



GENOVATE

Transforming Organisational Culture for
Gender Equality in Research and Innovation

Work Package 6 [Knowledge Exchange and Institutional Case Studies]

Deliverable D6.1 [Virtual Collaboration Platform]





Project acronym: GENOVATE
Project full title: Transforming organisational culture for gender equality in research and innovation
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Website: www.genovate.eu
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Deliverable [D6.1]

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Background

GENOVATE is an action-research project which aims to ensure equal opportunities for women and men by encouraging a more gender-competent management in research, innovation and scientific decision-making bodies, with a particular focus on universities. The project is based on the implementation of Gender Equality Action Plans (GEAPs) in six European universities with on-going evaluation provided by one other partner European university, and brings together a consortium with diverse experience in gender mainstreaming approaches. All consortium partners come from different disciplinary backgrounds and have different national context. However, each of the institutions shares common challenges for gender equality in research and innovation, and all have identified three common areas for intervention:

- Recruitment, progression and research support
- Working environment, work-life balance and institutional culture
- Gender and diversity dimensions of research excellence and innovation

Scope

The GENOVATE consortium consists of seven partner institutions that bring to the partnership unique expertise and varying needs in relation to gender issues. This diversity of strengths and interests provides an opportunity to exchange information across the partners and to learn from each other's skills and experiences in support of the implementation of the GEAPs. Work package 6 provides effective strategies and networking activities for knowledge exchange among partners and designs and develops the tools (virtual and face to face) needed to meet identified needs. In addition, this WP aimed to customise existing tools in supporting networking activities and information exchange in relation to the implementation of GEAPs. The WP partners will use social and professional networking tools (including chats, forums, posts, online archive, and so on)

Deliverable

In addition to traditional approaches to sharing knowledge within the consortium such as email, Skype, etc, the consortium has developed and customised existing tools to share information among its members. The specific work plan and definition for Task 6.1 was agreed at the inaugural GENOVATE convention in March 2013. There are 2 aspects to the virtual collaboration – a platform for virtual meetings and a hub for intra-consortium learning.

Blackboard Collaborate

Managed by UNIBRAD, Blackboard Collaborate [figure 1] online platform offers a collaborative, interactive, and mobile learning and sharing experience that is used for GENOVATE virtual meetings, webinars and other virtual knowledge sharing uses.

Collaborate is beneficial in offering exciting new and better interactive safe space for open discussion.

