A New Space Physics Outreach Initiative

ALESSANDRA ABE PACINI¹, DAWIT TEGBARU², ALLAN MAX³

(1) INSPACE LLC; (2) AGU; (3) UNIVAP

UN Space for Women
Oct 05th, 2017.
Hurricane Maria
Sep 20th, 2017

Puerto Rico
Four books about a diverse group of young kids and their adventures (always related to the sky and simultaneously introducing Earth and Space science concepts).

- **A luneta e Isabelle**: Astronomy
- **Hélio: o 1º amor de Cecília**: Sun and Space Weather
- **O bisavô cósmico de Lélis e Lola**: Cosmic-rays
- **A não-princesa Aurora**: Northern Lights
The storylines are built around the activities of a group of little girls: Rafaela, Cecilia, Isabelle, Leticia and Paola (with the participation of their cousins Gabriel and Aurora). The characters were inspired by real kids with usual interests for natural phenomena.
FEATURES:

Short chapters; Preface by female scientists; Special sections (“Keep investigating” and “Ask Dr. Lindy”).
**ADDITIONAL FEATURES:**

**Web-content**: Space science images & videos, interviews with scientists and deeper scientific information, access to real data and small codes to plot/fitting data (for kids).

**Lesson plans**: for teachers of grades K-12, to incorporate the scientific content from the books into their formal curriculum.

**Game apps**: related to the concepts discussed in the books; includes VR components with high resolution space images.
GOALS:
1. Promote gender equality in the Space Physics area.

TP7: "Capacity-building for the twenty-first century”.
Space for Women Project

Target 5b of the UN Sustainable Goal 5 enshrines the goal to “enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women” in order to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
GOALS:
2. Empower and motivate girls in STEM areas.

Targeting girls at the age group in which the gender gap in STEM starts (9-13 years old).
**GOALS:**

3. Instill girls critical thinking and engage them with readily available multimedia.

- Section “Keep investigating”;
- Web-content;
- Game apps;
- Lesson Plans.
GOALS:

4. Set more female role models in Space Sciences.

- Female main characters;
- Writer is a female scientist;
- Dr. Lindy inspired by Dr. Jocelyn Bell.
- Preface of each book written by a female space scientist;
GOALS:
5. Raise awareness of space science topics/careers at developing countries’ youth.

The content was written in Portuguese and will be also available initially in 3 other languages (English, Spanish and French) aiming to reach out the Americas and most of Africa.
Define new innovative and effective approaches to overall capacity-building and development needs with a special focus on empowerment of women in developing countries.