



winnet8

Women's Resource Centres Promoting Innovation in Gender Equality across Europe

- tackling occupational segregation
- influencing policy
- promoting best practice



INTERREG IVC

INNOVATION & ENVIRONMENT
REGIONS OF EUROPE SHARING SOLUTIONS



European Union

European Regional Development Fund

www.winnet8.eu

The Overall Objective:

To contribute to regional growth by improving women's participation in the labour market focusing on:

- Horizontally segregated labour markets
- The lack of women in innovation and technology
- The lack of women in entrepreneurship

The project aims to shape regional, national and EU-level policies and development programmes that relate to women's status in the labour market and ensure these policies are integrated into mainstream provision.

The partners from 8 European countries and 9 regions will work together to build on good practices developed and identified in previous projects for attracting women into non traditional fields. Through interregional exchange of best practice, study visits and research, action plans will be developed which will address the ways the status of women in the labour market can be improved. Regional Multi Actor Groups will be formed to act as an arena for co-operation between Managing Authorities, local and regional authorities, businesses, research institutions, Women Resource Centers, WRCs and other voluntary Sector and NGOs organisations.

As a result of the project the partner regions will be able to benefit from:

- Reformed and improved policies for gender equal local and Regional development with support of WRCs
- Increased knowledge of how to design policies and best practices from WRCs which promotes women in the labour market as a whole and specifically innovation and technology and entrepreneurship, counteracting horizontal gender segregation
- 9 Regional Operational Programme (ROP) action plans to inform EU level policies and development programmes, on how to implement WRCs as an actor
- A best practice guide available containing 100 best practice tips from WRCs and other projects with a gender perspective

Component I: Managing and Coordination

Aim:

- A well managed project achieving it's objectives with smooth reporting to the programme

Activities:

- Launching conference in Sweden, mid term conference in Finland and final conference in Greece. All including partnership meetings
- Three partnership meetings in connection with other activities in Component III
- Organizing and managing the Steering Group (SG) with 6 SG meetings
- Subcontracting of an external evaluator who will participate in the SG-meetings and continuously provide feedback

Key Products:

- 4 Progress Reports, 4 Evaluation Reports

Component II: Communication and Dissemination

Aims:

- To ensure effective communication within the partnership
- To apply a systematic approach to horizontal and vertical dissemination
- To raise awareness of the key political stakeholders of the issues affecting occupational segregation of women
- To improve regional knowledge of how to design policies and action plans promoting women, in labour market, innovation and technology and entrepreneurship

Activities:

- The project Website will be created in connection with the Winnet Europe website for ensuring the widest dissemination
- E-Newsletters will be distributed regularly to the consortium's joint base of e-mail contacts, which will include policy makers, researchers, experts and representatives from WRCs (businesses/business intermediaries)
- Articles will be produced for publication in different journals and seminars will be arranged for selected journalists
- Four Round Tables will be organised at the end of the project with decision and policy makers in the North Zone arranged in Sweden, the East Zone arranged in Poland, the South Zone arranged in Italy and the West Zone arranged in UK
- A mid term conference in Finland and a closing conference in Greece will be organised for all project partners and participants to report their results and share their experiences

- Press releases will be produced and press conferences organised in connection to all major events of the project
- Existing contacts with networks such as the European network to promote women's entrepreneurship (WES) and the Committee of the Regions will be utilised for disseminating the project and its results to the widest possible audience

Key Products:

- 4 Regional Policy Documents will be produced as a result of the 4 Regional Operational round table meetings
- A Handbook with 100 best practice examples of WRCs and projects with a gender perspective will be compiled during the project
- The Final Policy Document to inform policy at all levels will be the finalising product of the project

Component III:

The transfer of good practices into EU Structural Funds Mainstream programme

For creating and maintaining the exchange of experiences and transferring best practices the most important tools are the Regional Multi-Actor Groups, MAGs. They consist of approximately 12 key people from each participating region and represent all the quadruple helix groups; politicians, administrators, entrepreneurs, development and research organisations and the third sector.

Aims:

- To produce 9 Regional Action Plans for the next EU-programme period for influencing and utilising the policies and development programme for improving the status of women in the labour market
- To create a regional network that will continue implementing the Regional Action Plan after the initial WINNET 8-project is finished
- To increase the capacity of the MAG-members to cooperate and network and to share, exchange and use knowledge relevant for improving the status of women in the labour market

Activities:

- Organising 6 regional meetings assisted by process coaches
- Providing a two-day interregional training for the process coaches during the first months of the project to facilitate the MAG process
- Providing input and giving feedback to the Final Policy Document, which will be produced during the project as a summary of the results of its different activities
- Planning and implementing 9 benchmarking and study visits between the participating regions in order to support the MAG processes and to enhance interregional exchange
- Organising two thematic workshops and one research workshop in connection to women's position in the labour market for discussing in depth about specific themes identified during the project and relevant research results
- Analysing policy and programme documents relevant to the partner regions and countries from the perspective of the project
- Evaluating best practice compiled during the project preparation and introduced during the project life
- Studying base-line research relating to the theme of WINNET 8
- Compiling new research data and best practise where necessary

Key Product:

The 9 Regional Operational Programme Action Plans will be the key outcome of the activities and processes in Component III.

In addition for Multi Actor Groups, MAGs:

- The MAGs will mobilise key stakeholders to engage with the aims of the project
- The MAGs will provide research and information on best practice of WRCs and projects with a gender perspective to feed into the Regional Action Plans and inform the final policy document
- The MAGs will build the capacity of the individual members to increase their intervention skills and common understanding of the regional action plan process and how it could be utilized in practice

Partners

Sweden

The Municipality of Älvdalen (Lead Partner)
The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth
Winnet Sweden, NRC, The Swedish National Federation of Women Resource Centres
The Regional Development Council of Gävleborg
The Regional Cooperation Council of Dalarna
Saga, The Regional Resource Center for Women, Gävleborg

Poland

Gryfice District
The Municipality of Lebork
University of Szczecin

Finland

The Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia
The University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute

Italy

The Province of Venice
The Province of Verona

UK

The Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce

Portugal

The University of Evora
The Regional Coordination and Development Committee of Alentejo

Bulgaria

The Municipality of Plovdiv

Greece

The Region of West Macedonia
Ergani Center

Project contact details:

Component I

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Component III

The transfer of good practices into EU Structural Funds
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