

SEX AND GENDER INTEGRATION IN THE SWISS MEDICAL CURRICULUM

unisanté

Centre universitaire de médecine générale et santé publique • Lausanne

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INTRODUCTION

Sex and Gender (S&G) Integration is a collaborative project supported by swissuniversities (P-7 program, 2021-2024) to develop coordinated health and gender education at Swiss universities, while coping with limited and unequal resources.

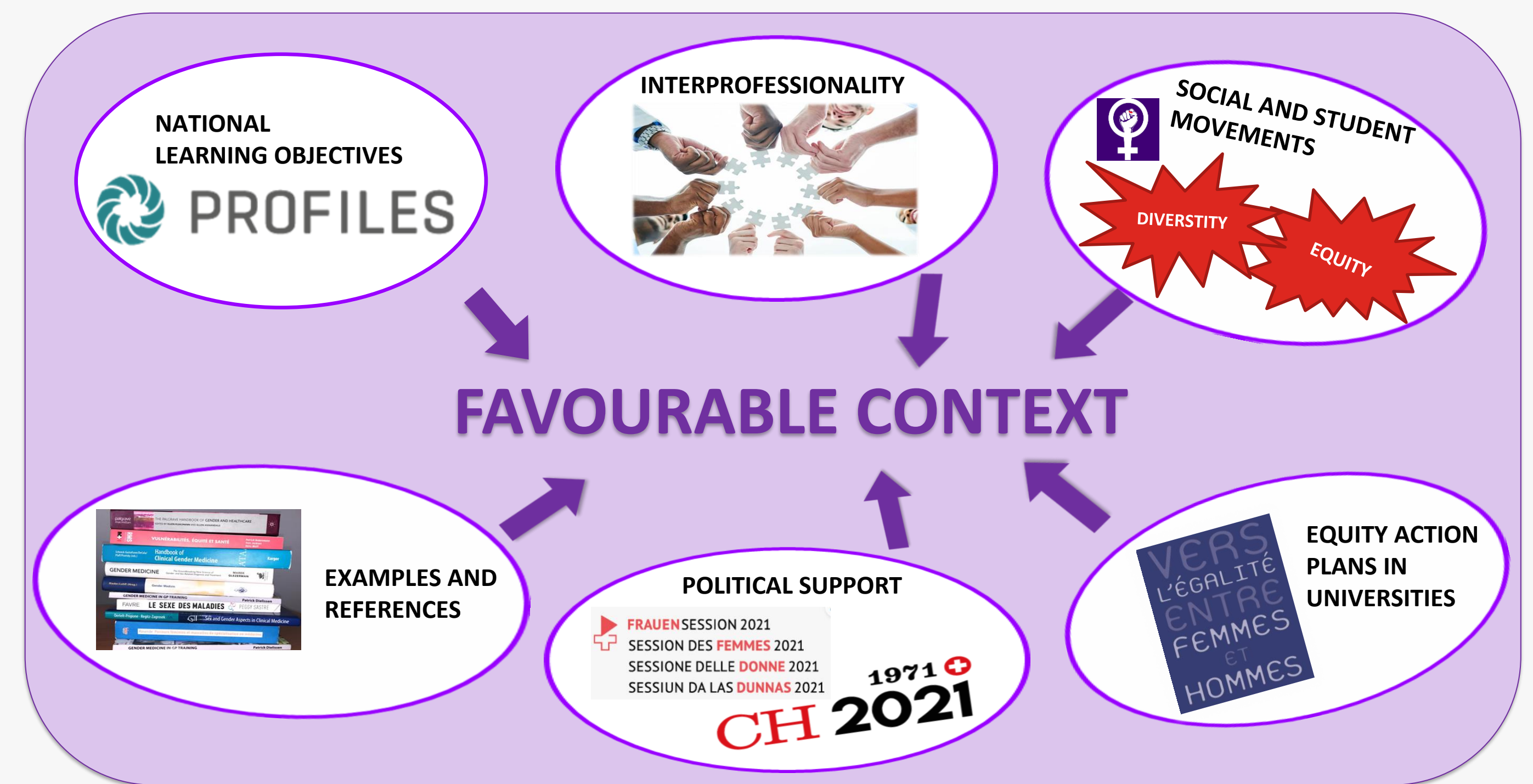
It began with six medical universities (Lausanne, Basel, Bern, Fribourg, Geneva, Zurich) and one university of applied sciences (SUPSI, nursing field) and was gradually joined by four medical universities (Neuchâtel, Luzern, ETH Zürich, Lugano).

OBJECTIVES

1. Establish a common vision for integrating sex and gender (S&G) into medical education
2. Enable lecturers to pool and share teaching resources
3. Increase awareness within universities and strengthen the integration of S&G dimensions

