

Gender Impact Assessment

Swedish municipalities (SALAR)

Context

Model

Actors involved

Guidelines

Strengths and weaknesses

Context

SALAR is the [Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions](#). It supports the work on gender mainstreaming in municipalities and county councils.

It represents the governmental, professional and employer-related interests of Sweden's 290 municipalities, 18 county councils and 2 regions. In order to contribute to the improvement of Swedish municipalities, county councils and regions with regard to their functions as employers, service providers, supervisory authorities and community developers, SALAR works proactively with the Swedish government as well as European institutions.

The association is a member of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). It is considered one of the strongest associations of its kind. This is due to a long tradition of decentralisation and recognition of the local political level in the Swedish constitution, which entails the attribution of significant responsibilities and functions to deliver welfare services.

Between 2008 and 2013, SALAR ran a large-scale programme for gender mainstreaming. Its aim was to help its members provide services of equal worth to girls and boys, women and men, and to ensure an equal distribution of resources regardless of sex.

The programme was funded by the Swedish government and participating organisations could apply to SALAR for grants to finance local development projects. SALAR arranged workshops, seminars and conferences to exchange experiences and developed a number of tools and materials to support work on gender mainstreaming.