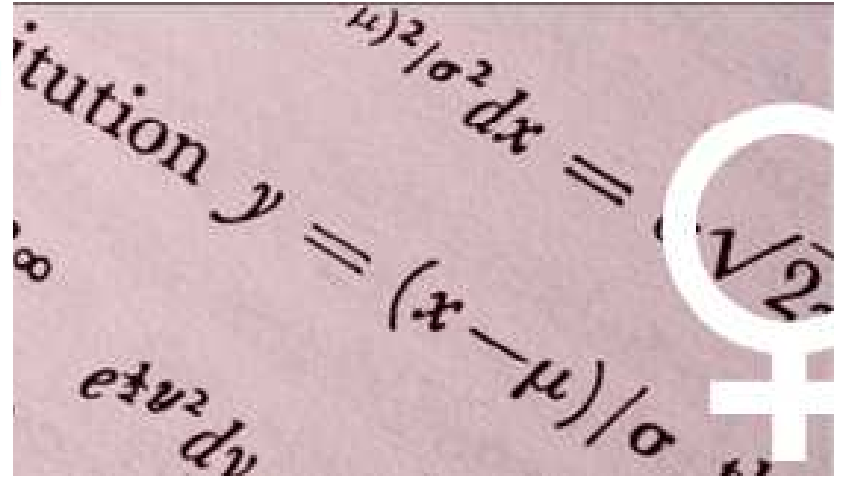
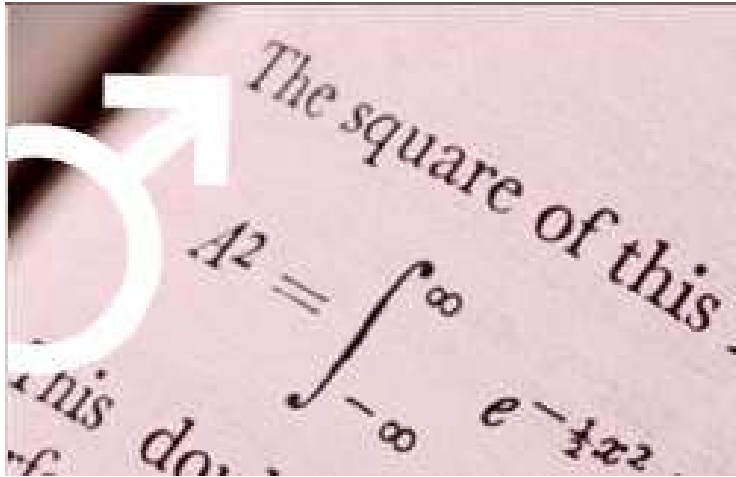


*GAPP (Gender Awareness Participation Process)*

The educational activities experimented by the consortium of the GAPP project coordinated by Fondazione IDIS-Città della Scienza, Naples Italy.

**MIND THE GAPP:  
WORKING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE  
TO IMPROVE GENDER EQUITY AND  
PARTICIPATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Carole Paleco  
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences**



# THE PROJECT

GAPP (2007-2009)

a project funded under the 6th Framework Program

(Science and Society thematic program):

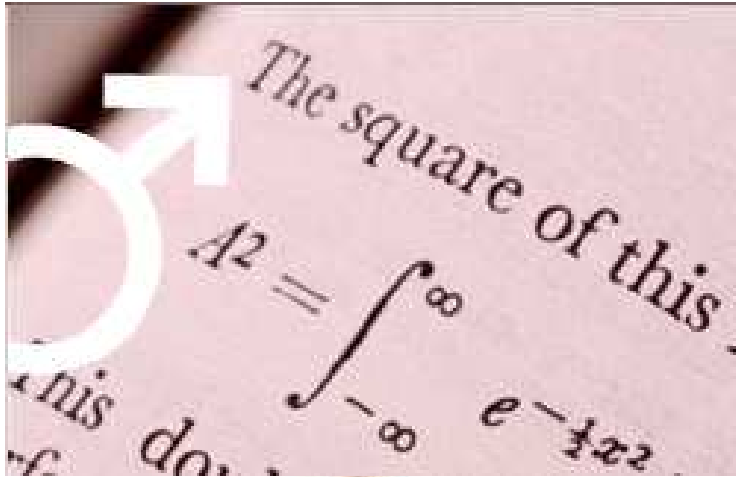
**understanding and overcoming**

**the differences between girls and boys,**

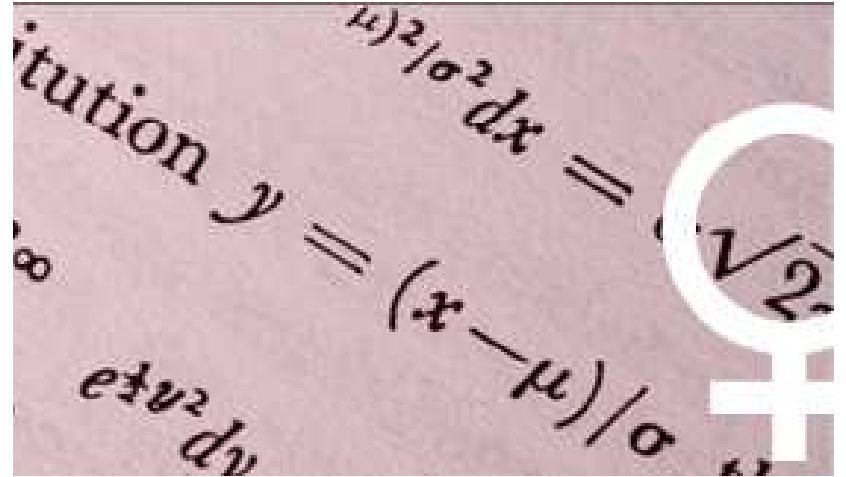
**regarding their perception of the perspectives of scientific careers**

considering not only the cognitive dimension,

but also the individual one.



