2. The Basic Act for Gender-Equal Society (Promulgated and Enacted on 23 June, 1999)

The Basic Act lays out the five pillars (basic principles) relating to the formation of a gender-equal society. It also clarifies the roles of the public administration (the national and local governments) and citizens.

### Basic Principles: Five (5) Pillars in Regard to the Formation of a Gender Equal Society

1. Respect for the human rights of women and men
   - It is necessary to ensure a society in which everyone respects the dignity of women and men as individuals, where there is no gender-based discriminatory treatment, and where women and men can demonstrate their abilities as individuals.

2. Consideration of society systems or practices
   - Mutual cooperation with other countries and international organizations is required.
   - It is necessary to examine social systems and practices so that women and men can engage in various activities.

3. Joint participation in planning and deciding policies, etc.
   - It is necessary to ensure opportunities for participation in deciding policies in all fields.
   - It is necessary to ensure that people can fulfill their family roles while also working, learning and participating in community activities.

4. Compatibility of activities in family life and other activities

5. International cooperation
   - It is necessary to ensure a society in which everyone respects the dignity of women and men as individuals, where there is no gender-based discriminatory treatment, and where women and men can demonstrate their abilities as individuals.

### Roles of the National Government, Local Governments, and Citizens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsibilities of the National Government</th>
<th>Responsibilities of Local Governments</th>
<th>Responsibilities of Citizens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Formulation of the Basic Plan for Gender Equality pursuant to the basic principles</td>
<td>- Implementation of policies related to promoting the formation of a gender-equal society pursuant to the basic principles</td>
<td>- Expected to contribute to the formation of a gender-equal society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Comprehensive formulation and implementation of policies related to promoting the formation of a gender-equal society, including Positive Action/Temporary Special Measures</td>
<td>- Implementation of other policies in accordance with the nature of the areas of local governments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>