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ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY

2024 ACTIVITY REPORT



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Esperte en genre

Amy Dieng, gender expert and guest at the Talk "Donne per l'essenziale" (Women for the Essential) organised by the Italian Development Cooperation at the Rimini Meeting - 2024



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1. INTRODUCTION

Gender equality in Italian foreign policy. The protection and promotion of women's rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, together with the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, are key priorities in Italy's international action in the field of human rights. These principles are reflected in Italy's multilateral, regional and bilateral activities, as well as in the framework of the Italian Development Cooperation programmes, in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (especially Goal 5), the EU Strategy on Gender Equality 2020-2025 and the Third Gender Action Plan (GAP III). Italy promotes a vision that not only defends women's rights, but also focuses on economic empowerment, political participation and representation in positions of leadership, considering gender equality as a key driver for social progress and sustainable development.

The protection and promotion of women's rights and the fight against all forms of sexual and gender-based discrimination and violence were a priority in Italy's last mandate (2019-2021) in the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) and is a foundational pillar of the country's candidacy to the same Council for the three-year period 2026-2028. Also in the initiatives of the UN Human Rights Council and General Assembly (GA), together with our European partners, Italy has worked to integrate gender perspectives in all relevant documents and to raise awareness among third countries on gender issues, including in the framework of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) mechanism, a human rights monitoring exercise to which all UN States submit every four years in Geneva.

Italy is also a member of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Additional Protocols and actively participates in the work of the ECOSOC Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the leading



international forum dedicated to the promotion of women's rights. Confirming its ongoing commitment in this area, in April 2024 Italy was elected as a member of the Commission on the Status of Women for the period 2025-2029.

The Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPS). The Women, Peace and Security Agenda, which was established by UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (followed by nine further resolutions on the subject), is a fundamental strategic framework for promoting women's meaningful participation in decision-making processes related to peace and security, as well as for strengthening their protection in armed conflicts and post-conflict contexts. Italy was among the first countries to adopt a National Action Plan for the implementation of the Agenda, now in its fifth edition (2025-2029). Our country also supports the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWMN), which aims to strengthen the resilience of women, their leadership in local communities and their participation in formal mediation and governance mechanisms. Italy's commitment is also reflected in the multilateral engagement, through the work carried out in the main international fora (UN, EU, OSCE, NATO) to ensure that women's rights are fully integrated into peace and security agendas, in line with the obligations stemming from the CEDAW Convention and its General Recommendations, in particular No. 40 on women's participation in decision-making processes.

In line with the Agenda's objectives, the Italian Development Cooperation is committed to implementing interventions aimed at strengthening the role of women as agents of peace, recognising that their full inclusion in negotiations and transition processes is an essential condition for guaranteeing sustainable and inclusive solutions. Within the framework of Italy's strategic priorities, the Agenda is mainstreamed across cooperation initiatives, with a focus on the prevention of gender-based violence in conflicts, the promotion of sexual and reproductive



health, and the support of women's organisations in fragile contexts. Through concrete initiatives, such as the contribution to the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF), the integration of a gender approach is promoted in peacebuilding, cooperation, and humanitarian aid policies. The Agenda therefore represents a strategic and cross-cutting pillar of development action, aimed not only at protection, but also at fully empowering women as key actors in processes of social transformation.

The Italian G7 Presidency. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment was also one of the priority topics during the Italian G7 Presidency for 2024 and meetings of the technical-level working group – **GEWE WG – *Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Working Group*** and of the Independent Expert Group **GEAC – *Gender Equality Advisory Council***, were dedicated to it. This culminated in the [Meeting of G7 Ministers responsible for equal opportunities](#) in Matera on 4-6 October 2024.

HRC. Italy also strongly supports international campaigns for the eradication of harmful practices against women and girls, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages, also by promoting and actively participating in negotiations on relevant General Assembly (GA) and Human Rights Council resolutions. As such, Italy is among the countries in the “core group” presenting the Resolution against early and forced marriages in the GA and HRC and leads negotiations on behalf of the European Union for the Resolution on the elimination of female genital mutilation, which is submitted every three years to the Human Rights Council.

CoE. The defence and promotion of women's fundamental rights and advancement of the Council of Europe (CoE) Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the so-called Istanbul Convention) were



among the key priorities of the Italian six-month Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (17 November 2021 -- 20 May 2022), grounded in the conviction that women's empowerment is also linked to the reduction of violence against women. In light of the profound impact of the pandemic on women — marked by a dramatic increase in episodes of domestic violence and gender abuse as well as significant drop in women's participation in the labour market — Italy, during its six months Presidency, promoted a broader reflection within the Council of Europe on the theme of women's empowerment and emancipation, and on the fight against all forms of violence and discrimination.

The initiative promoted by Minister Tajani, aimed at installing “red benches” in every office of the diplomatic and consular network in memory of women victims of violence, has taken on a particularly symbolic significance. Additionally, Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has honoured the young Giulia Cecchettin, who was tragically murdered on the eve of the graduation ceremony for her degree in engineering, by dedicating to her memory its most prestigious scholarship programme for engineering, economics, and architecture: “*Invest your Talent in Italy*”. Last but not least, from 25 November – International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – until 10 December, International Human Rights Day, Italy takes part in the global action campaign promoted by the United Nations against gender-based violence “*Orange the World*”.

Gender equality and development cooperation.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are essential preconditions for the eradication of poverty and for building a global society based on sustainable development, social justice and human rights. This goal of gender



equality and women's empowerment is one of the priorities of the development cooperation action conducted by the Agency, as prescribed by Italian Law 125/2014 (art. 1, paragraph 2), in line with the commitments made by Italy at an international level to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 5 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are a priority theme of the Italian Development Cooperation, as confirmed in the Three-Year Programming and Policy Document (2024/2026) approved by CICS (Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation) in 2025. In fact, this document envisages that Italy will continue to follow the twin-track approach, considering gender equality as a priority but also as a cross-cutting issue, and will promote the strengthening of the role of women and girls also through their active participation in identifying needs and shaping development and humanitarian actions.

Particular emphasis is placed on the need to ensure the integration of gender equality across all initiatives ("gender mainstreaming") – in line with the objectives laid down in the Guidelines on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the Italian Development Cooperation (CICS – 2021).

In line with the priorities on women's empowerment of the Italian G7 Presidency, the Italian Development Cooperation guarantees the link between gender equality and environmental issues. In particular, attention will be paid to the need to: (i) protect women by safeguarding their health and combating gender-based violence and harmful practices (including measures to combat the practice of female genital mutilation), as well as supporting the role of women in emergency response and peace building; (ii) promote the economic empowerment of women and girls by facilitating financial inclusion, women's access to credit and entrepreneurship, technical and vocational training, and by supporting social, educational and care services (for children and people with disabilities) in order to reduce the burden of care and promote the work-life balance (iii) strengthen women's innate resilience,



analysing the nexus between climate change, gender, and migration, promoting the active role of women in combating food insecurity, climate change, crises and conflicts, as well as supporting their access to careers in the environmental and STEM fields.

Particular attention will also be paid to ensuring that the population and family planning policies supported through international cooperation action consider gender equality and women's rights as central concerns.

All this is reflected in the Agency's technical and operational activities, both through the implementation of humanitarian and development programmes specifically aimed at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment, and through the mainstreaming of gender equality across all cooperation initiatives, also thanks to the strengthening of the abilities of its staff and partners to design, manage, monitor and promote interventions that are increasingly gender-responsive and transformative.

2. OPERATIONAL TOOLS: TRANSLATION AND SHARING

In 2024, following the commitments envisaged by the [Guidelines on Gender Equality and the empowerment of Women and Girls 2020/2024](#) in the Italian Development Cooperation (adopted by AICS in December 2020 and approved by CICS – Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation – on 15 October 2021), the Agency continued to strengthen its internal capacity to design, manage, and monitor gender-responsive and gender-transformative interventions, as well as to disseminate the results achieved through its cooperation activities. As already highlighted in previous reports, in 2022 AICS launched the drafting of operational manuals on gender equality, first by publishing a [Gender Glossary](#), approved by the Director of AICS with Administrative Order No. 185 of 1 July 2022 and a [Gender Analysis Manual](#) (adopted by Administrative order 2510 of 26/09/2023), drafted by the Deputy Technical Directorate with the active involvement of the Field Offices



- in particular the AICS office in Dakar. Following the translation and publication of the above-mentioned Guidelines in English, French Spanish and Arabic ([ENG](#) | [FR](#) | [AR](#) | [ES](#)) as well as the Gender Glossary in English French and Spanish ([ENG](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#)), the aforementioned Manual was also translated into English, French and Spanish ([ENG](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#)) during 2024, with the aim of promoting the dissemination of this documentation to international and local partners.

The aim of these translations is to enhance the sharing and dissemination of content both at the international level — with other donors and multilateral and civil society organisations — and at the local level, with the beneficiary population, as well as with local authorities, communities and organisations that play a key role in project implementation.

In addition, as part of the activities carried out in collaboration with the [Working Group on Violence against Women with Disabilities of the National Observatory on the Condition of Persons with Disabilities](#), AICS has undertaken to convert this Manual into an audiobook to make it accessible to persons with visual impairments.

Additionally, with the support of the AICS Field Offices, an information brochure on Gender Equality and on the various Italian Development Cooperation programmes and tools has been produced. This brochure has also been translated into several languages ([ITA](#) | [ENG](#) | | [FR](#) | [ES](#) | [POR](#) | [ARA](#)) thereby guaranteeing broader and more inclusive access to information, also for populations in vulnerable situations and in different linguistic contexts.



