

Gender Mainstreaming in Urban Development

Gender Criteria

- * Diversity and flexibility of space
- * Options of social usage
- * Space for communication and interaction
- * Reconciliation of professional and family-work
- * Security
- * Sustainability and protection of natural resources
- * Participation

- * Consistent gender-related data management enables necessary pre-planning surveying. It should be determined whether women and men will be affected by the proposed planning in different ways and whether divergent needs regarding usage exist.
- * Gender profiling of the location (e.g., social and built structures) requires analyses of its immediate surroundings, its integration into the general urban fabric and incorporating the information in the existing gendered databases.
- * Identification of the location's positive features (e.g., good interfacing and networking via media, social and traffic infrastructures) and its negative features (e.g., high levels of harmful substances and emissions such as noise, artificial light, chemical pollutants).
- * Analysis of the area's potential for future development, identification of opportunities to balance gender deficits (both on a small and large scale spatial level).
- * Analysis of the project's contribution to gender equality as well as the potential for development of diverse gender role models, for example for girls who love to play soccer or boys who prefer poetry.

- * Gender-oriented analysis of the public supervisory and planning instruments that are applied
- * Gender-oriented market analysis of need-based demand and an evaluation of supply and suppliers and relevant go-to-market strategies
- * Gender relevant impact of and on changing private or public project development strategies (government agency, administration, market, citizens and users)
- * Gender-sensitive analysis of the planning and project management structures

Gender criteria

- * During the participatory process, care must be taken to ensure equal opportunities for the involvement of different target groups, also taking into consideration the proportionate representation of diverse genders.
- * This requires the implementation of methods that include – and are taken seriously by – even those groups who are reluctant to verbally articulate their interests. Such groups in particular must be considered experts with regard to their particular situation, and it is important neither to treat them like children nor to dictate their perceived needs.
- * As part of gender-sensitive participation, specific methods of dialogue should be developed that guarantee that the various issues of future users are taken into account.
- * It is important to proceed in a transparent manner, which makes it possible for participants to retrace the individual steps of the process in case they wish to join in at a later date.

- * Integration of the gender perspective into the rules of the competition and into the description of the competition objective
- * Gender-specific competition announcements and gender mainstreaming as a specific objective
- * Gender-sensitive language in the written competition announcements
- * Concrete statements regarding gender-specific issues
- * Equal female / male representation on juries, taking into consideration individual gender competencies
- * Gender mainstreaming as an important criterion of specialized expertise
- * Evaluation of competition results in accordance with gender mainstreaming aspects

- * **Mandatory respect of validated gender expertise in the planning, expert opinions and competitions**
- * **Equal representation in competition judging panels, juries and committees**
- * **Evaluation of the actual success in achieving product, process and equal opportunity goals**
- * **Conclusions regarding the possible need for additional action**

Gender criteria

- * Functional and spatial relationships of a building project to the existing urban environment
- * Balanced ratio of living, working, supply of goods and services and recreational activities
- * Making use of synergies and compensating for environmental deficits (How can the project help?)
- * Flexible concepts for use specification
- * Allocation of space for different usages (housing and office space, small retailers, gastronomy), taking into account the compatibility of the various types of uses, especially short travel distances and ready accessibility
 - horizontal (in terms of land parcels)
 - vertical (in terms of buildings)
- * Unambiguous configuration, allocation and design of transitional space from public to private sectors
- * Vitalizing opportunities for diverse usage at ground level depending on the type of neighborhood
- * Creating options of usage for different social groups

- * Appropriate balance of the desired level of building density and the building density of the immediate surroundings
- * Upper and lower limits of building density, taking into consideration sunny outdoor spaces, adequate sunlight and natural light for living and working spaces

