



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Brussels, March 2022
Unit D4-Democracy & European Values
– Gender Sector

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam,

The European Commission's **Directorate-General for Research and Innovation** (RTD) has commissioned Ecorys, together with EFIS Centre and Visionary Analytics, to conduct a study on *Pilot assessment activities for the European knowledge and support facility on Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) in research and innovation organisations*.

The objectives of this study are threefold:

- To analyse the impact that EU and national policies and programmes supporting or imposing GEPs have had on gender equality in R&I across the European Research Area (ERA), and the impact that these policies have had on R&I quality and efficiency.
- To provide examples of impact in different areas, across countries, to illustrate the analysis, including by identifying good or promising practices, as well as main barriers to achieving the intended outcomes and impact.
- To propose a relevant monitoring framework to measure progress on gender equality in the ERA, and thus contribute to the ERA scoreboard and dashboard.

The geographical scope of the evaluation is the European Union Member States, as well as associated countries of the ERA.

The study is expected to be completed at the beginning of 2023. During this period, the project team will undertake a **targeted consultation process**, which includes conducting interviews with key stakeholders to collect their perspectives on a range of aspects relevant to the study, including the recent policy developments regarding GEPs in R&I organisations; key factors that allow the effective implementation of GEPs; indicators most suitable to measure the state-of-play and progress in gender equality in the new ERA; and main challenges and gaps for policy makers in advancing inclusive GEPs in the new ERA.

We would kindly ask you to support the consultation process when you are contacted by the Ecorys research team. Your input is very valuable for gathering a robust evidence base for the study. The information received will be used only for the purposes of the study.

Should you need any further information regarding this study, please do not hesitate to contact the following persons:

- Project Manager at Ecorys: Dr. Monica Andriescu (Monica.Andriescu@ecorys.com)
or
- Policy Officer at the European Commission: Dr. Anne Pépin (Anne.PEPIN@ec.europa.eu)

Thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

(e-signed)

Katja Reppel

Head of Unit