



CLARIS | LPB

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A Europe-South America Network for Climate Change Assessment

And Impact studies in La Plata Basin

www.claris-eu.org

Deliverables



Instrument: **SP1 Cooperation**

Thematic Priority: **Priority Area 1.1.6.3 "Global Change and Ecosystems"**

FP7 Collaborative Project – Grant Agreement 212492

CLARIS LPB

A Europe-South America Network for Climate Change Assessment and Impact Studies in La Plata Basin

DELIVERABLES

D1.3: Gender and Ethics Report

Due date of deliverable: Month 24

Start date of project: **01/10/2008**

Duration: **4 years**

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable: IRD

Deliverable No	Deliverable title	WP	Lead beneficiary	Estimated indicative person-months (permanent staff)	Nature	Dissemination level	Delivery date
D1.3	Gender and ethics report	WP1	P1-IRD	0,20	R	PU	24, 48

D.1.3. Gender and ethics report

Consideration of gender aspects

In compliance with the EC policies, CLARIS LPB pursues the promotion of gender equality through overseeing the overall actions performed by the project and the implementation of a gender action plan.

Gender Action Plan

In order to raise gender awareness, the following actions were undertaken:

- Project coordinator has made presentations on gender issues in all project meetings (Kick-off, Month 18, Month 26)
- Gender documents were distributed to Consortium Members (e.g. *Gender in Research-FP5& FP6 Series*, *Toolkit Gender in EU-funded research*; *Stocktaking 10 years of “Women in Science” Policy by the European Commission 1999-2009*)
- Links to gender websites are available at the CLARIS LPB website.
- News/information on gender circulated via CLARIS LPB mailing lists.

Partner representatives have ensured equal hiring opportunities for all; no wage disparities among women and men; equal access to training opportunities; promotion of integration of the gender dimension effectively into the different research programmes

During gender discussions at meetings, participants showed satisfaction with gender balance in the project and agreed with the Gender Action Plan.

Gender statistics in CLARIS LPB

Since the formulation of the project in 2008, CLARIS LPB had reached some gender balance at executive level (the composition of the Executive Board shows an equal number of male and female members). However, if we consider Work Package Leaders, there are 6 female out of a total of 15.

Figure 1 shows the composition of the project considering the participants’ status/function.

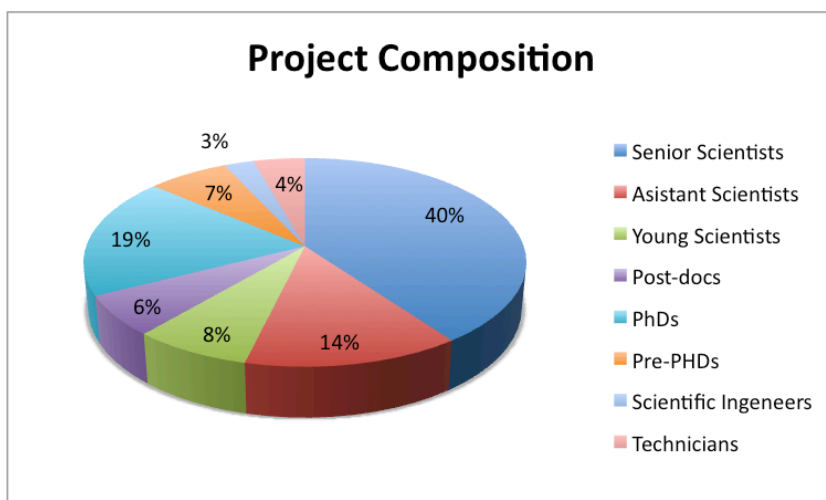


Figure 1 – Project composition by status/function

If we analyse the participation of women and men in the whole project (Figure 2), there is a good balance with 47% women and 53% men. This balance remains when considering men and women representation from European Community and South America (Figure 3),

