How the State Research Agency (AEI) in Spain supports the integration of sex/gender analysis into research

Ana Puy
Women & Science Unit [Unidad Mujeres y Ciencia] (umyc@ciencia.gob.es)
Cabinet of the State Secretariat for Universities, Research, Development & Innovation
Ministry of Science, Innovation & Universities

GENDERACTION Training Event for policy makers ‘Enhancing Gender Equality and the Gender Dimension in Research and Innovation’

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Outline

I. Spanish legal and strategic framework for Integrating Gender Analysis into Research (IGAR)

II. Other drivers facilitating IGAR at the Spanish Research Agency (AEI)

III. Concrete IGAR actions set up by AEI through its funding schemes for RDI projects
I. Spanish legal and strategic framework for IGAR
Spain developed a pioneer legal basis for gender mainstreaming in R&I at national level

Legal basis:

- Science, Technology & Innovation Law (14/2011)

Followed by a policy basis:

- Spanish Strategy for Science, Technology & Innovation 2013-2020
- Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities 2014-2016 (PEIO)
And we have further advanced that strategic policy basis at national level
ES NAP for the ERA Roadmap 2016-2020: 2 main aims for Priority 4 at national level

1) Review and adaptation of procedures and criteria used in public calls for proposals for RDI funding…

- to avoid gender bias and achieve greater gender balance
- to improve the integration of the gender dimension into the to-be-funded proposals

2) Developing guidelines, promoting best practices and training…

- to improve the implementation of gender equality policies in public research centres and RDI funding agencies, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of such policies
ES NAP for the ERA Roadmap 2016-2020: Some measures under objective 1 for Priority 4

- To update and include **new criteria** on IGAR in RDI grants for projects

- To improve **criteria and requirements for scientific panels composition**

- To update **female/gender experts** in (inter)national databases

- To include **selection criteria for RDI calls** such as **ranking factors to promote gender equality in teams, institutions and in the content of proposals**
ES NAP for the ERA Roadmap 2016-2020:
Indicators for the monitoring of Priority 4

SNAPSHOT INDICATOR (EUROPEAN ROADMAP):
• Percentage of women grade A staff in academic positions

NATIONAL INDICATORS:
• Share of women participating in R&D evaluation panels (40-60%)
• Share of universities and Public Research Organizations which have adopted Gender Equality Plans
• Percentage of funds in R&I granted projects that include the gender dimension as a cross-cutting issue
Incorporation of the 4th ERA priority into the State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation 2017-2020 (inter alia)

- One of the aims of this State Plan is:
  - To promote an Open and Responsible model of Science and Innovation [including gender equality and gender mainstreaming]

- In the Funding Programme for Societal Challenges:
  - The appropriate cross-cutting integration of sex/gender analysis into R&I content is a main objective
  - Gender studies is an specific R&I field within SC-6 (Social Sciences and Humanities and SCs) besides the cross-cutting integration of sex/gender analysis in all the SCs.
Incorporation of the 4th ERA priority into the II NAP on Women, Peace and Security 2017-2023

Measure 1.5

Incorporation of the gender dimension into Spanish International Cooperation on STI

To promote:

- Gender balance in the participation of women and men,
- as well as the integration of sex/gender analysis into the content of programmes, projects and measures
II. Other drivers facilitating IGAR at AEI
The Women & Science Unit (UMyC), set up at the State Secretary since 2006, is a supporting actor for gender mainstreaming in R&I.

The UMyC mission is to promote:

- Equal participation of women and men in all areas of STI
- Integration of sex/gender analysis as a cross-cutting issue in
  - scientific research
  - technological development and innovation
- Specific research in the field of gender and women studies
AEI is developing its own gender equality structures and policy

- The AEI Statute (2015) established **Gender Equality as a basic principle** (1 out of 8)

- In the **framework of the H2020 SUPERA project 2018-2022**:
  - **A Strategic Group on Gender Equality at AEI (GEI-AEI)** has been established with representatives of every area (2018)
  
  - to design a Gender Equality Plan on AEI funding activities
Observatory on Women, Science & Innovation (OMCI) for Gender Equality in the Spanish System of STI, set up since 2019

- New inter-ministerial structure improving coordination at the highest level (including the Director of AEI): monitoring, evaluation & proposal functions

- AEI senior officers will also participate in at least 2 of the upcoming OMCI Working Committees:
  
  ✓ Integration of the gender dimension in accreditation agencies, in R&I funding and in R&I content.