Image 1 - Page of the Brochure

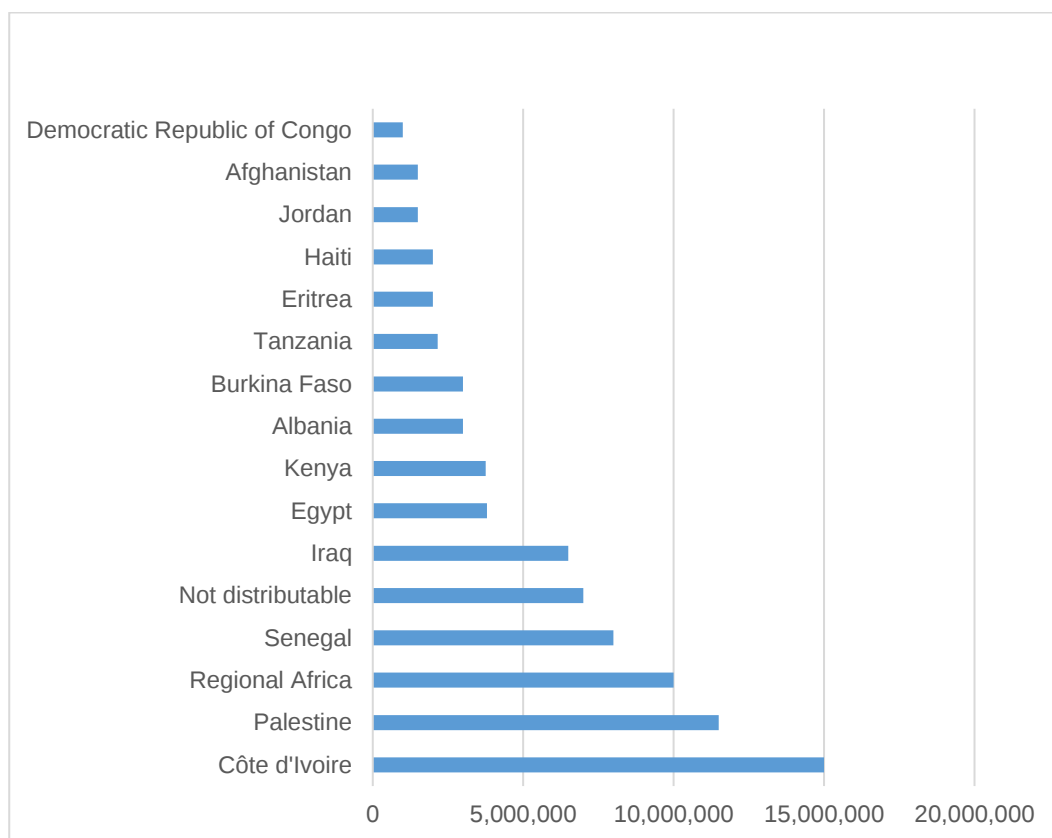
The central objective of these initiatives is to strengthen AICS's technical capacity to adopt a gender-sensitive, gender-responsive, or gender-transformative approach (depending on the context) within the development cooperation and humanitarian aid programmes of the Italian Development Cooperation.

3. ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION INITIATIVES TO COMBAT GENDER GAPS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES. SUMMARY DATA.

At the operational level, in the course of 2024, Italian Development Cooperation programming promoted the importance of achieving gender equality and guaranteeing the rights of all women and girls by launching programmes that address the various obstacles to women's full enjoyment of their rights and aim to



tackle the structural causes of gender inequalities. The programmes are mainly concentrated in Africa, but also in the Middle East, Latin America, Asia and Europe. In line with the priorities on women's empowerment set by the Italian G7 Presidency and with the Three-Year Programming and Policy Guidance Document for Development Cooperation (2024–2026), particular attention has been paid to the need to: i) **protect women** by safeguarding their health and combating gender-based violence and harmful practices (including measures to eradicate female genital mutilation), as well as supporting the role of women in emergency response and peacebuilding; ii) **promote the economic empowerment** of women and girls by facilitating financial inclusion, access to credit and entrepreneurship, technical and vocational training, and by supporting social, educational, and care services (for children and people with disabilities) in order to reduce the burden of care and promote work–life balance; iii) **strengthen women's innate resilience** by analysing the nexus between climate change, gender and migration, promoting their active role in combating food insecurity, climate change, crises and conflicts, as well as supporting their access to careers in the environmental and STEM sectors. Furthermore, the Italian Development Cooperation has paid particular attention to the **intersectional dimensions** of gender inequalities, taking into account the different experiences of women and girls to ensure that interventions are inclusive and respond to the specific needs of all groups in situations of greater vulnerability.



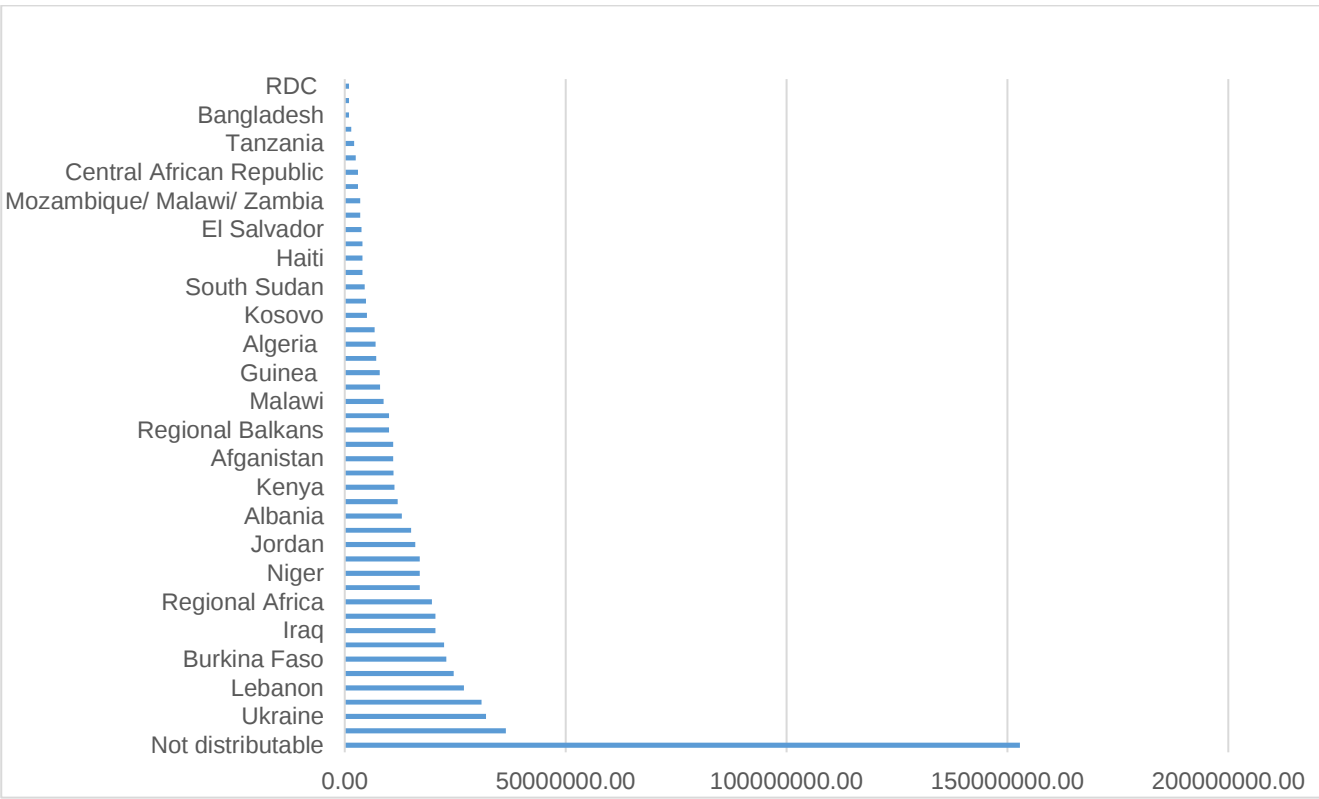
Graph 1 New initiatives adopted with the primary objective of gender equality - year 2024

In

the year 2024 alone, several initiatives aimed at achieving gender equality were approved in Afghanistan, Albania, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Jordan, Haiti, Iraq, Kenya, Palestine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, Tanzania, in various African countries with a regional approach - as well as contributions with a global character. In several other countries, gender components were included in multisectoral projects (Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Bangladesh, Bosnia Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Jordan, Guinea, Haiti, Iraq, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Moldova, Mozambique, Zambia, Myanmar, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Democratic

Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Senegal, Syria, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uganda).

In **2024** there was a total of 27 new **contributions allocated to gender equality** (Gender Marker **Principal** - G2), totalling approximately €79 million, more than 5% of the total amount approved for grants in 2024. In particular, 16 new initiatives were approved through the ordinary channel (over €53 million), 5 new voluntary contributions through the multilateral channel (approx. €14 million), and 6 projects through the humanitarian emergency channel (€11 million).



Graph 2 New initiatives adopted with a principal objective or significant components focused on gender equality - year 2024

Additionally, the Italian Development Cooperation approved numerous other initiatives with **significant components** related to gender equality and the



empowerment of women and girls (Gender Marker Significant – G1), totalling to approx. €631 million, equivalent to over 43% of the total grant funding approved. This brings the overall share of grant-funded initiatives with a principal objective or significant components focused on gender equality to nearly 50% of the total grant funding approved in 2024.

With specific reference to initiatives approved through the **humanitarian channel**, there are 6 with gender equality (G2) as their principal objective, totalling €11 million (approx. 3.6% of the total humanitarian funding approved), while initiatives with significant gender components amount to over €224 million (approx. 71% of the total humanitarian funding approved). **Multilateral voluntary contributions** were approved for international organisations whose principal objective is gender equality, for a total of over €14 million (approx. 5.7% of the total core multilateral funding approved), while over €139 million were allocated to international organisations that have gender equality as one of their strategic objectives (approx. 57% of the total multilateral contributions approved).

With reference to the projects funded under the 2024 financial allocation provided by the fund established by article 1, paragraph 287 of Italian Law No. 145 of 30 December 2018 (Fund for support interventions directed at populations belonging to Christian minorities subject to persecution in crisis areas), amounting to €4,000,000 (four million) and the remaining funds from the 2023 Call for Proposals (Joint Committee Deliberation No. 37 of 27 January 2023), two eligible initiatives from the **Christian Minorities Call for Proposals 2023** (published with Administrative Order of the AICS Director No. 3414 of 15 December 2023) were funded, both with Gender Marker Significant, for a total amount of €2,681,219.37 (Joint Committee Deliberation No. 91 of 28 June 2024).



With reference to the projects financed under the "Call for proposals for the funding of synergistic initiatives submitted by CSOs, Public Research Institutions and Universities within the framework of **Technical Support Spending to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**" (Joint Committee Deliberation No. 5 of 6 February 2024), all 4 projects approved by Director's Administrative Order No. 4271 of 24 December 2024 have components related to gender equality and women's empowerment, with funding of €3,400,000.

These development and humanitarian contributions approved by the Italian Development Cooperation include both support for the institutional activities of organisations traditionally committed to promoting gender equality as a priority, and initiatives to be implemented in partner countries in cooperation with international organisations, local authorities, and civil society organisations (local and international) and other Italian bodies, such as universities.

4. DETAIL OF INITIATIVES APPROVED IN 2024

4.1. GRANT-BASED INITIATIVES FOCUSED ON GENDER EQUALITY

As in previous years, also in 2024 the Italian Development Cooperation supported with **voluntary contributions** numerous United Nations agencies strongly committed to the fight for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. In particular, the "core" contributions to UNFPA (€2,500,000) were confirmed, as were the contributions to the programme managed by UNFPA and UNICEF, the "*Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation - FGM*" (€4,000.000), to the UNICEF/UNFPA programme to combat child and early marriage (*Global Programme to End Child Marriage - ECM* - €1,000,000), and to the actions aimed at promoting girls' education carried out within the framework of the *Global Partnership for Education* - GPE (€2,500,000).



In addition to these voluntary contributions, numerous **development** and **humanitarian aid** initiatives have been funded in various countries. Several international organisations have received funds for specific programmes aimed at addressing the structural causes that fuel gender inequalities, and at removing the obstacles to full and effective gender equality. To this end, the same international organisations promote women's empowerment by strengthening the capacities of partner countries and implementing initiatives to improve women's resilience, combat gender-based violence, support women's participation in decision-making processes - particularly in conflict situations - and promote maternal, reproductive and sexual health.

