

The Mission of the Gender Equality Strategy of the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information in the ecosystem of Slovak science and technology

Contribution to the visibility of gender equality in research and innovation in Slovakia

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Position of the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information

- Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information (Centrum vedecko-technických informácií Slovenskej republiky - CVTI SR) is a national information centre for science, technology, innovation and education in the Slovak Republic under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport.
- The main mission of CVTI SR is to contribute to the development of science, technology and education, to popularize and promote science and technology, to ensure technology transfer, data creation, digitisation of society and processing information on education in accordance with European policy requirements.
- The institution's remit is cross-cutting and covers both the national and the European research area.

The baseline situation in the area of Gender Mainstreaming in the research and innovation content of the Slovak science ecosystem, pointing to systemic limitations:



- Absence of a national strategy to support integration of gender equality into research and innovation content
- Low participation of women in technology transfer and innovation
- Lack of definitions in the law regulating the possibilities of collecting sex- and age-disaggregated data in publication databases.

Adoption of the Gender Equality at the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information primarily motivated by the facts:



- that SCSTI reflects gender equality as an important intrinsic value
- and the GEP as a path towards comprehensive structural change leading to
- increasing research integrity and excellence

Main Components of the GEP of the SCSTI



- Collection, analysis and monitoring of data relevant to gender equality, exploring the possibilities of data collection in Slovak publication and project database systems
- Training activities at the level of the institution as well as for research funding actors
- Strengthening gender equality towards the external environment
- Measures to make science and technology inclusive and accessible to different groups in society

Main Actors

- CVTI SR Working Group for the preparation and implementation of the Gender Equality Plan
- External experts from Horizon Europe's consultancy support to applicants

Main Specificities - two component nature

- One part of the plan focuses on building the conditions for gender mainstreaming at the level of the institution
- The second part of the plan focuses on outreach to the external environment, i.e. building systemic support for mainstreaming gender equality in research and innovation

Main Achievements

- From September 2021, CVTI SR provides Slovak scientific research institutions and Horizon Europe applicants with expert consultancy support focused on the development and implementation of gender equality plans.
- The specialised form of support is a functional measure on the implementation axis of the CVTI SR Gender Equality Plan.

Significant findings from the CVTI SR staff questionnaire survey. A critical areas:

- Absence of a training scheme for internal female employees and staff working with gender-sensitive data
- Opaque communication flow - female and employees were more likely to admit that they did not know who they would turn to if they faced behaviours such as unwanted sexual attention and gender-based violence at work
- Under-representation of women in decision-making at the top management level

Figure 1: Representation of women and men by level of management (absolute number)