**gpp**  
GENDER  
AWARENESS  
PARTICIPATION  
PROCESS  
DIFFERENCES  
IN THE  
CHOICES  
OF SCIENCE  
CAREERS



## PARTNERS

Fondazione IDIS - Città della scienza, Italy (Coordinator)

Ciencia Viva Science Centre, Portugal

Experimentarium Science Centre, Denmark

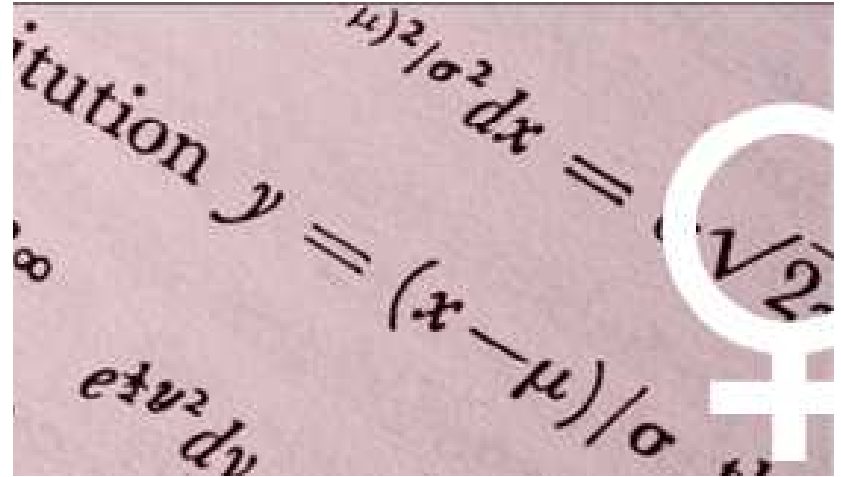
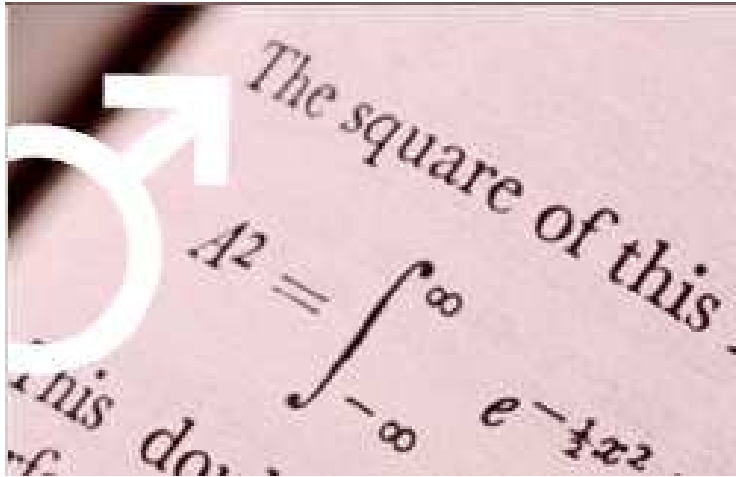
Science Center NEMO, Netherlands

Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Science, Belgium

University of Warsaw - Youth Research Centre, Poland

SISSA-ICS, Italy

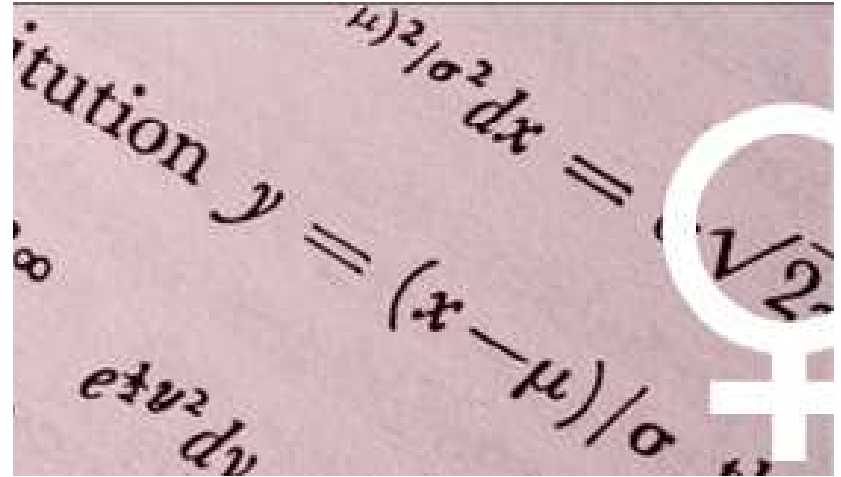
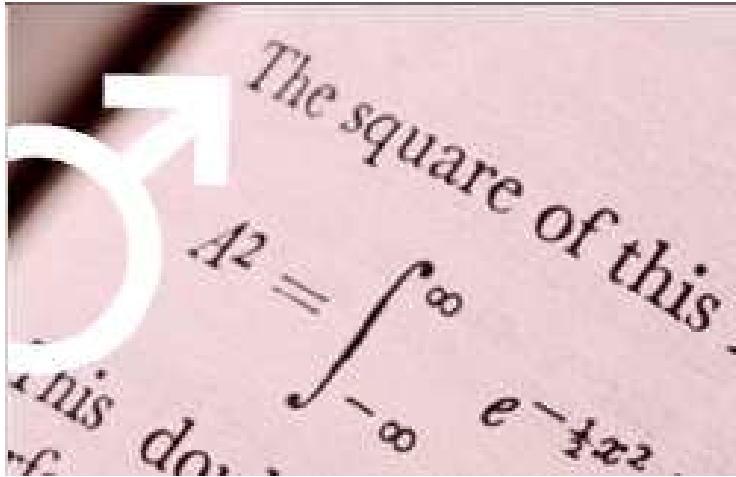




## AIMS

- Understand the reason for the loss of interest from young people, particularly girls, in scientific studies and careers;
- Implement social dialogue between the research community, teachers, students, parents and other social actors and identify main issues and expectations from these groups;
- Develop and test a range of practical activities to overcome gender differences.



