

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



POLICY FRAMEWORK

In 2002, Slovenia adopted its first Equal Opportunities between Women and Men Act, which became gender mainstreaming as a legally binding governmental approach.

Slovenia has a gender equality strategy in the resolution on the national programme for equal opportunities for women and men 2005-11. This programme and its subsequent revision at ten years were made obligatory by the amendment of it, which also defines gender mainstreaming as a priority activity within the six priority areas of the strategy and set out gender mainstreaming policy commitments.

For example, in the activities for 2010-11, among others, the following activities were cited: training for the gender mainstreaming for specific ministries and governmental agencies; seminars for gender mainstreaming on local level; seminar for judges about the implementation of the principle of gender equality and non-discrimination; manual and toolkit on gender budgeting.

Gender training took the form of separate awareness-raising activities and educational tools designed for particular institutions as part of the 'making gender mainstreaming work' initiative implemented by the Office for Equal Opportunities. The project is financed by the Progress programme) resulted in concrete tools and training modules for civil servants, at the national level but finished in 2008. Several ministries, such as the Office of Equal Opportunities (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs), have continued and local initiatives were started in 2007.

GENDER TRAINING IN PRACTICE

In April 2012, the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs acquired all of the Office for Equal Opportunities' responsibilities and therefore became the key organiser of gender training programmes offered to all ministers that express an interest in such training.

The 'making gender mainstreaming work' initiative, which was organised by the Office for Equal Opportunities until the end of 2008, provided seminars and lectures on gender mainstreaming for local government authorities and legal courts; awareness-raising activities and gender mainstreaming into the curricula for staff of public administration; educational



materials for annual meetings and developed a toolkit for gender mainstreaming (manual for gender mainstreaming, training module and checklist for gender equality in every day working environment) and organised workshops for policymakers and decision-makers (from central government and parliament).

Generally, at ministerial level, training is specialist and provided on an ad hoc basis.

In 2007, there were 10 training courses organised for local administrations, under the 'making gender mainstreaming work' project (there were three training courses and after that based on the methods developed under this project) there were six training courses for different ministerial public servants. The number of beneficiaries varied in these programmes and often depended on the presence of high level officials. There was a higher presence of female staff who participated in the voluntary training courses.

The financial resources available for gender training courses are limited. The economic crisis not only had a large impact on gender training, but also on the gender equality policy in the country.

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