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New International  
Gender Equality  
Strategy

Easy Read Version

# About This Document

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| DFAT logo | This document is written for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.  We are also called DFAT.  When you see the word ‘we’ it means DFAT. |
| Icon for Easy Read - from The Easy Read Toolbox. | This document is written in an easy to read way.  We call it **Easy Read**. |
| Woman holds her finger to her face, looking puzzled. Above her is a thought bubble with question marks. | You might not know some words.  The first time we use those words they are **blue**.  We tell you what they mean.  They are also [at the back of this document](#_heading=h.30j0zll). |
| Page with an image of people with disabilities, and the world. Title is written at the top of it. | We have a new International Gender Equality **Strategy**.  In this document we will call it the Strategy. |
| Arrows point from a sad face, to a checklist, to a happy face. | A strategy says how we will change things.  We want to know what people think of our strategy. |
| Woman smiling and holding 1 finger up. | The document tells you how to make a **submission** about the strategy.  A submission is when you:   * Tell us what you think * Send your thoughts to us. |

# About the Strategy

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| --- | --- |
| Top row is the world and a big tick. Bottom row is scales with 3 figures on them - icons for man, woman and both. | The strategy explains that **gender equality** is **essential** to our work across the world. |
| Top row is various symbols for gender. Bottom row is 3 - icons for man, woman and a mix of genders. | People say what gender they are. They might be:   * A man * A woman * A different gender * No gender. |
| Bottom row is scales with 3 figures on them - icons for man, woman and both. | Equality is when different things are as important as each other. |
| A red check mark in a circle. | Essential is when something is very important.  It is so important it must be included. |

# Making a Submission

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Young man in a wheelchair. | We want submissions from people.  This includes people with disability. |
|  | What to think and write about |
| Top row is the world and a big tick. Bottom row is scales with 3 figures on them - icons for man, woman and both. | We want to make:   * all genders equal * across the world |
|  | We have 4 questions we want you to think and write about: |
| Woman with thought bubbles. One has a red cross, the other a green tick. | 1: What are the most important things we should work on? |
| A signpost pointing 2 ways. One way has a red cross and the other has a green tick. | 2: What is the best way to do this? |
| A hand holds 3 figures on scales - icons for man, woman and both. An arrow points at the world. | 3: How can we help other countries with gender equality? |
| Woman smiling and holding 1 finger up. | 4: What else do we need to think about in the strategy? |
|  | You do not need to answer every question. |
| World, question mark and hand writing in a notebook. | You might just also share your thoughts about:   * Better ways of working * How to help one country * One particular idea, such as how we buy and sell products from other countries. |

## How to make a submission

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Send your submission to us by Monday, 18 September, 2023. |
| email icon  letter icon  video icon  sound icon | Your submission can be:   * An email * A letter * A video * Audio or a recording of your voice. |
| A mouse cursor and arrow pointing to a link | Please send us a link to your video or audio file.  You can send the link by email or letter. |
| A person reading an Easy Read document. | [Read more](#_Using_and_Sending) about sharing video and audio files with us [later in this document](#_Using_and_Sending). |
| email icon | Send your email to:  [Gender.equality@dfat.gov.au](mailto:Gender.equality@dfat.gov.au) |
|  | If you write a letter it must be 5 pages or less. |
| Front of an envelope with address and stamp. | Send your letter to:  Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion Branch  Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  RG Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent  Barton ACT 0221  Australia |
| Woman smiling and holding 1 finger up. | We want everyone to be able to make a submission. You can email us if you:   * Have questions about your submission * Have any accessibility needs or accommodations |
| Icons representing Auslan, Easy Read, Disability Access and the World Wide Web. | Accessibility is when everyone can use and understand something. |
| Stairs with arrow pointing at a ramp. Stack of pages with arrow pointing at an Easy Read document. | Accommodations are changes made so something is more accessible. |

## Privacy of your submission

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Woman holding 1 finger to her lips to say shush. | **Privacy** is when something is private.  That means only some people can know it. |
| A group of people walking on a Sydney street. | Submissions are **public**.  That means anyone can read your submission.  Everyone can know what you say. |
| Laptop with internet icon. | It will be on [our website](https://www.dfat.gov.au/). |
| A magnifying glass with info sign | This includes any personal information you include. |
| People walking with a red cross over them. | You can ask us to keep parts of your submission **confidential**. |
| Woman holding 1 finger to her lips to say shush. | Confidential means that we will keep it more private: |
| DFAT logo with large tick | * People working in our team can see it |
| Laptop with internet icon with large cross over the top. | * People in the public cannot see it. * It is not on our website. |
| 2 documents. 1 marked public with a tick and the other marked confidential with a cross. | If you want to include confidential information you should:   * Put it in a different document * Make it easy to see which document is confidential. |
| Laptop with DFAT logo and a large tick | When you send your submission you are agreeing we can use it. |