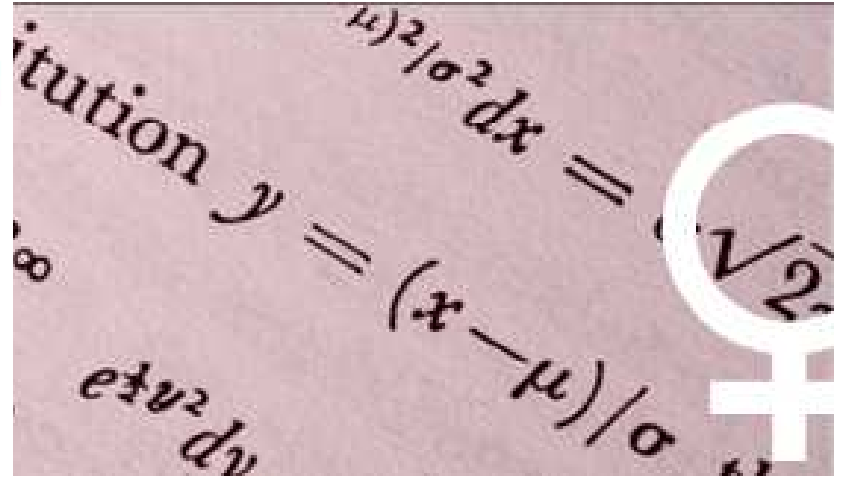
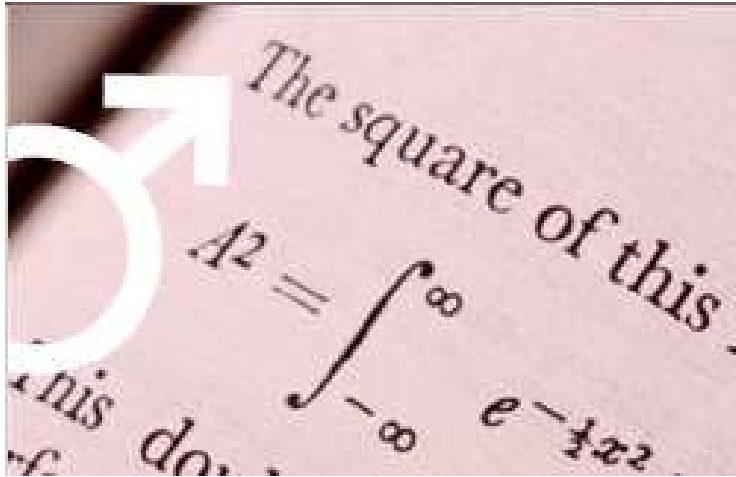


# THE PROCESS

GAPP has established an integrated process of **qualitative research** and has developed **specific oriented practices** in science communication and education.

The project has used **participatory methods** and a range of pilot activities, concrete actions **connecting** students, teachers and parents with scientists, in order to better understand and interest young people in choosing scientific and technological careers in the future.

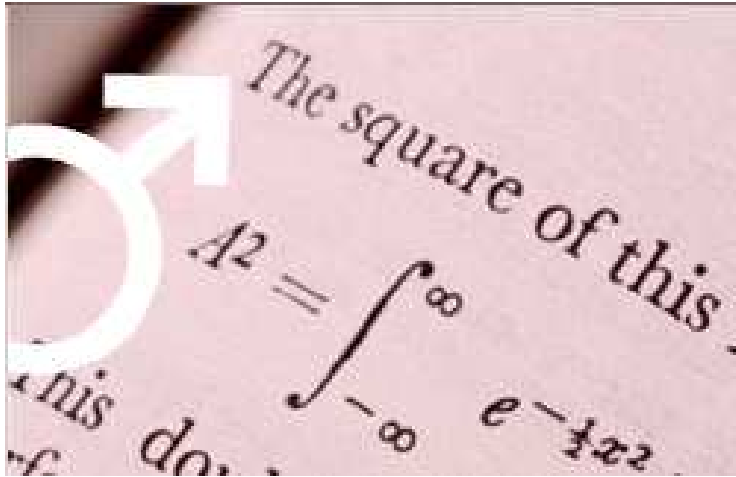




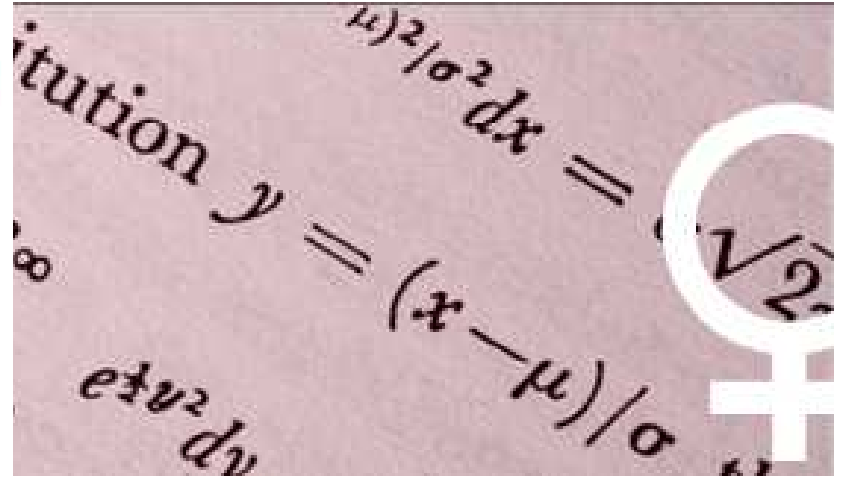
## Activities

- Focus Groups
- In-depth Interviews
- Open Space Technology (OST)
- Pilot activities
- Final conference





