Expert workshop on mainstreaming ageing

UNECE webinar

5th of September 2023
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Who is BAGSO?

Umbrella association of around 120 member organisations

- Social associations
- Senior citizens’ organisations of political parties and trade unions
- Self-help organisations and advocacy groups
- Associations of disability organisations and patient organisations
- Christian organisations
- Sports associations

Ina Voelcker
Who is BAGSO? How does it work?

- Representation in political processes and boards of civil society organisations
- Elaboration of positions and statements
- Dialogue with political authorities
- Conferences, meetings and workshops
- Publications and public relations
- Pilot projects for good living in old age
Who is BAGSO? How and why do we operate at UN level?

Secretariat for International Policy on Ageing

- Representing the voice of civil society in international processes
- Expressing the call for a UN convention on the rights of older persons on national and international level
- Promoting bilateral and multilateral exchanges

→ Striving to strengthen the rights of older persons worldwide
Repeat the format of an expert workshop with policymakers first used in 2019 but with a narrower thematic focus and the goal to provide a platform for exchange with civil society and academia,

Build on UNECE Ministerial Declaration but with a specific focus on an area that can be taken forward at federal level,

And take current developments into account, also at EU level.

MAINSTREAMING AGEING -- But where to start since there is little experience to share on mainstreaming ageing?
Why did we build on the experiences from gender mainstreaming?

Existing experience in advancing gender mainstreaming in Germany:

- It’s been used as an instrument and strategic approach since 1995,
- It’s a guiding principle of the Joint Rules of Procedure of the Federal Ministries,
- There is an inter-ministerial Gender Equality Strategy since 2020.

So, what can we learn from experts in the field of gender mainstreaming?
How did we organise the workshop?

Preparations

- Search for experts on gender mainstreaming, both from government and civil society, ideally German-speaking.
- Undertake a mapping of potential participants (invitation-only event), including policymakers (both legislative and executive), civil society and academia.
- Think about the best format and how to make the workshop interactive and interesting (e.g. virtual or not; breakout sessions or not; usage of other tools, like Mentimeter or polls, or methods, like graphic recording).
How did we organise the workshop?

Programme outline

- Welcome, introduction and setting the scene around mainstreaming ageing
- Input around gender mainstreaming from two perspectives (Ministry and civil society)
- Break-out sessions along the lines of “guiding questions for getting started” of the UNECE-Guidelines
- Report back from the sessions
- Summary and way forward
How did we organise the workshop?  
Further information

More on practicalities, including a number of templates, can be found in the Facilitators’ Guide published by UNECE: https://unece.org/population/ageing/mainstreaming-ageing

*Feel free to get in touch if you have questions or would like to share similar experiences you might have!*
What did we learn from the workshop?

- Simple and low-cost format to bring experts together that promote the idea of mainstreaming ageing and helps to initiate a discussion about it among different stakeholders.

- A closed space (by invitation only) provided an open space for discussion and led to ongoing relations with key stakeholders, e.g. members of parliament and representatives of other groups, e.g. women.

- International frameworks and tools by UN agencies, like the UNECE Guidelines on Mainstreaming Ageing, can be easily used at national level.

- Gender mainstreaming has been widely used, but many challenges remain, and there is a general fear of a “mainstreaming-tiredness”.

Ina Voelcker
Gender Mainstreaming

ALLE sind dafür zuständig
wie kriegt man sie dazu, mitzumachen?

Toolbox

Gleichstellungsberichte
Strategie & Diskurs

Gender Mainstreaming von Gesetzen
Pflicht zum Gleichstellungscheck
Kapazitäten zur Überprüfung schaffen

Weg von Selectiver Betrachtungsweise
unbeliebter Begriff: gender

Was wird gemainstreamed?
♂ & ♀?

Stereotype
Nicht weiter Verfestigen

Lehren:
- Mainstreaming muss man WOLLEN!
- Nicht überall wo Mainstreaming drauf steht ist Mainstreaming drin?
- Wie wirkt die Maßnahme?

Was können wir vom GENDER MAINSTREAMING lernen?

Sven Paul & Elke Ferner
Thank you very much for your attention!

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