

PROMETEA

Empowering Women Engineers Careers in Industrial and Academic Research

http://www.prometea.info Project Coordinator: Dr. Yvonne Pourrat, CDEFI (France) Project Funded by the European Commission, 6th FP, Contract No. 017660

THE PROJECT AIM

The aim of PROMETEA is to develop a better understanding of gender issues in engineering and technology research settings, in order to propose effective measures and recommendations to empower women engineers' careers in academic and industrial research in Europe. A technological and economic sustainable development depends on the ability to promote a diverse and creative research sector, which is a key issue both in the European and in national research policies.

The PROMETEA project combines existing knowledge with new in-depth pilot studies on the career progression of women engineers inked to qualitative research work on the experiences of both women and men working in engineering and technology research, using cross-comparison as a research strategy and a longitudinal perspective

The results will inform the funding bodies, scientific and technological societies, industrial R&D departments and other stakeholders towards greater gender awareness and fairness in recognizing scientific excellence in engineering and technology.

The PROMETEA project is funded by the European Commission in the 6th FP, "Structuring the European Research Area Science and Society", Area "Women and Science ". The project runs from November 2005 till December 2007.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

To explore the gender dynamics of male and female careers in different engineering organisations:

- To compare different fields of engineering
- To compare academic and industrial settings; private and public Organisations
- To compare innovative and traditional companies and organisations

To explore the effect of organisational cultures on male and female careers in different engineering organisations:

- Differential effects of supportive cultures
- Differential effects of negative cultures
- Identification of different barriers to developing a successful career for men and women

To explore the assessment and measures of excellence in engineering and technology research and the impact on male and female careers:

- To compare different arenas of recognizing excellence and actors who assess and evaluate excellence
- To compare success rates in research funding and awards
- To compare salaries, bonuses and research budgets

To identify and evaluate good practice in different organisations:

- To explore the factors that influence and motivate engineering organisations, in order to design and implement measures of equality
- To explore the factors likely to influence the sustainability of effective equality actions over time

To draw recommendations aimed at promoting gender equality, for male and female careers in national and European engineering organisations.







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