Gender criteria

- * The proximity of buildings in relation to public and private traffic infrastructure
- * Size and layout of the lot layout
- * Prominent location of access points and entryways (address recognition)
- * Adequate space between buildings (to ensure privacy and provide sunshine, natural light, ventilation and avoid extreme air currents)
- * Orientation of occupied rooms towards traffic infrastructure and outdoor spaces (social control, noise protection, natural light and direct sun light)
- * Orientation of buildings toward outdoor space (within visual and voice range, passive participation in activities within the immediate surrounding)
- * Preferred usage of construction methods and designs that permit quiet indoor and outdoor areas (noise, air pollution)
- * Size and flexibility in combining the units (clear lay-out, variety)
- * Avoiding „blind façades“ (safety, design)
- * Avoiding building recesses and protrusions that limit visibility

- * Consideration of the social mix, e.g., by providing apartments or other usable spaces of varying sizes and rents as well as different marketing formats and financing options
- * Mix of various housing formats, integration of special types of accommodations (e.g., assisted living and cross-generational housing)
- * Availability of flexible, general purpose spaces to ensure the greatest possible utilization of space while maintaining a clear zoning (spatial and functional mix)
- * “Management” of the activities of social neighborhoods through the self-organization of residents of both sexes, social agencies and / or owners as “strong partner” in the quarter

- * **Mix of clearly defined usage of space and units that can also be adapted to a variety of other uses**
- * **Layout of floor plan: de-hierarchization of uses, usage-neutrality of general occupancy and living spaces to facilitate individual adaptation**
- * **Availability of adjoining premises that can be rented for expansion**
- * **Orientation of inhabited rooms: adequate sun and natural light**
- * **Common space and adequate areas for communal storage facilities (bicycles, child carriages, walking frames) and communication**
- * **Durable and robust building materials (investment costs as a reflection of longevity with consideration of both health and ecological safety)**
- * **Conservation of resources, energy efficiency, affordable housing**

Gender criteria

- * Different types of land-use designations in small areas
- * Avoiding purely residential areas, designating mixed-use areas
- * Balanced relationship of living, working, access to goods, services and recreation
- * Horizontal and vertical zoning depending on the type of building usage in accordance with § 1 section 4 ff. BauNVO (Federal Land Utilization Ordinance), e.g., for shops, social infrastructure facilities, tradecraft, etc.
- * Considering the interests of the local residents as well as those of the local workforce
- * Avoiding potential conflicts due to ambient air pollution (e.g., production and traffic noise, exhausts, effluents)

- * Avoiding mono-functional areas; mixed-use building structures
- * Linking industrial / local business areas and facilities for the supply of every-day goods and services
- * Using vacant sites to provide goods and services geared towards the working population
- * Safe road layouts that facilitate orientation
- * Providing accessibility for people without automobiles of their own by developing public transportation as well as bicycle and pedestrian paths
- * Avoiding potential conflicts due to ambient air pollution, (e.g., production and traffic noise, exhausts, effluents)

Gender criteria

- * Providing differentiated supplemental facilities in or near residential areas, e.g., for communication, culture and education for various social groups
- * Ensuring safe access for pedestrians to nearby facilities that address every-day needs such as stores and child care centers
- * Availability of various types of businesses, such as a weekly market, supermarkets, specialty stores, discount stores

Gender criteria

- * Conveniently linked modes of transportation, short traveling distances and acceptable access times to the various infrastructure facilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, cemeteries)
- * Good and safe access to the public transportation network that meets user needs in terms of routes and times, e.g., by shortening service intervals
- * Convenient access to the inner urban area as well as to neighboring districts by providing a linear and radial transportation network
- * Connection of pedestrian and bicycle pathways to outer-laying areas and to bus or rail stops on the public transportation network
- * Convenient access to well-lighted and safe bus or rail stops with good visibility and protection from the elements
- * Close proximity of public transportation stops to buildings / entryways and in combination with commercial usages for greater social control
- * Flexible bus stops during the night

