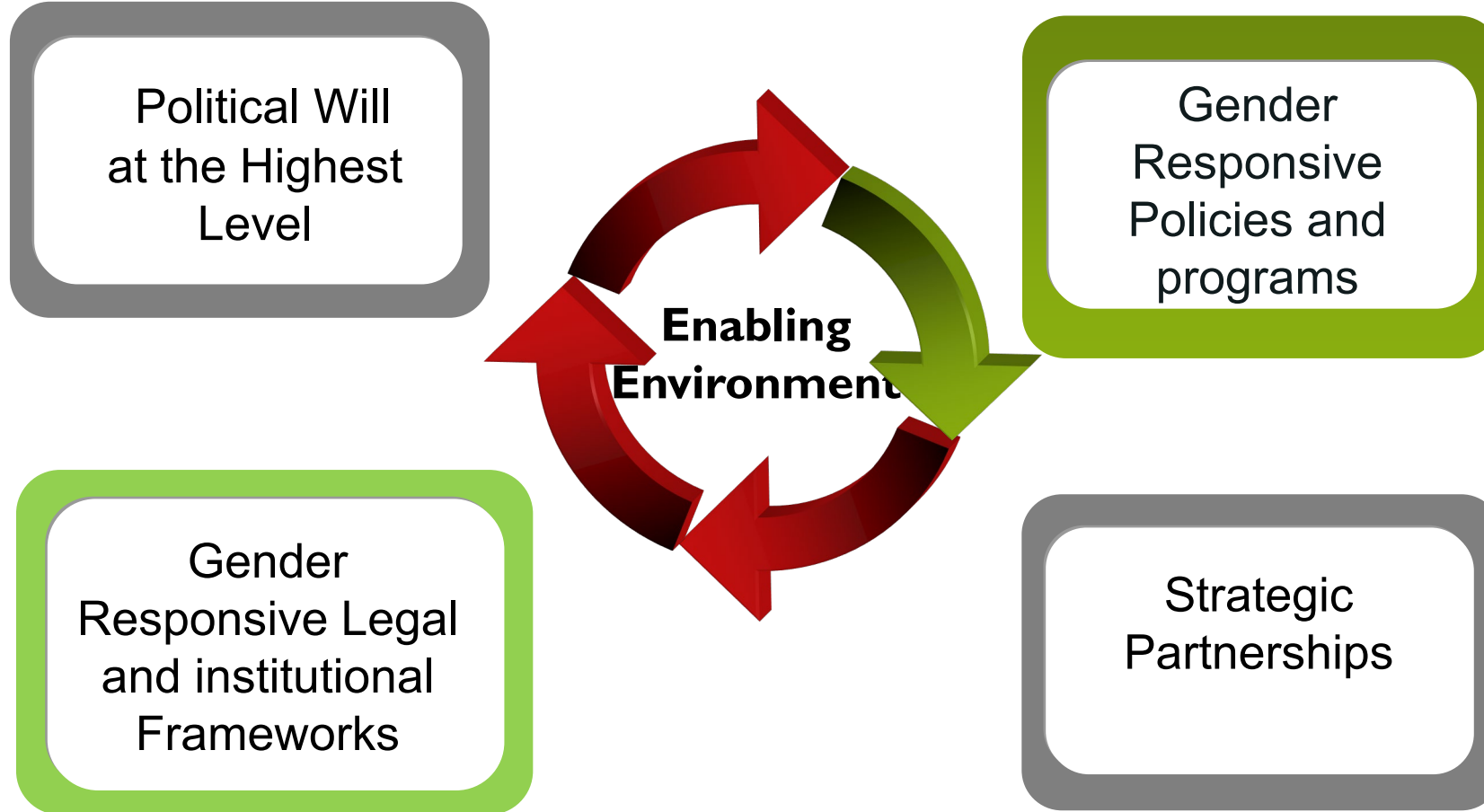
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# RSB's Strengths to Implement Gap

- Enabling environment;
- Strong partnership between RSB, other governmental institutions responsible for gender accountability and NGOs;
- Government and RSB's leadership commitment;
- Enforcement of national laws and regulations for gender accountability;
- Gender equality- Requirements for promotion, implementation and accountability certifiable Standard;
- The RSB's Gender Budget Statement plan was requested by MINECOFIN;
- Signed UNECE declaration;
- Participation in ISO committees related to gender responsive standards development;
- RSB as member of GES National steering committee;
- Working closely with RSB's planning department;
- RSB operates within the framework of the national performance management-Imihigo program and has a fully functional RBM system to which it can link GE delivery.

