

# Gender Equality Matters – Tackling Gender Stereotyping, Gender-based Bullying and Gender-Based Violence



## Into the last stretch

We are now well into the second year of the Gender Equality Matters project. The objectives of GEM are to raise awareness, change attitudes and to promote behaviour changes and aims to tackle gender stereotyping, gender-based bullying and gender-based violence. The target groups are school-aged children, parents, teachers and school heads. When working together all targets groups will have the potential to challenge attitudes, values and behaviours across school systems, school surroundings, families and local communities.

The GEM-partnership is between Dublin City University (DCU - Ireland), Social Action and Innovation Center (KMOP - Greece), Research Group in Educational Technology/University of Murcia (GITE - Spain) and Fondazione Mondo Digitale (FMD - Italy) and the European School Heads Association (ESHA).

In this newsletter we present to you the latest news about the activities over the past 6 months and we will be looking forward into the future, most importantly the GEM conference in Dublin on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of June.



## General Update

Lesson materials for primary and secondary education and training materials for teachers, parents and trainers have been written and are being tested in Ireland, Greece, Spain and Italy. All partners are in the middle of organising training and dissemination events. Please feel free to have a look at all free materials that have been uploaded onto the GEM website. In particular the multimedia resources on <https://www.genderequalitymatters.eu/toolkits/multimedia-resources/> and the MOOC on <https://www.genderequalitymatters.eu/toolkits/massive-open-online-course-mooc/> are of great

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interest to parents, pupils, teachers and school heads that are interested in subjects related to Gender Equality Matters.

### **News from Dublin City University (DCU)**

DCU have completed their teacher training. The lessons are currently being piloted with the pupils. Fifty-one teachers were trained from twenty-eight primary schools in Dublin, Wexford and Wicklow. Parent training is still undergoing.

DCU will organise the capstone conference of the GEM project, the culmination of the GEM project. The themes of the conference are gender stereotyping, gender-based bullying and gender-based violence (GBV). The keynote speakers are Prof. Kathleen Lynch, Prof. James O'Higgins-Norman, Dr. Anne Looney and Mr. Peter Dankmeijer.

The conference format includes poster, paper and workshop presentations along with a panel discussion. There will also be a showcase workshop of the classroom materials piloted in schools from the GEM project.

The conference will be held from Thursday June 11th, 2020, 5:00 PM – Friday, June 12, 2020, 6:00 PM IST at DCU Institute of Education, St Patrick's Campus DCU, DogDYoo Drumcondra, Ireland. More information can be found under Conference on [www.genderequalitymatters.eu](http://www.genderequalitymatters.eu).

This is a Free Conference to attend, please register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/gem-conference-tickets-89747355757>.

### **News from our Spanish partners**

From the Research Group in Educational Technology of the University of Murcia (GITE - UM) we can present great advances. The educational intervention developed over 3 months has already ended. 13 teachers from 10 schools and approximately 200 students have participated. We have begun to digitalize the data (qualitative and quantitative) extracted from the evaluation tools. The overall assessment of the project by all educational agents has been very positive.

We are very satisfied and proud with the work and involvement of the teachers who have carried out the project. We are very grateful for their enormous interest in working with their students in all the activities that we have proposed. Therefore, we can say that the GEM Project has completed its educational intervention in schools in Spain. It is when the time comes for us to work to analyze all the data in depth in order to improve our societies in favor of equality.

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### News from our Fondazione Mondo Digitale (FMD)

On December 7th 2019 Fondazione Mondo Digitale organised the first GEM teachers training involving secondary school teachers and educators. 8 hours of intense work with schools selected across Italy willing to counter gender stereotypes and gender-based bullying starting from the school context.

Respect, Rights, Dialogue: these are the three key words most often chosen by the students at the end of the training meetings envisaged by the European Gender Equality Matters (GEM) project, which involved the students of the first and second classes of the secondary schools in Italy.

In fact, interviews, focus groups and teachers' stories reveal the need for young people to face and clarify certain topics related to gender based bullying, to share experiences and understand how to respond and deal with cases of violence and inequality that occur within their classrooms.

Even for teachers, the course was a fundamental opportunity to discover the dynamics within their classes, often bringing to light cases of bullying and gender-based violence many times hidden or underestimated by students and teachers themselves.



### News from Social Action and Innovation Center (KMOP)

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In Greece, the implementation of the project is still in process with teachers, students and parents continuing the curriculum as well as the trainings into the school environment. Simultaneously for dissemination and exploitation of the project outcomes KMOP has been in touch with a director who will put on a theatre play/show under the aegis of KMOP to promote the Gender Equality Matters project.

## News from European School Heads Association (ESHA)

ESHA participated in the LifeLong Learning Week that was held in Brussels from December 2nd – 6<sup>th</sup> 2019. We are particularly content that as a partner in LLL we were given the opportunity to highlight the GEM project in their session on Inclusion in Schools: from policy to practice on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

During the two-day ESHA General Assembly on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of February in Lisbon, ESHA presented the GEM project to the presidents of the ESHA member organisations. The event also included a workshop about the lesson materials.

In June ESHA will organise a one-day train-the-trainer session in Amsterdam. Please contact [edwin.katerberg@esha.org](mailto:edwin.katerberg@esha.org) in case you are interested in sharing your experiences on the subject of gender equality.

## How much does participation in GEM cost?

Because this project is co-funded by Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union all GEM project materials that are generated are delivered free of cost and are for general use to the benefit of school leaders, educators, parents and pupils. Please keep an eye out on [our website](#) for national and international events, articles, information about national initiatives and projects, classroom and school resources and tools, training modules and manuals, and training workshops.

## Why is my participation as a school head, teacher, parent, student or related professional needed?

Gender Equality is a subject that touches us all whether we are pupils, parents, family members, teachers, school staff or school heads. Therefore in case you are interested in lending your support to the GEM cause, we invite all school leaders, educators, parents and pupils to consult <http://www.esha.org/esha-projects/> and [www.genderequalitymatters.eu](http://www.genderequalitymatters.eu) and to contact local GEM partners directly. Please consult <https://www.genderequalitymatters.eu/partners/> for partner details.

We hope that you will participate actively and share your opinions on the GEM social media accounts on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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