


Title:	Café con astrónomas
Implementation	
Field(s) of Action:	* Presence and Visibility * Gender-inclusive/Gender-sensitive Organisational Culture
Objective:	* Create a safe space for women to meet each other * Connect and develop a women´s network * Obtain first-hand knowledge of the GE situation of women in physics
Target Group(s):	PhD students, PhD candidates and research assistants Postdocs and mid-career scientific personnel Professors Women researchers at the Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias (IAC)
Description:	The café with women astronomers is an activity organised by and with female astronomers of the institute. This initiative was first implemented in 2010 when the IAC started their gender equality policy. During the “coffee hour” women are free to discuss their scientific issues and topics they relate to. There are open debates, women astronomers are the main actors and they decide the topics to be discussed and whether the “café” is more or less structured. Men are also invited to take part in these meetings, to learn more about gender equality. The café's success (with regard to sustainability) in connecting and supporting women in science depends on the participants. So far the participants appreciate the exchange and it gives them the opportunity to link personal experience with the social phenomenon of gender inequalities. The café is kept in a private and small set up to enable the women to speak freely about their concerns.
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From:
<https://www.genera-network.eu/> - **Gender Equality Network in Physics in the European Research Area**

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Last update: **2019/07/31 15:21**

