



The Gender Dimension in European Research

Introduction and Background of the Conference



Topics

1. About us and background of the conference
2. Why do we deal with "gender dimension"?
3. What are "gender dimensions"?
4. Development of gender dimensions in EU-research policy – focusing on Framework 6 and Gender Action Plans
5. Outlook: Horizon 2020



Gender Mainstreaming Experts International

www.gmei.eu

Buchinger, Birgit
Derichs-Kunstmann, Karin
Enders-Drägässer, Uta
Erbe, Birgit
Färber, Christine
Frey, Regina
Gumpert, Heike
Kamphans, Marion
Kaschuba, Gerrit
Kletzing, Uta
Knoll, Bente
Kuhl, Mara
Küng, Zita
Mänz, Heike
Meseke, Henriette
Metz-Göckel, Sigrid
Parlar, Renée
Pimminger, Irene
Schacherl, Ingrid
Schambach, Gabriele
Schilling, Elke
Schnier, Victoria
Schreyögg, Friedel
Schulz-Müller, Ilona
Sellach, Brigitte
Spangenberg, Ulrike
Stiefel, Elisabeth
Stiegler, Barbara
Szalai, Elke
Wrangell, Ute von



The Gender Dimension in European Research

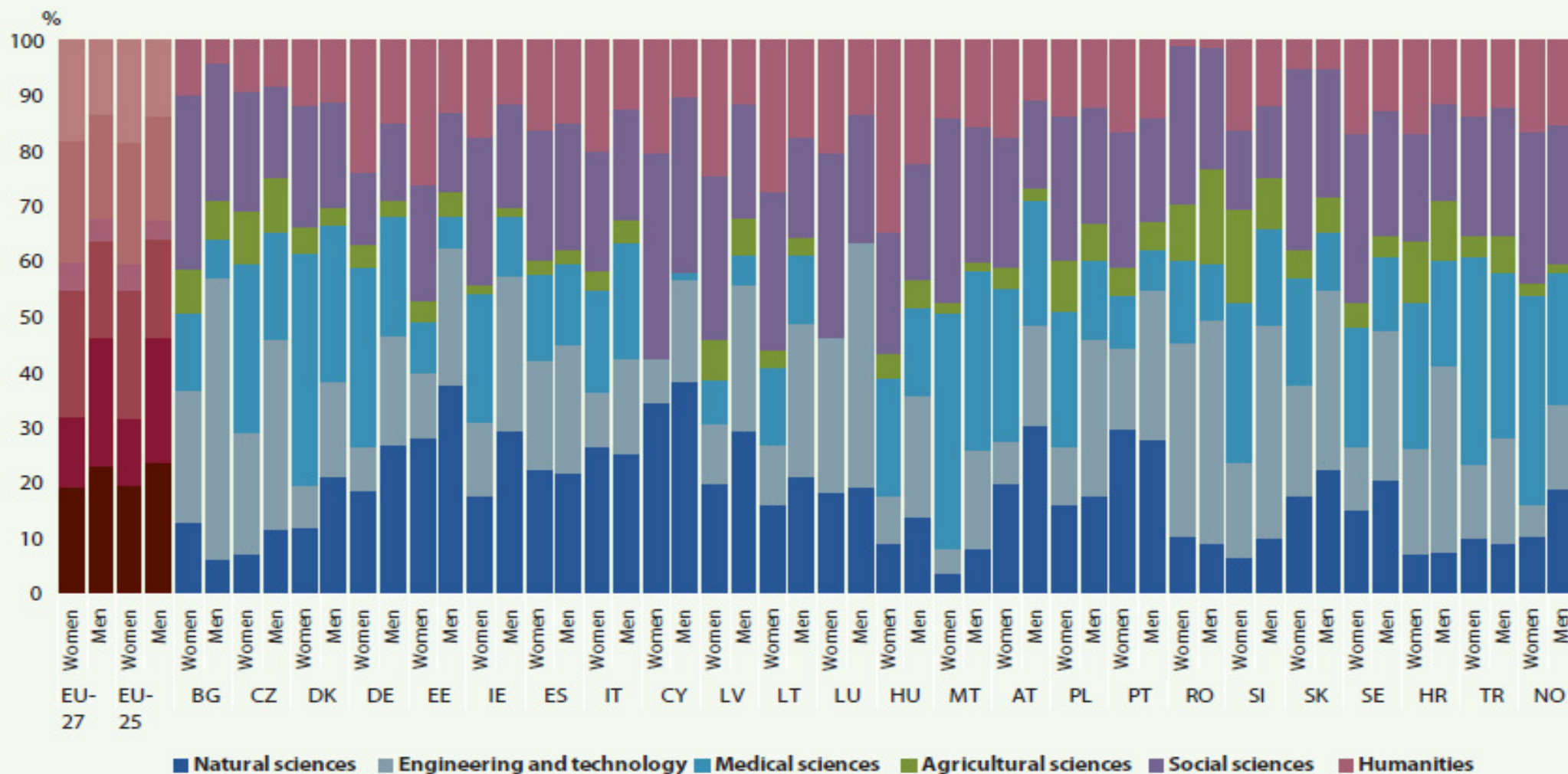
Introduction and Background of the Conference



Why "gender dimension"?

