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 (ERA) 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.

Aims of the GENDER-NET ERA-NET
- Engaging EU Member states and Associated countries into globally modernising their institutions through structural change, by developing and implementing gender equality plans or equivalent initiatives, and consequently improving the recruitment and career paths of female scientists as well as the working conditions of both women and men;
- Ensuring scientific excellence, stimulating new knowledge and technological innovations, by improving the integration of gender analysis into all phases of basic and applied research;
- Supporting coherent monitoring and reporting of progress made with common indicators to assess achievements;
- Reducing fragmentation across the ERA by helping reach a critical mass of research organisations and universities across Europe.

GENDER-NET Strategy
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.

Partners are joining forces to:
- Promoting gender equality in research and higher education institutions through structural change
- Identifying priority activities for strategizing, transnational implementation
- Disseminating results broadly
- Widening the consortium by integrating new partners and observers along the way
- Expanding outcomes by relying on shared expertise and insight gained by participants and by liaising with related groups and initiatives
- Joint strategy for gendering research contents and programmes
- Criteria for joint Award/incentive on gender equality/gendered research for institutions
- Possible joint pilot inter-disciplinary research calls
- Possible joint gender equality training schemes
- Joint gender equality learning schemas
- Joint activities for strategic implementation
- Implement joint activities

GENDER-NET Consortium
13 National Research Programme Owners and Program Managers 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 Forschungs gemeinschaft (DFG) Germany
- Dual Career Network Deutschland (DCND) Germany
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Canada
- Austrian Science Fund (FWF) Austria
- Australian Research Promotion Agency (ARPA) Australia
- Committee for Gender Balance and Diversity in Research (KfW) Norway
- National Science Foundation (NSF) USA
- Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA ČR) Czech Republic
- Ministry of Education, Science and Culture (MIES) Iceland
- NordForsk

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

For more information:
Dr. Anne Pépin (Project Coordinator) - Director of the Mission for the Place of Women at CNRS, France
E-mail: anne.pepin@cnrs-dir.fr
Website: www.gender-net.eu