4.1.1. G7 PRIORITIES - PROTECTION OF WOMEN: HEALTH, GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PEACEBUILDING.

A considerable portion of the Italian Development Cooperation contributions to gender equality has also focused on the protection of women, including in areas of crisis and conflict. In these contexts, interventions aimed at combating gender-based violence and providing sexual and reproductive health services have been prioritised. These initiatives demonstrate the Italian Development Cooperation's commitment to work for systemic changes to address the root causes of gender-based violence, to ensure a survivor-centred approach that guarantees the safety and dignity of women and girls, and to strengthen the leadership role of women and their organisations and their involvement in crisis and conflict resolution.

Africa.

In **Burkina Faso**, the Italian Development Cooperation financed the initiative "*Improvement of Perinatal Health in the Central Region of Burkina Faso (SPBFA)*",



(AID 013187/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 193 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months), for a total amount of €3,000,000, in support of the Global Health Centre. The purpose of the intervention is to improve the quality of obstetrical and neonatal care by improving the skills of healthcare personnel and supporting the selected health facilities in terms of infrastructure and materials, with the ultimate goal of reducing maternal and infant mortality in the Central Region of Burkina Faso, with special attention on the perinatal period. In fact, the number of maternal deaths in the country is one of the highest in the world and has shown no sign of decreasing in recent years.

In **Egypt**, the initiative "*A holistic approach to population growth: improving population characteristics and strengthening information on reproductive health*" (AID 012951/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 1 of 6 February 2024, development intervention, 36 months) funded with a contribution of €3,000,000 in support of UNFPA, aims to improve the characteristics of the population through the empowerment of young people and the strengthening of reproductive health services to meet the growing demand, adopting a holistic approach. Specifically, by strengthening the capacities of adolescents and young people to cope with the challenges of reproductive health and family planning, the intervention aims to counter structural inequalities and focuses on processes of change in discriminatory social and gender norms in the long term, guaranteeing the engagement of adolescents and young people as active decision-makers within the family.

In **Eritrea**, the intervention "*ERI SMI - Renovation and Improvement of the Maternal and Child Health Department - Orotta Hospital in Asmara*" was supported (AID 013207/01/0, Director's Deliberation No. 56 of 10 December 2024, development intervention, 24 months) with a contribution of €2,000,000 to be allocated to



projects of Civil Society Organisations. The aim of the initiative is to improve maternal, neonatal and child health, as well as the nutritional status of women and children in the first 1,000 days of life, by improving both basic and specialised healthcare services. Specifically, highly qualified training activities will be provided for specialised Eritrean healthcare personnel, at different professional levels, on topics related to maternal and child health. Attention will also be paid to training that focuses on the rights, needs and requirements of pregnant women, also covering aspects of psychological care and assistance at childbirth and postpartum, and to activities related to gender-based violence (GBV), with awareness-raising activities for healthcare workers and support pathways for GBV survivors.

In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, Italy financed a new intervention in 2024 in support of UNFPA " *Integrated emergency response in sexual and reproductive health, prevention and holistic management of gender-based violence for communities affected by conflict, floods and epidemics, including Mpox, in Ituri and Tanganyika* " (AID 013160/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 87 of 19 December 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 12 months), funded by the Italian Government with a contribution of €1,000,000. The programme aims to expand access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services for displaced populations, returnees and host communities, and to strengthen the peace-building process through the involvement of adolescents and young adults. The intervention promotes GBV prevention, reducing the risk of exposure and providing socioeconomic support services and livelihoods for women and girls in vulnerable and high-risk situations. To this end, GBV response services will be strengthened, including case management and the holistic access to services - including MHPSS (Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support) and legal aid - for survivors of gender-based violence.



Senegal has received priority attention in response to the gender discrimination challenges that women in the country continue to face. To this end, two interventions have been funded to promote sexual and reproductive health and combat gender-based violence, including harmful practices, such as female genital mutilation. With the initiative "*Accelerating the Prevention and Elimination of Gender-Based Violence and the Promotion of Reproductive Health in Senegal and The Gambia (APE-VBGSR)*" (AID 012934/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 3 of 6 February 2024, development intervention, 36 months), the Italian Development Cooperation with funding of €2,700,000 in support of UNFPA aims to contribute to the elimination of gender-based violence in the cross-border areas between Senegal and The Gambia. In particular, in addition to ensuring an enabling environment for gender equality, the promotion of human rights and the multisectoral prevention of gender-based violence, the initiative also aims to strengthen the availability, accessibility and quality of holistic gender-based violence support services in cross-border areas. The intervention focuses on survivors of violence and women and adolescent girls at risk of gender-based violence, who must be treated with dignity, equality and respect and given the opportunity to make informed decisions. To foster the change needed to promote gender equality and the eradication of harmful practices, the project will promote a multisectoral and multi-stakeholder gender-transformative approach.

In synergy with the above-mentioned initiative, the intervention "*ESSERE Donna Phase II - Empowerment, Sexual And Reproductive Health, Emancipation. Promotion of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Senegal*" (AID 013009/01/0, Director's Deliberation No. 16 of 18 April 2024, development intervention, 24 months), funded by the Italian Development Cooperation with a contribution of €300,000 in support of the Global Health Centre, aims to protect women's rights and sexual and reproductive health in the local communities in the Sedhiou Region, by providing



them spaces and services beneficial to the exercise of such rights. The programme adopts an approach focused on empowering women and girls who have already embarked on pathways towards literacy, economic empowerment, capacity building and individual development planning, with a view to impacting social, cultural, economic and institutional factors, thereby strengthening the capacity for mobilisation, awareness-raising, and the dissemination of sexual and reproductive rights within the target communities.

Also in **Tanzania**, Italy supports the right to informed and safe motherhood, by funding the project promoted by the University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli "*MACORESI_ MATernità, COnsapevole, REsponsabile e SIcura come deterrente della fistola ostetrica* (Informed, Responsible, and Safe Motherhood as a Deterrent to Obstetric Fistula)" (AID 013182/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 202 of 16 December 2024, development Intervention, 36 months) in the sum of €2,160,000. With the aim of addressing the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of obstetric complications, with a focus on vesicovaginal fistula, the intervention targets women in vulnerable conditions and seeks to improve the availability and access to maternal services, while reducing obstetric morbidity. The project aims to improve the status of women starting with reproductive well-being, which can be achieved through improved clinical and obstetrical care, effective information and community education on maternal and reproductive health, and better coordination at the institutional level to increase governance and advocacy on these issues. To this end, the issue of the inequality of women, with particular focus on women affected by complications related to vesicovaginal fistula, which lead to physical disabilities and marginalisation from the social and family context, will also be addressed through socioeconomic reintegration actions.



The Middle East.

In **Jordan**, the Italian Development Cooperation supported the initiative "*Integrated response to gender-based violence (GBV) and protection of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) for refugees and vulnerable populations affected by the Syrian crisis in Jordan*" (AID 012888/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 45 of 19 September 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 12 months), with a contribution of €1,500,000 in support of UNFPA. The project aims to increase accessibility to specialised, high quality and integrated services in the areas of reproductive and sexual health, gender-based violence and advocacy on social and gender norms, including through the capacity building of government institutions and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs). Specifically, these services will be provided at specialised clinics and safe spaces for women and girls located in the Azraq refugee camp, with a specific focus on women, girls and people with disabilities, as well as survivors of sexual abuse and violence.

In continued support of UNFPA, the initiative "*Support for UNFPA's Humanitarian Intervention in Gaza*" was funded in **Palestine**, with a contribution of €1,500,000 to the Flash Appeal in response to the Palestinian humanitarian crisis, in order to ensure the continuity of essential sexual and reproductive health services, including safe childbirth, pregnancy care, and healthcare. The contribution also aims to strengthen resilience and protection measures for women and girls at risk of gender-based violence, persons with disabilities and survivors of violence, through quality multisectoral services and the involvement of the local community.

In **Palestine**, the intervention "*Strengthening health services in Palestine with a focus on mental health and breast cancer*" (AID 013111/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 152 of 30 September 2024, development intervention, 36 months), was financed with a contribution of €5,000,000 to the WHO for the



purpose of strengthening the Palestinian health system, particularly for the most vulnerable groups, through a holistic approach designed to make public health facilities more responsive to the needs of the population. Specifically, through the purchase of essential instruments and the training of specialised technicians, clinics for the early diagnosis of breast cancer will be set up.

Asia

In **Afghanistan**, in 2024, Italy financed a new intervention for the benefit of UNFPA *"Support for women and adolescent girls through the strengthening of Family Health Houses (FHHs) as central hubs for the provision of life-saving reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health services"* (AID 012901/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 50 of 19 September 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 12 months). Funded by the Italian Government with a contribution of €1,500,000, the initiative aims to expand the provision of essential services for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and for responding to gender-based violence (GBV) in the country. The intervention, through an integrated approach to reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health, will support the FHH Hub model, creating a "one-stop-shop" for women and communities, including adolescents and young adults.

Europe.

In **Albania**, the Italian Development Cooperation financed the programme *"Reduction of gender-based violence and harmful practices through gender-sensitive governance"* (AID 013076/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 144 of 30 September 2024, development intervention, 36 months) for a total amount of €1,000.000 in support of UNFPA, in order to strengthen gender-sensitive governance, promote women's empowerment and human rights and reduce violence against women and girls, by backing institutions and stakeholders



responsible for national policies and legislation on violence against women and gender-based violence, so that all segments of the population, can benefit from more effective preventive and protective measures against violence in Albania. The intervention also aims to strengthen the capacity of women's organisations to significantly influence gender equality laws and policies in the country.

4.1.2. G7 PRIORITIES - ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: FINANCIAL INCLUSION, WOMEN'S ACCESS TO CREDIT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP, TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL AND CARE SERVICES (CHILD AND DISABILITY)

The Italian Development Cooperation finances and promotes numerous strategic initiatives for the economic empowerment of women, with a priority focus on financial inclusion and female entrepreneurship. These actions are designed to support women in agriculture, to raise awareness of women's rights, to create networks of women entrepreneurs and strengthen their associations, and to encourage the launching of income-generating economic activities. In parallel, actions against gender-based violence are strengthened, guaranteeing safe and abuse-free spaces, and promoting greater participation of women in political life and decision-making processes. The aim is to build an enabling environment that will allow women to fully realise their economic and social potential.

Africa

In **Egypt**, the Italian Development Cooperation funded, with a contribution of €800,000, the “*KHADRA initiative: Women's Empowerment through Sustainable Entrepreneurship*” (AID 013176/01/0, Director's Deliberation No. 54 of 10 December 2024, development Intervention, 24 months), which aims to support the socioeconomic inclusion and gender equality of women and girls in the community of Siwa, in the Matrouh Governorate, by increasing their economic participation and



leadership. Specifically, the focus of the intervention will be on promoting female entrepreneurs through training and access to micro-credits, while at the same time improving women's access to health services and supporting newly established women's associations and local associations working to support women.

