# TOOLS FOR GENDER SENSITISATION IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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## RESUMEN

The **Gender Research Group (IG)**, attached to the University Institute for Gender Studies Research at the University of Alicante, has a long history of integrating the gender dimension in different research projects.

This accumulated know-how allows the development of innovative projects in educational centres with the aim of incorporating this **gender perspective into the teaching-learning system**. In this way, the aim is to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education, as advocated by different international organisations such as the United Nations.

We are looking for educational centres interested in integrating gender awareness in their curricula, educational resources or in the training of their teaching staff.



## INTRODUCCIÓN

Various international human rights organisations point to education as one of the areas of action needed to change the socio-cultural patterns of conduct of women and men in order to eliminate any prejudice and customary practice based on the idea of inferiority or superiority between the sexes. Thus, the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**, aimed at eliminating obstacles to women's participation in all spheres of public and private life, dedicates strategic area (B) to women's education and training. Among other considerations, the focus is on the creation of an educational environment that fosters equal opportunities for women and men to reach their full potential (United Nations, 1995). In particular, strategic objective B.4. establishes a series of measures to be adopted for the construction of a **gender-sensitive education system**, for which it is necessary, as stated in point a) to integrate the gender perspective in curricula, educational resources and teacher training.

**Education systems can be imbued with gender stereotypes** that limit the development of women's and men's natural talents and abilities, as well as their educational and professional preferences and experiences. Thus, sexism can be embedded in the culture of educational institutions at all levels, from pre-school to higher education systems (Recommendation CM/Rec (2019) of the Committee of Ministers to Member States to prevent and combat sexism). It is therefore necessary to implement the necessary actions in education systems that contribute to the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, the development of gender-sensitive education systems is aligned with Goal 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" and Goal 4 "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote learning opportunities for all".

## DESCRIPCIÓN TÉCNICA

The Gender Research Group (IG), attached to the University Institute for Gender Studies Research at the University of Alicante (*see Figure 1*), which is multidisciplinary in nature, has a long history of integrating the gender dimension in R&D&I projects and

sex/gender analysis in their content. In particular, research for the development of gender-sensitive education systems has received public funding from the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (Agencia Estatal de Investigación) and the Conselleria de Educación, Universidades y Empleo of the Generalitat Valenciana. Likewise, the IG Group also has experience in the management of teaching innovation projects for the **incorporation of the gender perspective in the teaching-learning system**.




*Figure 1: Logo of the Gender Research Group (IG)*

In this way, the aim is to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education, as advocated by different international organisations such as the United Nations. Specifically, schools are offered the opportunity to integrate gender awareness in their curricula, educational resources and teacher training.

## VENTAJAS Y ASPECTOS INNOVADORES

The main advantages of this service are the following:

- **Professional and scientific advice** on gender equality, one of the main demands of today's society.
- Greater equality of rights and opportunities between men and women means an **improvement in the social and economic development** of all territories.

## ESTADO ACTUAL

The creation of this Gender Research group responds to the need to promote research projects at the University of Alicante that give academic support to one of the main demands of today's society: to put an end to gender inequality. In this sense, the achievement of real and effective gender equality in our society requires the commitment and support of all institutions, entities and organisations, both public and private. Universities, as fundamental institutions in the generation and dissemination of knowledge, have a key role to play in changing gender stereotypes and the social roles of women and men that are present in today's society.

In this sense, thanks to **funding** from the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (State Research Agency) and the Department of Education, Universities and Employment of the Generalitat Valenciana, the research group is developing these tools to improve gender awareness in schools.

Therefore, this service to improve gender equality in schools is now fully **available**.

## APLICACIONES DE LA OFERTA

It is primarily aimed at the **education** sector, i.e. **public, private and state-subsidised schools**.

## COLABORACIÓN BUSCADA

We are looking for **schools** interested in integrating gender awareness into their **curricula, educational resources or teacher training**.

## DERECHOS DE PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL

This **knowledge**, accumulated over the years and as a result of different publications and projects, **belongs to the University of Alicante**.

SECTORES DE APLICACIÓN (2)

Education
Social Studies