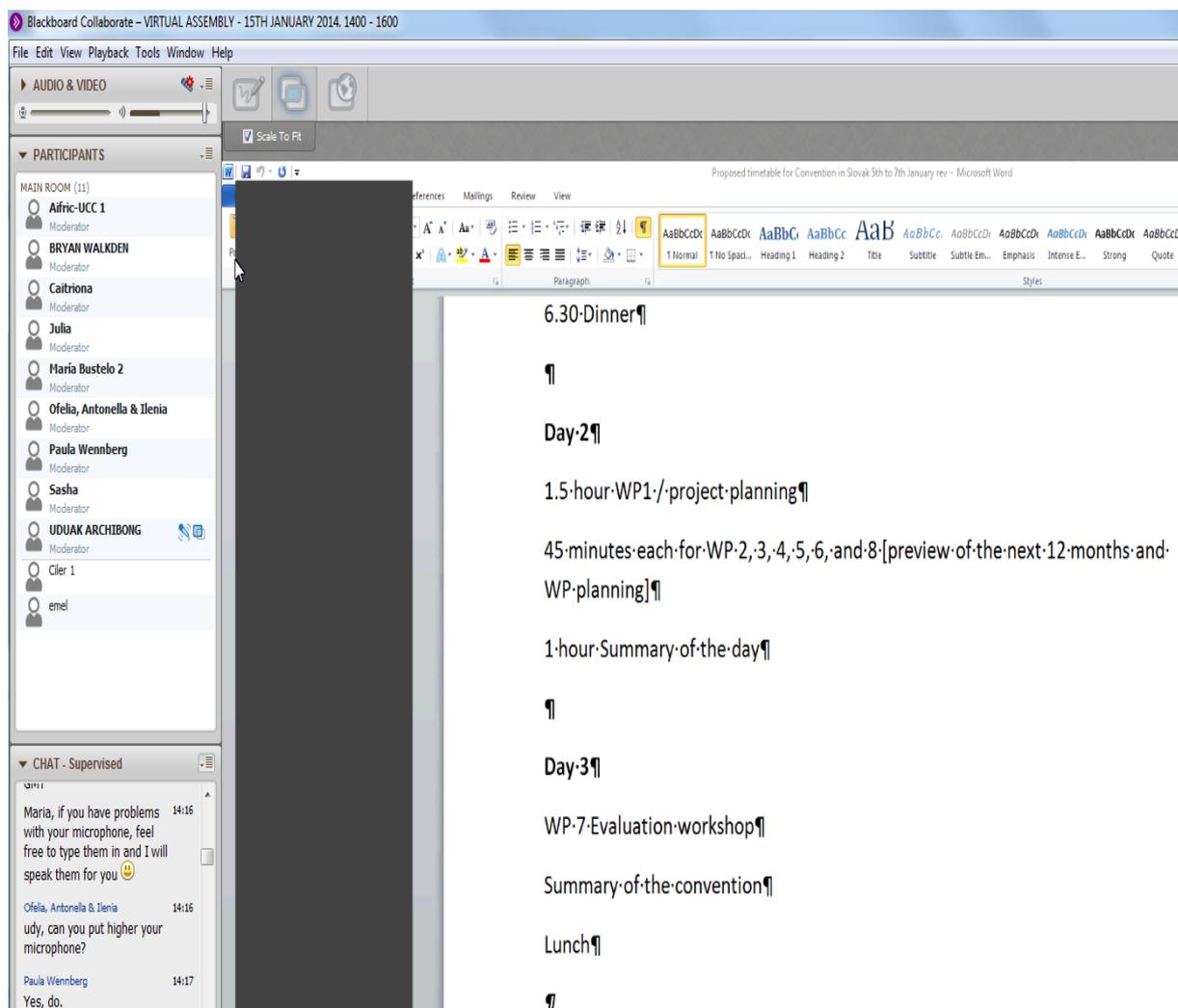


Figure 1 – Collaborate in use

GENOVATE Community

Parallel to the GENOVATE website is a virtual platform for intra-consortium shared learning - the GENOVATE Community [figure 2] <http://www.genovate.unina.it/community/>. The GENOVATE Community enables partners to share institutional information and case studies, and facilitates the coordination of a buddy system for bench learning. Additionally, the Community provides an opportunity for dissemination to the GENOVATE International Advisory Board, key strategic collaborators and stakeholders, and the general public.

GENOVATE Community is available for both registered and non-registered users. Non registered users can only read articles/posts classified as 'public'.



Figure 2 – GENOVATE Community homepage

Work package Forum: This is accessible to **partner** user only. It is a forum for sharing information and discussions concerning work packages. There are 8 categories one for each WP moderated by the WP lead. Each partner user can write posts in the Forum and reply as appropriate. In the index [figure 3], there are 3 kinds of topics – **Recent** topic contains the last topics posted in the forum; **New** topic allows the user to create a new topic; and **My** topics contains the topics written by the user. This section has a **search** button – which can be used to search the content of the Forum using different keywords.

GENOVATE COMMUNITY

HOME
USER
USERS LIST
WPs FORUM
INSTITUTIONAL BLOG

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

You are here: [Home](#) > [Forum](#) > [Index](#)

Index
Recent Topics
New Topic
My Topics
Search

Welcome, [udy](#)

Last Visit Date: Today

[Logout](#)

Forum > Index

Mark all topics read
Board Categories ▼ [Go](#)

Genovate forum
This is the main forum section.

