

Scientists, both male and female, are increasingly urged to consider gender aspects in their research. The European Commission and national research funding agencies require the inclusion of a gender dimension in the research content if it is relevant to the addressed issues.

GENDER AND SEX DIMENSION

SEX

Sex refers to biologically determined differences between men and women. It includes physiological distinctions, such as differences related to reproductive organs and dispositions, chromosomal configurations, or hormonal systems



GENDER

Gender refers to social differences between women and men that are learned, reflecting what is perceived as feminine and masculine in society. Gender evolves based on the situation

WHEN AND WHERE SHOULD THE GENDER DIMENSION BE CONSIDERED?

Incorporating a gender perspective may not be relevant for every project; however, reflecting on possible physical differences (sex) or differences in the experiences, perspectives, and needs of women and men (gender) **makes sense whenever people are:**

SUBJECTS OF RESEARCH

- surveying people
- analysis of data related to people
- research involving human tissues

USERS OF THE RESULTS

- consumers
- users
- patients
- other users

AFFECTED BY THE RESULTS

- research involving animals or their tissues
- research affecting the environment"

Some research topics, especially in the life sciences, technologies, engineering, and mathematics, may appear gender-neutral at first glance. In such cases, it is recommended to use specific questions that are no longer gender-neutral:



Who can benefit from the results and how?



Who will use the achieved results and knowledge?



Whose interests and needs are addressed?



HOW TO SYSTEMATICALLY INTEGRATE THE GENDER DIMENSION INTO THE PROJECT?

OBJECTIVES, QUESTIONS, AND HYPOTHESES

- ✓ How do the bodily differences between women and men impact the addressed topic?
- ✓ Can different outcomes for women and men be considered in the context of the issue?
- ✓ Expecting different impacts on women and men, or their groups?

METHODOLOGY, DESIGN, COLLECTED DATA

- ✓ Will the design and tools (such as questionnaires, focus groups, etc.) allow capturing potential sex or gender differences, or conversely, confirming the absence of differences?
- ✓ Will data be collected for both genders, or will members of both genders be interviewed, in appropriate proportions?

ANALYSIS

- ✓ Are the data analyzed with consideration for sex or gender?
- ✓ Is the relationship between sex or gender and other relevant variables, such as age, social background, ethnicity, analyzed?

APPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS

- ✓ Will the product or service cater to the needs of both genders?
- ✓ Will it consider the expectations of men and women in its content, function, and design?
- ✓ Will similar safety be ensured for both men and women?
- ✓ Will the project's benefits equally impact men and women's quality of life?
- ✓ Will the product or service be equally accessible to both genders?

COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

- ✓ As part of the analysis, are relevant conclusions related to sex or gender dimensions of the issue presented?
- ✓ Are null differences also reported?
- ✓ Does the presentation include relevant statistics, tables, or graphs distinguishing data by gender?
- ✓ Considered creating specific publications or conference contributions on the sex or gender dimension?