Workshop | Promoting Gender Equality in R&I Projects to Drive the Mediterranean's Green Transition

6th June | 9h30 CET | Online event

Integrating gender dimension into Nexus Ecosystem Labs

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NEXUS-NESS - Project Overview

**Project Objective** - to support a **Participatory Transition** towards sustainable planning and management of **Resources** in the agroecosystem, with particular attention to **water, energy, food** and **ecosystems** (WEFE).

**Methodology** - NEXUS-NESS will implement and test the **Ecosystem Innovation Approach (EIA)** and the **NEXUS-NESS Service (NNS)** in four selected Nexus Ecosystem Labs (NELs), where through the **Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)** Roadmap™©, local stakeholders are involved in **co-design** a common WEFE nexus vision.
Task 2.3 – Integrating gender dimension into NEL Innovation Ecosystem

The task aims to integrate a gender-responsive and socially inclusive approach to NEL Ecosystem innovation.

Rather than just targeting women or ensuring a numerical balance between women and men in pre-determined project interventions, the task takes into account intersectional and scalar complexities of inequality in different local contexts, paying attention to how gender-power disparities impact meaningful participation, decision-making and gains from NEL Ecosystem Innovations.
Evaluation of NEXUS-NESS Team’s knowledge and skills using the *Gender Capacity Assessment Tool* (UN WOMEN Training Center, 2014)

✔ Ready-to-use Tool created by the UN WOMEN.
✔ Used to understand the level of gender knowledge of the NEXUS-NESS Project Consortium.

✔ Results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have you ever received any introductory training or orientation on gender issues?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.40%</td>
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First NEL participatory workshop: Lesson learned

✔ Almost the same number of men and women were invited, but the number of female participants in the workshop was extremely lower than the number of men.

✔ Stakeholders showed little awareness and knowledge of gender issues.

✔ The gender dimension has to be included in project activities, taking into account the social context and background of the stakeholders.
3 Gender equality training – Training of Trainers

**Goal**: to provide tools to identify gender issues in NELs and conduct awareness-raising activities with stakeholders.

**MODULE 1 – All NELs leaders and teams**

- Basic gender concepts
- Gender and WEFE nexus
- International Conventions on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
Integrating gender dimension - practical steps

3/4

3 Gender equality training – Training of Trainers

MODULE 2 – One session for each NEL

➢ Presentation of the context regarding gender issues at the country level (access to services, policies and laws related to human rights and cultural norms, values and practices related to gender at a national level).
➢ Discussion with the partners at the local level.
➢ Co-identification of the gender issues at the NEL level.
Gender Equality Training - Module 2: an example

Access to services in rural areas of Tunisia

Limited sex-disaggregated statistics

Land ownership: 6%

Limited control over productive inputs

11%

16%

ICARDA SURVEY RESULTS
Women’s access to extension advice is lower than that of men.

Bianca Rizzo, Xenia Schneider, Enrica Caporali, Tommaso Pacetti, Jerome El Jeitany, Andrea Spasiano, Margarita Fursova
4 Raising awareness path

✓ **GOAL:** To *raise awareness* of the importance of involving women in decision-making processes.

✓ **METHODOLOGY:** Sharing *“Gender Snippets”* during participatory workshops in NELs. A 20 minutes presentation on gender issues related to WEFE in NEL was shared.

✓ So far, *one workshop per NEL* has been carried out with this methodology.
Practical tips

- **First step:** Assess the project team’s knowledge of gender

- Train the team on topics that they *know less about* and that are important for achieving the *project goals*.

- In organizing activities with the stakeholders:
  - Adapt the contents of the workshop to *engage the audience* (with examples from the area).
  - Take into account the *local context, social norms and gender roles of the community*.

**Example:** In the Egyptian NEL, with the Bedouin community, the *organisation of separate workshops* for men and women was necessary.
Thank you!

Official project website: https://prima-nexus-ness.org/

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