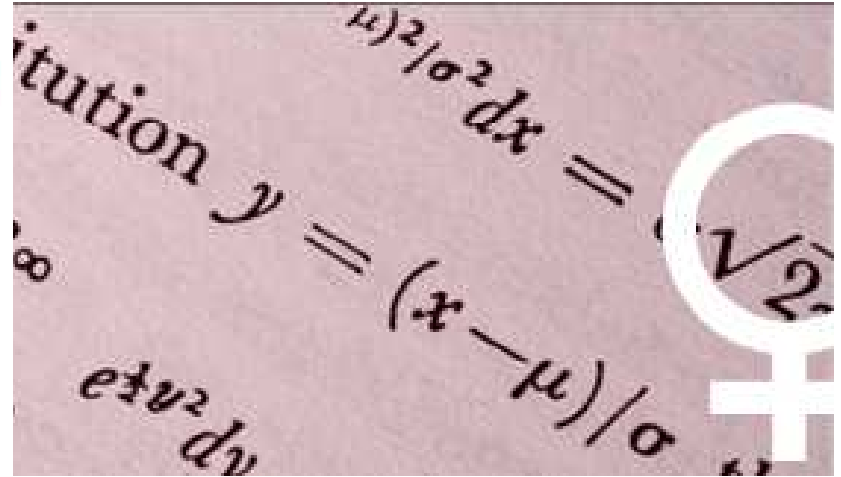
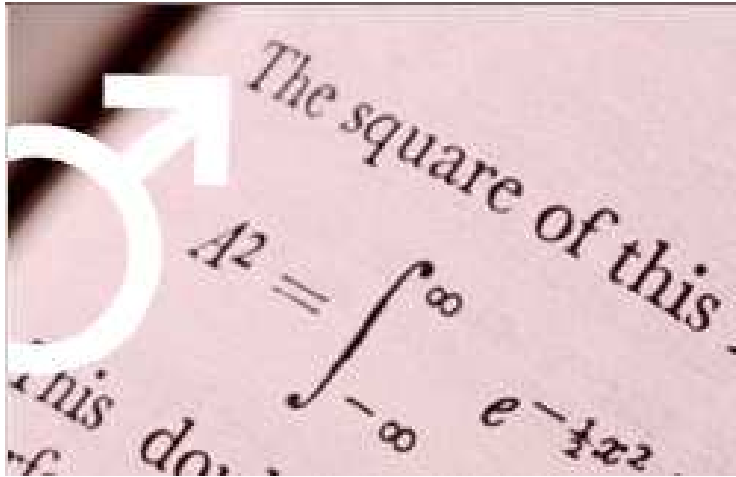
**gpp**  
GENDER  
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## Focus Groups

- Workshops between
  - Pupils (14-16 & 16-18 years old)
  - Science teachers
  - Parents



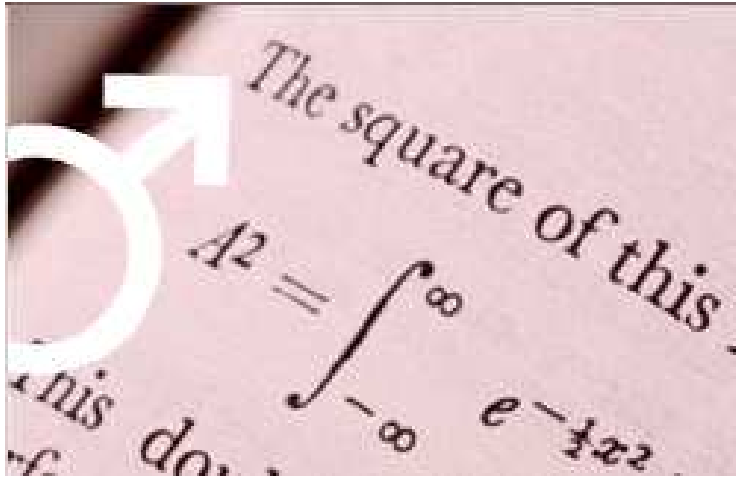


## In-depth Interviews

- 60 scientists from the 6 partners interviewed
- Providing a panel of researchers and their personal scientific path, asking about their awareness on the influence of the gender on the career...
  - ⇒ Promotion & societal aspects, family, environment... “Pregnancy & dangerous products”
  - ⇒ “Gender influenced their career once they got a higher position” = Promotion criteria “male-driven”, discriminating, not transparent. “Old boys” network.

### Actions:

- ⇒ Raise passion in science teachers
- ⇒ Level of maths to be rethought at primary & sec. school by Minister of education
- ⇒ Interest for science should start at primary school
- ⇒ More attention for languages in scientific training
- ⇒ Networking
- ⇒ Mentoring
- ⇒ Positive actions : quotas