# The Enabling Environment



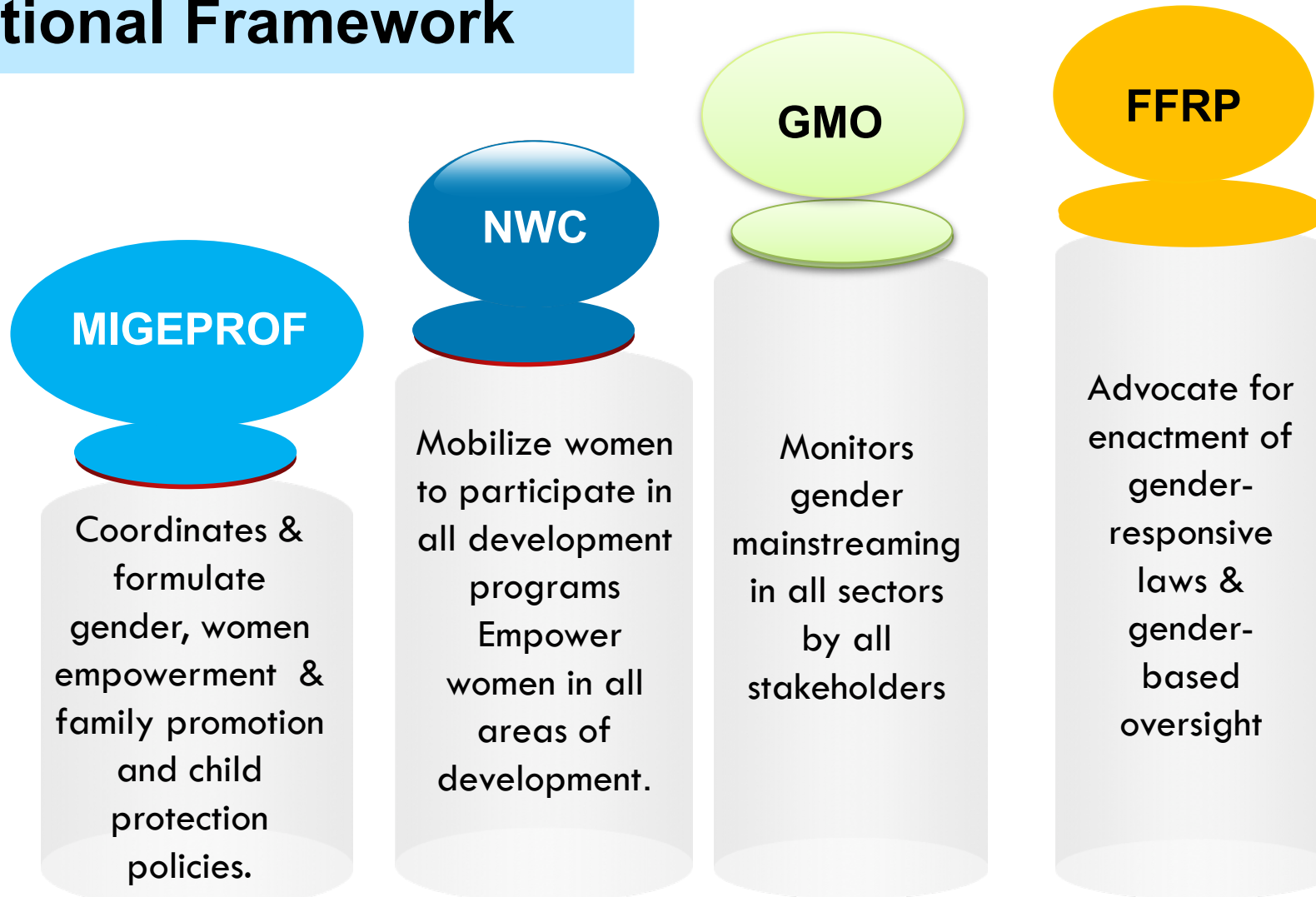
## National legal framework for gender

- National laws preventing discrimination
- The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda
- The National Gender Policy of 2021
- Sector Gender mainstreaming strategies
- Girls Education Policy 2008
- National Decentralization Policy 2012
- Organic Law N° 12/2013/OL of 12/09/2013 on State Finances and Property
- Ministerial order relating to financial regulations
- Trade policy and strategy
- NST1 on gender

## International and Regional Commitments

- SDGs Goal 5
