

## **Gender Equality Statement: *Imagining Futures through Un/Archived Pasts***

**What measures have been put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for people of different genders to be involved throughout the project?** Our project views gender in an intersectionalist manner, ensuring that gender equality and diversity are meaningfully embedded and represented throughout. To this end, we have put measures in place: to ensure a diverse and gender balanced project leadership team and promote an inclusive environment for all gender groups. This includes funding childcare or accompanying adults, identifying alternative means of participation including salary-loss provision due to participation. By recording intergenerational memories, our project seeks to expand the documentation and archiving of alternative oral histories and social narratives, as those of wives, youth and vulnerable gender groups. Also our local partners have suggested we engage local women's groups, families and vulnerable gender communities on field sites through collective meals and conversations, outlined below.

**What is the expected impact of the project (benefits & losses) on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond?** A priority of this project is to establish an inclusive network of individuals and communities who have expertise in archiving practices, conflict reduction and sustainable peace. Within the funded project period, the expected beneficial impact on people of different genders include: social and economic empowerment for local women in ODA countries, the inclusion of previously marginalised gender-based social narratives, and raising awareness of distorted representations of history. In the Pilot in Tanzania, for example local women were part of knowledge sharing, either as fellow team members, or as hosts, guides, translators, and thus contributing to local inclusiveness and economic productivity. Beyond the project, the expected impact will be collaborative and equitable imaginations of future archiving which will help to ensure fair and meaningful accounts of society and will strive to ensure that values and differences of all gender groups are represented (e.g. as part of project media, reports, protocols & any creations).

**Outline the impact on the relations between people of different genders and people of the same gender.** This project will be working in communities within Africa and Lebanon in the first instance. In these countries, the experience of gender differs across different geographical scales e.g. within the home, local economy, politics and society. As this project explores themes of conflict, peace, and heritage; diverse gender relations and representations encompass all scales. The impact of this research will ensure that gender disparities are not aggravated but carefully understood in relation to the research questions and the network aims and that all activities (such as workshops) and outcomes (such as policy briefings) are inclusive of all genders and sensitive to local contexts. One example that is directly relevant to our project, and we have begun investigating e.g. during the field work in Tanzania, is the way memorialisation of the past tends to focus on the heroized male figure. We want to explore ways that allow also for non-adult male remembrances and perceptions of conflicts as the MajiMaji War, to be expressed in a safe and sensitive environment. One way may be through historic distance, e.g. engaging, where appropriate, Ancient Greek Tragedies as the *Trojan Women*, or *Antigone*, to bring out women's and children's voices in the remembrance of trauma and conflict (drawing on initiatives as the performance of *Antigone* by refugee women in Shatilla Refugee Camp, Lebanon). In Lebanon, where recent events have repeatedly silenced non-heteronormative male voices, the research in the Beirut Lab, for example, will encompass documentation and propagation of gender-inclusive narratives through un/archiving the social and urban layers of Beirut.

**How will any risks and unintended negative consequences on gender equality be avoided or mitigated against, and monitored?** This project, in striving to prevent risks or unintended negative consequences arising from this research, will at the outset develop a collaborative agreement across all project partners which will outline the gender equality principles, and the actions it will follow if these are not adhered to. We have an 'Ethics, Safeguarding and confidential Reporting' group. All groups and panels will be at least 50% female. The project will draw on context specific needs and experiences, and refer to the statements and practices of gender equality that are within project partner institutions. At Exeter, the Department of Classics and Ancient History, was one of the 1<sup>st</sup> in the UK to be included in an Athena Swan Pilot receiving a Bronze Award. The project leadership team will review all gender equality principles and practices on a bi-annual basis.

**Are there any relevant outcomes and outputs being measured, with data disaggregated by age and gender (where disclosed)?** As there will be involvement of groups of diverse ages and

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genders, we will keep records that allow disaggregation of data by age and gender, noting proportions of diverse ages and genders of project participants.