



USAID
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★ ★ ★ 2022 U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally

Introduction

Preventing and responding to gender-based violence around the world is a matter of human rights, justice, equity, and equality. Since its first iteration 10 years ago, the *2022 U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally* recommits the U.S. government to this work and updates our approaches to align with the latest evidence, feedback from extensive consultations with civil society, and an evolving global context. With this Strategy, we seek to: **advance equity and inclusivity** and address the specific identity factors that increase the risks of gender-based violence and undermine access to services and safety, particularly for the most marginalized groups; **support expanded approaches** for addressing gender-based violence priorities across a range of thematic areas; and **strengthen the commitment** and work of the U.S. government to bring to scale what works, enhance our partnerships, and improve our capacity to prevent and respond to gender-based violence.

The United States is committed to advancing this work in tandem across U.S. foreign and domestic policy. Gender-based violence prevention and response intersects with other high-priority U.S. government issues, including the 10 key priority areas highlighted in the [U.S. National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality](#), and must be fully integrated into all sectors and threaded through foreign policy, development, and national security decision-making.



Gender-Based Violence

is any harmful threat or act directed at an individual or group based on actual or perceived sex, gender, gender identity or expression, sex characteristics, sexual orientation, and/or lack of adherence to varying socially constructed norms around masculinity and femininity. Although individuals of all gender identities may experience gender-based violence, women, girls, and gender non-conforming individuals face a disproportionate risk of gender-based violence across every context due to their unequal status in society.

Vision

The ultimate vision of this strategy is to build a future free from gender-based violence for all people.

Guiding Principles

The following principles will guide our approach as the U.S. government to prevent and respond to gender-based violence globally.



**HUMAN RIGHTS-
INFORMED**



INTERSECTIONAL



INCLUSIVE



LIFE COURSE LENS



SURVIVOR -CENTERED



LOCALLY LED

Strategy Content

The strategy identifies three pillars to advance our global gender-based violence prevention and response work, each with underlying objectives that direct our policy and programmatic efforts. In order to be effective, our work must be sustainable, comprehensive, evidence-informed, and done in partnership with other governments, multilateral organizations, civil society, survivors, and the private sector.

Pillars and Objectives

PILLAR I

Focusing on Gender and At-Risk Populations

- Girls and Young Women
- LGBTQI+ Persons
- Men and Boys
- Marginalized Groups

PILLAR II

Integrating Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response Across Sectors

- Peace, Security, and Democracy
- Humanitarian Assistance
- Justice and Accountability
- Economic Empowerment
- Education
- Health
- Climate, Environment, and Resilience
- Technology and Innovation

PILLAR III

Strengthening Our Efforts

- Amplify What Works
- Enhance Partnerships and Local Leadership
- Build and Strengthen Capacity with the U.S. Government
- Revitalize Leadership and Coordination

