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Integrating European Infrastructure to support science and development of Hydrogen- and Fuel Cell Technologies towards European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy

Deliverable

D26.2 Action Plan and List of Scientists in Charge of Gender Issues

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1 Gender Equality and Awareness Activities in H₂FC European Research Infrastructure

1.1 Background of Gender Equality and Awareness Activities Work Package

The H_2FC European Infrastructure consortium is aware of a rather low participation of female researchers in its consortium. With roughly 15 % of the persons with major scientific and technological contributions nominated and identified at the time of starting H_2FC European Infrastructure is significantly below the average of women in engineering science of approx. 21 % as was derived from a European study. As a European Integrating Activity the H_2FC European Infrastructure consortium is strongly committed also to integrate on a personnel level, i.e. ensuring most balanced gender equality.

1.2 Action Plan

Before starting with a detailed action plan, some generic actions have to be done initially. First of all a Gender Equality area on the H₂FC website has been created. Six relevant topics were identified and implemented.

- Introduction about the Gender Equality Activities in general
- Introduction about the work package tasks
- News section about latest news in the gender equality community
- Event list with interesting events of the gender equality community
- Link list providing further information
- Contact details

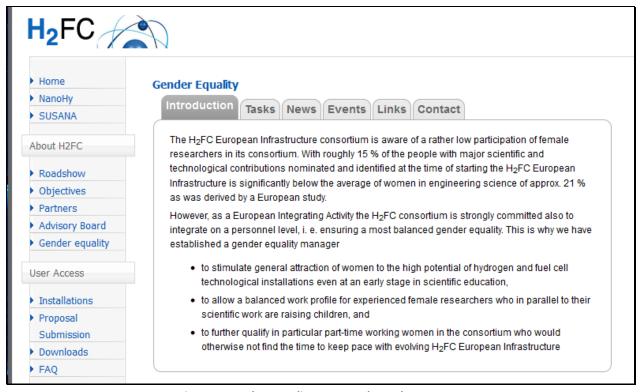


Figure 1 Gender Equality area on the web page

Furthermore a project internal information area has been implemented on the SharePoint (https://iaikit-sp2.iai.kit.edu/h2fc/GEAA/SitePages/Home.aspx). In this area are available all relevant information about this work package as well as the contact data. In addition there is a document library for further deliverables.

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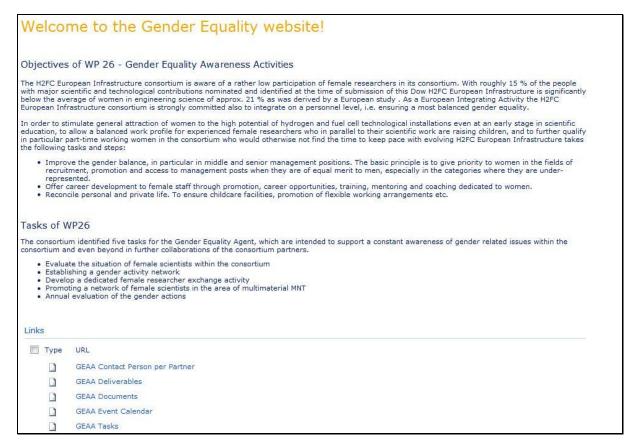


Figure 2 Information area on the SharePoint

1.2.1 Evaluate the situation of female scientists

In order to evaluate the situation of female scientists in the consortium, a detailed survey will be conducted. The already conducted EUMINAfab survey of another Infrastructure Project (see www.euminafab.eu) will act as an example of the H₂FC survey.

1.2.2 Promoting a network of female scientists in the area of hydrogen and fuel cell technology

Based on the results of the questionnaire a separated action plan will be developed for the network of female scientists.

Early ideas for the gender action plan involve building a community of women in the area of hydrogen and fuel cell technology, and the possibility of a women's cyber forum. With only a few women in H₂FC such a network solely within the scope of the project is not realistic. However, H₂FC does not stand alone in the area of hydrogen and fuel cell technology and will try to make contact with other organisations in this area in order to take joint actions.

1.2.3 Develop a dedicated female researcher exchange activity

It is envisaged to cooperate with WP3 to develop this task together. However it is foreseen that this activity will be limited by the number of women eligible to participate.

1.3 Gender Activity Network

The Gender Equality Manager was nominated at the Kick-off Meeting in January 2012. Sarah Kuhn from KIT will take over this role within the H_2FC consortium. Furthermore one or two scientists per partner who are now in charge of gender issues were selected. The contact data of these persons can be found in the list below.

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