

# NEWSLETTER

## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SUSTAINABILITY PATHWAYS IN STEM HIGHER EDUCATION



ISSUE 4

WESTEM

PROJECT NO. 2021-1-SE01-KA220-HED-000032058



### LEARNING RESOURCE A OVERVIEW

The proposed learning resource serves as an intervention to instill a growth mindset in students in a STEM HEI classroom. Growth Mindset is the belief that abilities and traits can be developed through strategic efforts and hard work and are not simply innate or fixed. This is particularly important for individuals belonging in social groups that experience negative stereotyping in relation to the innate intelligence or abilities needed to succeed in STEM disciplines. Through the critical reflection and discussion inspired by the video presentations in this socio-psychological intervention, students will be led to consider:

- How it is possible to rewire the brain and increase intelligence.
- How a fixed mindset can influence your success in studies and careers.



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### LEARNING RESOURCE A

## COMPETENCES AND GOALS

This learning resource addresses the following competences and goals:

GENDER	Actively engage female learners
PERCEPTIONS	Addressing and challenging misconceptions
GROWTH MINDSET	Create a course environment that promotes growth mindset



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### LEARNING RESOURCE C

## ACTIVITY - TIMELINE



#### SPEAKER & CLASS DISCUSSION

5-minute presentation, 10 minutes questions



#### SPEAKER & CLASS ACTIVITY

10-minute presentation, 15 minutes questions from students



#### STEM CAREERS AMBASSADORS SCHEME

Estimated completion time for this activity: 1-2 weeks



#### SELF-REFLECTION

10-15 mins

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## WESTEM INCLUSIVE TOOLKIT

### INCLUSIVE TOOLKIT FOR FACULTY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Led by SYNTHESIS, the partnership have developed a lengthy collection of ready-to-use-learning resources, consisting of systematic and inclusive educational scenarios to support HEI faculty towards more inclusive tertiary education STEM courses to encourage girls to study and complete STEM subjects.

The resources are [available on our project website](#) in English, German, Greek, Swedish and Italian.

## WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT

The toolkit is divided into four thematic units, as many as the fields of STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths. Each unit is independent from the others and entails five stand-alone learning resources. Each learning resource is accompanied by a set of activities and resources, proposed to be undertaken successively.

The intention is not only to consider gender aspects, but also the cultural identity of the students attending STEM courses, and how instruction should differ to attend these differences.

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## NATIONAL MULTIPLIER EVENTS

October - November 2023

Between October and November 2023, multiplier events took place in the partner countries of WESTEM project. These events were designed as practical reflection workshops featuring discussions, interactive sessions, and presentation and engagement with the different outputs produced throughout the project lifecycle.

All evidence and feedback collected, will be used for the creation of a short film documentary which will offer insights into the impact of the project to beneficiaries.

### ACTIVITY - BUILDING BRIDGES

Makerspace challenges are collaborative work for making /learning/ exploring and sharing that uses tech or no tech tools.

Lets built a bridge with the material provided

- You have 15 minutes
- Min 15 cm long
- Can it hold a gingerbread woman?

### ACTIVITY - WHO IS SHE?



Search in the internet who she is!

"Why does she stands out in STEM?"

### Challenges and Objectives



#### Objectives

- Enable opportunities for girls and women to gain the skills and confidence to succeed in STEM.
- Develop a self-assessment tool for assessing HEIs faculty readiness in promoting participation of women in STEM fields of study
- Develop and apply suitable professional development and training to faculty to promote inclusive STEM education and support for women coming from marginalised backgrounds.
- Attract, recruit and retain women into STEM majors and fields in colleges and universities through dedicated role model mentoring schemes.

# SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR INCLUSIVE STEM

A little quick STEM test, that takes about 5 min to fill in.

Gender equality can inspire individuals to bring novel information and different perspectives, which can lead to increased creativity, diligence, and hard work. The progression of women in STEM worldwide in different regions can be different.

The survey will seek to inspire and encourage you on how to best support female success in the STEM fields and related disciplines



## Women are making an impact in STEM – What do you think?

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## EXTENDED VERSION THE TOOL

If you are a member of faculty working in STEM disciplines and interested to explore whether your instructional approaches are inclusive and/or gender neutral, then you should consider the extended version of the self-assessment tool for the readiness of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) faculties to promote women's participation in the STEM fields of study. The tool is designed as an open access resource which can be utilised for self-evaluation purposes by individuals and HEI institutions. [Check it out.](#)

Alongside the SELF-ASSESSMENT Tool developed drawing on scientific research in regards to inclusive strategies for STEM instruction in Higher Education, the partnership have designed a short version of a STEM survey, which can be completed by anyone in about 5 minutes.

The survey is addressed to everyone who is interested in the topic and our aim is to inspire and encourage you on how to best support female success in the STEM fields and related disciplines.

You can [take the test here.](#)

## FINAL CONFERENCE

Mark the date! December 6 at 15 pm EET, is the date and time for our WESTEM final conference in Cyprus! Stay tuned for the official invitation and agenda to be shared in our social media!

## CONTACT



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