The Global Research Council: Commitment to Equity and Integration of Gender Dimension in Research

Roshni Abedin,
UK Research and Innovation
GRC Gender Working Group
About the Global Research Council

• The Global Research Council (GRC) is a virtual organization, comprised of over 50 heads of funding agencies from around the world.

• The purposes of the Global Research Council:
  • improve communication and cooperation
  • sharing of data and best practices
  • forum for regular meetings
  • address issues of common concern
  • resource for those institutions
  • explore mechanisms that support the global science enterprise
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

Context

• 2016: GRC endorsed Statement of Principles and 10 Actions: Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

Progress 1: The Gender Working Group

• 2017: GRC Gender Working Group (GWG) formed

• Expansion in 2018: GRC regions
  • Contributing to the collective implementation of the principles and actions
  • Reports to the Executive Support Group
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

GRC GWG Overarching Considerations

• The participation and promotion of women in the research workforce
• The integration of the gender dimension in research design and in the analysis of research outcomes
• 10 deliberate actions
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

Africa
- NRF, SA (Co-Chair)
- MESR, Senegal

Americas
- NSERC, Canada
- FAPESP, Brazil

Asia Pacific
- NSF, Sri Lanka
- MBIE, New Zealand

Europe
- UKRI (Co-Chair)
- DFG, Germany
- Science Europe

MENA
- TRC, Oman
- KACST, Saudi Arabia
Progress 2
2. A focus on ACTION 2: Collect and make available data for comparative analysis GRC

Aims:

a. Developing a data gathering tool that aids gender disaggregated data collection across GRC members;

b. Collecting, analysing and report comparative gender disaggregated data on research funding decisions across the GRC; and

c. Developing and collating gender equality and inclusivity indicators of success to inform SGCs system-wide catalytic role.
Gender Disaggregated Data in Focus

Data collection:
The availability of data facilitates benchmarking.

Data provides the foundation for:
- Identifying shortcomings and gaps
- Measuring progress
- Determining strategic direction
- Concentrating our efforts
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

Progress 2: Prioritisation

Action 2: Collect and make available data for comparative analysis GRC
a. Pilot synthesis exercise finalised
   • What gender disaggregated is your council collecting and reporting?
   • What indicators inform the data collection?

b. Data gathering tool
   a. Exploring UNESCO SAGA collaboration
   b. GRC dialogue
Gender Disaggregated Data in Focus

Synthesis Report

Status on collecting and reporting gender-disaggregated data in science granting councils

http://www.globalresearchcouncil.org
Annual Meeting 15 May 2018, Moscow
## Results: Summary of GRC gender working group indicators*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>% of women researchers funded</th>
<th>% of women postdocs funded</th>
<th>% of women research in management positions</th>
<th>Student and/or professor data</th>
<th>Data disaggregate by identities other than gender</th>
<th>Programs specifically for women researchers</th>
<th>Data collected since</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.U.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.K.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This table summarizes the information provided and therefore may not be complete.*
2. A focus on ACTION 2: Collect and make available data for comparative analysis

Key Findings

- Gender inclusivity and awareness gaining traction across GRC participating organisations
- Gender disaggregated data collection new area for most GRC members
- Different data collection methodologies and indicators inform data collection
Progress 3

Engaging GRC Members

GRC policy dialogue, 14 May 2018

Aims:

• Seeking strategic advice on GWG focus areas from HORCs
• Further appreciation of gender disaggregated data experiences from GRC members
• Meeting of the GWG with new members
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

3. Engaging GRC Members
GRC policy dialogue, 14 May 2018

Outcomes and way forward:
• Expansion of the synthesis exercise across GRC region with focus on indicators
• Publicising the statement of principles and actions through GRC regional meetings
• Good practice case studies on promoting gender equality by GRC members
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

A Call to Action

- GRC members as custodians and advocates of statement of principles and action plan
- Gender as a cross cutting theme in regional meetings going forward
- Champion in each GRC member organisation for the GWG
Implementing Statement of Principles and Actions Promoting the Equality and Status of Women in Research

Reflections

• Representation matters
• Learning from individual, regional and beyond SGC experiences
• Defining parameters for the working group
  • Data example
    • Gender inclusivity and awareness gaining traction—gender disaggregated data collection new area for most
    • Different data collection methodologies and indicators—standards
    • Varied data collected
Thank you!

CONTACT

Dorothy Ngila
National Research Foundation, South Africa
Dorothy.Ngila@nrf.ac.za

Roshni Abedin
UK Research and Innovation
Roshni.Abedin@rcuk.ac.uk