## Do not include in your submission

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Document with red comments and crossed on it. | We will not change your submission. |
|  | We will not publish submissions which include: |
| Speech bubble with swearing icons and hand with middle finger up. Large red cross over both. | * Anything offensive   This means it might upset someone else. |
| Group of girls with tick. 1 girl segregated from the others with a red cross over them. | * Any **discrimination**   Discrimination is when you are treated badly  because of something different about you. |
|  | This might be because of your gender, disability, religion or more. |
| 2 police officers with large red cross. | * Anything **illegal**   Illegal is when something breaks the law. |
| Sad person. Behind them is a group of people saying bad things about them. | * Any **defamation**   When you include information, photos or more that might hurt someone’s **reputation**. |
| Happy person. Behind them is a group of people saying goodthings about them. | Your reputation is what other people think about you. |
| Icons of swearing with a large cross over them. | * Any **threatening or aggressive language**   This includes abuse, talking about hurting others, swearing and more. |
| Laptop with DFAT logo on screen. | Read more about this [on our website](https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/about-this-website/Pages/disclaimer). |

## Using and Sending Video and Audio

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| A stopwatch showing 10 minutes. | Video and audio must be 10 minutes or shorter. |
| film with an arrow pointing to a computer screen with icons for video and audio sites. | Upload your video or audio to a site like:   * YouTube * Vimeo * SoundCloud |
| A name tag with 'First name' and 'Last name'. | Use your first and last name in the name of the file. |
| Large eye with a green check mark | Make sure your file:   * Is public * Can be seen by anyone. |
| A red lock with eye and a cross | You can add a password to your file.  That will make it more private.  The password must be: IGES2023. |
| A red arrow pointing to a button saying share. | Click on ‘Share’ to get the right link to send to us.  Do not use the link in the address bar. |
| icon for a link points at icons for a letter and an email. | Send the link to us [by email](mailto:gender.equality@dfat.gov.au) or letter.  Let us know if you have added a password. |

# Word List

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| Icons representing Auslan, Easy Read, Disability Access and the World Wide Web. | **Accessibility**  Accessibility is when everyone can use and understand something. |
| Stairs with arrow pointing at a ramp. Stack of pages with arrow pointing at an Easy Read document. | Accommodations  Changes made so something is more accessible. |
| People walking with a red cross over them. | **Confidential**  Confidential means that we will keep it private:  ● People working in our team can see it  ● People in the public cannot see it.  ● It is not on our website. |
| Sad person. Behind them is a group of people saying bad things about them. | **Defamation**  When you include information, photos or more that might hurt someone’s **reputation**. |
| Group of girls with tick. 1 girl segregated from the others with a red cross over them. | Discrimination  Discrimination is when you are treated badly because of something different about you.  This might be because of your gender, disability, religion or more. |
| Icon for Easy Read - from The Easy Read Toolbox. | **Easy Read**  A document written in an easy to read way. |
| Bottom row is scales with 3 figures on them - icons for man, woman and both. | Equality  Equality is when different things are as important as each other. |
| A red check mark in a circle. | Essential  Essential is when something is very important.  It is so important it must be included. |
| Top row is various symbols for gender. Bottom row is 3 - icons for man, woman and a mix of genders. | Gender  People say what gender they are. They might be:   * A man * A woman * A different gender * No gender. |
| 2 police officers with large red cross. | **Illegal**  Illegal is when something breaks the law. |
| Speech bubble with swearing icons and hand with middle finger up. Large red cross over both. | Offensive  This means it might upset someone else. |
| Woman holding 1 finger to her lips to say shush. | Privacy  This is when something is private.  That means only some people can know it. |
| A group of people walking on a Sydney street. | Public  That means anyone can read your submission.  Everyone can know what you say. |
| Happy person. Behind them is a group of people saying goodthings about them. | Reputation  Your reputation is what other people think about you. |
| Arrows point from a sad face, to a checklist, to a happy face. | Strategy  A strategy says how we will change things.  We want to know what people think of our strategy. |
| Woman smiling and holding 1 finger up. | Submission  A submission is when you:   * Tell us what you think * Send your thoughts to us. |
| Icons of swearing with a large cross over them. | Threatening or aggressive language  This includes abuse, talking about hurting others, swearing and more. |

Easy Read document written by Karen Hedley, Kathryn Carter, [The Easy Read Toolbox](https://www.easyreadtoolbox.info/) for DFAT including images and text.

Cover image by Cassandra Hannagan for The Easy Read Toolbox.