OUTPUTS

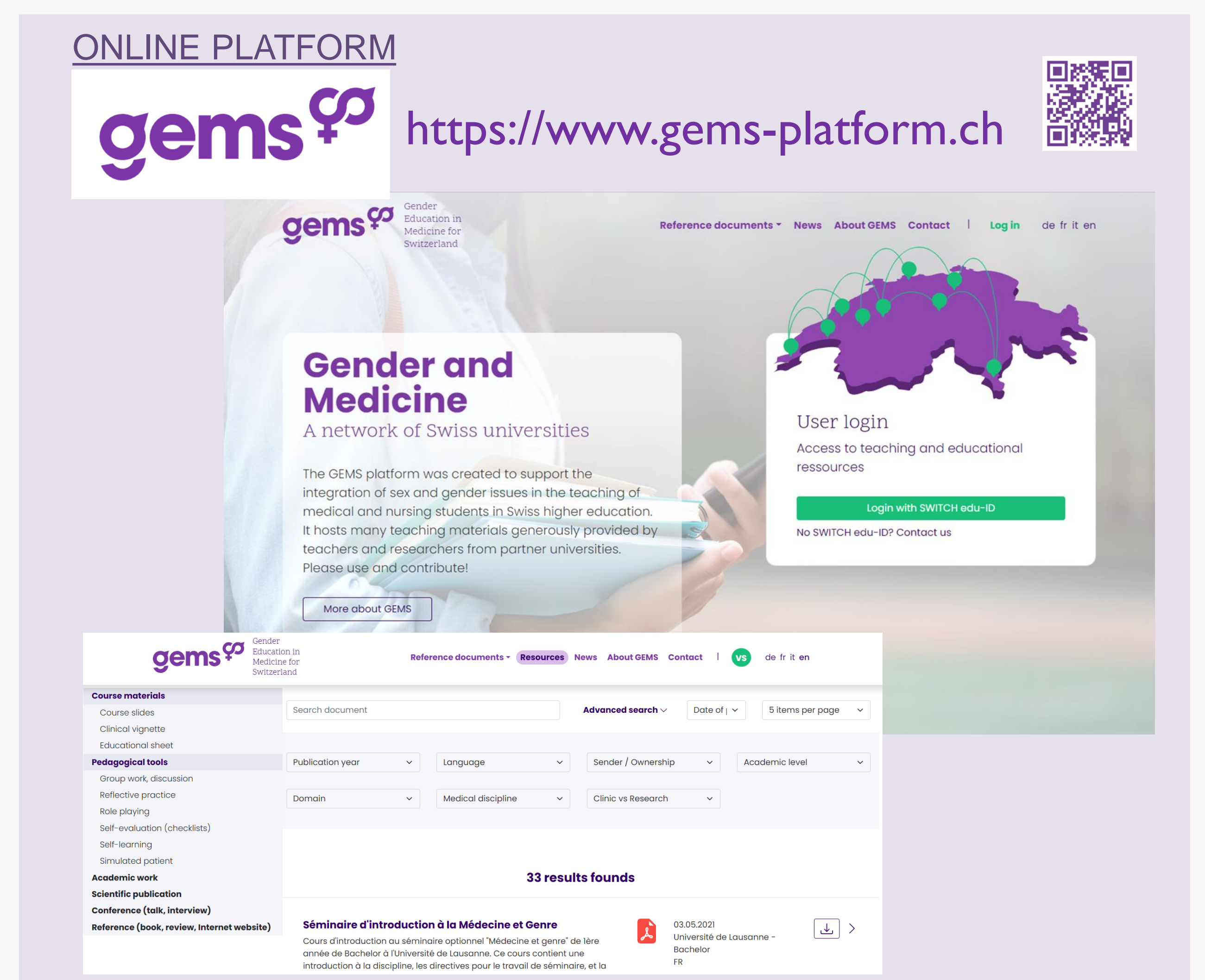
1. Key reference document for S&G integration: the Core Curriculum
2. GEMS online platform for sharing teaching resources, communication, and innovation
3. University implementation: reference contacts in each institution, working groups, evaluations, student support, dean's office and faculty involvement
4. Communication: Forum on Sex and Gender, newsletters, media outreach
5. Creation of a National Network: Swiss Society for Gender Health



NATIONAL REFERENCE : THE CORE CURRICULUM



Title of the course	Year	Nr periods (45 min)	Format	Status
Introduction to sex and gender	1	2	Lecture	Mandatory
Sexual and Reproductive health	3	2	Lecture or small groups	Mandatory
Sex and gender in pharmacology	3	1	Lecture	Mandatory
Prevention of sexism and sexual harassment	3	2	Forum-theatre, videos, role plays, interactions to enable discussion of real cases with theoretical inputs	Mandatory
Sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) diversity and health	4	2	Lecture and seminar	Mandatory
Sex and gender in specific diseases and clinical situations	3 and 4	2	Lecture and seminar	Mandatory
Sex and gender biases, stereotypes and discrimination	4-5	2	Integrated expert-guided discussion around clinical cases with theoretical inputs	Mandatory
Sex and gender integration in research	3 or 4	1	Integrated into regular methods courses for bachelor and master theses	Mandatory
Career planning/Mentoring	4, 5, 6	2	Lecture and workshop	Optional



ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- **Networking:** ↗ Collaborations between and within universities
E.g.: CAS in S&G-specific medicine; Collaboration on scientific publications, projects calls (NRP, SNSF) and evaluations
- **Positive competition:** ↗ Focus on S&G issues across all universities
E.g.: Setting up working groups; Obtaining human resources, funding and teaching hours
- **Advocacy:** ↗ Concern at political and institutional level
E.g.: Political contacts leading to parliamentary interventions; Presentation at the 2021 Frauensession; Advocacy letters to the SNSF for strengthening S&G mainstreaming in research; Support letters for the new S&G National Research Program (NRP83); Integration of S&G into international research guidelines (CIOMS); Updating of PROFILES.
- **Visibility:** ↗ Coverage in mainstream media
E.g.: Increased media interviews and public conferences
- **Virtuous loop:** Communicative enthusiasm and powerful and supportive network within the partners

CONCLUSION Collaborating at a national level has led to rapid, tangible changes. A solid foundation has been laid and we look forward to building on it.

PROJECT PARTNERS



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