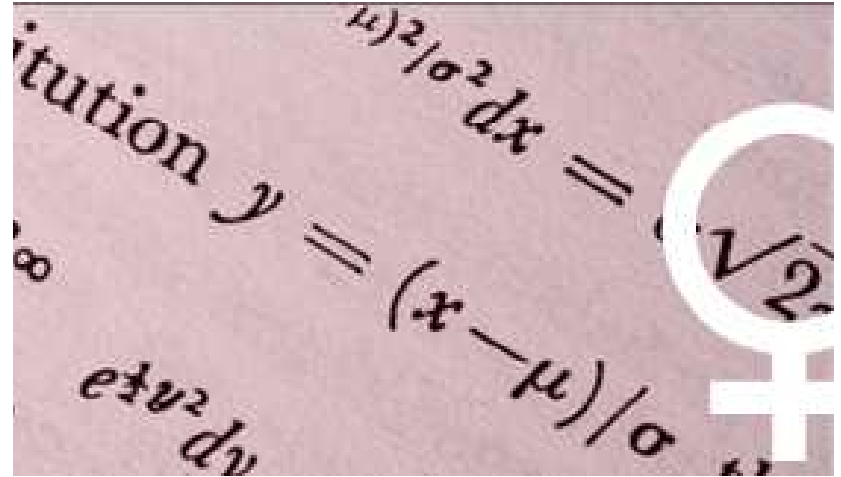
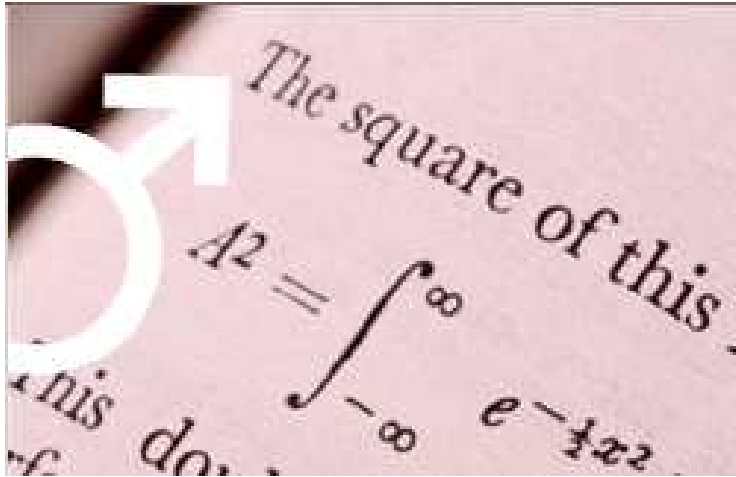
# Open Space Technology

A large workshop with

- Parents & pupils & teachers & scientists
- Reflecting together on the action to be implemented at school which can get them closer to science and to the scientists

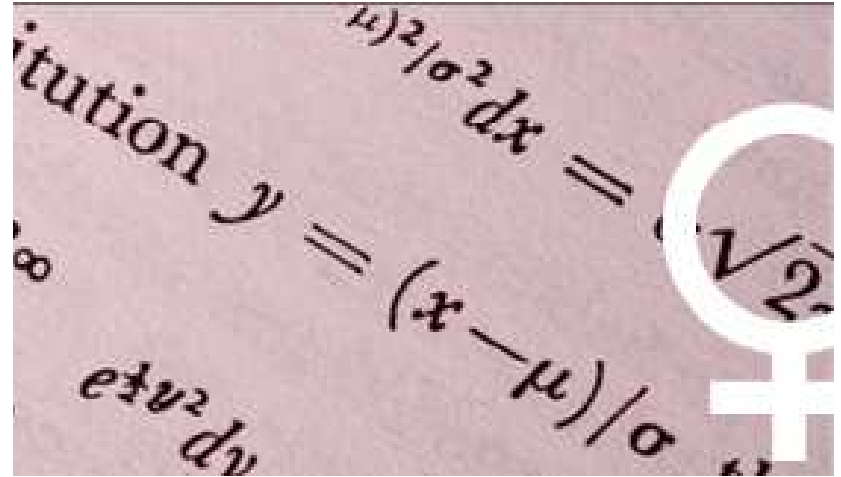
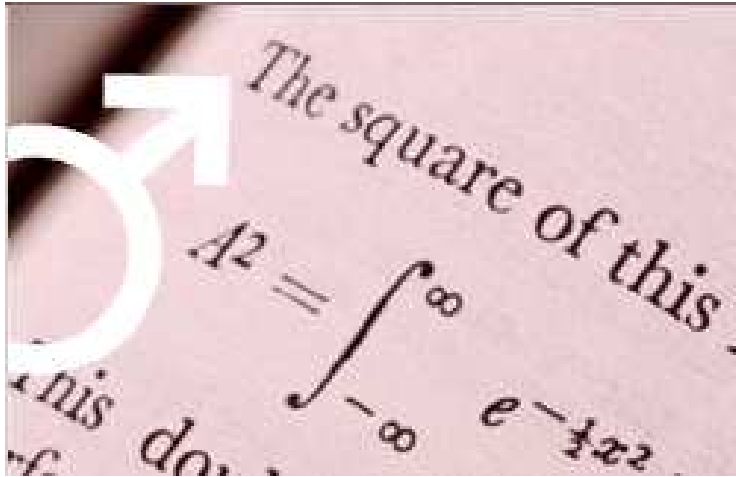
=> A Pilot Activity





