MASTERS DEGREE IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (UCM)



Concerned SDG(s): 5

HEI name: ICEI, Complutense Institute for International Studies (Instituto Complutense de Estudios Internacionales) from the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM)

Type of HEI: University Center (postgraduate studies)

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Challenges addressed

The Complutense Institute for International Studies (ICEI) belongs to the Madrid Complutense University. The ICEI provides academic instruction primarily in postgraduate international studies.

In the particular case of the Masters Degree in Gender and Development, the main challenge addressed relies on the existence of a growing specialization and requirement in the theoretical foundation and application of the gender perspective in the field of development and international cooperation. This Masters Degree has been presented with the aim of offering specialized training of excellence, sustained in the quality of its academic program and in the realization of a solid practical phase, both in Spain and in countries of Latin America, Asia, Maghreb or Sub-Saharan Africa.



Goals and ambitions

The main goal of this Masters Degree is to contribute to train women and men of any nationality to research and work - from a gender perspective- in the field of international cooperation for development. The Master is aimed at training them in the design, execution and evaluation of policies, strategies and programs of development aid from that perspective.

The specific objectives of the Master are to:

- ☐ Prepare specialists whose work is oriented to the academic or research activity in gender and development.
- ☐ Train expert personnel to assist in the definition of policies in multilateral or bilateral public or private institutions, in the field of development cooperation or in equality policies.
- ☐ Train professionals to make effective the gender perspective in the operation and interventions of NGOs

MASTERS DEGREE IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (UCM)

Implementation and approaches

The training programme has been designed to be implemented through three types of complementary training activities: monographic courses, workshops and international seminars. The faculty is composed of academics from national and international universities and research centres, as well as reference professionals in their areas of performance in International Organizations, Public Administrations and NGOs.

The implementation approach includes a combination of:

- 1. A first phase of face-to-face training at the University (300 hours)
- 2. A second practical phase of 3 to 4 months (between 250 and 350 hours) developing an internship in Technical Offices of Spanish Cooperation, International Organizations, government equality mechanisms and other public or private institutions (NGOs, Women's Associations, etc.) both in Spain and in Latin American countries, Asia, Maghreb, Sub-Saharan Africa and other countries that are partners of Spanish cooperation.
- 3. A third phase for the preparation and presentation of the Final Master's Project as an essential requirement for obtaining the Master.

The curriculum includes the following five modules:



ISSUE METHODOLOGY HANDBOOK COLLECTION OF BEST PRACTICES 10.1

MASTERS DEGREE IN GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (UCM)

Required resources

- ✓ Professors and staff involved in the Master implementation.
- ✓ Classrooms, projectors, laptops, etc.
- ✓ Involvement of institutions and NGOs for the internships.

Obstacles

The main obstacle for the students is the cost of the Master (5.500€). However, since 2013 the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) contributes with funding mainly destined to travel bags that students receive during the practical phase. The UCM contributes with the provision of equipment, infrastructure and support staff and economic management.

Benefits and contributions

The Masters Degree has the support of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) for the practical phase of internship in partner countries of Spanish cooperation.

The main benefit of this programme has been the promotion and integration of the gender equality approach in the cooperation for development policies and practices.

A network of experts in gender and development has been developed since more than 250 students have finalized the Master. Many of them remaining as experts of reference in the subject from various areas of work: academic or research activity, and advice of international organizations, public institutions and NGOs. Furthermore, within the framework of the Master more than 250 research works on gender and development have been carried out. It should also be noted the strengthening of cooperation agents, Spanish and local, who have received female interns with a profile and a work plan tailored to their needs.

References

- 1. https://www.ucm.es/data/cont/docs/3-2019-04-08-Datos%20y%20Cifras%202018-2019.pdf
- 2. http://buenaspracticas.ocud.es/postgrado/mastergenero-y-desarrollo-del-icei
- 3. https://www.ucm.es/data/cont/media/www/pag-60810/Triptico%202017-18.pdf

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