



# MIND THE GAP

Step up for gender equality

## MIND THE GAP: Step up for gender equality

### 2021 – 2022 GENDER EQUALITY/EDUCATION

#### WHERE

Europe (Belgium, Italy, Portugal, Spain)

#### PARTNERS

The project is coordinated by AIDOS and implemented in partnership with: Associação para Planeamento Familiar (Portugal); END FGM European Network (Belgium); Medicos del Mundo (Spain).

#### BACKGROUND

In many EU countries stereotypical gender perceptions influence education, profession and life of boys and girls. Girls studying education, health, humanities are double compared to men and end up in teaching and caring professions, usually valued and paid less, thus increasing the EU pay gap (16%). Female under representation in full time employment (16%) in all EU Countries is also due to the disproportion between women and men in housework and caring responsibilities. EIGE and OECD suggest that education places are ideal spaces to break-down gender stereotypes at an early stage. Non-gender equitable textbooks and images and teachers' attitudes in influencing students have an impact on their career choices and employment opportunities: as an example, a recent research has proved that female students are prevented from choosing a career in the STEM sector also due to a negative gender approach perpetuated by teachers.

**In Italy, Portugal and Spain practices in education still fuel gender inequality.** In these countries, statistics on women's education/work/life choices confirm EU trends, while governmental guidelines and recommendations to promote gender equality in education have yet to be fully applied, as **school personnel lacks training and often shows prejudices about girls and boys not conforming to gender stereotypes.**

#### GOALS

The overall objective of the project is:

**To contribute tackling gender stereotypes in education** in Italy, Spain and Portugal, thus reducing the influence of gender expectations on girls' and boys' choices in education, work and life.

The project specific objective is:

**Strengthening the capacity of professionals and other adults in contact with children** to identify and address gender stereotypes in education, including own unconscious bias.

#### **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

- Production of a guide on How to avoid gender bias in teaching
- 70 trainings of educational staff/teachers, professionals/educators of non-formal systems (people who work with children in sports, summer-camps, guardians, etc.), students of University and other high educational courses
- 26 exchange meetings between partners, training beneficiaries, teachers, parents and children
- 6 awareness raising events
- Final exchange meeting and advocacy event in Brussels

#### **DIRECT BENEFICIAIRES**

420 educational staff/teachers

1200 students of University and other high educational courses

375 professionals/educators of non-formal systems

270 children and parents

#### **WHEN**

January 2021/December 2022

#### **COST OF THE PROJECT**

545.769,55 €

#### **WHO IS FINANCING THE PROJECT**

European Union (80