Gender

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
Department of State/USAID
Title VII, Section 7059
Funded through Title III

What is Gender programming?
Funding promotes gender equality and women’s empowerment across U.S. diplomatic and development efforts by raising the status, increasing the participation, and ensuring the rights of women, girls, and LGBTQ+ persons are upheld. Programs seek to address the unique, intersectional needs of these groups by addressing harmful gender norms and inequalities.

What do the funds support?
- **Data-driven and evidence-based approaches** to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment, including gender analyses and data and analysis disaggregated by sex.
- Greater **economic security** for women and girls by increasing their access to resources, services, and leadership opportunities and addressing barriers that limit their ability to participate fully in the economy.
- Efforts to **eliminate gender-based violence** (GBV) and mitigate its harmful effects on individuals and communities.
- **Systemic and structural changes** that address the root causes of gender inequality and promote equitable norms.

Foreign Aid Delivers
Gender equality is key to effective and sustainable development outcomes and central across U.S. foreign policy and USAID programming. Societies with greater gender equality achieve demonstrably stronger economic growth, increased agricultural productivity, and greater peace and stability. Since the initial launch of the USAID Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy in 2012, development and humanitarian programs have effectively integrated gender and empowerment approaches. In 2018, Congress affirmed the importance of this work with the passage of the Women’s Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act (WEEE Act). Investments in gender equality and women’s economic security are guided by the first-ever U.S. Strategy on Global Women’s Economic Security, and through the Gender Equity and Equality Action Fund which supports access to resources and services that address impediments to women’s economic participation. In addition, the 2023 Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Policy guides USAID’s work to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment around the world.

Funding History
Funding levels may not accurately reflect those in the appropriations bills and/or reports due to rounding.