

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY: HIGHER EDUCATION (SCENARIO 1)

Background and Introduction

The STAND-EQUAL Final Report is fairly generic, repeating many of the original commitments towards innovation and confirming that all planned objectives were achieved in relation to: investigating and reporting on how gender equality is addressed in existing national and European quality standards for higher education; developing gender equality guidelines to support Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in effectively addressing gender equality; developing a digital badging system, award processes and criteria as well as a Gender Equality Alliance to reward excellent or outstanding practice via digital badges.

Results

The STAND-EQUAL Final Report states that all planned activities were delivered with minimal changes, and all results achieved: [see summary table overleaf](#).

Partner Engagement and Cooperation

The STAND-EQUAL Final Report confirms that all partners were active, and that individual partner contributions were very much 'as planned' in delivering the planned tasks and outputs. One high-level staff member from each organisation was engaged in the Steering Committee, which came together in virtual and face-to-face meetings. Virtual partner meetings (20) were normally held each month but with some exceptions during holiday periods. Face-to-face meetings (3) were held in M4, M15 and M23. Meeting attendance levels averaged 80% across all partner organisations. Basecamp was used between meetings for continued partner exchange.

Impact

The STAND-EQUAL Final Report confirms that all performance indicators were met or surpassed, including:

- Extended Consultation: 10 events; 4 countries; 210 participants
- Mapping and Internal/External Validation: 2 events involving participants from 5 countries; 26 participants
- Transnational Partner Meetings: 3 meetings, 80% average attendance
- Dissemination Workshops: total of 12 events engaging 580 participants in total; 121% of initial target; 73% feedback; 77% average satisfaction
- Multi-actor Guidelines: Multi-actor and multi-language guidelines; single or multiple page PDFs covering 5 languages (EN-SV-LV-ES-BG)
- Digital Media: 7 video content files in each of 5 languages (EN-SV-LV-ES-BG)
- Gender Equality Alliance: 1 informal alliance including Memorandum of Understanding with 5 online meetings held
- Digital Badging: 1 technical and costing report; badging platform selected and tested; quality review criteria agreed among partners.

Sharing and Promotion

The STAND-EQUAL Final Report confirms that all planned activities/tools/channels were used to actively engage and inform key stakeholders via a process of continuous promotion, including: dedicated website; partners' social media profiles, dissemination and validation events, and relevant digital publications.

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WP1: Project Management (€50,000)

Actions were delivered 'as planned' and included regular meetings of the STEERING COMMITTEE (reviewing progress, sharing experience, planning future actions), QUALITY ASSURANCE (internal peer review of emerging products; external evaluation of processes, partnership contributions and outputs; validation involving quality standards agencies), BUDGET MANAGEMENT (six-monthly reporting on budget consumption and time spent on project) and RISK MANAGEMENT (review of emerging risks during partner meetings; agreement on risk management or prevention actions). Satisfaction score: 10.

WP2: Mapping Gender Equality Measures and National and European Quality Standards (€65,000)

Actions were delivered 'mostly as planned' including: Consultation of Key Stakeholders through 10 focus groups in 5 partner countries (210 participants) helping to document the state-of-development and implementation of gender equality measures for students and staff; Mapping Gender Equality Measures to National and European Quality Standards plus Focus Groups for Internal/External Validation involving national and European quality standards agencies from 7 different countries (12 participants in focus group 1; 14 participants in focus group 2); hosting of first partner meeting to agree on stakeholder engagement and research plans; Dissemination Workshops engaging 142 key stakeholders in 4 national (virtual and streamed) events. Satisfaction score: 10.

WP3: Digital Guidelines and Mixed Media Resources for Improving and Enhancing Gender Equality in HEIs (€80,000)

Actions were delivered 'mostly as planned' including: Partner Collaboration and Co-creation of Curriculum and Digital Learning Content (range of PDF Guidelines in EN and four additional partner languages); Video Storyboards and Filming of Videos (7 videos in EN and four additional partner languages: SV/LV/ES/BG); hosting of a second partner meeting to review findings and agree on content for guidelines and videos. Dissemination Workshops engaging 263 key stakeholders in 4 national (virtual and streamed) events. Satisfaction score: 10.

WP4: Gender Equality Alliance and Digital Badges for Recognising Excellence (€55,000)

Actions were delivered 'mostly as planned' including: Creation and Operationalisation of Alliance, which was eventually agreed to be an informal alliance of project partners with a rolling Chair and Secretary, relying on a signed Memorandum of Understanding from all partner institutions to confirm the goals and functionalities of the alliance, as well as confirming key roles and responsibilities for individual alliance members, and options for future expansion; Technical and Cost Overview of Digital Badging Options were circulated to all partners to agree on the most appropriate choice of digital badge platform and provider; Selection Criteria were also discussed and agreed among partners (in a series of 5 online meetings) to facilitate future digital badge awards. A final project meeting allowed progress to be reviewed and continuing promotion and alliance/digital badging responsibilities to be solidified. Dissemination Workshops engaging 175 key stakeholders in 4 national (virtual and streamed) events and promoting final project achievements. Satisfaction score: 10.