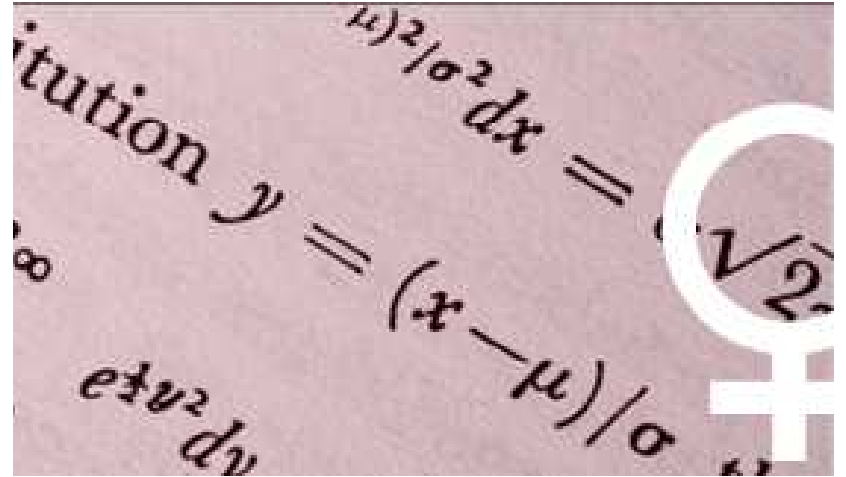
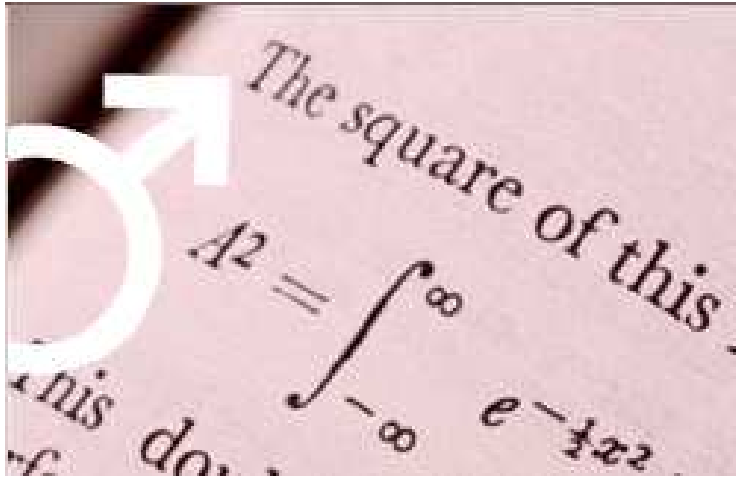
## The pilot activities - what is behind the scientific career?

- **RBINS** : “Meeting the (female) scientist – role models”
  - The scientists back to school. The pupils enter the Museum’s lab. Informal discussions on the career.
- **NEMO** : “Tube Your Future”
  - Production of films interviews of scientists. Films contest. Films uploaded on YouTube
- **Ciencia Viva** : “The scientists’ blog”
  - A new and privileged platform for exchanges between pupils, teachers and scientists
- **Experimentarium**: “Science students as role models”
  - Students in science lead active workshops for parents and pupils.
- **Città della Scienza** : “Working in scientific and technological laboratories”
  - Practical educational activity in the labs & discussion with the scientist on their career
- **University of Warsaw – Youth research center** : “Movies and lessons”
  - Movies featuring young scientists. Discussions bet. teachers and pupils



## RESULTS

- Perception of science at school is very different from the one in the “outer world” (boring, far away)  
=> Importance of meeting the scientist and go on their workplace. Show the “appealing” aspects
- Gender equality in the youth participation to the pilot activities – demonstration of equal potential
- Confirmation of EU statistics : girls more towards biomedical sciences, boys more toward technologies
- Substantial change in the image of the S&T professions
  - Maths & physics => multidisciplinary work
  - Serious & particularly intelligent => Down the ivory tower, can be fun
- Pilot activities applicable to any European school, targeted best to 14-15 years old students

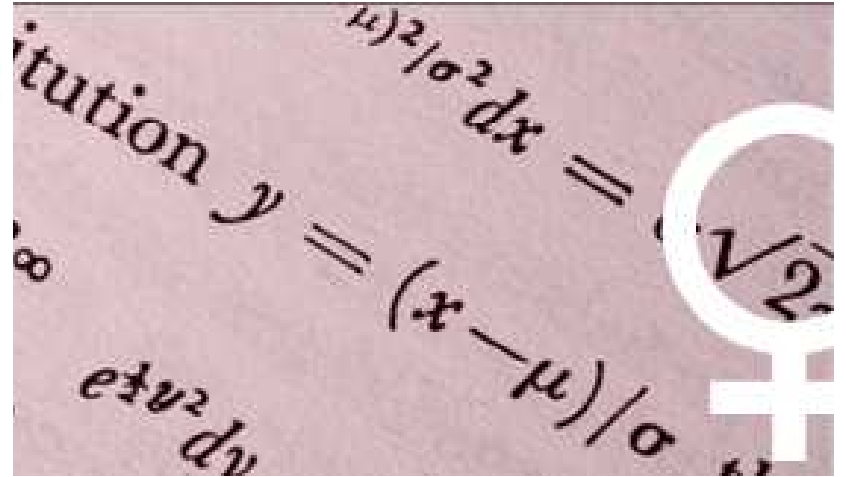
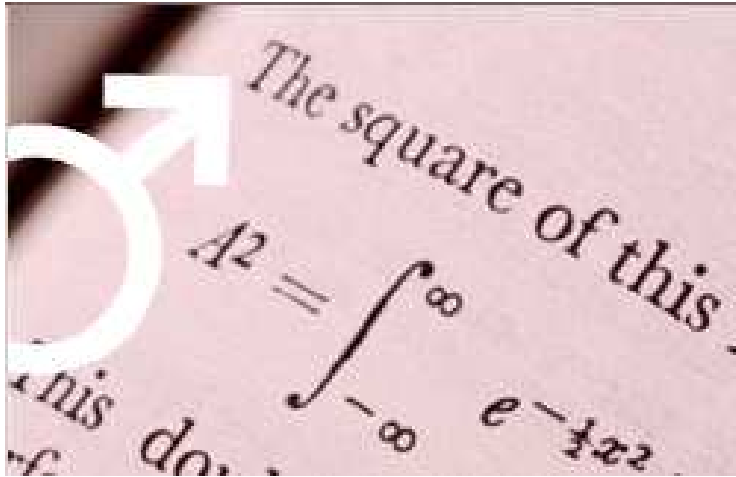