	<p>WP1 Management of the GENOVATE consortium <small>Moderators: udy</small></p>	16 Topics	27 Replies	<p>Last Post: GENOVATE Virtual Ass ... by smith 13 Jan 2014 11:55</p>
	<p>WP2 Development of a social model of gender equality implementation <small>Moderators: Monica</small></p>	18 Topics	55 Replies	<p>Last Post: Call for CAMWritten ... by Monica 20 Dec 2013 19:19</p>
	<p>WP3 Gender equality in recruitment, progression and research support <small>Moderators: nila@re</small></p>	3 Topics	4 Replies	<p>Last Post: UCC: WP3 partner sup ... by Aifric 12 Dec 2013 10:22</p>
	<p>WP4 Working environment and culture change <small>Moderators: Clier</small></p>	7 Topics	13 Replies	<p>Last Post: Ongoing Monitoring-F ... by memis 11 Dec 2013 18:12</p>
	<p>WP5 Excellence in research and innovation through gender equality and diversity <small>Moderators: paula</small></p>	18 Topics	40 Replies	<p>Last Post: EIA training recordi ... by smith 14 Jan 2014 09:34</p>
	<p>WP6 Knowledge exchange and institutional case studies <small>Moderators: ofelia</small></p>	25 Topics	52 Replies	<p>Last Post: Mentoring Training R ... by smith 14 Jan 2014 09:36</p>
	<p>WP7 Evaluation <small>Moderators: moustelo</small></p>	9 Topics	12 Replies	<p>Last Post: Inputs summary of th ... by espinosa 11 Nov 2013 12:24</p>
	<p>WP8 Dissemination and sustainability strategy <small>Moderators: udy</small></p>	11 Topics	15 Replies	<p>Last Post: Gender Summit 3 by ofelia 17 Jan 2014 12:46</p>

Who Is Online

Total users online: 1 Member and 12 Guests Online

[udy](#)

Legend: [Site Administrator](#), [Global Moderator](#), [Moderator](#), [Banned](#), [User](#), [Guest](#)

Forum > Index

Powered by Kunena Forum

Knowledge exchange tools

- [Dashboard](#)
- [Fields](#)
- [Expertise](#)
- [Meetings](#)
- [Repository](#)

Personal reflections

- [My Posts](#)
- [New Post](#)

Calendar

Blog Latest News

- [Second Institutional Advisory Board Meeting was held in AU on 28th December](#)
- [Second Institutional Advisory Board Meeting was held in AU on 28th December](#)
- [UNINA's reflections on Stop&Share CAM sessions](#)
- [UNIBRAD's Reflections on Stop and Share CAM Sessions](#)
- [AU Reflections on CAM Sessions](#)

Login

Hi, [udy](#)

LOGOUT

Members Online Today

[sargeant](#) [udy](#) [admin](#)

Figure 3 – GENOVATE Community showing WP Forum index

Institutional blog [figure 4] allows the user to access the blog that hosts reflections on GEAP implementation within partner institutions. The reflections from institutions [indicated by the acronym of each partner institution] will be used in creating case studies.



Figure 4 – GENOVATE Community showing institutional blog

Knowledge exchange: This section [figure 5] is accessible to partner users only. It directs the user to a work platform devoted to knowledge exchange task for sharing expertise within the consortium. The aims of this section are – to describe partner expertise; add documents to be shared between partners; plan meetings and make notes and comments about activities. This section of the platform will mainly be used by UNINA [Community host]for planning knowledge exchange tasks and associated meetings.

