



Newsflash report – Inclusion Lab session #1

On Monday 17 November 2022, Live DMA organised the first session of the [Inclusion Lab](#), a capacity-building project which aims to provide Live DMA members with key notions and possible levers of action as to why and how to develop inclusive policies within their organization and membership.

This first session was moderated by Aïda Yancy, an anti-racist, LGBTQI+ and feminist trainer and activist. Her expertise touches upon questions of race, gender and sexualities, intersectionality, the notion of « safer spaces » and access to services for people part of minorities.

7 national or regional networks were represented in the meeting, with the common objective to begin a process of reflection around gender inclusion in the live music scenes. This session was imagined as an invitation to reconsider what is known, unlearn, relearn, and get in an active mindset on the importance of representation and inclusivity. Indeed, by defining certain terms related to gender equality (sex, gender identity, gender expression, transgender, etc), this session improved the gender literacy of Live DMA members.

The session ended on open questions which meant to trigger a reflection on the openness and inclusivity of live music scenes: Is the music scene a public space? Is it a neutral space? Is it meant to be a safe space? An inclusive space? An accessible space? How does gender look in the music world? Who is doing what?

A lexicon of the words and notions presented in this first session of the Inclusion Lab will soon be available on the Live DMA resource platform and be a first stone in the Inclusion toolbox which will provide the European live music sector with tools and resources on Inclusion in live music scenes, and which will be available at the end of the Inclusion Lab sessions.

The next session of the Inclusion Lab will take place early December 2022, and will present different frameworks for setting up Inclusion policies and inclusive projects, notably the SHIFT Culture Inclusion Handbook and the Dutch Code for Diversity & Inclusion, and its impact on Dutch live music venues.