

GENDER APPROACH

EUROsociAL's commitment to gender equity



Inequality between men and women is a structural issue that crosses societies and decreases women's rights and welfare, overlapping with other causes for inequality.

Taking into account the importance of inequality between men and women for social cohesion, the EUROsociAL programme has showed, since its creation, an active commitment with gender inequality through many actions aimed at the promotion of the gender approach: both in the programming and development of the Programme activities, and in the public policies that EUROsociAL is supporting or accompanying.

SUPPORTED PUBLIC POLICIES: REMARKABLE INITIATIVES UNDER GENDER APPROACH

EUROsociAL has supported policies or policy tools with significant effects in gender inequality in Latin America, mainly in the area of specific policies against gender-based violence and for the protection of women within vulnerable groups. In addition, the programme has supported social, educational and health policies that have taken into account gender differences in their formulation or implementation. In this regard, there are significant actions in

the different subject areas that have focused or addressed in matters that are present in the region's agenda for the improvement of women protection, opportunities and rights.

JUSTICE AND SECURITY

The actions have had a more developed gender element in the justice area and, together with the existence of a specific working line about gender-based violence, important efforts have been made so the administration of justice takes into account gender determinants that influence its access, commission of crimes and enforcement of penalties. The discussion in this area with 23 specific institutions for equity or women progress or women's associations is remarkable, contributing to achieve significant results in different areas:

Gender-based violence: crime investigation, victims care and inter-institutional coordination. Development of coordination tools and protocols of police and prosecutors forces in the investigation stage, and, the remaining stakeholders implied in direct victim care and reparation is supported. It is worth stressing:

► At the regional level, the development of three protocols that address investigation, victim care and coordination between different Justice Institutions.

► At the national level, development, implementation and launching of protocols in Panama, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Brazil, regarding police investigation and coordination.

Access to law, justice and defence for the most vulnerable. Specifically, actions aimed at women in special situations of vulnerability are addressed: victims of trafficking, migrants, violence victims and incarcerated women.

► Trafficking victims: approval of a care protocol in Chile.

► Violence victims: approval of a care protocol in Argentina, of a comprehensive care protocol for violence victims in Honduras, and creation of a House of Rights for women.

► Migrant women: launching of a legal advice assistance service for transboundary women in Costa Rica.

► Incarcerated women: the work of the public defenders in several countries in the attention of the specific situation of imprisoned women is addressed. In Guatemala, Costa Rica and Argentina, addressing the situation of women with children and dependent people. In Peru, Chile and Costa Rica, the focus was set on foreign women, and in Ecuador and Nicaragua the gender approach was addressed regarding the attention given by the public defenders offices.

Rehabilitation of incarcerated persons. A specific gender element was added in the work with incarcerated women. Women constitute a group with a higher level of rehabilitation and lower levels of recidivism. They also have greater causal link with the crime, related with a lack of employment opportunities and their lack of training. Remarkable actions:

► It is noteworthy the contribution of the programme in socio-labour rehabilitation policies for women in Uruguay and Chile in the preparation of the rehabilitation policy. Furthermore, labour integration rules and an informative guide for its application in the penitentiary system and for raising awareness among the general population were published.

In the Security area, in terms of **violence prevention**, the incorporation of an equity and dignity strategy with a gender approach in the Regional Model for Comprehensive Policy for Violence and Crime Prevention stands out, and the drafting of an operational guide for gender mainstreaming in prevention policies within the regional framework.

IN FIGURES

Participation by institutions for the advancement of women

COMMUNICATION WITH:

28 BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS FOR PROMOTION OF WOMEN



24 LATIN AMERICAN ENTITIES



4 EUROPEAN ENTITIES

PARTICIPATING IN:

7 ACTIONS
74 ACTIVITIES

Participation of women in the programme

50,5% OF THE PEOPLE PARTICIPATING

47,7% OF THE LATIN AMERICAN EXPERTISE

40% OF THE EUROPEAN EXPERTISE

35% OF SENIOR OFFICIALS

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND EMPLOYMENT

The working line “**Strengthening and extending comprehensive social protection systems**” stands out, particularly regarding the support of legislative reforms and the amelioration of plans and services that incorporate people with disability, early childhood, elder adults and domestic workers. It contributes to strengthen the social protection and public care systems, mainly, labour and educational integration for women that have traditionally assumed the role of caregivers. In addition, the support for the protection of women domestic workers implies social recognition and the promotion of work safety for a mostly female population.

- Care policies for early childhood: working at the regional level for the setting of common and at the national level guidelines in Costa Rica, Peru, Chile and Uruguay.
- Care policies for elder adults: at the regional level in the establishment of common and at the national level guidelines with Chile, Honduras, El Salvador and Uruguay.
- Disability policies in Honduras, Ecuador and Uruguay.
- Regularisation and acquisition of rights for women domestic workers in Brazil.
- Innovation of methods and contents of the presidential programme “Más Capaz” from Chile (integration into the labour market for 300,000 women).

HEALTH

The working line for the “**Improvement in equity with-in health care systems**” approaches gender as one of the social determinants that has an impact on inequalities in health, and the need of taking these differences into account in order to address care, human resources, measuring and medicine policies.

EDUCATION

The working line for the “**Prevention of academic failure, continuation and reincorporation**” considers gender approach as one of the main elements to be taken into account.

- In Costa Rica, stands out the support to the Ministry of Education in the launching of a national programme for the affectivity and comprehensive sexuality development (sexual and reproductive health), that is expected to have an impact in the reduction of school-leaving due to teenage pregnancy.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE PROGRAMME

Regarding interventions development, EUROsociAL has, since 2012, a “Gender mainstreaming guide”. It is a technical reference guide that includes guidelines so all Programme stakeholders introduce a gender approach into their policies, actions and activities. In addition, gender is present in the EUROsociAL debates, being particularly remarkable the debate within the framework of the Programme’s annual meetings.

INTERSECTORIALITY: THE GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE EXPERIENCE



In order to be able to successfully affect complex problems, it is necessary to attack them from different angles. Therefore, involvement and joint efforts in a common working line from different areas of the programme is mandatory.

A notable example is the inter-institutional and intersectoral focus that has been provided within the area of gender-based violence. Initially undertaken by the justice area, it is an intervention that involves institutions and actions from other areas of the programme for its comprehensive consideration like health, security and social services.

In this regard, in the second meeting of the Programme, a common workshop between the areas of justice and citizen security took place, and the consequences of gender-based in security and the chances of acting over gender violence in this area were studied.

Another remarkable example has started since the approval of the Protocol to Fight Against Violence in Honduras, supported by the working line of access to law and whose active implementation brings together (in addition to the partners in the action against gender-based violence), other Programme partners in order to make possible its application from all perspectives.

PUBLICATIONS



- Gender approach in EUROsociAL. Report on the addition of the gender approach in the Programme
- Guide for the gender mainstreaming in EUROsociAL