



**BRIDGES BETWEEN DISCIPLINES:  
GENDER IN STEM AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Online and Onsite  
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### **Bridging the Fields: gendering a Fundamental Research Project**

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In the last few decades, addressing issues of gender balance and equal opportunities among project team members or participants in events organised by the projects has become increasingly widespread and is generally accepted and implemented. However, integrating the gender dimension into research and innovation refers to another set of activities, adopting sex and/or gender analysis through the entire R&I cycle. Indeed, the cycle starts by setting research priorities, defining concepts, formulating research questions, developing methodologies, gathering and analysing sex/gender-disaggregated data, evaluating and reporting results and finally transferring them to markets into products and innovations that will ultimately benefit all citizens and promote gender equality.

In some research fields, while respecting gender balance is accepted, adopting other strategies is still seen as impossible, off-topic, not applicable to specific content and not pertinent to research projects based on hard sciences.

There is currently no accepted idea of how a diversity and gender perspective can be utilised in vast areas of STEM disciplines. Resistance to incorporating a gendered perspective is often formulated by referring to a simplistic vision related to the lack of sex or gender of the object of study.

This paper focuses on an experience within an ongoing Horizon Europe fundamental research project focused on microfabrication, magnetism, electroplating, photovoltaics, and related subjects.

Several steps are planned throughout the project's duration (4 years): from the initial inclusion in the proposal of specific activities connected to gender-related topics to the participation in the kick-off

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*General Session: Taking action for a better  
Science: plans, platforms, tools and prototypes*

meeting of experts in gender studies, the integration into the Communication and dissemination plan of specific strategies and references and the planned collection and analysis of disaggregated data about the citizens participating in the outreach tasks organised at Science Festivals.

The experience creates fruitful and positive cross-fertilisation between STEM and Social Sciences, particularly gender and diversity studies. It seeks to represent a possible prototype to be replicated in those projects directly arising from STEM domains, where interdisciplinary exchange and ad hoc actions contributing to closing the gender bias could benefit the research community.