GENDER-NET is the first European Research Area Network dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the integration of the gender dimension in research contents and programmes. This pilot transnational research policy initiative will allow for a global vision of best practices and conditions for success, innovative assessment and knowledge-transfer methods, as well as concrete engagement of partners towards joint implementation, thus breaking new ground at EU-level and contributing to the realisation of the ERA.

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GENDER-NET is funded through the European Commission’s FP7 Science in Society 2013 Work Programme (SiS–2013–2.1.1-2: ERA-NET on the promotion of gender equality in research institutions)

Start Date: October 15, 2013

Project Duration: 3 years

www.gender-net.eu
Despite increasing numbers of solid indicators, extensive research, policy initiatives and wide awareness-raising on the issues linked to gender and science, the European Research Area still faces structural obstacles within its research institutions. This prevents the ERA from reaching its objectives of the full participation of women in research and innovation at all levels (more than 50% of PhD graduates are women, but less than 20% of women are in Grade A positions) and of integrating the gender dimension in research and innovation content, thus hindering research quality and full potential for innovation.

**GENDER-NET Aims**

- Foster cooperation and coordination of programmes and initiatives carried out at national or regional level in Member States, associated countries, and some partner countries.
- Address the common challenges still present in research institutions in achieving gender equality in research and innovation.
- Help reach a critical mass of universities and research institutions across Europe engaged in specific initiatives which promote gender equality and the integration of the gender dimension in research content.
- Support coherent monitoring and reporting of progress made with common indicators to assess achievements.

**GENDER-NET Consortium**

13 National Programme Owners from 12 countries with synergistic expertise in gender and science issues.

**Partners**

1. Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) France (Coordinator)
2. Ministère de l’Éducation Nationale, de l’Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche (MENESR) France
3. Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO) Spain
4. Research Council of Norway (RCN) Norway
5. Department of Economy, Education & Research of Swiss Confederation (WBF) Switzerland
6. Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) United Kingdom
7. Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Canada
8. Irish Research Council /Higher Education Authority (HEA) Ireland
9. Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique (FNRS) Belgium
10. Research Promotion Foundation (RPF) Cyprus
11. Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MESS) Slovenia
12. National Academy of Sciences (NAS) USA

**New Partner**

13. Ministry of Science, Technology and Space of the State of Israel (MOST) Israel

**Observers**

- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Germany
- Dual Career Netzwerk Deutschland (DCND) Germany
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Canada
- Austrian Science Fund (FWF) Austria
- Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG) Austria
- Committee for Gender Balance and Diversity in Research (Kif) Norway
- National Science Foundation (NSF) USA
- Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA ČR) Czech Republic
- Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (MESC) Iceland
- NordForsk

**Expert Advisory Board**

An international group of experts provides advice and assesses progress in the project.

**GENDER-NET Strategy**

Partners are joining forces to:

- Promoting gender equality in research and higher education institutions through structural change
- Promoting the integration of sex/gender analysis in research contents and programmes

**Map & analyse existing national/regional programmes and initiatives aimed at:**

- Design and optimise transnational transferability
- Implement these selected joint activities
- Identify priority activities for strategic transnational implementation
- E.g.
  - Joint gender equality training schemes
  - Criteria for joint Award/incentive on gender equality/gendered research for institutions
  - Joint strategy for gendering research contents
  - Possible joint pilot interdisciplinary research calls

**Rationale**

Despite increasing numbers of solid indicators, extensive research, policy initiatives and wide awareness-raising on the issues linked to gender and science, the European Research Area still faces structural obstacles within its research institutions. This prevents the ERA from reaching its objectives of the full participation of women in research and innovation at all levels (more than 50% of PhD graduates are women, but less than 20% of women are in Grade A positions) and of integrating the gender dimension in research and innovation content, thus hindering research quality and full potential for innovation.