

Grey literature on regional policy

What is grey literature? It is literature produced by non-commercial publishers, such as public institutions, universities, research institutes and civil society. It contains a lot of useful content, but is often hard to find as it is scattered across different loca-

tions. EIGE has collected grey literature on gender equality and you can access our collection through a simple search interface. EIGE's collection of grey literature is available in several EU languages and documents come from all EU Member States.

The relevance of gender in regional policy

The EU's regional policy is an investment policy that targets all regions and cities in the European Union. The policy aims to tackle economic, social and territorial disparities between EU regions. Gender equality is addressed in the objectives of the European Structural and Investment funds. It relates to promoting economic development and pursuing women's empowerment.



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Grey literature in EIGE's library

EIGE's library hosts one of the largest collections of gender-related literature related to regional policy. The collection presents **good practices** of current policies throughout Europe as well as **gender indicators** aimed at assessing gender equality in regional policy. Several

resources focus on the ways in which the EU has mainstreamed gender into **policy processes** for regional policy. You will also find **research reports** and **statistical documents** providing data on key gender issues related to regional policy.

Gender mainstreaming in the European Structural Funds

Mainstreaming gender into the EU's **structural funds** aims to eradicate gender inequalities by providing **equal opportunities to women and men**. Gender equality in the **labour market** contributes to the **effectiveness of structural fund programmes**. It is only through the full mobilisation of all citizens that economic growth and competitiveness can be achieved. Within our library you will find the Council Regulation laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund, which states that Member States and the Commission must **ensure** a gender perspective is included in the various stages of **implementing the funds**.

You will also find resources which outline the formal requirements on **equal opportunities for women and**

men in structural fund plans and programmes, and also give guidance on how these requirements can be implemented.

Reading list

Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European regional development fund, the European social fund and the cohesion fund, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999;

Mainstreaming equal opportunities for women and men in structural fund programmes and projects.

Regional cohesion policy from a gender perspective

Resources in the library show the extent to which the **integration of a gender perspective** is carried out among the Member States.

You will find grey literature resources that assess the different ways Member States integrate gender into their cohesion programmes. You can find **country case studies** on the application of gender mainstreaming. For example, there is a report on how equal opportunities have been mainstreamed into structural funds in Germany, France and the United Kingdom.

Library resources also **assess the impact of EU funds on gender equality**. For instance, you can find a report that outlines how the application of gender mainstreaming into Lithuanian structural funds between 2004 and 2006 impacted on equality between women and men.

There are also resources that highlight **risks** which could hinder the implementation of gender equality. The material proposes concrete recommendations for policymakers to follow.

Reading list

'Evaluation of the EU funds' impact on implementation of horizontal priority "equal opportunities" defined in planning documents — Executive summary;

Learning from implementation and evaluation of the EU cohesion policy — Lessons from a research policy dialogue.

Institutional mechanisms for gender mainstreaming in EU Member States

Member States set up **national mechanisms** to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women using different methods. Within the library you will find several resources describing the diverse types of mechanisms that have evolved over the past 15 years.

Reading list

National mechanisms for gender equality in south-east and eastern Europe, Caucasus and central Asia — Regional study;

National mechanisms for gender equality in EU Member States and candidate countries, and other developed economies of the UNECE region — Regional study.

About EIGE

The European Institute for Gender Equality is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans and beyond, by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable information on gender equality in Europe. With over 800 000 items, EIGE's Resource and Documentation Centre is a one-stop shop for gender knowledge. Access our collection of policy documents, books, articles, studies, specialised databases and more at www.eige.europa.eu

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