European Institute for Gender Equality

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

Study on gender training in the European Union: mapping, research and stakeholders' engagement (2012–13)

Ireland

POLICY FRAMEWORK

The national women's strategy (2007) set out 200 actions under three main themes: equalising socio-economic opportunities for women and men; ensuring well-being of both genders; and engaging women as equal and active citizens. This strategy, prepared by the Gender Equality Division of the Department of Justice, sets the implementation of gender mainstreaming as the principal instrument for the achievement of gender equality in Ireland[1] (Objective 10).

Seven actions were identified towards gender mainstreaming including re-establishing the Gender Equality Unit as the central body for gender mainstreaming and setting up formal gender mainstreaming support in government departments, with training and support to departments. Departmental strategy statements were to link with the national women's strategy as a cross-departmental initiative and the departments were given guidance to prepare gender impact assessments. Training on gender mainstreaming was to be included as an intrinsic part of training programmes and consideration given to the introduction of gender budgeting.

GENDER TRAINING IN PRACTICE

Due to the economic crisis in Ireland the Gender Equality Unit was closed in 2008 and many of the commitments to gender training and gender mainstreaming were not implemented. The 2009 progress report on the national women's strategy, under Objective 10, concluded that, 'consideration will be given to further work in this field as resources permit.' However, streamlining to achieve cost reductions necessitated by the Croke Park Agreement (1) limited the scope for action and led to restructuring in government departments.

The Gender Equality Division of the Department of Justice has an advisory role in relation to gender mainstreaming.

EXAMPLES OF GENDER TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- A pilot research project carried out by the Gender Equality Unit, with funding from the EU's 'Progress' programme, concluded that there was a need for competence training on the gender mainstreaming process. Gender training activities were organised between 2005 and 2007 by the Gender Equality Unit.
- Although the Gender Equality Unit closed in 2008, some training activities have continued under the national women's strategy. The focus has been on training initiatives to promote women's entrepreneurship and their labour market engagement (in line with the economic goals and the Europe 2020 strategy).

Downloads

study_on_gender_training_in_the_eu_mapping_research_and_stakeholders_engagement_-ireland-_country_profile

EN (PDF, 432.24 KB)

Metadata

COUNTRY: Ireland

AREAS: Gender equality training

AUTHOR: EIGE

ISBN: 978-92-9128-289-2

DOI: 10.2839/90031