

Study on gender training in the EU mapping, research and stakeholders' engagement - Latvia- Country profile



POLICY FRAMEWORK

In January 2012, the government approved a new plan for the gender equality implementation 2012-14. The plan is the continuation of the gender equality policy as laid down in the previous 2005-06 and 2007-10 programmes.

The 2005-06 programme focused the training of public sector employees on gender equality and assigned the responsible state institutions to these tasks. It also provided the indicative budget. The following programme approved by the government in 2007 entitled Programme for the implementation of gender equality 2007-10 included educating the Direct Public Administration and other specialists on gender equality.

Generally, the latest plan no longer focuses on gender training for public servants, whereas it emphasises the need for gender training for teachers and judges.

At national level the Ministry of Welfare is responsible for the development of gender equality policy as well as the application of the equal opportunities principles throughout the implementation of the Structural Fund cycle.

GENDER TRAINING IN PRACTICE

Between 2005 and 2009 gender training was a key priority area in Latvia.

During the framework of the programme for the implementation of gender equality 2005-06, a number of gender training programmes were organised including (1) a programme on the rights and responsibilities of women and men for ministers, their agencies and other state administration staff, that had 187 participants; (2) a seminar organised by the State Administration School on gender equality for the employees responsible for gender equality in ministries, that had 15 participants; and (3) a seminar on gender training for employees of state employment and gender equality policy development entitled 'Strengthening capacity of competent institutions in developing and implementing employment and gender equality policy', that had approximately 800 participants.



During the programming period 2007-10 various training activities were implemented in public administration, including (1) in 2007, a 3-day training programme for the course 'Rights and possibilities of women and men: what needs to be considered in developing sectoral policies?' and a course that had 12 participants; and (2) in 2008-09, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Welfare organised seminars for the specialists involved in the monitoring and evaluation of EU Structural Funds projects.

However, since 2009, the seminars for state administration employees have been discontinued due to the financial crisis. At ministry level currently there are several preparations on gender training implemented or planned by the Ministry of Welfare, but none of these programmes specifically seeks to advance gender-equal policymaking.

Gender training was provided by the Department of Equal Opportunity policies within the Ministry of Welfare as well as representatives of NGOs, sectors and academic institutions. Thus, the website of the Ministry of Welfare is the most reliable source of information on gender mainstreaming.

Downloads



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EN (PDF, 435.08 KB)

Metadata

COUNTRY: Latvia

AREAS: Gender equality training

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ISBN: 978-92-9128-291-5

DOI: 10.2839/90540