## RESULTS

### THE GAPP Handbook

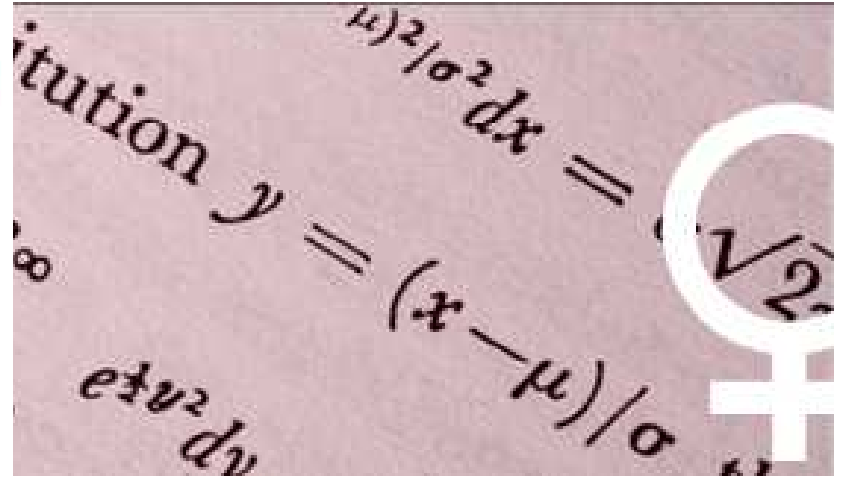
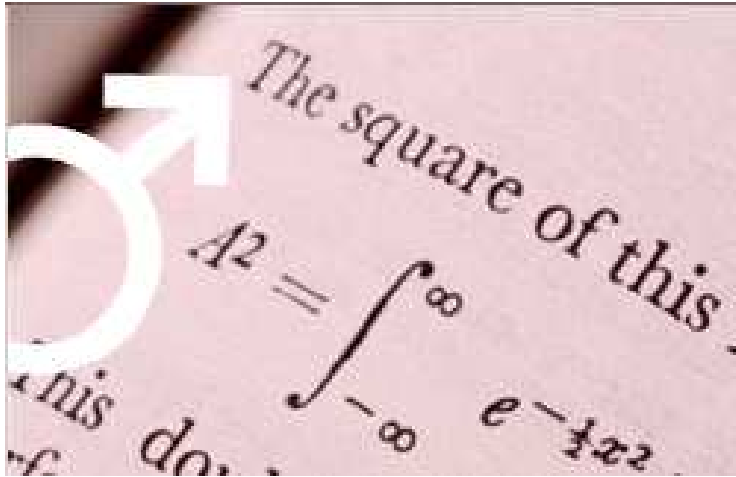
Bringing young people closer to science and technology professions

A Gender Perspective in a Practical Handbook



## FINAL CONFERENCE

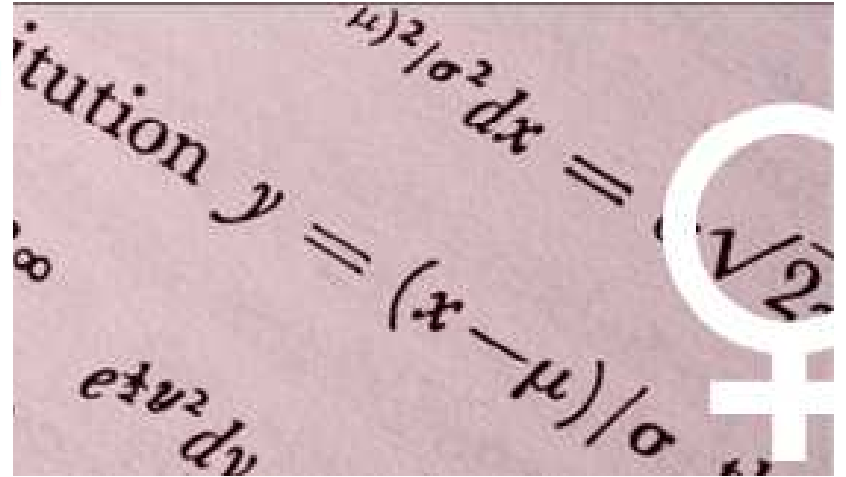
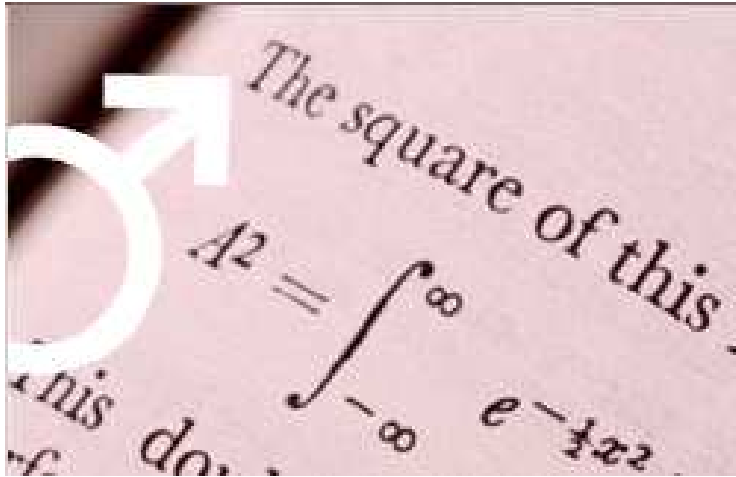
The conference aimed to open and link the project with **European representatives** from different fields on science, education, research and equal opportunities, with the objective of **delivering the results** and **contributing to the gender policies** for the representation of women in science and technology.