- Gender Equality Seal Certification Program (GESCP) for Public and Private Enterprises
- Beijing platform
- Maputo Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
- CEDAW (Convention on Elimination of Gender Discrimination Against Women)
- Agenda 63
- The Paris Declaration for Aid Modalities
- African Continental Free Trade Area
- Regional Commitments

## Institutional Framework



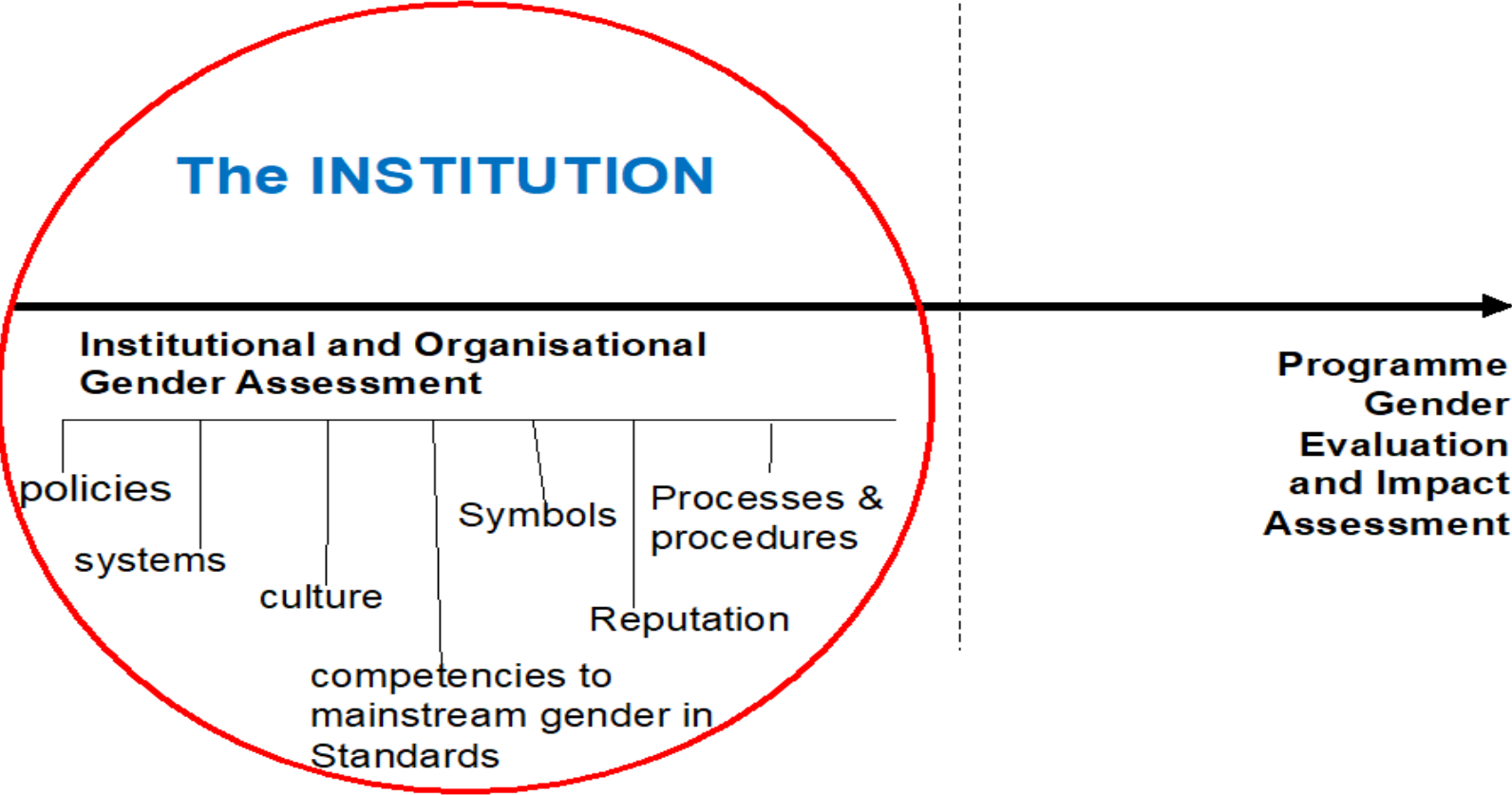
# UNECE DECLARATION ON GENDER RESPONSIVE STANDARDS AND STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

## GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO SIGN UNECE DECLARATION





## RSB Gender Assessment Lens Focus



# Technical Committees composition

**SPC:** Standards **P**rojects **C**ommittee

**EUP:** Engineering & **U**rban **P**lanning

**FACES:** Food, **A**griculture, **C**hemistry, **E**nvironment and **S**ervices

## SPC

- Female=26%
- Male= 74%

## EUP

- Female=15%
- Male=75%

## FACES

- Female=46%
- Male=54%

- Gender Gap Assessment in RSB conducted by external Gender expert
- RSB Gender Equality Policy developed
- Established RSB/Technical Committee 58- Gender Equality (RSB/TC58 Gender Equality) and trained on standard development processes
- Gender equality- Requirements for promotion, implementation and accountability certified Standard developed ,approved and gazette.
- Internal RSB's documentation including website are gender sensitive
- Internal gender equality committee established
- Participation in International Technical committee ( ISO/TC 337 Guidelines for promotion and implementation of Gender Equality and women's empowerment standard).
- Established internal gender equality committee
- Recorded documentary to promote gender equality specifically to women's owner companies. This documentary will help raise awareness about the contribution of women to the development and use of standards by encouraging women to do business with standardization.
- Developed the RSB's Gender Action Plan in line with gender gap assessment report
- ISO Mentorship program between RWANDA (RSB Mentor)-ECUADOR (INEN Mentee) on Gender Action Plan (mentorship program started)
- Identified existing standards addressing special needs of women and men
- The Government of Rwanda, through the Gender Monitoring Office and RSB mobilized financial and human resources through UNDP to support standards development in terms of GE.
- Gender sex-disaggregated data collected (Everyone TC chair in standards development is responsible to report the composition of TC members and participation in standard development
- Commitments of stakeholders and partnership between other NSB in terms of GE in standards development

## RSB's challenges

- No long term Financing Commitment
- Lack of enough skills and competences to develop gender responsive standards
- Some national laws, strategies are not gender responsive, preventing the development of gender responsive standards in some sectors (example: the construction sector).
- Due to the educational background in the sciences, some TCs in standards development are composed of males.
- The RSB strategic plan (2020-2026) did not accommodate interventions aimed at promoting GE in the areas of standards, certification, testing, and metrology.

## Way forward

- Review of RSB's strategic plan with the objective of promoting gender accountability in the areas of standards, certification, testing, and metrology
- Continue raising awareness about the importance of equal participation in standards development and gender responsive standards.
- Review of RSB's GAP in line with the current situation
- Review of the establishment of the TC procedure, taking into consideration equal composition and participation in standards development.
- Continually mobilize resources to finance planned and ongoing activities.
- Capacity building for RSB staff in GE

