



The Italian Development Cooperation has long implemented measures to mainstream gender policies and fight against gender-based violence and discriminatory gender norms.

In Senegal, for instance, Italy supported the Government of Senegal's efforts to develop a strategy for the institutionalization of gender policies through the adoption of gender indicators and to implement an initiative to fight violence against women. This initiative led to a strategic partnership among UNWOMEN, Senegalese institutions, national and international institutes, and research centres specializing in gender issues.

The first component of the programme, "Supporting National Strategy for Gender Mainstreaming and Women Empowerment – PASNEEG", aims to support the Government of Senegal's development of a national gender strategy through the application of the methodology of Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) and the elaboration of a National Gender Indicator based on the Discriminatory Gender Norms analysis. SIGI combines qualitative and quantitative data, and takes into account both the de jure and de facto discrimination of social institutions through information about laws, attitudes and practices.

The variables taken into account span all stages of a woman's life to show how discriminatory social habits can interlock and bind them into cycles of poverty and disempowerment.

The second component of the programme provides technical assistance to national and civil-society institutions seeking to strengthen the implementation of laws and policies, prevent violence against women and expand access to multi-sector services. In addition, the initiative applies the Well-Being Approach to the local and National Budget.