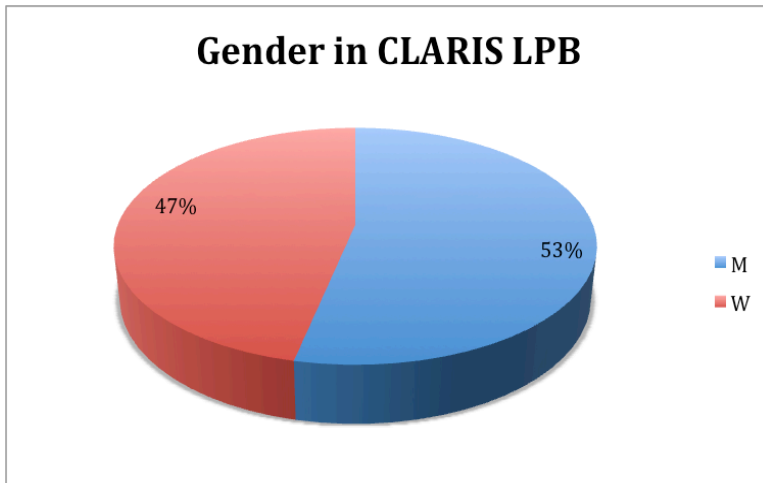


Figure 2 – Total percentage of women/men participation

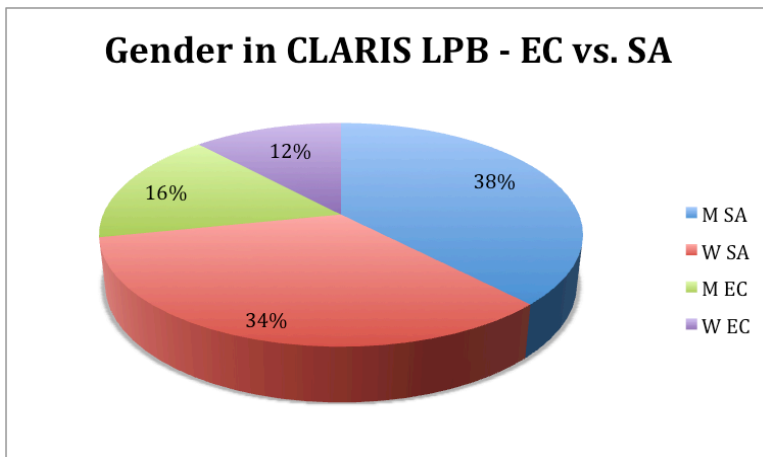


Figure 3 – Total percentage of women/men participation (South America / European Community)

However, there is a clear unbalance in the distribution of Senior Scientists with 45% male vs. 21% female in South America and 22% vs. 12% in Europe (Figure 4). This unbalance disappears in the case of assistant and young scientists (Figure 5) and the situation is completely opposite in the case of Pre-PhD, PhD students and Post-docs (Figure 6) where in South America 53% are women (the percentages of Figure 6 for the EC are not statistically reliable because all students are not registered yet). This may indicate that the current status of gender distribution in senior scientists will improve in the future since the flow of student women into research positions will gradually increase the number of female researchers. On the other hand, men tend to leave research positions in the public sector looking for higher salaries in the private market. This situation clearly demonstrates that gender balance in public research cannot be analyzed independently from job opportunities and salary levels observed in each country in the private and public sectors. A more systemic approach of gender balance/unbalance is therefore required to address such an issue.

Gender Issue - Senior Scientists

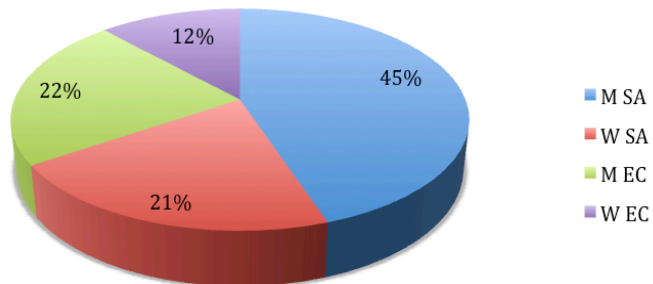


Figure 4 – Gender Participation Senior Scientists (South America / European Community)

Gender Issue - Assistant/Young Scientists

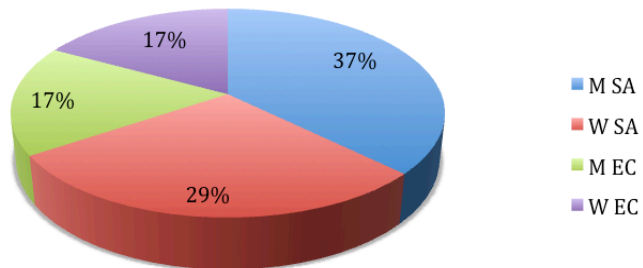


Figure 5 – Gender Participation – Assistant/Young Scientists (South America / European Community)

Gender Issue - Post-doc/PhD/Pre-PhD

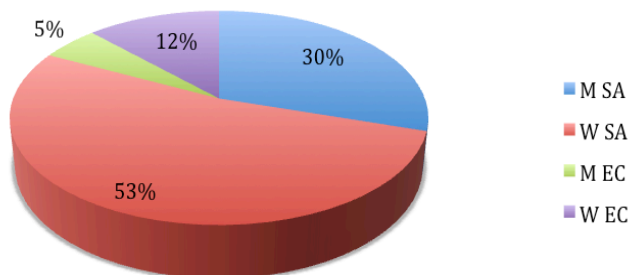


Figure 6 – Gender Participation – Post-doc/PhD/Pre-PhD

CLARIS LPB has an internal Exchange Grant program to foster multidisciplinary and multi-institute research within the network with open calls for these grants every six months. After the first five calls, women received 61 % of the grants.

The project also supports students to attend CLARIS LPB meetings. In this case, the participation of females in applications is higher and as a result, 36 out of a total of 53 supported students were women (68%).

Finally, in all project meetings, the three best posters that have a student (post-doc, Phd and pre-Phd) as first author receives grants of 1000 Euros each to cover one of these three options: cost of publication of the prized work in a European Journal; travel expenses to participate at a meeting where the prized work will be presented; travel expenses for the next CLARIS LPB meeting. Six out of the nine prized posters so far were won by female students.

Ethical issues

CLARIS LPB, as a multicentre research proposal taking place both in European and South American countries, is regulated within both the national and international legal and ethical systems. The main ethical issues of CLARIS LPB relate to the use of subject's information collected in the frame of WP8, for the purpose of understanding farmer behaviours and decision processes.

Ethics and regulatory issues were introduced to WP8 partners (e.g. the Directive 95/46/EC, 2000/520/EC & Directive 2002/58/EC on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data constitute the regulatory references). Informed consent is obtained from all research subjects in such a way that they clearly appreciate the purposes of the collect of information and the potential benefit of their taking part to it.

Data is processed in order to ensure confidentiality and person anonymity. Subject references are encoded and data is being stored anonymously on independent databases.