Gender criteria

- * Convenient connection of the developed neighborhood (with its pathways and roads of transit, access points) to the external road network
- * Well laid-out main traffic routes (orientation, traffic safety)
- * Adequate and safe opportunities for street-level crossings, e.g., with traffic lights, pedestrian crosswalks and traffic islands
- * Safely designed pedestrian walkways in terms of their width, course and lighting, safe crossings and orientation guides
- * Consideration of minimal or no-barriers standards: adequate space for moving around, avoiding differences in levels, safe surfaces and good points of orientation

Gender criteria

- * **Layout and design of safe and conveniently accessible parking for automobiles and bicycles: clearly arranged, transparent, with good visibility and lighting, barrier-free paving wherever possible, and orientation guides**
- * **Access to parking garages only for residents or authorized individuals**

Gender criteria

- * Appropriate distribution of public, communal / semi-public and private spaces
- * Public space as a political location, a place for democratic and social discourse and exchange as well as integration
- * Providing a variety of choices and a high level of stimulation to give impetus to innovations (outdoor space as a place to try new things)
- * Incorporation of elements, materials etc., that are open to interpretation and a variety of usages; high degree of flexibility and adjustability, opportunities for effecting change
- * Ensuring high-quality usage during different seasons
- * Public outdoor space as a place for exchange and a place that allows one to be anonymous; avoiding competing uses: balance between areas that are flexible with usages open to interpretation by different groups and fixed-use areas
- * Suitable proximity of usages and usage groups; infrastructure for leisure, play, sports, communication; arrangement of special-use areas for specific groups: e.g., playgrounds for small children within visual and voice range of the apartments
- * Clear layout and visibility of walkways and open areas, opportunities for orientation, adequate lighting, few or no barriers
- * Distinctive identities

- * Distribution and the clear, unambiguous allocation of public, semi-public and private areas to differentiate responsibilities, avoid conflicts and improve social control
- * Threshold areas as differentiated, precisely arranged transition areas as well as places for spending time and for communication, as gate situations and transition zones that promote communication, interaction and determine rules of behavior
- * Threshold areas as specific places for changing and adjusting behavior, speed, sound, shape, etc.
- * Graduated and differentiated areas for movement (slow, fast, small, large); options and orientation for walkways day and night use depending on the intensity of movement, direction and scale of spaces
- * Visual relationships, clear arrangements: visual relationships and adequate transparency serve to facilitate social control. The protection of interior living spaces may require particular special solutions
- * Orientation, identification features: distinctive elements that enhance identity, interrelated spatial configurations, etc.
- * Various levels of effective spatial buffers structure the area as a whole, creating a sequence of spaces with different qualities. Light and shade denote quiet and active zones, change and differentiated spaces
- * Staggering of spaces and functions depending on their use or the intensity of their usage; special provisions for individual user groups to avoid conflicts and / or competing uses, e.g., by cross-generational usages, opportunities to choose between companionship and solitude, flexible elements for rest and play
- * Flexible areas to ensure that no usages or user groups are excluded
- * Infrastructure, roads and walkways, safety needs, orientation through clearly differentiated spaces; unambiguous, well laid-out routes for the major access routs. Orientation both in the area as a whole and within each sector, clear layouts, traffic safety, freedom from barriers, escape routes
- * Lighting and transparency, adequate lighting of primary and secondary walkways, clear arrangements with transparency and good visibility

- * Identification, symbolism
- * Creation of places that further identification
- * Realisation of distinctive trademark characteristics
- * Individual interpretability
- * Guarantying easy orientation
- * Inclusion in the responsibilities of maintenance
- * Sustainability / ecological aspects

Gender criteria

- * Pleasant soundscapes as contrasted with the typical urban background noise
- * Noise protection
- * Consideration of different gender related, cultural and age-specific preferences

Gender criteria

Imprint

The source of these criteria is the handbook “Gender Mainstreaming in Urban Development“, which is available at the Senate for Urban Development.

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