

Annex XXX

OPERATIONAL POLICY ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING FOR MULTILATERAL FUND-SUPPORTED PROJECTS

Introduction

1. Noting that gender mainstreaming was defined by the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 1997 as: “The process of assessing the gender implications of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetrated. The ultimate goal is to achieve gender equality.”
2. Given that projects funded under the Multilateral Fund are implemented through bilateral and implementing agencies, which have their own gender policies, this policy is designed to ensure that existing gender policies are implemented systematically in the context of Multilateral Fund-supported projects.
3. The implementation of this policy will be a shared responsibility of the Executive Committee, the Multilateral Fund Secretariat, the bilateral and implementing agencies, and the National Ozone Units of Article 5 countries.

Objective

4. This operational policy on gender mainstreaming for Multilateral Fund-supported projects seeks to contribute to the achievement of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Guiding principles

5. Strategies, policies, procedures, guidelines and criteria established by the Executive Committee should support gender equality and women’s empowerment and be developed in accordance with the gender policies of bilateral and implementing agencies;
6. A gender-sensitive approach should be applied in the design and implementation of Multilateral Fund-supported projects; and
7. Bilateral and implementing agencies’ existing gender policies and their experience implementing these policies can be used to identify entry points to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment in all Multilateral Fund-supported projects implemented by them.

Key areas for action

Area 1: Developing tools to facilitate gender mainstreaming in the review/approval process, and reporting, monitoring and evaluation systems of the Multilateral Fund, including the tracking and reporting on activities and results of gender mainstreaming based on the collection of sex-disaggregated data, where possible, and the reporting of any observations made during the project cycle related to gender equality and women’s empowerment and/or possible gender impacts or implications.

Area 2: Considering and addressing gender equality and women’s empowerment systematically in all projects prepared to phase out and phase down controlled substances for Article 5 countries in all phases of the project cycle.

Area 3: Delivering capacity building for bilateral and implementing agencies' partners and Article 5 countries to facilitate gender mainstreaming, and effective use of the identified strategic entry points to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in all projects financed by the Multilateral Fund.

Assessing the policy's implementation

8. The implementation of this policy can be assessed based on progress on the key areas and indicators, such as quantitative information and narrative examples, as applicable, to be provided by the bilateral and implementing agencies in their annual progress reports.

Review

9. This policy should be reviewed and revised as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.