Gender & Partnerships

Quick Guide

Collaborative Relationships
For WFP, partnerships are collaborative relationships between humanitarian and development actors to achieve sustainable and empowering outcomes for the women, men, girls and boys we serve.

Types of Partnerships
Partnerships can include resource partners, knowledge partners, policy and governance partners, advocacy and capability partners.

Shared Vision and Values
Authentic partnerships have a shared vision and values, including a commitment to gender equality and women’s empowerment. All WFP partnerships should empower women, men, girls and boys and contribute to gender equality outcomes.

Why Create Gender Equality Partnerships
- **Effectiveness**: achieving results through inclusion and participation
- **Efficiency**: maximizing use of resources and minimizing duplication
- **Expertise**: accessing a wide pool of technical expertise, experience, skills and learning
- **Innovation**: creating, testing and implementing different and transformational ways of achieving common goals
- **Sustainability**: creating positive changes in the lives of women, men, girls and boys that last
- **Influence and Advocacy**: expanding networks and reaching decision-makers
- **Reputation**: enhancing reputation and credibility

What are Country Office Level Partnerships
- **Partnering** with women’s rights organizations, academic and research institutions, community groups or other entities committed to gender equality and women’s empowerment
- **Contributing** to and participating in inter-agency gender equality coordination mechanisms
- **Participating** in and building the capacities of local gender networks
- **Fostering** broad alliances with organisations that share the goals of gender quality and women’s empowerment

How to partner for Gender Equality & Women’s Empowerment

1. **Identify Partnership Benefits**
   When identifying the reason for working with other humanitarian and development organisations, be clear about how the partnership will benefit and empower women, men, girls and boys.

2. **Assess Equality Commitment**
   Assess the partner organisation’s gender equality commitment and competence. Use the Partner Assessment Questionnaire. Consider direct collaboration with groups whose primary focus is gender equality.

3. **Create the Agreement**
   Draw up a partnership agreement. Agreements should include gender equality clauses on minimum standards, activities, performance indicators, monitoring and reporting.

4. **Manage the Partnership**
   Strengthen partners’ gender competence by providing opportunities to develop gender-related knowledge, skills and experiences. Monitor their activities and outputs for adherence to gender equality commitments.

5. **Review Partnerships**
   Assess ongoing commitment to gender equality and efforts to strengthen gender competencies. Genuine commitment to gender equality and gender competencies are key considerations in continuing or concluding a partnership.