



Welcome to the first edition of the MAGENDA newsletter!

We are excited to bring you the latest updates from our MAGENDA project, as we work alongside partners in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Europe to drive meaningful change in higher education.

This inaugural issue introduces the MAGENDA project, its core aims, and the ten consortium members making it possible. We also share highlights from our recent kick-off meeting in Pokhara, and invite you to explore our new website and social media channels—your gateways to staying connected with all project developments. Read on to discover how we are building a more gender-equal academic future together.

About MAGENDA

MAGENDA — Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Academia — is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project that supports Asian higher education institutions (HEIs) in introducing and enforcing policies that promote gender equality at institutional level. Achieving this goal requires transferring know-how on establishing and implementing Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) through a holistic approach: first, by involving HEI staff in dedicated capacity-building trainings, and second, by engaging HEI students to lead their own awareness-raising actions.



MAGENDA is being implemented over 36 months in two Asian least-developed countries, Bangladesh and Nepal, and brings together six Asian universities alongside two European universities and two European research organisations. Together, the consortium will deliver:

- Gender Equality Plans (GEP), new or revised, in each of the six Asian partner universities.
- A handbook for GEP monitoring and implementation.
- At least six HEI staff training sessions on GEP monitoring and implementation.
- A digital knowledge hub on gender equality issues, targeting students.
- Six community awareness campaigns targeting civil society.
- Two national policy roundtables and a final conference bringing together key education stakeholders.
- Two policy briefs on GEP implementation in academia.
- A sustainability plan to guarantee the continuation of GEP-enforcing mechanisms once the project ends.



Kick Off Meeting

On 16–17 March 2025, the MAGENDA consortium proudly gathered for the project's official kick-off meeting (KOM), hosted in Pokhara, Nepal.

The two-day meeting marked the formal launch of this transformative initiative dedicated to promoting gender equality in higher education institutions across Asia through collaborative action and knowledge sharing.



Meet the Partners

Ten partner organisations from Belgium, Greece, Bangladesh and Nepal are working side by side to bring MAGENDA to life:

Pokhara University (PU) –Nepal – Coordinator – University

One of Nepal's largest universities, coordinating the consortium and bringing extensive experience in international Erasmus+ cooperation.



Kathmandu University (KU) –Nepal – University

A leading autonomous public university in Dhulikhel, recognised for research excellence and a student-centred learning culture.

Far Western University (FWU) –Nepal – University

A government-funded institution in Sudurpaschim Province, committed to accessible and inclusive higher education.



Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) – Bangladesh – University

Bangladesh's premier agricultural university, with a strong track record in gender sensitive research and evaluation.

Bangladesh Open University (BOU) –Bangladesh – University

The country's dedicated distance-education institution, reaching students nationwide through open and technology-enabled learning.



Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU) – Bangladesh – University

One of Bangladesh's oldest higher education institutions, combining rural and urban agricultural development missions.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) – Belgium – University

Through its Health and Ageing Law Lab, VUB contributes expertise in regulatory frameworks, data governance and institutional policy.



University of Peloponnese (UoP) –Greece – University

A multi-campus Greek public university with a long record of delivering Erasmus+ and Horizon-funded projects.



ReadLab Brussels –Belgium – Research & Innovation Organisation

A Brussels-based development and research organisation supporting educational institutions through technical assistance and communication.



KMOP– Greece – Civil Society / Research Organisation

A long-standing Greek civil society organisation with 45 years of experience in social policy, inclusion and education.



Co-funded by
the European Union

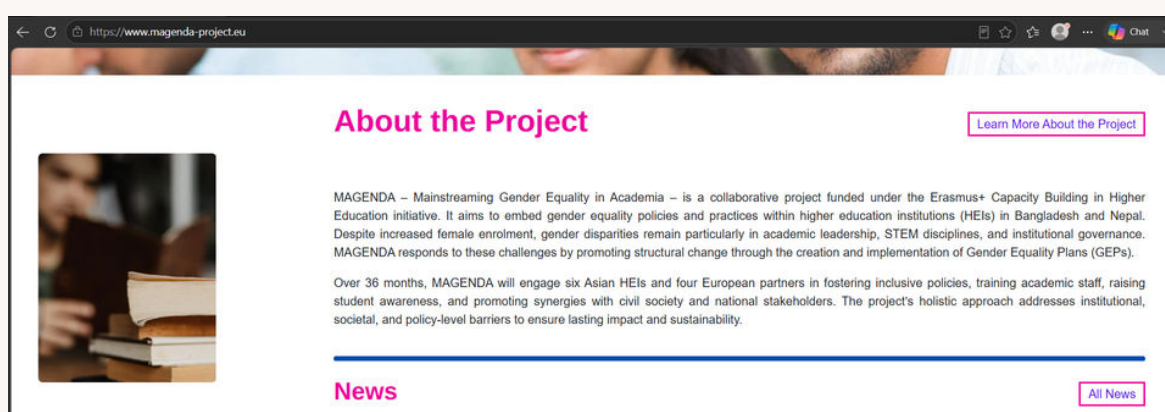
Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.

Website Launch & Social Media

We are delighted to announce that the official MAGENDA project website is now live at www.magenda-project.eu. The website is your one-stop destination to follow the project's journey, offering:

- An overview of the project, its objectives and expected results.
- Detailed partner profiles for all ten consortium members.
- The latest project news, upcoming events and future newsletters.
- Project deliverables and press releases as they become available.

The website is also available in Nepali and Bengali, ensuring accessibility for our partner communities in Nepal and Bangladesh.



Stay Connected

Follow MAGENDA on social media to keep up with project news, events and stories from our partner universities - links to our Facebook and LinkedIn channels are available in the footer of the newsletter.

4



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.



[WWW.MAGENDA-PROJECT.EU](https://www.magenda-project.eu)