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GEOGRAPHIC

Continent
Europe (EU)

Country
Lithuania

BASIC DETAILS

Language
English

Sector:

Labour market and employment

Title (EN):

Labour Market and Entrepreneurship - Overcoming Gender Stereotypes Trans-national Action Plan Promoted by Gender Equality and Business Women Organizations

Abstract description (EN):

The participation of women in economic activities has increased since 1995. However, we are still far from a balanced situation. Gender segregation in the workplace remains unchanged. Women are more often employed in service oriented sphere of economy and less in industrial production. The position of Lithuanian women is lower in the workplace hierarchy, and in the pyramid of employment they constitute the majority in the base of the pyramid. Even if the system of free economic market in theory provides equal opportunities for all citizens to seek economic independence, in practice it is not true. There are cases of all types of discrimination. Though women continue to dominate in the public sector, they have started to enter "men's" fields, such as finance, supply of power, gas and water. Most women of working age remain employed. The discrimination in the labour market, however, is influenced by the belief of employers, colleagues and society as a whole, that women's place is at home. The stereotypes of "proper" male and female roles enforce and strengthen the gender segregation in working place and the consequences of this phenomenon. It is still believed, that public work belongs to a man, while

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private sphere is reserved for women. This was noted as one of the main concerns by the CEDAW Committee in 2000. Women entrepreneurs encounter discrimination at all the stages of establishing of their business. Different surveys indicate that women in business are mostly not treated as equal business partners and have to overcome more difficulties than men. Women are committed to participate in entrepreneurship, but facilities are needed to provide them with advice and information. Lack of credit, particularly for start-ups, is a major obstacle.

Keywords: Labour market, entrepreneurship, women

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

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