In **Kenya**, funding was granted to the programme entitled “*PEACE: Psychological Empowerment and Career Development*” (AID 013184/01/1 and 013184/01/2, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 196 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months), with a contribution of €4,000,000, in order to improve the socioeconomic conditions of survivors of gender-based violence and facilitate access to good quality psychosocial and health services in Kenya. Specifically, the intervention is designed to improve referral mechanisms to services for survivors of gender-based violence, contribute to the promotion of economic independence and strengthen psychological support, mainly through the provision of services also available online. The initiative also aims to increase the number of people trained to provide psychosocial support at the community level, in primary healthcare facilities and through the government hotline (HAK) that provides support to survivors.



Figure 1. An Italian Development Cooperation project in Kenya. Ph. AICS Nairobi

In the same vein, in **Senegal** the Italian Development Cooperation financed the intervention "*Support Project for Strengthening the Leadership and Socioeconomic Inclusion of Women and Girls - PAREL/F*" (AID 013223/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 201 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months) with a grant of €5,000,000 to the *Ministère des finances et du budget du Sénégal*. In so doing, it wishes to contribute to the promotion of leadership and socioeconomic inclusion of women and girls with a view to their empowerment in a sustainable development perspective that takes gender equality into account. In addition to providing integrated and holistic gender-based violence prevention and treatment services, the initiative aims to strengthen the productive capacities of women and girls with a view to their socioeconomic empowerment.



Also in **Africa**, with funding of €4,000,000 to the African Development Bank, the Italian Development Cooperation backed the programme "*Gender Equality Trust Fund - Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA)*" (AID 012140/01/5, Joint Committee Deliberation Nos. 18 of 9/4/2024 and 206 of 16 December 2024, development intervention), for the purpose of contributing to the financial inclusion of women in the African continent where over 70% of women are excluded from access to credit, especially for business activities.

The Middle East.

In **Iraq**, the intervention "*Humanitarian aid initiative in support of the vulnerable displaced population, returnees and the host community in Iraq*" (AID 012885/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 82 of 19 December 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 24 months) was financed. Its aim is to improve the social and economic integration of highly vulnerable women, girls and boys, prioritising families headed by women who face serious protection concerns. Market access opportunities for women will be increased through the projects of civil society organisations, through training in life skills and basic language, numerical and computer literacy skills, and the employment of women will also be fostered through the promotion of mechanisms for facilitating access to the labour market.

In **Palestine**, Italy funded the initiative "*Intervention for the socioeconomic empowerment of Palestinian women*" (AID 013112/01/0, 013112/01/1 and 013112/01/2, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 141 of 30 September 2024, development intervention, 36 months) with a grant worth €5,000,000. In so doing, it aims to promote gender equality and prevent gender-based violence in Palestine by fostering social, economic and cultural change. The intervention seeks to



strengthen the ability of local institutions to prevent and respond effectively to gender-based violence through training, the quality of its services and by raising the community's awareness of the problem. It also aims to strengthen the socioeconomic empowerment of Palestinian women by facilitating their access to skilled, paid employment, particularly in professional sectors traditionally dominated by men.

Good practice 1. Human Rights and Gender Equality in Palestine

With regard to education and the promotion of human rights, 2024 was an important year for Palestine thanks to the AMAL project (AID 11530.03.5) - "Human Rights and Gender Equality". Indeed, thanks to this ambitious initiative that puts education at the heart of social change, significant progress is being made in advancing equality and social justice. Among the most notable achievements of 2024 is the launch of an academic course on human rights and gender equality, currently offered at four Palestinian universities. The objective of this initial milestone is gradual expansion to other academic institutions in the country, with the aim of passing on to future generations a culture based on respect and inclusion.

A training programme was launched at the same time to strengthen the leadership skills of young university students. Structured in workshops and specialised courses and aimed at deepening understanding of human rights and gender equality issues, it involves 16 Palestinian universities. To date, the response from the academic world has been very positive, a sign of a genuine desire for change among young people.

At the school level, another major achievement was the production of an educational manual for teachers, focusing on "Human rights, gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence". The manual is designed to equip teachers with an innovative tool to convey to students the importance of respecting human rights and eliminating gender-based violence in educational settings. The manual also aims to foster the creation of active and responsible citizenship and social justice among young people and thus contribute to creating safe and inclusive educational environments. The introduction of this course on human rights and gender equality into university curricula marks a crucial step towards a more equal and inclusive Palestine, more conscious of its rights and charting the way towards a future where human rights and gender equality are at the centre of public policy and everyday life.



4.1.3. WOMEN'S RESILIENCE: THE NEXUS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE, GENDER AND MIGRATION, COMBATING FOOD INSECURITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, CRISES AND CONFLICTS, ACCESS TO CAREERS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND STEM SECTORS.

Strengthening the resilience of women in vulnerable contexts is a key objective in addressing global challenges related to climate change, forced migration, food security and conflict. The Italian Development Cooperation has launched numerous interventions that integrate gender dimensions into development strategies, promoting the inclusion of women in environmental policies, in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) careers and in sectors crucial to climate resilience. These interventions aim to strengthen women's capacity to cope with crises and to be key actors in innovative solutions, increasing their access to resources, professional opportunities and protection policies in fragile contexts affected by gender inequalities. With actions in Europe, Latin America and the Middle East, the Italian Development Cooperation is committed to ensuring that women not only survive these global challenges, but also thrive through economic empowerment, active participation in decision-making and access to resources vital to their development and that of their communities.

Europe.

In **Albania**, the Italian Development Cooperation financed the initiative "*Strengthening the role of women for the rural development of northern Albania*" (AID 012904/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 71 of 28 June 2024, development intervention, 36 months) with a contribution of €2.100,000 to UN Women, with the aim of strengthening gender governance, addressing violence against women and improving the economic empowerment of women in several rural areas in the north of the country. To this end, the initiative adopts a dual approach: on one hand, it aims to improve the regulatory framework at both national and local levels in response to gender-related issues in agriculture and



local development, raising awareness of women's rights and addressing gender stereotypes, particularly in relation to property rights; on the other hand, it seeks to promote women's economic empowerment through the design and implementation of gender-sensitive value chains and by enrolling young women in vocational training schools.

Latin America.

Through the **humanitarian channel**, a contribution of €2,000,000 was also made to the *Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund*" (UNDP/UN Women) (AID 013018/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 18 of 22 May 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 12 months) in **Haiti** to support the peace action and humanitarian response in the country - including combating sexual and gender-based violence - through the active role of women and their civil society organisations supported by the fund.

Italy has been contributing to the WPHF since 2022, with unearmarked, earmarked and soft-earmarked funding to help support local and grassroots civil society organisations led by women and focused on women, peace and security and humanitarian action. Thanks to the resources provided by the fund, women can also receive protection and various types of assistance, covering both survivors of gender-based and sexual violence, and maternal and reproductive health. The fund pays special attention to displaced women and refugees, and to key areas such as food security and the fight against climate change.

The Middle East.

In **Iraq**, the intervention "*WE-GO Empowerment of women for green opportunities*", (AID 012986/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 101 of 1 August 2024, development intervention, 36 months) was funded with a contribution of €3,000.000 to WFP (World Food Programme) for the purpose of establishing



appropriate governance structures for vulnerable farmers at district and sub-national levels, in 4 Governorates, to ensure sufficient public participation and involvement of women and persons with disabilities during the planning and design of climate resilience initiatives. Through training, workshops and capacity building activities, the initiative envisages that 95% of participants in project activities will be women and at least 30% of beneficiaries will be persons with disabilities.

4.2. GRANTS WITH SIGNIFICANT GENDER EQUALITY COMPONENTS.

Other initiatives promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls include numerous multisectoral interventions, particularly in Africa and the Middle East. These interventions significantly address crucial issues for the Italian Development Cooperation, including: intersectionality and the inclusion of women with disabilities; agricultural development and food security; climate change and environmental protection; women's empowerment and involvement in the private sector; maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health; gender-based violence and the rights of women and girls; education, vocational training and employment.

Intersectionality and women with disabilities

In **Syria**, the intervention "*Strengthening the resilience of families affected by the crisis through support for the livelihoods of persons with disabilities, women, and young people in the Governorate of Deir Ezzor.*" (AID 012274/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 37 of 9 April 2024, development intervention, 24 months), funded by the Italian Development Cooperation with the sum of €3,000,000 to UNDP, carries out actions aimed at bridging the double disparity suffered by women and girls with disabilities. The project aims to improve access to economic



empowerment services for people with disabilities, through the establishment of a new Physical Rehabilitation Centre in the city of Al-Mayadin, the implementation of technical training courses aimed at the start-up of income-generating activities by people with disabilities, and the removal of architectural barriers in private homes and public buildings. Activities aimed at improving access to sexual and reproductive health services and gender-based violence prevention and response services will also be implemented. About 97% of the direct beneficiaries of this initiative are women and girls.

In **Lebanon**, the Italian Development Cooperation funded the intervention "*Pilot Programme for the provision of integrated services to persons with disabilities*" (AID 013087/01/0, 013087/01/1, 013087/01/2, Director's Deliberation No. 59 of 11 December 2024, development intervention, 30 months) which envisages actions to improve understanding of the social construction of disability-related stigma, with a particular focus on its gender dimension. To this end, research will be conducted on the problem of social stigma on disability, in particular on the gender component; women with disabilities, in fact, suffer double discrimination, since they face major challenges related not only to their physical condition, but also to the complex gender dynamics existing in the country.

In **Sudan** the programme "*PROVENTUS Strengthening the Agriculture and Livestock Sectors in Kassala State in a One Health Perspective*" (AID 012936/01/0, Director's Deliberation No. 1 of 6 February 2024), financed by the Italian Development Cooperation with a contribution of €1,250,000, is aimed at strengthening food security in Kassala State by promoting sustainable and quality farming and livestock production, to produce an impact on human, animal and environmental health. PROVENTUS promotes the economic and social empowerment of women and persons with disabilities who are included in water management committees and

among the beneficiaries of interventions to support agricultural and livestock support interventions. This inclusive approach is in line with the principle of accountability to affected populations, which promotes the inclusion of communities in decision-making processes and the inclusion of minorities and vulnerable groups among the beneficiaries. This inclusive approach promotes the access of women and persons with disabilities to resources such as arable land and income.



Figure 2. Italian Development Cooperation project in Sudan. Ph. AICS Addis Ababa

Agricultural development and food security

In **Jordan**, funding was provided for two interventions focused on agriculture and food security in rural areas of the country. With the initiative "*Food Security and Inclusive Economic Growth through Sustainable Rural Products and Efficient Use of Local Resources* " (AID 013093/01/0, Director's Deliberation No. 35 of 19 September 2024, development intervention, 24 months), Italian Development



Cooperation - with a contribution of €1,650,000 to the Jordanian Ministry of Agriculture - aims to increase food security and livelihoods through the development of value chains for rural products and an efficient use of local resources, improving the productivity of the sector with a focus on women, vulnerable segments of the population and institutional and farm management capacities. Specifically, the initiative will strengthen the capacities of rural women to manage small-scale food processing projects.

