



Press Communiqué – News updates

Date: 2010-07-07

Messages:

Training in Evora

During a dynamic 2 days training in Evora from 21 – 22 June, the WINNET8 partners (Portugal, Sweden, Finland, Greece, Scotland/UK, Bulgaria, Poland, Italy & Bulgaria) examined the way forward in supporting their regions in promoting gender equality and promoting best practice.

They started out examining the WINNET8 aims: women's participation in the labour market; promoting women's entrepreneurship; tackling occupational segregation; supporting routes into innovation and technology, informing the development of policy and considering the Women's Resource Centre Model as a good practice example in achieving WINNET8 aims

They explored the role of gender in societal processes and the power structures and developed actions around supporting the Multi-Actor Groups across the WINNET8 Regions, broadening horizons and raising awareness of the forces influencing gender equality from the "outside".

They explored group processes and dynamics and considered strategies to ensure they could provide the best possible support to the working groups across the Regions and developed a strong support network and community of cooperation to ensure that as united partners they could achieve the best outcomes for WINNET8 and women in Europe

Website; www.winnet8.eu

Background:

A European Interregional cooperation project between 9 regions with focus on how

Women's Resource Centers Promoting Innovation in Gender Equality across Europe,

- Tackling occupational segregation
- Influencing policy
- Promoting best practice

Facts: An Interreg IVC Capitalisation project, www.interreg4c.net and European Union, DG Regional policy. 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 nontraditional 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.

News Update from WINNET8

Benvenuto! Boas-vindas! Välkommen! Welcome!

Добре дошъл Καλωσόρισμα Powitanie! Tervetuloa!

Hello to you all and here we are reaching out to connect with you across the miles and remind you of our journey through learning and development over the last few months.

The warm, connection, expertise and commitment we saw in Evora last month really does epitomize the essence of our work with WINNET8 .

We have taken the opportunity to ask some of the partners who were with us in Evora, to highlight what the best aspects of the Process Coaching Training , the shared learning and interconnection were and here is what they said:

What was the best thing about Evora?

"The process coaching gave me time and space to think about how we will work with the MAG"

"The sharing of approaches of working with MAGs really helped me focus my mind"

"It was really useful for me to work with my other colleagues to establish a clearer action plan for working with the MAG"

"The wider connections with others were inspiring"

“Meeting all the partners in a situation where we were being active and realising the strength and potential of this project – I knew it in my head before but when I was in Evora I really felt it too”

“Initially the cultural differences were difficult and this time it was more exciting, cross-cultural experience and that is what we needed. I also enjoyed the madness, fun, humour and the singing!”

What was the most powerful or useful learning for you?

“Learning the group dynamics and reflecting on my own experience of seeing the forming, storming, norming, performing and adjourning in the past – it made sense”

“Realising the responsibilities and knowing that others were stepping forward to take up their role”

“It provided the impetus for me to be more focused when I went back to work”

“I saw the shared problems, the challenges and the resistance to gender equality but in response to that I saw the inspiring work, commitment and creativity which was present within our group”

What has changed for you as a result in Evora and how are you feeling about your work for WINNET8 after your time in Evora?

“More determined to succeed”

“More insight into the good work others are doing”

“I have a greater appreciation of the work we are doing ourselves”

“I feel more confident about my contribution to WINNET8 and am making clearer plans already for the way ahead”

“I feel better about what is expected from the Best Practice work”

We hope this feedback will inspire you and it seems that generally the experience was positive in supporting participants to progress the work of WINNET 8. If you have anything to add or would like to let us know what else we need to do to support you in your work – please do get in touch with the C1/2/3 Leaders, the Project Leader or Steering Group Members. Please also feel free to put up a blog on the site. We know there are still unanswered questions and we are really keen to ensure the work you do as part of WINNET8 goes as smoothly as possible.

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