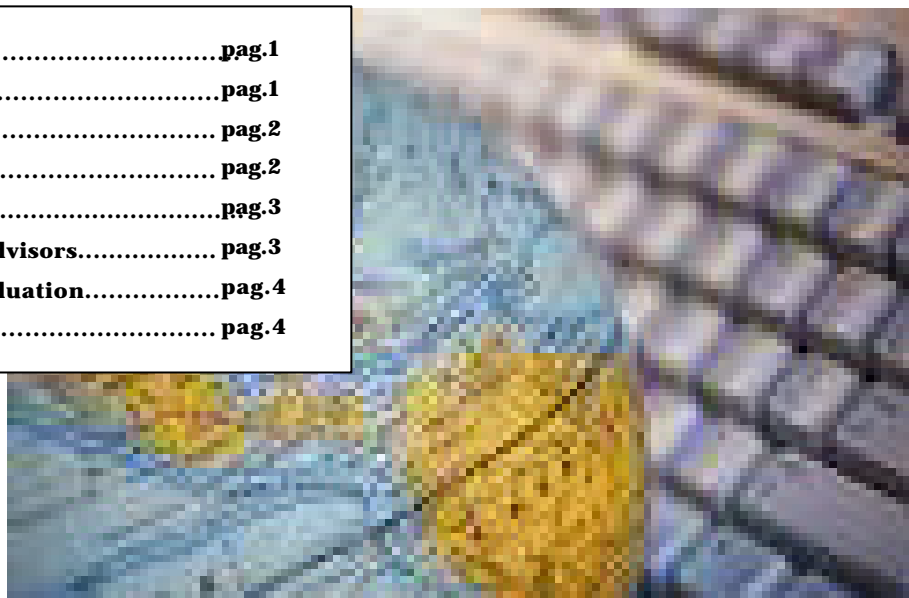


The Network.....	pag.1
The Observatory.....	pag.1
Events - Report.....	pag.2
A database for best practices.....	pag.2
The Benchmarking.....	pag.3
International Board of Scientific Advisors.....	pag.3
Coordination, monitoring and evaluation.....	pag.4
Steering committee.....	pag.4



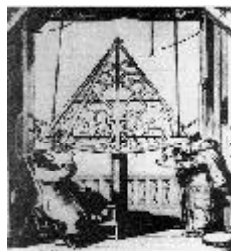
newsletter n° 2

PRA.G.E.S.

PRActising Gender Equality in Science

PRA.G.E.S., the project aimed at the promotion of women presence in the field of European public research has operatively began. Many different results have demonstrated the full cooperation between the Department for Equal Opportunities and the ten partners of the Consortium. The collection, classification and evaluation of best practices and positive actions, already being implemented or currently in progress at national and international level, have started. Such practices and actions have been identified by different organizations and institutions. The objective is making these experiences available to any decision-makers and to all the persons interested in the field of women and science, according to the principles of benchmarking.

WP1 – The Network



The identification of best practices pointed out by the members of the mailing list has been implemented during the last months under the supervision of the University Statale of Milan. The persons registered who have replied through the fulfilment of the form to indicate any good practices (sent in the last newsletter) have contributed to the creation of the first list of initiatives implemented until now in their field of competence. As a result they have joined the “network” and they will be steadily involved in the next phases of the project. The database, constituted by about 1000 users, is constantly updated

and it is available for any communications. All the partners can access through a password and directly insert the new contacts.

WP2 - The Observatory

Conventions and conferences, prizes and scholarships, seminars and ad hoc meetings, promoted at national, European and international level, represent an important source of support and reflection on the role of women in the world of scientific research. The Observatory, created in the context of PRA.G.E.S. and coordinated by TETALAP, has the specific objective to identify, classify and disseminate any information related to the events published in the webpage hosted on the website www.retepariopportunita.it.



Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
Dipartimento per le pari opportunità

Events – report

Project GAPP: European Parliament, Bruxelles Final Conference – 4th November 2008

The final Conference of the Project “Gapp, Gender Awareness Participation Process”, which is financed by the European Commission under the VI Framework Programme for research and technological development and coordinated by the Foundation Idis – City of Science in cooperation with different research institutes and Universities, took place in Bruxelles on 4th November 2008. The Project acronym reminds the English word “gap” related to the existing breach of opportunities between women and men. During the Conference it has been reported the activities addressed to the young generations in order to increase awareness of the gender gap and the interest for science and technologies taking into consideration the cultural, familiar and psychological factors which influence young women.