Women are a numeric minority in science and research – especially in technology/engineering

Figure 2.4: Distribution of researchers in the Higher Education Sector (HES) across fields of science, 2006



Source: S&T statistics (Eurostat), Norwegian Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education, WIS database for Sweden (DG Research)

Exceptions to the reference year: CZ, EE, MT, SK, SE, NO: 2007; LU, PT: 2005

Data unavailable: BE, EL, FR, NL, FI, UK, IS, CH, IL

Provisional data: MT (2007)

Data estimated: EU-27, EU-25 (by DG Research)

Head count



Why "gender dimension"?

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Working culture: Long working hours without household responsibilities

Current situation: Gender blindness in research still prevalent

Gender dimensions: an overview

Equality regarding number of actors

Gender related knowledge and gender competence as important skills for researchers

Equal opportunities for men and women: without stereotyping gender roles

Balanced working culture

Gender Mainstreaming in research organisations

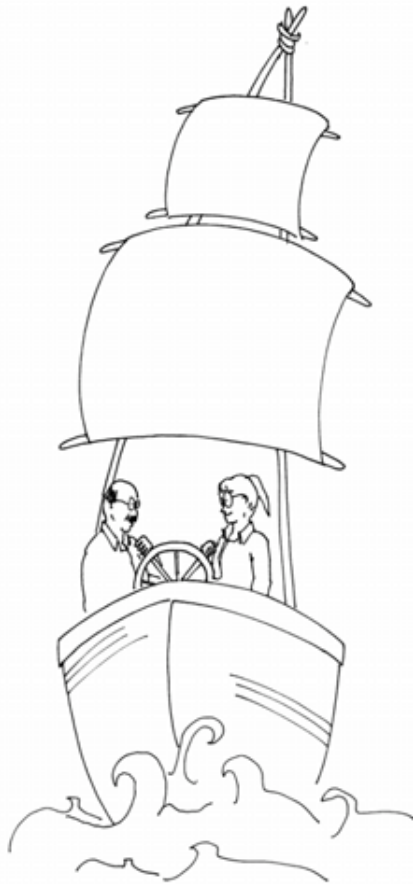
Integrating gender dimension in research content

Gender impact assessments



Development of the gender dimension in EU-research policy

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"Towards a new quality of science"

Since the 1970s feminist researchers have been discussing gender dimension in science

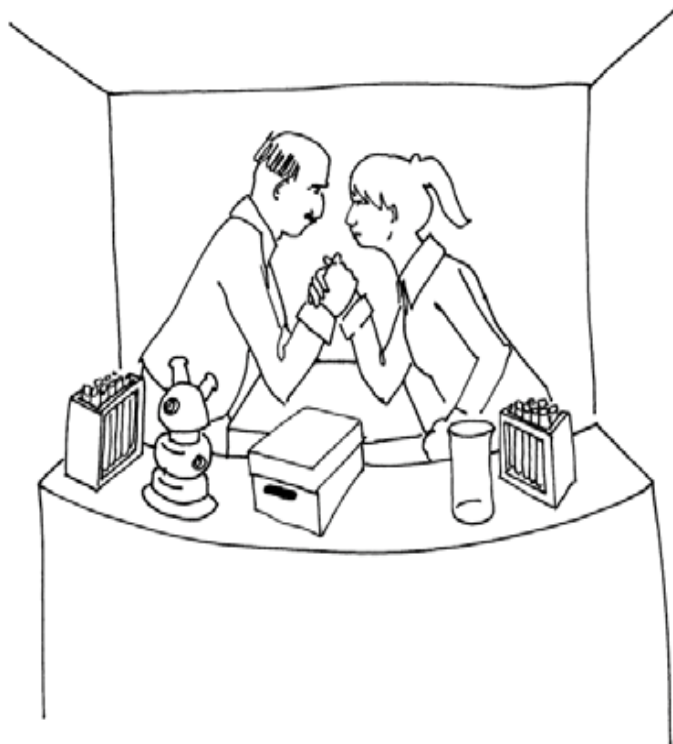
1999 – gender dimension became central for research & science policies in EU (start of the Gender Mainstreaming strategy)

2001 – European Commission established the 'Women in Science' unit - now named 'Scientific Culture and Gender Issues'

2007 – European Institute for Gender Equality established

Gender Action Plan (GAP) implemented in the 6th Framework Programme (FP6)

Gender Action Plan - GAP



"Good Practice under FP6"

GAPs included specific activities designed to;

- address the balance in participation of men and women
- promote gender equality throughout the project
- address the gender dimension of the research content

Evaluators were asked to ascertain whether there was a gender equality aspect in a project/proposal, and, if so, was it being adequately addressed.