  ✓ Incorporation of the gender dimension into the new STI Strategy and into International Cooperation on STI
UMyC participation in GENDER-NET ERA-Net 2013-16 (FP7)

UMyC and/or AEI participation in H2020 gender projects

13 transnational projects
Selected
Involving 51 partners
Across 13 countries

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.
III. Concrete IGAR actions set up by AEI through its funding schemes for RDI projects
Promoting gender-specific and gender cross-cutting projects

**FEM field** *(Feminist, women and gender studies, thematic subarea in AEI funding schemes for RDI projects since 2009)*

**Gender Impact cross-cutting question**, mandatory in the online application forms:

- **Earlier version (2013):** *If your project investigates human beings, do you think the gender (men/women) of the subjects analyzed can impact the research results?* YES/NO

- **Updated in 2019:** *Does the project design take into account possible biological/socio-cultural differences/similarities between women and men, either because the research directly involves human beings or because the project applications will be used by people?* YES/NO [Explain why] [If YES, explain how sex/gender analysis is integrated into the phases of this research]
Promoting IGAR in scientific evaluation panels beyond including more gender experts in the AEI database

Information note to facilitate the evaluation of IGAR (UMyC, 2016 & 2017)
Incorporating specific evaluation criteria on IGAR through new legal basis for calls for proposals since 2019

- An IGAR sub-criterion included within the social and economic impact of the project proposal.

- A criterion in the funding scheme for Strengthening Research Performing Organizations (RPOs), aimed at providing incentives to applicant institutions (RPOs) that have adopted institutional measures to promote IGAR where appropriate.

- The upcoming legal basis for 2019 calls for pre- and post-doctoral grants have a new criterion to assess Gender Equality in the applicant RPO, including (inter alia) a sub-criterion on institutional measures to promote IGAR where appropriate.
IGAR monitoring indicators have been progressively incorporated, such as:

- Number and percentage of gender-specific funded projects

- Success rate of gender specific calls compared to all calls for project proposals

- Number and success rate of project proposals which include sex/gender analysis

- Amount and percentage of funding dedicated to gender specific calls

- Amount and percentage of funding dedicated to projects which include sex/gender analysis
4 co-funded projects directly involving AEI funds out of the 13 projects co-funded by the ERA-Net Cofund GENDER-NET Plus 2017-2022...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>GENDER-NET Plus Project title</th>
<th>University / Role</th>
<th>Topic/SDG</th>
<th>Countries involved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MASCAGE</strong></td>
<td>Gendering Age: Representations of Masculinities and Ageing in Contemporary European Literatures and Cinemas.</td>
<td>University of Castilla-La Mancha Coordinator (Man PI)</td>
<td>SDG5 + SDG3- Good Health and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Austria, Estonia, Ireland, Israel, Spain, Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GENPATH</strong></td>
<td>A life course perspective on the GENDERed PATHways of exclusion from social relations in later life, and its consequences for health and wellbeing.</td>
<td>University of Barcelona Partner (Man PI)</td>
<td>SDG5 + SDG3- Good Health and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Austria, Czech Rep., Ireland, Israel, Norway, Spain, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>POSITIVMASC</strong></td>
<td>Masculinities and violence against women among young people: Identifying discourses and developing strategies for change using a mixed method approach.</td>
<td>University of Alicante Partner (Woman PI)</td>
<td>SDG5 + SDG3- Good Health and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Ireland, Israel, Spain, Sweden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEQUAL</strong></td>
<td>Social-ecological relations and gender equality: Dynamics and processes for transformational change across scales.</td>
<td>University of Vic Partner (Woman PI)</td>
<td>SDG5 + SDG 13 Climate Action</td>
<td>Norway, Spain, Sweden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IGAR monitoring indicators to follow-up co-funded projects have been developed through GENDER-NET Plus WP4:

- Gender experts in the research team (no./% w/m/other)

- Members of the research team who have received training on IGAR (no./% w/m/other)

- Data collection tools capture information relevant to sex/gender

- The selected variables highlight the relationship between the SDG issue studied and gender factors

- The project brings out differences/inequalities between women and men in the field (if any and/or shows there are none)
Thank you very much for your attention!

For further information:

http://www.ciencia.gob.es/portal/site/MICINN/UMyC

umyc@ciencia.gob.es