

More information

Can't wait to get certified?

Want to learn more about the Gender Equality Seal initiative?

For background materials and updates about the Gender Equality Seal programme, check out the great resources on the [Institutional Innovations for Gender Equality](#) page on the UNDP website. You can also find information on the [Seal intranet site](#).

Don't hesitate to share your questions and comments with the UNDP, BPPS Gender Team. Contact us at: genderseal@undp.org.

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Since 2012, over 60 UNDP Country Offices and units have been involved in the Gender Equality Seal initiative.

Positive feedback from certified offices:

"Innovative methodology – not just ticking the box. The Seal encourages Country Offices to take ownership."

"More for less – the Seal promotes quality assurance and stimulates ongoing learning."

"More useful than gender audit - engaging and participatory, generates practical recommendations."

"Successful in shifting the focus from inputs to impacts."

"Shows links between workplace policies and development results."

"Provides concrete evidence of results and makes innovations more visible."

"High quality of appraisals and reliability of results make it different from other tools that rely on self-appraisal."

"The appraisal process encouraged strategic thinking and helped to identify key possibilities for action."

"The Seal was a team building exercise for the entire office, and it increased understanding of gender issues."



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

THE UNDP
GENDER
EQUALITY
SEAL
INITIATIVE

A certification process
that will help your office
or unit achieve better
gender equality results

What is the UNDP Gender Equality Seal Initiative?

- The UNDP Gender Equality Seal is a corporate certification process that recognizes good performance of UNDP Country Offices, Regional Service Centres and Regional Bureaux in delivering transformative results for gender equality.
- The Gender Equality Seal process combines quality assurance with learning and capacity building of staff.
- The Seal is a tool to empower managers and accelerate changes needed to support national gender equality goals.
- The Gender Equality Seal establishes minimum quality standards and provides a clear framework to guide senior managers in linking gender equality at the workplace with development results. This leads to increased internal efficiency and to visible results.
- The Seal offers three levels of certification: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Your office or unit will be certified according to its gender equality accomplishment as determined by an internal committee through an intensive review process.

What are the benefits of the UNDP Gender Equality Seal? Why get certified?

What can your Country Office, Regional Service Centre or Regional Bureau gain from the UNDP Gender Equality Seal Initiative?

- The Gender Equality Seal process will help your office or unit establish a baseline, fine-tune strategies, identify and address gaps and challenges, document innovations and evaluate development results and impact.
- Your office or unit will receive technical support for intensified capacity-building, and benefit from exchanges with a regional and global network of practitioners.
- An award of the Gender Equality Seal might also open doors for resource mobilization for gender equality.
- A Seal certification can make your work more visible internally and with our partners and donors. As a manager, you will help UNDP move from good to great.
- The Seal is expected to be a global brand, recognized by our government counterparts, civil society partners, donors and the public as a guarantee of UNDP's commitment, expertise and effectiveness in protecting and advancing women's rights and gender equality.

How does the process for certification work?

How do we measure progress and results?

Go for Gold!

Your office/unit can get certified and awarded in 4 steps:

1. Online pre-screening to identify gender gaps of the office/unit

Applying for certification is voluntary. Carry out a self-assessment using an online Seal assessment tool that allows your office or unit to judge for itself where it stands with respect to the benchmarks. The tool has standards set for each certification level.

2. Action plan for improvement design and implementation

A tailored package of services will be offered to your office, including support to develop an Action Plan. Regional Service Centres will work with Country Offices to identify concrete steps for improvement during the period for improvement (around nine months).

3. Final assessment to identify level of certification

The Gender Equality Seal assessment is a transparent and open process that uses participatory methodologies and involves all stakeholders. Based on results of a second online assessment, an appraisal team will recommend the level of certification. Select Country Offices are short-listed for a hands-on appraisal mission.

4. Certification Ceremony

You will receive the Gender Equality Seal certification from UNDP's Administration Office. News about your certification award will be circulated among UNDP colleagues worldwide. The Gender Equality Seal Team also offers you post-certification support to develop an implementation plan based on the lessons and recommendations from the exercise. Seal certification is valid for 2-3 years.

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