



Gender inclusive teaching

**An experiment conducted at the CERN International High School
Teacher Programme. First lessons learnt.**

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The CERN International High School Teacher Programme

- 3 weeks, every summer
- 60 teachers from all over the world
- Goal: improve and update teachers' knowledge of particle physics, associated technologies and subjects





Why a work group on gender inclusive teaching?

Reduce the gender gap in the field by contributing to change at high school level

- Raise awareness on gender equality in STEM / in physics
- Learn from teachers' experiences and work on solutions together
- Spread CERN's vision through teachers

Teachers' expectations

Develop new projects
and teaching material
that engage ALL my
students

Make a
change in my
country

Engage girls who
excel, but who not
consider a career
in physics

Reflect on my
teaching
method and
gain
competencies





Sharing initiatives and numbers –
Initiatives in home countries and at CERN

Discussions –
Teachers share experiences and observations from their classroom

How?



Input from experts and research – e.g.
Isabelle Collet (UNIGE) and latest research on the topic

Introduction of concepts –
Unconscious bias / stereotypes
Application to the classroom



Interviews with female scientists at CERN



What the teachers took home

- Open activities – science fair to teach the scientific method (Antwerp)
- “Buddy system” for higher grades (UK)
- Introduce reflection time and open enquiry activities (UK)





“It really made me realise some of my own unconscious behaviours, to which I will definitely pay more attention to in the future.

One of the things I will take home is, that an environment of collaboration and open discussion, rather than competition, can do wonders and can engage not only more girls, but also my more introverted male students.”

(Itumeleng Molefi, Physics Teacher in South Africa)

Summary of the findings:

<http://diversity.web.cern.ch/2016/08/gender-inclusive-teaching-2016-high-school-teacher-programme>

What's next

- 3rd run of the work group in progress...
 - Opening the perspective – inform and work on global initiatives
 - Work on concrete materials, initiatives and projects
 - Create a network to make the effort sustainable



- Interest from various organizations to replicate the idea