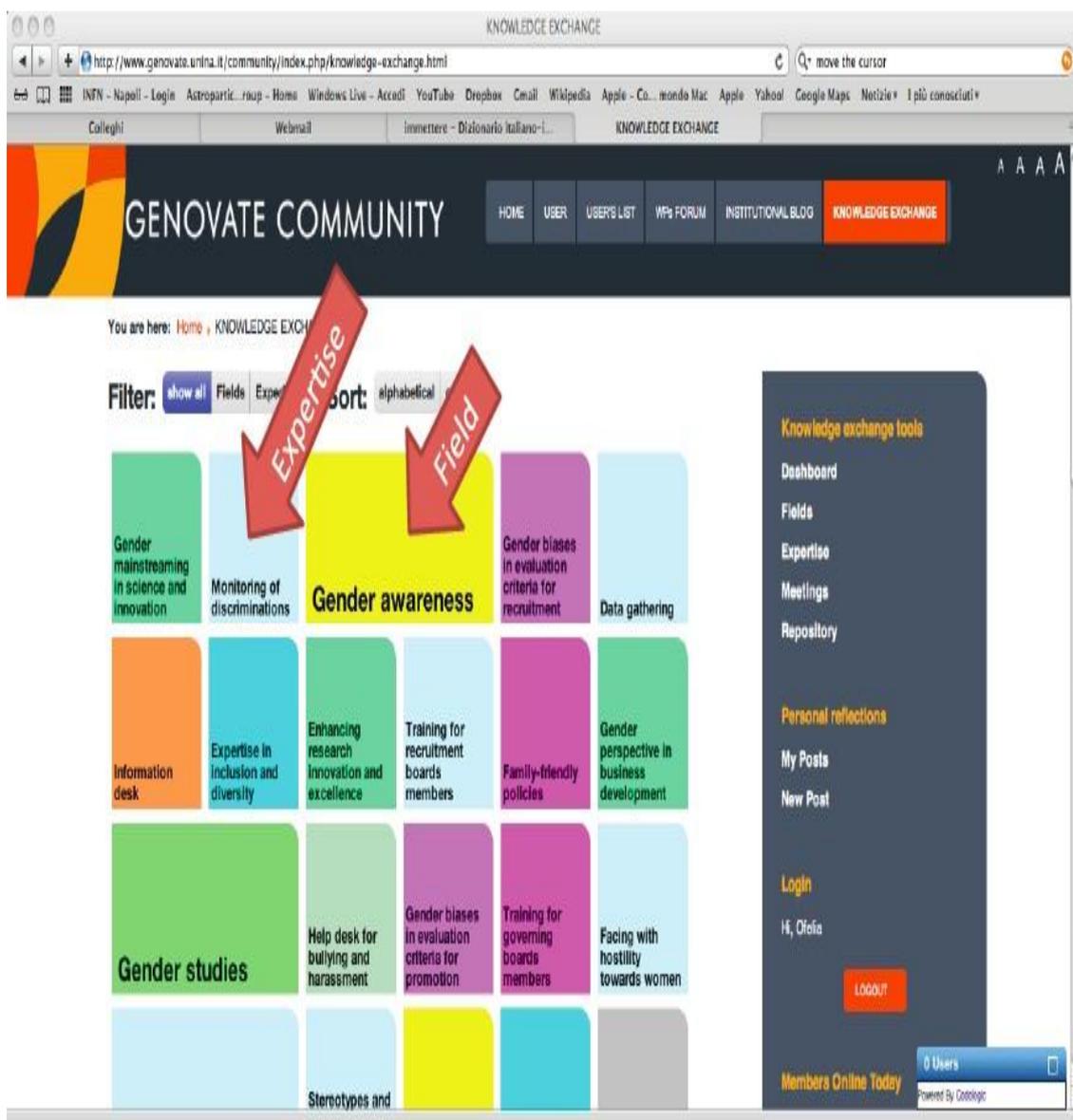


Figure 5 – GENOVATE Community showing knowledge exchange page

Conclusion

We have customised Blackboard Collaborate for GENOVATE meetings and ‘Stop and Share’ learning sessions. In addition, the GENOVATE Community has been designed, developed and launched and is a live and operational environment for knowledge exchange in the consortium.