



**A Key-Tool for Women's active participation  
on Equal terms and conditions for  
Sustainable Regional Growth!**

**Winnet Europe – Sweden,**

**Winnet visit in Armenia 4-8 May, 2015**

**Britt-Marie S Torstensson, President**

- Winnet Europe, the European Association of Women Resource Centres, was established 2006 as a result of Interreg III C project, W.IN.NET  
Winnet Europe's member is active in:
- Entrepreneurship – Innovation,
- Labour market – gendersegregation
- ICT and infrastructure of transport
- Rural Development, and cross border co-operation

A lot of transnational co-operation in Winnet Europe



## **The Association's mission is**

- a collaborative effort among EU member states regional, local national/federal organizations in Europe,
- to support and reinforce the activities of regional and local Women Resource Centres for women and or other similar women organizations

- That women claim their share of society's resources
- That women's competence is utilized in society
- That women's and men's efforts are evaluated equally



## **The Association shall work to**

- influence opinion and spread knowledge about the conditions of life for women.
- through influencing and co-operating with organizations and authorities locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, work to bring about a society in which women's capabilities, rights and obligations are safeguarded.



- to promote the establishment of equal conditions and opportunities, of work, working conditions, scope for development and entrepreneurship for women and men,
- equal distribution of power and influence is affected, impact on policy and actions, budget
- aim to promote strategic cross border cooperation in European Union and beyond.



- **Members in Winnet Europé 2014;**
- Armenia
- Sweden
- Finland
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Estonia
- Germany
- Austria
- Greece
- Latvia

# **Legislative Good Example Sweden**

## **State Finance of Swedish WRCs:**

**According to a parliamentary agreement public funding is granted for financing activities across National, Regional and Local areas for WRCs**  
(Integral part of Regional Policy for Growth since 2002)

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth – is assigned by government to run Gender specific WRC programmes –this is grounded in Swedish Gender Equality Legislation

**For the programming period 2010-2012 and 2012-2015** Government allocated €3.3 million each year for basic funding and co-finance for ERDF and other EU programmes

**Tasks WRC s, in Regional Development for Growth included.**  
Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Labour market; Accessibility;  
Transnational/Cross Border Co-operation & Rural Development



# **National, Regional Policy and Actions, 2013-2015**

- WRC s are stakeholders in the Swedish National Policy & strategy for Regional Development & Growth (since 2002) in 21 Regions
- Winnet Sweden, an umbrella organisation to secure women's participation in the Development of the Swedish Society and democracy
- Co-finance for ERDF, ESF, rural Development funds and other
  - WRC s are stakeholders in the Swedish National /regional Action Plan for Gender Equal Regional Development & Growth, 2012-2014

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# **Mission and Purpose Women's Resource Centres**

- Increase the number of women participating in economic life on a national, regional and a local level
- Create new permanent jobs by developing women's business and enterprise –encouraging increased production of goods and services
- Increase women's influence within the labour market and society
- To support more equal distribution of economic resources between women and men for gender equal growth

# Functions and approaches of WRC

- **To empower women** who seek support, they are *not* “***taken care of***” but rather get guidance towards self-help.
- **Direct services** to women including training, mentoring, enterprise support, education, finance etc
- **To mediate contacts with women’s networks** including Business & finance, enterprise authorities, international contacts, media etc
- **Networking on different levels:** national, local, regional and transnational to promote the combination of gender mainstreaming and positive actions

# Quadruple Helix Partnership Plattform

**Representation of Academia, Policy and decision makers, Business and Civil Society, WRC, national, regional and local and transnational level`s to secure Women's participation in Regional Development for Economic Growth!**

- ✓ Partnership
- ✓ Co-operation
- ✓ Network
- ✓ Thematic areas
- ✓ Regional Innovation
- ✓ Through: identified good practices from EU 28 MS, within the chosen themes, to be transferred
- ✓ analysed good practises and elaborated action plans
- ✓ **Winnet Center of Excellence; Interactive Action oriented Research & benchmarking reports as input to workshops**

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# Developing a Thematic Partnership Platform on Gender for Economic Growth in the Baltic Sea Region, 2015-2020

Baltic Sea Region Partnership Platform  
for Gender & Economic Growth



Winnet Center of Excellence  
Seed finance project January 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013 coordinated by Winnet Sweden



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# WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRES INNOVATION & PRACTICES

for Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth



# WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRES INNOVATION & POLICIES

for Smart, Inclusive and Sustainable Growth



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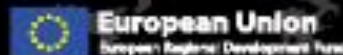


# winnet8

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

- tackling occupational segregation
- influencing policy
- promoting best practice

Action Plan



[www.winnet8.eu](http://www.winnet8.eu)

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# Handbook for Women's Resource Centres



Empowerment, the individual's own power, belief in knowledge, and the power to influence their own situation in society, are the key characteristics of the work that goes on in Resource Centres for Women.

The Handbook is designed to aid the establishment of Women's Resource Centres.

Use it! We wish you success!

1. *Introduction*
2. *Why and how WRCs can contribute to change*
3. *WRC, the historical background and their role and mission today*
4. *The work of a Women's Resource Centre*
5. *Starting up, organising and guaranteeing sustainability in a Women's Resource Centre*
6. *Working in project form*
7. *Working methods and tools for use in a WRC*

The Handbook for Women's Resource Centres is published on the website [www.winnet.se](http://www.winnet.se) and [www.winnet-europe.org](http://www.winnet-europe.org)

The Handbook is produced by Winnet Sweden with support and funding from the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth – Tillväxtverket

# WINNET



**For more information:**

**[www.winnet.se](http://www.winnet.se)**

**[www.winneteurope.org](http://www.winneteurope.org)**

**[www.winnet8.eu](http://www.winnet8.eu)**

**[www.balticsearegion.org](http://www.balticsearegion.org)**

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