<http://www.gendergapp.eu/>

UNICAFE Dissemination Conference, Istanbul, Turkey, November 12-13, 2008

Women contributions to engineering-technology and life sciences sectors have been exponentially increasing in the last decade. On the other hand women still face great difficulties in developing professional careers in equal opportunities to those of men in these sectors, especially regarding their proportion and representation at the higher levels of hierarchical ladder. UNICAFE Project (2006-2008) aimed to conduct a survey with seven partnering universities from six countries, on university career of female scientists at life sciences versus technical universities. “Beyond the Glass Ceiling: Women Academics in Engineering-Technology and Life Sciences across Europe” Conference aimed to present the outcomes of UNICAFE project and to bring together the scholars and researchers from all over the world who are currently working on the current situation and future perspectives of Women Academics in engineering, technology and life sciences. The main outcome of the UNICAFE project, the Synthesis Report was presented during the conference. The European Commission was represented by Marina Marchetti.

Event list

WP3 - A database for best practices

The University of Milano Bicocca is sending a questionnaire to all the persons registered to the mailing list who have pointed out, through the form to indicate any good practices (WP1), some actions for the promotion of women presence in the field of research. The semi-structured questionnaire has been elaborated by ASDO with the contribution of the two Milanese Universities and it is one of the tools aimed at creating the “database” which will be devoted to the dissemination of best practices.

The best practices collected in other field different from scientific and technological research have been considered and analysed to obtain a more complete overview of the “gender issue in the labour market”. This approach will permit in future an overall vision of the opportunities of career for women and it could promote the comparison with other working and organizational contexts.





Good practices of promotion of women in senior position in scientific research: it is proceeding the collection of information on strategies of support and strengthening of women presence at the highest level of the scientific research in research organizations and institutions coordinated by the University of Milano Bicocca.

The organizations which have developed and are still developing a good practice and want to contribute to the database creation can download the guide and the attached form to indicate any good practices.

This form should be completed and sent via e-mail to prages.sociologia@unimib.it, together with the documentation related to the good practice. For any information and questions regarding the form, you should contact:

Francesca Zajczyk
prages.sociologia@unimib.it

Marina Cacace
marina.cacace@asdo-info.org

WP4 - The Benchmarking

The University of Aarhus in cooperation with ASDO is coordinating the elaboration of the indicators to compare and assess the most relevant data related to the best practices in a benchmarking perspective.

As far as the editing of guidelines for the promotion of women at decision-making level in public research, some selected experts will be soon appointed to validate the text of the guidelines foreseen in the WP5 which is coordinated by ASDO.

International Board of Scientific Advisors

The **International board of scientific advisors**, composed by three expert Professors not belonging to the PRA.G.E.S. Consortium, has been appointed.

This Board will follow the activities of the project giving qualified opinions on the documents and the results which will be progressively achieved.

The members, which have been selected for their high academic and professional skills, are the following:

- ◆ Mrs Maria Stratigaki, Director of the Centre for Gender Studies, Department of Social Policy, Panteion University, Athens, Greece;
- ◆ Mrs Judith Glover, Professor of Employment Studies, School of Business and Social Sciences, Roehampton University, United Kingdom;
- ◆ Mrs Lotte Baylin, Professor of Management - Behavioural and Policy Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology of Boston, United States.



Maria Stratigaki at Board of Advisors

Coordination, monitoring and evaluation

The meetings of coordination, scientific and operative monitoring of the project took place in November and December 2008.

Steering committee

The last meeting of the Consortium took place in Roma at the Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri – Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità on 30th October 2008. The remote meeting among all the partners, through an audio connection and the display of slides, was chaired by Mr Michele Palma, General Director of the Office for Interventions in social and economic field of the Department for Equal Opportunities and coordinator of the project Consortium.

The comparison has been focused on the sharing and the updating of the activities currently in progress with particular attention to the beginning of collection of best practices.

The representatives of 9 out of 11 partners participated to the meeting:

- ◆ Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità – Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (Michele Palma, Serenella Martini, Irene Zancanaro, Gianfranco Vivacqua, Barbara Cultrera);
- ◆ ASDO – Assemblea delle donne per lo sviluppo e la lotta contro l'esclusione sociale – Italy (Marina Cacace, Giovanna Declich and Giovanna Murari);
- ◆ TETALAP – Hungarian Science and Technology Foundation (Katalin Kalai);

- ◆ Università degli Studi Milano - Bicocca – Italy (Francesca Zayczik, Sabrina Orтели, Francesca Crosta and Brunella Fiore);
- ◆ Aarhus University – Denmark (Stig Aagard);
- ◆ Manchester University – United Kingdom (Sandra Fielden and Marilyn Davidson);
- ◆ Università degli Studi di Milano – Italia (Bianca Beccalli, Antonio Chiesi, Daniela Falcinelli, Sarah Benjamin, Elisa Rapetti, Sveva Magaraggia);
- ◆ University of Cambridge – United Kingdom (Jacqueline Scott, Anna Bagnoli);
- ◆ The Simmons College – United States (Patricia Deyton and Alice Hogan).

Auditors:

- ◆ The Australian National University – Australia (Gillian Whitehouse);
- ◆ The European University Institute - Italy.

The activities related to the database creation, the collection of best practices, the drawing up of the questionnaire and the suggestions for the mid-term report of the project activities and costs have been presented and described during the meeting.