With the intervention "*Support for the healthy nutrition model in schools in refugee camps and host communities*" (AID 013198/01/0, Deputy Minister Deliberation No. 71 of 19 December 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 12 months), funded by a contribution of €2,000,000 to WFP, the initiative aims not only to improve food security, nutrition, and academic performance among vulnerable Jordanian and refugee students in Jordan, but also to increase income-generating opportunities for host communities and refugees, with a particular focus on women. In particular, the project includes training activities for women living in refugee camps, but also for those employed in community kitchens. The initiative addresses the challenges that limit women's participation in the labour market by introducing measures such as free and safe transport for female workers and by offering training on key issues: from food safety and hygiene to financial literacy and women's rights.

Environment and climate change

In **Burkina Faso**, Italy supported the WFP with a total contribution of €3,000,000 for the initiative "*Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities in Burkina Faso, particularly women and young people, in the face of climate, conflict and economic shocks*" (AID 013243/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 203 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months), the objective of which is to strengthen the resilience of communities by improving agricultural and pastoral productivity, providing nutritious school meals, implementing specific nutritional interventions and helping smallholders reduce post-harvest losses and develop



production chains. Specifically, activities will be implemented to improve the nutritional status of pregnant and lactating women and girls, especially those suffering from acute malnutrition. The programme will also support women through leadership training and the creation of economic units focused on the production of organic fertiliser, clean cooking energy solutions and the promotion of NTFPs (Non-Timber Forest Products).

In **Kenya**, with the initiative "*Community intervention for climate change adaptation and land rights in the arid and semi-arid counties of Kenya*" (AD 013066/01/0 and 013066/01/1, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 96 of 1 August 2024, development intervention, 36 months) Italy aims to contribute to addressing two key issues to improve the climate resilience of the populations living in the arid and semi-arid areas of the country. The first involves stimulating the flow of funding to counties to integrate climate change into local planning and promote community initiatives that contribute to climate adaptation. The second concerns the need to speed up the registration of community land. This initiative aims to contribute to the empowerment and role of women (and other marginalised groups) in the management of natural resources and the use of funds for combating climate change. To this end, the participation of women's organisations and women's leadership will be promoted to address the obstacles women face in actively engaging in such community initiatives.

The economic empowerment of women and the private sector

In **Chad** through the intervention "*Promoting the socioeconomic empowerment of young people and women in sustainable agro-silvo-pastoral value chains in Chad (FASENDa)*" (AID 013128/01/0 and 013128/01/1, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 113 of 30 September 2024, development intervention, 36 months), funded by a contribution of €3,000,000, Italy aims to contribute to promoting the



socioeconomic empowerment of the most marginalised populations, with a particular emphasis on young people and women, by supporting the development and improvement of sustainable and bankable value chains in the agro-silvo-pastoral and fisheries sectors, in order to increase agricultural production. Specifically, since 69% of smallholders in the country are women, activities will be carried out to facilitate women's ownership of land through the support of land commissions, and to facilitate women's participation in thematic workshops, which will provide first-hand accounts and showcase best practices promoted by civil society actors.

In **Jordan**, the Italian Development Cooperation has provided a contribution of €3,350,000 to the intervention "*OPPORTUNITY 3 - LRRD initiative for the economic empowerment of Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians*" (AID 013186/01/0, 013186/01/1, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 215 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 24 months), the purpose of which is to help create an accessible and inclusive labour market for refugees and vulnerable Jordanian nationals in host communities, particularly women and young people, including persons with disabilities, thereby contributing to the strengthening of the resilience of local communities. In addition to supporting and promoting women's workforce inclusion through home-based businesses, awareness-raising activities will also be carried out, aimed at breaking down the social and cultural barriers that obstruct the professional integration of women and persons with disabilities, and protection measures will be implemented in workplaces for the women and girls involved in the projects, with the aim of preventing gender-based and sexual violence.

Promoting maternal and child, sexual and reproductive health rights

In **Sudan**, the country ranked third in the world in terms of maternal mortality rate, Italy financed the project "*NUTRI-SUD - Maternal and child nutritional security in*



the eastern states of Sudan" (AID 013096/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 130 of 30 September 2024, development intervention, 36 months). The contribution of €6,550,000 to WFP contribution supported the specific nutritional needs of mothers and children in Eastern Sudan (Gedaref and Kassala States), promoting interventions consisting of in-kind food transfers and "top-up" Cash Based Transfers to reduce the prevalence of malnutrition in children under five years of age, as well as pregnant and lactating women.

Additionally, hub gender and protection teams will be established to: monitor that humanitarian operations and assistance programmes are implemented in a manner that is safe, equitable and respectful of the needs of all groups of people; disseminate key messages on GBV prevention; and select a PSEAH advisor.

In 2024, Italy also donated €62,609,161 to the "***Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria***", (AID 012596/02/7 and 012596/02/8, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 5 of 6 February 2024), which has gender equality as one of its strategic components, since women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV, tuberculosis and malaria.

Education, vocational training and employment

In **Pakistan**, with a contribution of €2,000,000, the Italian Development Cooperation funded the initiative implemented by the ILO "*JUST TRANSITIONS: vocational training and job creation in Green Building and Ecotourism in Flood-Affected Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*" (AID 013188/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 223 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months). The initiative aims to provide skills and entrepreneurial training in sustainable construction techniques (with sustainable inputs such as brickmaking) and ecotourism services, while promoting a national certification framework to foster employment, entrepreneurial and economic growth in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



province. The project pays great attention to gender equality by focusing on the entrepreneurial empowerment of women and young people in the ecotourism sector, providing financial and non-financial business development services to support the growth of start-ups and small businesses.

In **Afghanistan**, within the framework of its contribution to the *Afghanistan Resilience Trust Fund* (formerly the *Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund*) - ARTF, Italy has expressed its preference for the EMERGEe (*Empowering Microfinance and Enterprises for Resilience and Growth*) project (AID 008050/19/7, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 27 of 9 April 2024, development intervention, 27 months), with a total allocation of €2,000,000 to the World Bank. The aim of the project is to support the demand and supply of finance for micro and small enterprises in the country, focusing on the financial inclusion of women.

In **Senegal**, with the objective of contributing to the inclusive economic development of the country through professional integration and job creation, the initiative "*Project to Support Job Creation for young people in Senegal (PACES)*" (AID 013226/01/0, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 200 of 16/12/2024, development intervention, 36 months) was funded with a contribution of €4,500,000, which also aims to promote labour market policies that support productive activities, the creation of decent jobs and entrepreneurship also including women. To this end, alongside a phase promoting the employment of young people and women, a pilot phase of the National Agreement between the State and employers will also be implemented focusing on its digitalisation.

In **Colombia**, with a contribution of €2,000,000, to be allocated to initiatives by civil society organisations, the intervention "*Vocational training, education and entrepreneurship support for women and young people, particularly Venezuelan migrants, in Colombia*" (AID 012907/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 77



of 19 December 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 18 months) was funded. The initiative aims to improve the socioeconomic integration of Venezuelan migrant women, Colombian returnees and host communities by facilitating access to vocational training, employment opportunities, and entrepreneurship promotion, with a focus on women's empowerment. To this end, the entrepreneurial activities will be implemented in the area of the circular economy and technical assistance for business start-ups, as well as the promotion of financial education to consolidate the autonomy and economic empowerment of Venezuelan beneficiaries and host communities in Colombia, with particular emphasis on the barriers women face in accessing credit.

Gender-based violence and the rights of women and girls

In **Ethiopia**, the bilateral intervention "*Reinforcing the humanitarian response in Ethiopia*" (AID 012882, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 31 of 06 August 2024, humanitarian aid intervention - total amount €16,000.000) aims to contribute to the humanitarian response to the multiple emergencies arising in Ethiopia. The purpose of the initiative is to strengthen protection for the most marginalised people, with a particular focus on improving the legal and clinical management of cases of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and psychosocial support. It also aims to promote the active role of women in society, protecting their rights and combating discrimination. To achieve these aims, activities will be carried out to support the education of women and girls, to create economic opportunities — including the agricultural sector— to raise the awareness within local communities about the importance of women's roles, and to promote the inclusion of women in social and economic life.



Figure 3. Italian Development Cooperation project in Ethiopia. Ph. UNIDO

In **Jordan**, with a contribution of €4,500,000, Italy financed the initiative "*Emergency Programme for the Protection of Refugees and Host Communities in Jordan*" (AID 013197/01/0, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 84 of 19 December 2024, humanitarian aid intervention, 24 months), with the aim of reducing the vulnerabilities of the most disadvantaged groups among the populations affected by the consequences of the Syrian crisis in Jordan. Particular attention is given to promoting gender equality and ensuring that women — who are often among the most vulnerable— have equal access to services and opportunities, thereby fostering their empowerment and active participation in community decision-making processes.

In **Bangladesh**, the intervention "*Multisectoral Assistance to Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh*" (AID 013132, Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 80 of 19 December



2024, Humanitarian Aid Initiative - total amount €1,000,000, 12 months) aims to contribute to the multisectoral humanitarian assistance effort supported by UNHCR in response to the massive humanitarian and protection needs of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. The initiative aims to support the process of building the competencies and active participation of refugee communities, with a focus on women and children, through the development of leadership skills and the implementation of the Community Representation Scheme, which foresees that 50% of the elected community representatives must be women. Additionally, the project includes the implementation of structured and semi-structured gender-based violence prevention actions in the refugee camps and Bangladeshi host communities through three programmes: (i) *Male Role Models*, (ii) *Girl Shine* and (iii) *SASA! Together*. More specifically, the *Girl Shine Stars* take on the role of mentors to the girls in their communities, transferring the knowledge they have acquired to disseminate key messages and raise awareness on gender equality and women's empowerment. Next, the intervention includes the provision of sexual and reproductive health services as part of a standardised healthcare package and the training of community leaders, volunteers and staff on key components of the gender-based violence agenda (PSEAH, Code of Conduct, community-based protection, inclusion and gender equality, case management of violence, referral mechanisms to specialised services and secure data management).

In **Myanmar**, the "*Italian Contribution to the Joint Peace Fund*" (AID 10789, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 73 of 28 June 2024, cooperation initiative - total amount €1,000,000, 12 months) in support of the Fund of the same name, managed by UNOPS, promotes the sustainable and inclusive peacebuilding process. Particular attention is given to the gender component through projects aimed at strengthening women's skills in conflict prevention, negotiation, peace building,



reconstruction and post-conflict governance by supporting their equal and meaningful participation.

