



**YOU PART**

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# **THE ROAD TO THE LAND OF EQUALITY**

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# THE ROAD TO THE LAND OF EQUALITY

## FACTS

**Age** of participants: 15-19

**Number** of participants: 15-20

**Duration:** 90 minutes

## GOALS

This activity includes working in small groups. It aims to promote understanding and respect for gender equality and justice in a creative way. By using imagination and drawing, issues of gender inequality, stereotypes and discrimination against women are explored and a better future of equality is imagined.

## MATERIALS / PREPARATIONS

- 1 sheet of A4 size paper and 1 pencil for each group (for exchanging ideas)
- large sheets of paper (A3 size) or flip chart, one sheet for each small group
- coloured markers, enough for all small groups

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Step 1

Explain that in this activity the participants will draw an imaginary map for a journey to the “Land of Equality”, the land where there is true gender equality. It will exist in the future, but in the present it only exists in the imagination of people.

### Step 2

Ask the participants if they know any folk or other stories in which the metaphor of a person going on a journey is used to represent moral ideals. Talk about the ways in which, for example, the “dark forest” can be used as a metaphor for evil or a “juicy red apple” for temptation. The traveller in the story can show moral strength by swimming through a swift river, for example, or empathy by helping a person or animal in need.

# INSTRUCTIONS

## Step 3

Briefly present what the map could look like. Indicate in which way the contours are drawn, shaded mountains and rivers, symbols for forests, fields, buildings, power lines, etc.

## Step 4

Ask the participants to get together in small groups of three to five people. Hand out the small sheets of paper and pencil and give them about 15 minutes to make three short "puzzles":

- What do you imagine the “Land of Equality” will look like?
- What obstacles might you encounter on the way there?
- How will you overcome these obstacles?

## Step 5

Now hand out large sheets of paper and markers. Ask each group to design their own fictional map, which represents both the area of the present and the area of the future, and the road ahead between the two. They should invent their own symbols for geographical concepts, obstacles and facilities along the road.

## Step 6

Give the groups 40 minutes to draw their maps. Remind them to also create a legend for the symbols used.

## Step 7

Invite the participants back into the large group and ask them to present their maps. Start by discussing how the groups have worked, how they have decided what they will present and how they will draw the map. Then talk about what the “Land of Equality” could look like in reality and about possible obstacles.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR THE FACILITATOR

If participants don't know how to draw their ideas, you can suggest they imagine a woman crossing the “bridge of education” to cross the “river of prejudice” against women who want to be lawyers. Another example could be a man who finds it “a jewel” to work in a kindergarten as an educator taking care of very young children. Of course, you should bring up some examples of gender stereotypes that reflect the reality in society. Another suggestion is to form mixed-gender groups and consider this when dividing the participants.



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## PROJECT PARTNERS



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