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Workshop on GENDER AWARENESS in the STEM field at the University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria

The fifth workshop planned within the European **GEECCO** project took place on September 12th at the University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria (UNIRC) in Reggio Calabria and was taught by the expert Dr. Bente Knoll from B-NK, according to the activities planned by Yellow Window.

During this customized workshop, which addresses some specific needs of the University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, Dr. Bente Knoll introduced the concept of gender stereotypes in marketing, including basic terms on sex/gender, inter/trans and non-binary, gender stereotypes, diversity, intersectionality in order to encourage discussions about gender stereotypes in the STEM field and possible actions to remove them – at general level and focussing on UNIRC. Further discussions and reflections also focused on societal gender related inequalities in the STEM field by considering the historical development and the current situation, including recent findings, and one's own professional role to identify starting points for possible actions. Among the main lesson learnt, the audience agreed that personal involvement together with several measures such as the adoption of a gender sensitive language in official documents, training and tutoring programs, could be effective for increasing gender awareness.



Dr. Bente Knoll at UNIRC during the workshop (12/09/2019)

The European **GEECCO** project (*'Gender Equality in Engineering through Communication and Commitment'*) aims to increase the presence of women in the world of science and technology, engineering and mathematics.

The participation of UNIRC to the GEECCO project is coordinated by professor Maria Nadia Postorino from the Department of Civil, Energy, Environment and Materials Engineering and Vice Rector for Equal Opportunities. The GEECCO project is making it possible to define the first GEP and start several actions towards gender equity in STEM areas at the University Mediterranea.

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