Lastly, contributions to the *Country Based Pooled Fund - CBPF*, supported by Italy in **Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria** and **Somalia** deserve a mention (total €34 million). More than 80% of these contributions bolster actions that promote gender equality and combat gender-based violence. In disasters and emergencies, women and girls are usually among those most at risk and marginalised and they may face greater vulnerabilities, including additional risks of violence. The Country-based Pooled Funds create partnerships with gender and protection experts to better inform programming and address and mitigate sexual violence, while also directly funding local organisations - including women's rights organisations led by women.

The Italian Development Cooperation has also invested in the *Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)*, the United Nations' central emergency response fund, according to the annual budget availability allocated to humanitarian aid. In 2024, the disbursement of €10,000.000 helped fund numerous emergency relief interventions designed to combat gender-based violence and protect women in numerous countries, such as Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, East Timor, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe



4.3. MIXED CREDIT AND GRANT INTERVENTIONS

During 2024, the Italian Development Cooperation also financed two interventions with significant gender equality components, to be implemented with mixed financing consisting of grants and concessional loans.

In **Senegal**, with the initiative "Integrated Programme for the Development of Agrifood Chains - PIDECA" (AID 013020/01/0 - concessional credit of €13,000,000, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 189 of 16 December 2024; AID 013020/01/1 - grant of €5,000,000, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 190 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months), the Italian Development Cooperation aims to support the efforts of the Senegalese Government in fostering the development of a productive, competitive, diversified, sustainable agrifood sector that offers decent jobs, with particular attention to the empowerment of women and young people, in line with national policies. Specifically, regarding the rice sector, the strategy adopted focuses on supporting women producers of rainfed rice, who are the key actors in the sector in the Casamance area. The proposed outcome is to achieve a level of production that ensures food self-sufficiency, by improving the living conditions of women, and hence their families.

In **Tunisia**, with the programme '*BLEUE TUNISIE: Blue economy support programme for the sustainable development of coastal communities in Tunisia*' (AID 013236/01/1 - a concessional credit facility amounting to €25,000,000, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 191 of 16 December 2024; AID 013236/01/2 - grant contribution of €2.500,000, Joint Committee Deliberation No. 192 of 16 December 2024, development intervention, 36 months), Italy aims to contribute to the development of a sustainable and competitive blue economy through the promotion of efficient coastal areas that respect the marine heritage. One of the main objectives of the initiative is to facilitate fair and appropriate access to vocational training for young people and women in the artisanal fisheries sector.



4.4. PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

In the humanitarian field, the significant contribution of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) deserves a particular mention. During 2024, the AICS Field Offices selected numerous projects following Calls for Proposals launched as part of humanitarian aid initiatives approved in previous years. In particular, there are projects either specifically dedicated to promoting gender equality or with components dedicated to the theme totalling almost €67,000,000. The CSOs are mainly engaged in several partner countries (Afghanistan, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali, Moldova, Mozambique, Niger, Central African Republic, Syria, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia and Ukraine), with interventions mainly focused on supporting displaced persons, refugees, migrants and host communities to strengthen the resilience of women and young people in vulnerable or at-risk situations, and on the protection and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. Several projects are pursuing strategies to enable safe deliveries and assist newborns in the crucial early stages of life even in crisis contexts. Other initiatives are focusing on food security and combating malnutrition among children and lactating and pregnant women, strengthening the role of women in launching self-sustaining livelihood activities, promoting inclusive and equal education and building the resilience of women and girls, as well as bolstering the role of women in crisis situations.

4.5. DELEGATED COOPERATION INTERVENTIONS ENTRUSTED TO AICS BY THE EU

As is well-known, in 2018 the Agency successfully completed its accreditation process, becoming a qualified organisation for the indirect management of European funding. Since then, AICS has assumed full responsibility for the delegated cooperation initiatives entrusted to it by the European Commission.



Among the new agreements signed by AICS with the European Union in 2024, two had the empowerment of women and girls as their main objective, accounting for approx. 7% of the total funding managed by AICS through this modality. The Initiative “*Promoting Gender-responsive actions in Palestine - Integrating women in the culture and creativity industry*”, with a duration of 36 months and a total contribution of €2,750,000, aims to promote the socioeconomic empowerment of women in Palestine. It envisages work on several fronts, improving coordination between Palestinian institutions, academia, the private sector and civil society. Its objectives include: promoting gender mainstreaming in Palestinian ministries to increase women's participation in the labour market; developing partnerships between educational institutions and the private sector to promote women's access to under-represented professions; and raising awareness on gender issues. At the institutional level, gender units within ministries will be trained to mainstream gender across all their activities, particularly in budgeting and planning operations. At the academic level, partnerships between Palestinian universities and the private sector will be strengthened to facilitate the entry of female graduates into the labour market, particularly in the traditionally male-dominated fields of communication, culture, and creativity. Finally, awareness-raising actions in support of gender equality will be promoted through the engagement of civil society organisations and the media.

The initiative “*Regional Programme on Inclusive Societies in Latin America and the Caribbean*”, with a duration of 54 months, for which AICS is managing €2,989,687, aims to reduce social inequalities, and especially gender inequalities, within and between Latin American and the Caribbean, through the implementation of actions complementary to the initiatives financed under the EU Global Gateway strategy. The regional programme, which AICS is taking part in as a partner, is implemented by a consortium of development agencies (AICS, AECID, Expertise France, IILA, GIZ)



led by the Spanish foundation FIIAPP. It aims to improve equal access to social rights, social services and justice for marginalised people in all their diversity, particularly women, children, young people and the poorest 40% of households. It also aims to strengthen public institutions to make them more inclusive, accountable and transparent, while promoting gender-responsive public finance systems. AICS will focus on the component that promotes the creation of inclusive opportunities for women, young people and vulnerable groups, fostering social innovation, the resilience of social systems, and the development of a fair, socially responsible and inclusive green and digital economy.

Moreover, approx. 21% of the European funding entrusted to AICS in 2024 includes significant actions for achieving gender equality. These include the initiative *“Sustainable support to persons displaced by conflict and natural disasters and their host communities in the Afar region of Ethiopia”*, with a duration of 36 months, which aims to improve protection and response to basic needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and their host communities in the Afar region of Ethiopia, focusing mainly on areas affected by natural and human-induced disasters. To this end, the initiative will promote access to livelihoods and the creation of opportunities for economic and financial support, and access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services, designed with a gender-sensitive approach. AICS has been designated as the lead implementing agency for the initiative, which envisages a European contribution of €10,000,000.

In the health sector, the intervention *“Primary Health Care provision for vulnerable populations affected by food insecurity and malnutrition in 3 targeted states”*, provides European funding of €7,000.000 for an implementation period of 36 months. The initiative aims to increase sustainable access to primary healthcare services, nutritional and WASH services in three targeted states in Sudan,



characterised by a high concentration of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and vulnerable groups, while also addressing new displacement pathways emerging, mainly due to the ongoing conflict. The initiative also aims to strengthen the management capacities of local health systems and address sociocultural and gender barriers to health and nutrition, particularly affecting women and persons with disabilities (PwD).

5. PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, ABUSE, AND HARASSMENT (PSEAH)

Italy has long upheld a **zero-tolerance policy** towards sexual exploitation and abuse committed by UN peacekeepers, as well as by civilian and international cooperation personnel.

Indeed, these phenomena undermine the integrity, effectiveness, and credibility of the entire international cooperation community. They are rooted in situations of structural inequality—particularly gender inequality—and hinder global efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially Goal 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”.

Following complex negotiations between like-minded countries and the United Nations Legal Office, harmonised language on SEAH¹ was approved in July 2021. Italy is particularly committed to including the agreed clause in all project agreements for the implementation of projects by major UN agencies.

Following the silent adoption of the harmonised SEAH language in July 2021, Italy has since then included the PSEAH language in all its financing agreements with the

¹ https://cdn.who.int/media/docs/default-source/documents/harmonized-seah-clause-july-2021-english-.pdf?sfvrsn=d4d44a31_9



following UN entities: UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, UN Women, WFP, FAO, IOM and WHO.

At Italy's request, the PSEAH language was also included in funding agreements with international organisations that were initially not interested in the agreed language, such as IFAD, ILO, IUCN, UN HABITAT, UNDESA, OHCHR, UNDRR, UNESCO, UNOPS, to ensure that people affected by SEAH are treated with dignity, listened to, kept safe, and that they receive the support they need to recover.

In the field of **PSEAH**, in implementing the commitments undertaken by Italy that led - among other things - to the adoption of the *PSEAH Code - Protection from Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment* by AICS, the Agency has strengthened its actions aimed at preventing the phenomena of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in humanitarian contexts, by including specific references to the need to address this issue with humanitarian aid programmes.

In addition, in 2024, AICS appointed a **Trust Adviser** and set up a support desk, a key initiative for the promotion of gender equality within the Agency. The Trust Adviser plays a crucial role in listening to, advising, and assisting individuals who have been subjected to discriminatory behaviour, harassment, or physical or psychological violence by employees and/or third parties within the workplace or within the setting of the cooperation and humanitarian aid activities promoted by the Agency. Its main tasks include the handling of confidential reports, counselling and psychological support, as well as referrals to the appropriate conflict management procedures or legal actions, if required. The support desk, accessible to all employees, is a reference point for raising awareness and preventing any situations of inequality, thereby fostering a more inclusive and respectful working environment for all. The appointment of this figure demonstrates the Agency's



commitment to guaranteeing equal opportunities and rights, while strengthening the culture of respect and gender equality.

Within the framework of the humanitarian aid initiative in response to the conflict in **Ukraine** (AID 012832/01/0, Deputy Minister Deliberation Nos. 28/2023 and 8/2023), several projects carried out by CSOs have integrated preventive measures against sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PSEAH). Among them, the *RISE UP* project - implemented by WeWorld-GVC in a temporary purpose association with CESVI and financed by the Italian Development Cooperation with €1,800,000 - worked in the eastern regions of Ukraine, such as Kharkiv and Donetsk, promoting the protection of human rights and the adoption of the principles of accountability towards affected populations (AAP), with a strong focus on PSEAH. Similarly, the project led by the CSO Soleterre, in a temporary purpose association with World to Ukrainians, entitled “*Multisectoral life-saving support to the Ukrainian population in the Kharkiv, Dnipro and Zaporizh oblasts*”, also funded with a contribution of €1,800.000, included important measures for the prevention of gender-based violence, including the development of an awareness-raising campaign and the organisation of specific training for shelter workers and local CSOs on the topics of GBV, Gender & Diversity Mainstreaming and PSEAH.



Figure 4. Julia Gorlenko, trainer for an Italian Development Cooperation project in Ukraine. Ph. AICS Kyiv.

In **Moldova**, the project entitled *EDU-PRO - Quality Education and Protection for Conflict-Affected People and Vulnerable Groups* project, implemented by the Norwegian Refugee Council in partnership with WeWorld-GVC and supported by the Italian Development Cooperation with almost €2,000,000, enabled the creation of safe spaces for women and girls, as well as staff training on child protection, gender-based violence and PSEAH prevention. Similar activities were conducted by other CSOs, including MEDU, INTERSOS, CUAMM, Plan International, Caritas, Soleterre, ActionAid and ARCS, in both Ukraine and in Moldova.



