



66To advance equity through the integration of sex and gender. **99**

66 An equitable world built on research and innovation that integrates sex and gender dimensions. **99**



YEAR IN REVIEW 2018

2018 was the year that GENDRO was born! It was an important year as our shared vision about an organization that advances sex and gender equity in research and thereby in society was realized. During the year that passed, we developed the association bylaws, held our constitutive annual general assembly, elected board members, and came together for our very first face-to-face board meeting. Elected board members present included Shirin Heidari (President), Emily T. Blitz (Secretary), Olivia Mettler (Treasurer), Bernard Kadasia and Maria Halkias where the mission and vision statements were fine-tuned. We created an online presence by developing a website and establishing our social media channels including Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

2018 was a short year for GENDRO as we started to operate in October. Nevertheless, and with hardly any funds, we managed to implement a number of key activities in the three months to the end of the year. In this report, our very first annual report, we are sharing a snapshot of our work in 2018, and share our vision and mission.

Activities

Diversity in Peer Review

An online presentation

We participated in a webinar organized by Elsevier on the importance of sex and gender dimensions in research and academic reporting across disciplines while preparing the official establishment of the association. At the webinar, GENDRO's president provided highlights on the persistent gender bias in research and



presented the <u>Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines</u>, the development of which was spearheaded by GENDRO's president in her capacity as chair of the Gender Policy Committee of European Association of Science Editors.

Sex, Bias and Data

A seminar at the Global Fund

The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria organized a seminar on the 12th of October 2018 and invited Dr Shirin Heidari, President of GENDRO, to talk about implications of gender bias in global health data and research. The seminar was aimed at raising awareness about the importance of disaggregation of data by sex and meaningful gender analyses in the context of Global Fund's work and influence investment in effective and targeted programmes that can address the gender disparities and inequities across these three disease areas, offering a path to change the paradigm towards programs relevant for everyone.

Sex and gender analysis for better science and health equity

A commentary in *The Lance*:

GENDRO's president published a commentary in *The Lancet* on the persistent gender bias in academic research and reporting, resulting in poor science and continued gender inequities in health. Published on 27 October 2018.

Sex and gender matter in (HIV) research and clinical practice

A presentation at the State of the HAART Conference

At the 'State of the HAART', an HIV conference organized by University Hospital of Geneva on 7 December 2018, GENDRO presented evidence on the range of established biological and socioeconomic differences that result in differential HIV risks and health outcomes, encouraging the urgency of a systematic approach to take into account sex and gender differences in HIV clinical research and practice.



Addressing the needs of vulnerable populations

Panel Discussion

GENDRO participated in a panel discussion organized by University of Geneva on health inequities and the role of non-governmental organisations in meeting the health needs of vulnerable populations.







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Visit our website www.gendro.org for our forthcoming events.