Effects of the GAPs – The Synthesis Report

"GAPs should be continued"

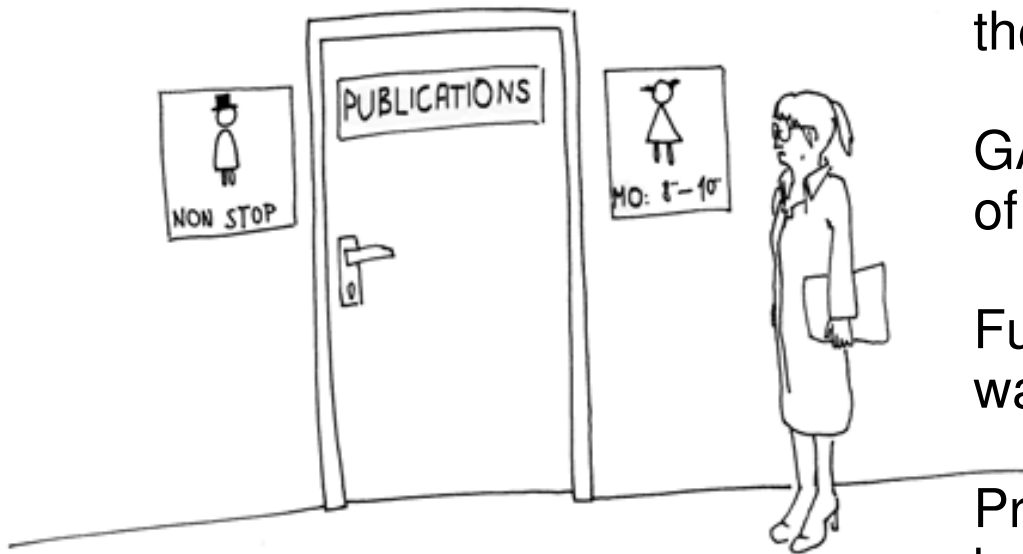
Assessment of GAPs should become one of the evaluation criteria

GAPs should be introduced at an early stage of project design

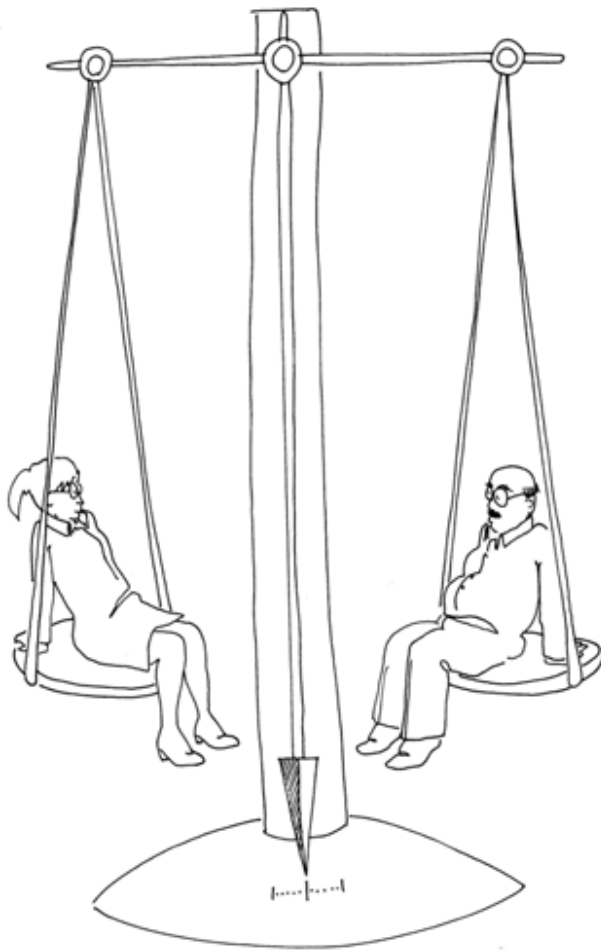
Further information and guidelines on practical ways of completing GAPs should be provided

Projects should be encouraged to assign budgets to GAPs

Progress with GAPs should be formally monitored and results effectively used



Horizon 2020: Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)



Green Paper Q 24: What actions should be taken at EU level to further strengthen the role of women in science and innovation?

Recommmodation of the FFG:

Gender aspects and the role of women in research and innovation have to be addressed seriously with **practical and concrete measures (e.g. awareness toolkits, quotas, evaluation criteria, etc.)**

Activities that are currently funded under "Science in Society" (in particular gender and research, public engagement in research, science communication, etc.) should be continued as a horizontal issue and with a dedicated budget within the Societal Challenges.

Thank you for your attention!



office@knollszalai.at



office@ingrid-schacherl.net