6. HIGHLIGHTING THE VISIBILITY AND RESULTS OF FUNDED INTERVENTIONS FOR GENDER EQUALITY

MAECI (Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation) pays a great deal of attention to the issue of gender equality, by conducting - among other things - communication and visibility actions on Italy's commitment, also jointly with national and international partners. Each year, on International Women's Day and on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, MAECI issues a [press release](#) and launches a series of posts on its social platforms aimed at underlining Italy's international commitment to supporting gender equality. Together with a number of UN agencies, including UN Women and UNFPA, every year we coordinate awareness-raising and visibility actions - as part of "*Donor visibility week*" - to promote the work of the Italian Development Cooperation system on issues of equality and the protection of the rights of women and girls, including strong support for the UN programme to eliminate female genital mutilation and other brutal practices. Every year, MAECI joins the United Nations-led campaign "*16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence*", to combat violence against women. The section of the MAECI website dedicated to insights on development cooperation is kept updated with gender-related guidelines and documents. There are also several initiatives carried out by the MAECI overseas network, such as the one to install a ["red bench" inside Italian Embassies](#) to raise awareness on the subject of violence against women, or the initiative dedicated to [Giulia Cecchetti](#) in 2023, and renewed in 2024, involving a series of scholarships for young international citizens coming to study in our country.

AICS has also updated its website, introducing a section specifically dedicated to [Gender Equality](#). This enriched section includes a wide range of content and thematic documentation, with a special focus on the good practices adopted in funded projects, aimed at highlighting the interventions and results achieved in the



field. Among its contents is a session, created to showcase successful experiences, presenting methodologies, innovative approaches, and lessons learned across various contexts. Additionally, the Agency has published numerous articles in its “News” and “Overseas”² sections, contributing to the dissemination of important stories and updates on gender equality and the positive impacts of the interventions carried out. These articles not only document tangible progress but also play a crucial role in inspiring and raising awareness on issues of great relevance, showing how concrete actions can contribute to promoting women's rights and strengthening their economic and social empowerment.

In the news section, specific articles have been published to celebrate International Women's Day ([8 March and the rights of women and girls: AICS's daily commitment to promote gender equality](#)). On 21 March 2024, the AICS headquarters organised an awareness-raising day dedicated to the cross-cutting theme of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in development action. The event was attended by important speakers, including Alessandra Accardo, a Neapolitan policewoman victim of violence in 2022, who shared her testimony. This day concluded the two-week celebration of International Women's Rights Day, during which all the AICS Field Offices organised local activities, which were publicised on their respective websites and social channels.

In **Senegal**, the Dakar Office organised [two events](#) on the theme of fighting for the rights of women and girls, held at the Italian Cultural Institute in Dakar. These events, which were open to the public and free of charge, provided in-depth insights and a discussion on the challenges and opportunities related to gender equality in

² AICS Dakar: [Dare to change: a digital campaign on the theme of economic violence](#)

AICS Nairobi: [Nairobi, Dakar, Rome: that commitment to gender equality that sets women free](#)

AICS Jerusalem: [The path from adolescence to adulthood: empowering Palestinian young people to face the future with greater awareness](#)

AICS Kyiv: [Ukraine, Bucha's 8 March](#)



the local context. Their goal was to create free spaces for discussion on issues that engage cooperation agencies such as the inclusion and exclusion of certain social groups, social change through the arts, human rights and social justice, and activism as a means of producing scientific knowledge.

In **Ukraine**, [on 8 March](#), the Kyiv office promoted the event organised by Cesvi “*Celebration of Spring and Women’s Resilience*”, where many women met at the **Psychological Support Centre**, to share their testimonies after 33 days of Russian occupation.³

In **Cuba**, to celebrate 8 March, the office launched a drawing competition on the theme “*Mujeres inspiradoras*” (Inspiring women), which concluded with three young artists being awarded prizes for their illustrations of faces of Cuban women who they considered inspirational.

For the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2024 ([25 November](#)) and for the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, a campaign was launched with the almost daily publication on the aics.gov.it website of articles and photos disseminating AICS achievements in the field.

Numerous other activities were implemented by the Field Offices and disseminated through their websites and social media, as well as through local media.

In **Cuba**, during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, the office actively contributed with the CSO COSPE and the Cuban CSO Centro Félix Varela to the construction of an awareness-raising campaign that, through social media and other traditional means such as TV, disseminated important data on gender violence in Cuba. This collaboration involved the development of an agenda with

³ <https://www.aics.gov.it/oltremare/articoli/persona/ucraina-ucraina-l8-marzo-di-bucha/>



innovative key messages such as the concept of “*Masculinidades Liberadoras*” (Liberating Masculinities)', constructed to incorporate in the transformative discourse on new gender relations, a new concept of masculinity that is non-hegemonic, non-toxic, non-dominating and inclusive. As part of the same initiative, AICS Havana launched an original “Décimas for Non-Violence” campaign, involving young poets in cultural initiatives.

In **Niger**, the AICS office launched a social media campaign entitled “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence”, sharing inspiring stories of women who have achieved economic independence and self-determination. These narratives highlighted the positive impact of cooperation projects seeking to improve the living conditions of women in the region.

In **Kenya**, during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, AICS supported the [National Government Affirmative Action Fund](#) (NGAAF), a government fund that aims to address the needs of the most at-risk groups which include including women, young people, persons with disabilities, children and the elderly.

In cooperation with “*Athletics Kenya*”, the NGAAF promoted a **national communication campaign against gender-based violence**, setting up forums in different regions of the country to gather testimonies from female athletes, and establishing a government platform dedicated to collecting these stories. Thanks to this initiative, 1,252 athletes from six different regions of the country were directly involved. In parallel, through targeted campaigns on TV, radio, and social media, awareness messages against violence towards women reached millions of people across the entire country.

As part of the activities for the 16 Days, AICS also supported the government's HAK 1195 (Healthcare Assistance Kenya) hotline, which offers assistance to victims of



gender-based violence, through a series of specific actions: a **three-day travelling awareness-raising campaign in Nairobi County**, participation in the **government launch event** and a **radio campaign** in six counties (Kwale, Kilifi, Bungoma, Vihiga, Isiolo and Migori), conducted in collaboration with local broadcasters.

The AICS office in Islamabad promoted a 16-day activism campaign for **Pakistan** and **Afghanistan**, focusing on projects related to cultural and natural heritage, agriculture, economic development, education and climate change. In each initiative, the focus on women's rights was central. The social channels circulated a post for each project, with a detailed description and data on the women involved.

Additionally, the following events were organised:

- "[Women for the Essential](#)" - The crucial role of women on access to Water, agricultural development (Earth), energy supply (Fire) and the fight against climate change (Air)" as part of the Rimini Meeting (24 August 2024);
- Award ceremony at the AICS headquarters of the first edition of the [Bianca Pomeranzi Prize](#) (1 October 2024), an initiative sponsored by AICS and supported by MAECI and UNFPA.

7. TRAINING ON GENDER EQUALITY

In 2024, opportunities for training on gender equality were promoted both internally and externally, including with the participation of OECD experts and the involvement of actors from the Italian System and the AICS Field Offices. In this context, a special mention should be made of the event organised by AICS on 21 March 2024⁴, "AICS and the mainstreaming of gender equality and the

⁴ <https://www.aics.gov.it/news/aics-e-la-trasversalita-delluguaglianza-di-genere-e-dellemancipazione-di-donne-ragazze-e-bambine-nellazione-per-lo-sviluppo/>



empowerment of women and girls" for the staff of the Agency, which included presentations not only by AICS and MAECI, but also by the University RomaTre and the OECD DAC. This initiative was replicated on 25 November, and a large number of CSOs, universities and local authorities were able to benefit from the training/awareness-raising activity.

Furthermore, in order to further highlight the work carried out by the Italian Development Cooperation and promote training in the sector (as envisaged by the aforementioned Guidelines), AICS took part - with lessons/lectures on the theme of gender equality - in the following training activities:

- 3 December 2024, course on "GENDER POLITICS", organised by the IAI (Institute of International Affairs) in cooperation with the WIIS (Women in International Security);
- 21 June 2024, Advanced Training Course in Women, Peace and Mediation at Sapienza University of Rome,
- 25 March 2024, Course on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Roma Tre University - Academic Year 2023 - 2024.



ANNEX 1. CSO HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS WITH GENDER EQUALITY COMPONENTS LAUNCHED DURING 2024.

Afghanistan

AID 012682/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 99 of 10 October 2022) -

Title of initiative: *"Emergency Initiative in support of the most vulnerable sections of the Afghan population"*.

- NOVE ETS. Project title: *"The seeds of rebirth: A Livelihood Pathway for Afghan Women- Agricultural Empowerment and Economic Growth"*, Total Amount €1,191,164
- CESVI/People in Need. Project title: *"AGRARIA: Agriculture, Risk Management and Water for Resilience and Inclusion in Afghanistan"*, Total Amount €1,800,000
- WeWorld - GVC. Project title: *"Strengthening the preparedness, prevention and response capacities to food insecurity and disaster risk of the Afghan population affected by the humanitarian crisis"*, Total amount €1,200,000
- INTERSOS. Project title: *"Multisectoral assistance for the welfare and dignity of the most vulnerable communities in Kabul's underserved rural areas"*, Total amount €1,200,000

Cameroon

AID 012692/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 3 of 4 May 2023) - Title of initiative: *"CARE: Emergency Response to the Anglophone Crisis"*

- ARCS/Eucaid. Project title: *"TREAT ME RIGHT - Health Care and Protection for the displaced population, host communities, and vulnerable groups in Wabane Province, Lebialem Department"*, Total Amount €450,000

Ethiopia

AID 012882/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 25 of 6 November 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Strengthening the humanitarian response in Ethiopia "*.

- Plan International Ethiopia/Plan International Italy/COOPI. Project title: *"Integrated multisectoral emergency intervention, including the provision of multipurpose cash assistance, in response to the needs of the vulnerable population affected by the humanitarian crisis in Tigray"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- Action Aid Ethiopia/Action Aid Italy/CISP Project title: *"SOLIDARITY AND ASSISTANCE: Support for the Most Vulnerable Communities in the Regional State of Tigray (SOLVE)"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- CUAMM. Project title: *"Restore Essential Health, nutrition and food security services in Shire, Tigray"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- LVIA/COOPI. Project title: *"Strengthening the humanitarian response in the Afar Region, particularly in the woredas of Euwa and Yallo (Zone 4)"*, Total amount €1,500,000
- CIFA/CUAMM. Project title: *"PROTECT Amhara: promotion of protection and access to health and nutrition services for internally displaced persons and vulnerable communities in emergencies"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- Oxfam GB/Oxfam Italy. Project title: *"WASH Emergency Response in Gambella (Ethiopia): inclusive action for South Sudanese refugees and vulnerable host communities"*, Total amount €1,000,000
- COOPI /Save the Children Italy. Project title: *"RISE: Integrated and inclusive response to the drought emergency in the Somali region of Ethiopia through WASH, Health, Nutrition and MPCA interventions"*, Total amount €1,400,000
- ACTION AGAINST HUNGER USA/ACF Italy/ CESVI. Project title: *"Multisectoral and integrated response to the drought emergency and conflict in the Shabelle area, Somali Region, Ethiopia"*, Total amount €1,400,000
- CESVI/AYUDA en Accion. Project title: *"HORA BULA (Helping Ongoing Resilient Action: Building on and Upscaling Lesson Learned for Anticipatory Action)"*, Total Amount €1,600,000

Jordan

AID 012505/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 56 of 15 December 2021) -



Title of initiative: *"STEP - Emergency initiative for the promotion of an integrated aSsisTence, Empowerment and Social Protection framework for refugees and communities"*.