## THE PROGRAM

**The first session** “*Gender Awareness Participation Process: outcomes of the project and new perspectives*” dedicated to the results of the project and its discussion with testimonies and reviewers

**The second session** “*A gender perspective on the scientific culture of the young generation*”  
a round-table discussion on gender issues in S&T

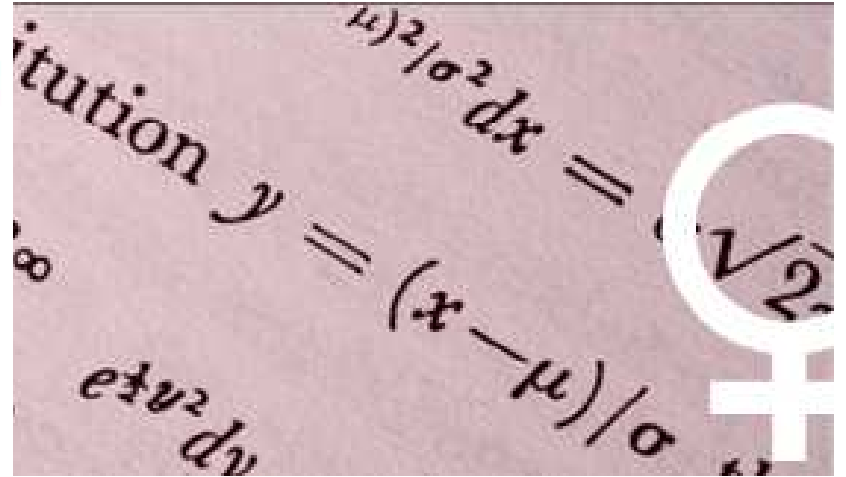
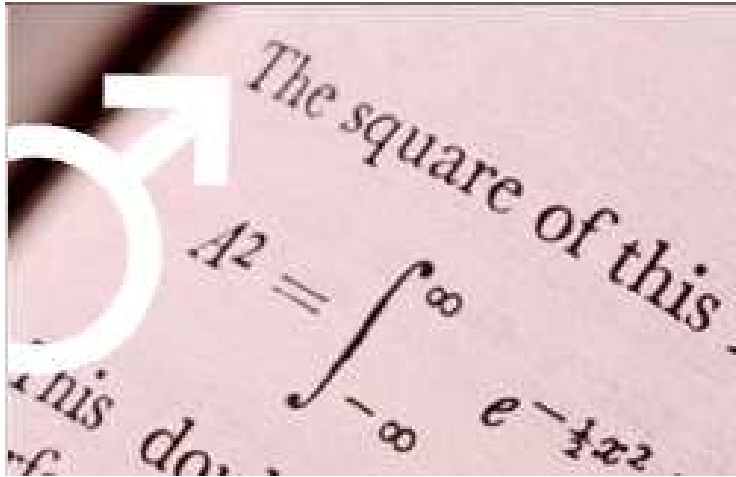


## TESTIMONIES from the Pilot Activities

a **scientist** from Portugal  
*Tiago Flemming Outeiro*

A **student** from Netherlands  
*Hasti Jalalzadeh*



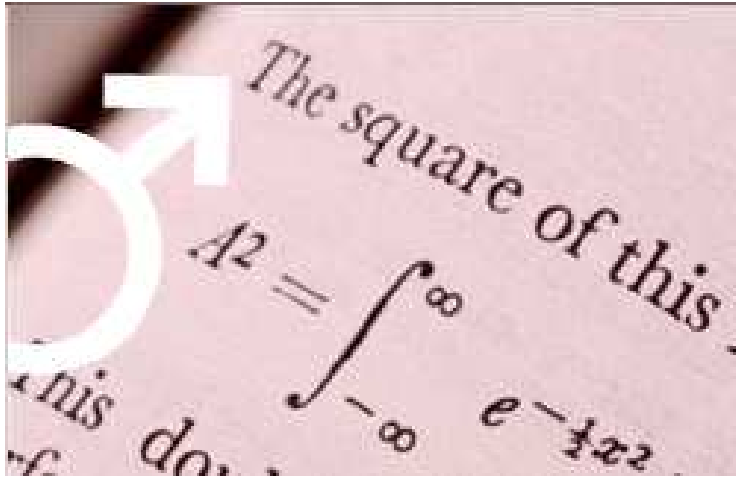


# TESTIMONIES from the Pilot Activities

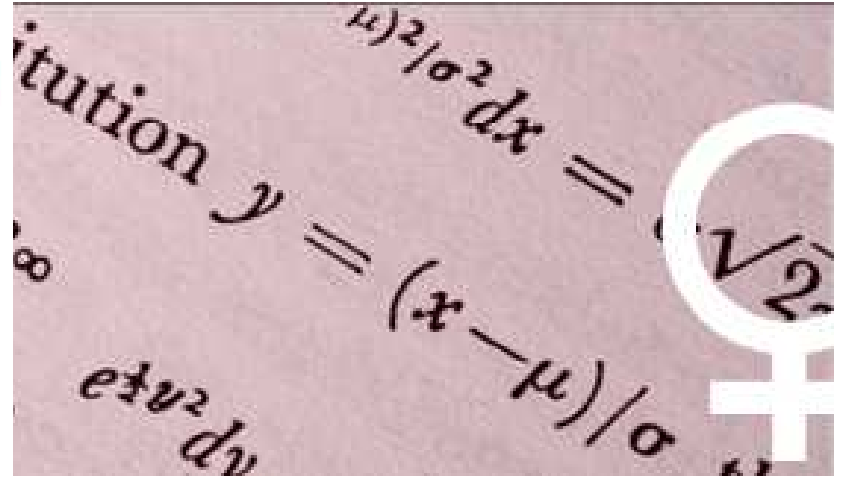
a parent from Denmark  
*Henrik Petersen*

a teacher from Poland  
*Joanna Heropolitanska-Janik*





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## The Final Conference took place at the EP

***Pia Elda Locatelli*** MEP who made having this Conference at the European Parliament possible



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a project funded  
under the FP6 program-Science and Society

