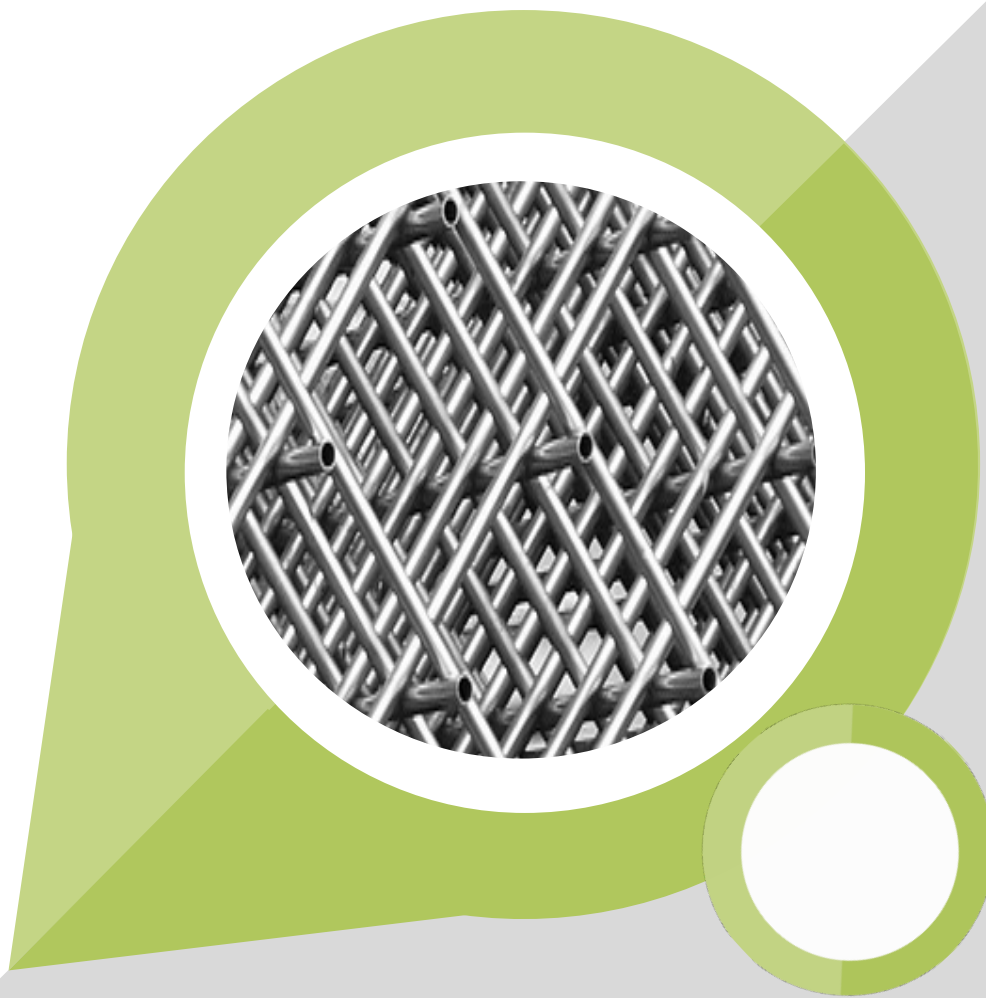


# Lightme



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## Questionnaire / Females in STEM<sup>1</sup> professions

**Name:** Maria

**Profession:** Engineer

**Entity (Name & type/ industry, Uni, etc.):** research institute

**Position in the Entity:** Head of division

**Photo (if available):**

*By completing this questionnaire, I agree that these data will be published in the official website of the project (<https://www.lightme-oie.eu/en/static/home>).*

A/ Personal Experience

A-Q1: What did you study to get to your chosen career?

Technical Physics

A-Q2: Who has served as an 'influencer' in your path to a STEM focused education and/or career?

Dad, physics teacher at a high school

A-Q3: Can you see any roadblocks or challenges which might be influenced by your gender, when applying for a job?

no

A-Q4: What is your favourite thing about your current job and what do you find the most challenging?

My favourite thing is the fact that I meet great people every day. Finding the solution to complicated science problems is the most challenging, but it is also a part of my work, which I very like.

A-Q5: How have your beliefs, motivations and aspirations changed over time? When did a career in STEM become a priority or choice

I am at the beginning of my career, but despite the fact I very like my work and I like to spend time working, my personal life and family were and will be always a priority.

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<sup>1</sup> STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

## B/ Women in STEM Impact

B-Q1: Can you recall any times when you questioned your involvement in STEM because of your gender?

no

B-Q2: What are some of the personal experiences - or compelling arguments - that have influenced your thinking around gender and STEM, and have motivated you to get involved in being an advocate for change?

I never had bad personal experiences, so in my environment, I do not see a necessity to be an advocate for change.

B-Q3: How might we involve more males in gender inequality discussions?

I do not think about it

C/ Advice to the younger you and women considering a career in STEM

C - Q1: Which achievement do you look at and think "I'd love to go back in time and tell younger me that this was possible"?

Do not compare yourself with others. You do not have to be the best and ideal to still be a valuable person.

C - Q2: What advice would you give to women who are 1) Curious about STEM, 2) Questioning their STEM related studies, 3) Questioning their STEM related career?

Believe in yourself.

C - Q3: How might we help girls have more confidence in their STEM abilities?

C - Q4: How might we can encourage more industries to consider the long-term implications of gender messaging?

Do you have a favorite quote? What is it and who is it from?

"You are valuable because you exist. Not because of what you do, or what you have done, but simply because you are" — Max Lucado