- INTERSOS. Project title: *"Ensuring access to specialised protection services for particularly vulnerable people in Jordan through the strengthening of community care networks in the Governorates of Amman, Irbid and Karak"*, Total amount €665,000
- UPP. Project title: *"Masahat Aamina II (Safe spaces II): Protected spaces for social inclusion and integrated protection for particularly vulnerable people among refugees and host communities in Jordan"*, Total amount €664,640.68
- AVSI in a temporary purpose association with Terre des Hommes Italy. Project title: *LE NAKHTO MA'AN "معاً لنخطو" - STEP TOGETHER - intervention to strengthen community protection and social inclusion systems and resources for the most vulnerable groups among the refugee and host communities in the Governorates of Ma'an, Aqaba, Zarqa and Mafraq, within the framework of a multisectoral protection, education and health intervention"*. Total amount: 1,329,999.59
- INTERSOS. Project title: *"Strengthening the capacities of existing community networks with the aim of identifying, preventing, and responding to protection-related risks"*. Total amount: 665,000.00
- COOPI. Project title: *"DAMEJ: An Inclusive Social Protection Approach for Vulnerable Children"*. Total amount: 665,000.00

Lebanon

AID 012511/01/2 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 39 of 20 December 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Education and protection for school-age children in Lebanon (Phase IV)"*.

- COOPI. Project title: *"EduCare - Support for Inclusive Education and Protection Systems for School Age Girls and Boys in the Akkar Region and North Lebanon"*, Total amount €1,146,000

- TDH IT/CISP. Project title: "*E-RISE: Education, Rehabilitation, Inclusion and Support to Empowerment*", Total amount €1,720,000
- WWGVC/Ana Aqra. Project title: "*ANA KAMEN (Phase II): Inclusive and quality education in eight public schools in the Governorate of Akkar*", Total amount €1,720,000

AID 013146/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 51 of 2/10/2024) - Title of initiative: "*Emergency Initiative in the Sectors of Education, Child Protection and WASH*".

- INTERSOS. Project title: "*REACT: Emergency Response and Assistance to Communities in Lebanese Territory*", Total Amount €600,000
- ARCS. Project title: "*SAWA - Emergency relief initiative to support the population affected by the conflict in the Lebanese regions of Bekaa and Akkar*", Total amount €600,000

Mali

AID 012566/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 33 of 30 March 2023) - Title of initiative: "*Emergency Initiative to protect populations affected by the humanitarian crisis in Mali*".

- COOPI/Progetto Mondo. Project title: "*Response to immediate health, nutrition and protection needs of the most vulnerable populations in the Bankass and Koro cercles*" (administrative divisions), Total amount €1,351,500

AID 012681/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 98 of 10 October 2022) - Title of initiative: "*Emergency Initiative to foster resilience and protection of populations affected by the humanitarian crisis in Mali*".

- Engim/INTERSOS. Project title: "*C.A.R.E.: Cooperation for Assistance and Resilience in Emergencies in Mopti and Bandiagara*", Total amount €1,499,445

- CISV/WWGVC/LVIA. Project title: *"SURE Phase 2- Emergency project for the assistance and resilience of vulnerable populations affected by the conflict in Douentza, Mali"*, Total amount €1,500,000

Moldova

AID 012832/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 28 of 30 November 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Emergency initiative in support of the population affected by the conflict in Ukraine and neighbouring countries"*.

- Terres des hommes- Losanne/INTERSOS. Project title: *"HOPE (Health, Opportunities, Protection, Education) - Promoting safe and dignified access to essential health, education, and protection services for Ukrainian refugees and vulnerable host community members in the Republic of Moldova"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- NRC/WWGVC. Project title: *"EDU-PRO Quality education and protection for conflict-affected people and vulnerable groups in Moldova"*, Total amount €1,800,000

Mozambique

AID 012852/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 42 of 30 November 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Initiative to strengthen the resilience of communities vulnerable to climate change in Mozambique"*.

- WWGVC/CUAMM/AIFO. Project title: *"Mais resiliência, mais comunidade (More resilience, more community): Strengthening the resilience of the communities most exposed to environmental disasters in Manica and Tete"*, Total amount €1,200,000

Niger

AID 012500/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 17 of 23 February 2022) -

Title of initiative: *"Emergency initiative in support of vulnerable populations in Niger"*.

- CISV/ACRA. Project title: *"SAAJAW Women, communities and agrifood cooperatives leading the response to the soudure (lean season) in the Tillabéri region"*, Total amount €775,000
- ACF. Project title: *"Food assistance and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable populations of internally displaced persons and local communities affected by climate risks and the humanitarian crisis in the Tillabéry region in Niger"*, Total amount €775,000

Central African Republic

AID 012845/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 19 of 20 October 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Multisectoral programme to support the resilience of the vulnerable population in the Central African Republic"*.

- CUAMM. Project title: *"Support to Essential Maternal and Child Health Services for the Most Vulnerable Population in the Health District of Bossangoa"*, Total amount €500,000
- ACAP_Sant'Egidio/Amici per il Centrafrica (Friends for Central Africa). Project title: *"Health Within Everyone's Reach: Improving Access to Basic Health Care and Services for Mothers, Children and People living with Chronic Diseases"*, Total amount €1,190,400
- INTERSOS. Project title: *"Improving the protection environment and resilience of women, children at risk and vulnerable persons in the prefecture of Kemo, Central African Republic"*, Total amount €500,000

Syria

AID 012868/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 35 of 20 December 2023) -

Title of initiative: *"Multisectoral emergency and early recovery intervention in response to the protracted humanitarian crisis in Syria"*.

- INTERSOS. Project title: *"Integrated Education, Protection and Livelihood Response for Vulnerable Communities in Hama and Idleb Affected by the Syrian Crisis"*, Total Amount €1,200,000
- TDH IT. Project title: *"Mujtamai Amani (My community is my security): Emergency project to improve access and inclusion to education, training and basic protection services for the most vulnerable population in the Governorates of Latakia, Aleppo and Rural Damascus"*, Total amount €1,200,000
- AVSI. Project title: *"Resilience HUB dispensaries"*, Total amount €1,199,999.54

Somalia

AID 012466/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 39 of 8 June 2022) - Title of initiative: *"Multisectoral intervention in response to the humanitarian crisis and environmental emergencies in Somalia"*.

- AVSI. Project title: *"Supporting the resilience of the most vulnerable communities in Dhobley"*, Total amount €200,000

AID 012255/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 4 of 14 April 2021) - Title of initiative: *"Multisectoral intervention in response to the humanitarian crisis and environmental emergencies in Somalia"*.

- ACF USA/ACF ITA.: Project title: *"R.I.S.E. Kismayo: Resilient Initiative for Sustainability and Empowerment in Kismayo District, Somalia"*, Total amount €775,000

Sudan

AID 012846/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 27 of 6 November 2023) - Title of initiative: *"Emergency Initiative in Support of Displaced Populations and Host Communities in Sudan Affected by the Conflict that broke out on 15 April 2023"*.

- EMERGENCY. Project title: *"Strengthening paediatric, maternal and child health in response to the conflict in Sudan"*, Total amount €450,000
- COOPI . Project title: *"Life-saving humanitarian assistance, protection, access to basic sanitation and disaster risk reduction for vulnerable groups and displaced communities in Khartoum State"*, Total amount €450,000

Tunisia

AID 012833/01/0 (Joint Committee Deliberation No. 150 of 19 July 2023) - Title of initiative: *"Youth Training and Employment Support Fund"*.

- COSPE/CEFA. Project title: *"New Sustainable Alternatives for the Insertion of Young People in the Textile Sector"*, Total amount €1,950,000

Ukraine

AID 012832/01/0 (Deputy Minister's Deliberation No. 28 of 30 November 2023) - Title of initiative: *"Emergency initiative in support of the population affected by the conflict in Ukraine and neighbouring countries"*.

- INTERSOS/PLAN ITALIA ONLUS-PLAN INTERNATIONAL UKRAINE. Project title: *"Emergency Multisectoral Assistance for Affected Populations in Remote and Rural Regions in the East and South of Ukraine"*, Total Amount €1,800,000
- CUAMM/Italian Caritas/ CUAMM UK. Project title: *"R.I.S.E Ukraine: Integrated Response to Support the Emergency in Ukraine"*, Total Amount €1,800,000
- ACF-France/ACF Italia-Action against Hunger, Spain. Project title: *"Multisectoral emergency assistance in Ukraine and Moldova, in support of vulnerable populations affected by the conflict"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- Albero della vita/Helpcode. Project title: *"Integrated response to ensure inclusive education and protection for children and the most vulnerable population affected by the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine"*, Total amount €1,800,000
- WWGVC/CESVI. Project title: *"RISE UP. Response for Integrated Support to Eastern Ukraine Population"*, Total amount €1,800,000

- VIS/AVSI/CUAMM. Project title: "*SAFE-UKR: Support and Assistance for Families in Emergency in Ukraine*", Total amount €1,800,000
- Caritas Italia/VIS. Project title: "*S.U.P.E.R. - Support Ukrainian Population for the Emergency and Rehabilitation*", Total Amount €1,778,094
- ARCS/CUMSE/Project ARCA. Project title: "*Multisectoral emergency intervention in support of vulnerable and displaced populations in the cities of Cernivtsi, Rivne, Irpin and the oblasts of Kherson, Mykolaiv, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Zhytomyr and Kyiv*", Total amount €1,800,000
- Sharing among Peoples. Project title: "*Project Motanka 2: Multisectoral Humanitarian Assistance to the Civilian Population affected by the Conflict in Ukraine*", Total amount €1,200,000
- Community of St. Egidio ACAP/APS - CSE. Project title: "*Ukraine AID (Assistance, Integration, Development): integrated support and assistance services for the population in response to the emergency in Ukraine*", Total amount €1,199,266
- ARCA. Project title: "*Emergency intervention of humanitarian assistance and social support for the displaced and relocated population in the oblasts of Sumy, Kharkiv and Mykolaiv and in the city of Kyiv*", Total amount €1,140,702.65