USAID reduces gender gaps so Armenians can reach their full potential

Though women in Armenia have made great strides in recent years, significant barriers to full gender equality remain. To address this, USAID integrates gender equality and women’s empowerment across its portfolio throughout programming and operations, and intentionally engages with and ensures the active participation of women and girls in activities leading to Armenia’s democratic and economic advancement.

**Increasing Participation & Visibility**

**USAID promotes** the meaningful participation of women in Armenia’s political systems at the national and local levels by providing skills-based training, networking opportunities, and advocacy opportunities to ensure inclusive political competition. USAID partners also work with political parties, organizations, and government agencies to ensure that women have equal opportunity to engage meaningfully in society. This includes working with the civil society and media sectors to ensure that women participate equally in the policymaking process, that their concerns are reflected in advocacy efforts, and that public media uses a gender-sensitive approach to content production.

**Improving Economic Opportunities**

**USAID helps** reduce barriers to entry for women into Armenia’s labor market by providing tailored training in technical and soft skills and increasing their linkages to occupations in key and/or growing sectors. This includes support to female entrepreneurs and employees in the agricultural industry, equipping them with business skills and training them on innovative solutions and technologies. USAID also trains women to be agents of change in the energy sector through activities promoting the liberalization and diversification of energy resources.

**Combating Gender-Based Violence**

**USAID works** to raise awareness of gender-based violence (GBV) and strengthen the government’s and civil society’s capacity to provide support to survivors of GBV and trafficking through inclusive human rights policies. USAID also provides training and capacity building support to reduce stereotypes in the social work sector and advance women’s leadership and resilience in post-conflict Armenia.
**Current Activities**

**Community Level Access to Social Services (CLASS)** promotes the establishment of community-based social worker services to identify, prevent, and address community social protection issues. CLASS strives to ensure that men, women, girls, and boys equally benefit from available social services and expands engagement with men to break the stereotype that social work is a female-only occupation. The activity also supports the psycho-social recovery and builds resilience of women affected by conflict.

2017 - 2024 | World Vision Inc | $2.7 million

**Strengthening Electoral Processes and Political Accountability in Armenia (SEPPA)** builds government capacity to respond to strategic priorities, improves election administration and oversight, and strengthens institutions of political accountability. SEPPA also promotes more balanced gender representation and opportunities for women’s participation in political, civic, and electoral processes through targeted training and leadership experiences.

2018 - 2025 | Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening (IFES, IRI, and NDI) | $21.6 million

**Rural Economic Development-New Economic Opportunities (RED-NEO)** promotes inclusive, sustainable economic security and growth by connecting producers and buyers, establishing networks to support economic development, and improving Small Medium Enterprises and farms to develop and grow. RED-NEO enhances women’s capacity and entry points for rural entrepreneurship and addresses insufficient policies, employment practices, cultural, and other barriers to advance women’s economic leadership. RED-NEO also works with government partners and civil society organizations to prevent gender-based violence and address its unintended consequences.

2019- 2024 | Center for Agribusiness and Rural Development Foundation | $5.1 million

**Innovative Agriculture Training & Learning Camp (AGRI CAMP)** builds partnerships between the agriculture sector, university graduates and young professionals, and provides agribusiness training and skills building to build professional knowledge and bridge the gap between the labor market supply and demand. Through the Women’s Global Development and Prosperity Fund, AGRI CAMP increases access of women agripreneurs to agricultural innovation to raise productivity and works with civil society organizations to prevent GBV and address its unintended consequences.

2020 - 2023 | International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education Foundation | $1.9 million

**Armenia Workforce Development** supports youth and women's empowerment, workforce readiness, and skills development. Assistance promotes a productive and self-reliant workforce, bridges the mismatch between labor market supply and demand, and addresses policy and regulatory constraints on the labor market.

2021- 2026 | Enterprise Incubator Foundation | $7.5 million