

Seminar **Women's entrepreneurship:** effective policies to empower and support women in business

30 March 2016. European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), Gedimino pr. 16

On average, women entrepreneurs represent only one third of entrepreneurs in Europe. While there are increasingly more policies supporting female entrepreneurship at regional, national and local levels, women's entrepreneurship and business creativity remain an untapped resource for jobs and economic growth. A number of challenges, from difficult reconciliation of business and family, limited access to business networks, lack of funding opportunities, and mentorship, make entrepreneurship for women less attractive and often too far to reach.

Bringing together Lithuanian business women, policy makers, researchers, NGOs and media and a number of good practice examples in the Nordic countries, this seminar aims to offer a platform for discussion and exchange of ideas on effective policies that would help to empower and support female entrepreneurship in Lithuania.

The Nordic Council of Ministers is the intergovernmental co-operation body of the five Nordic countries. Finland holds the Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers during 2016. The Presidency actively leads the work in the areas of Nordic co-operation, also in the gender equality sector.

The seminar is organized by The Nordic Council of Ministers' Office in Lithuania and the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) in cooperation with the Nordic Embassies in Lithuania, the Business Women's Association in Lithuania, the Ministries of Economy and Social Security and Labour.

We look forward to seeing you at the seminar



Bo Harald Tillberg

Director of the Nordic Council of Ministers
Office in Lithuania

Registration to the Seminar: info@norden.lt

Registration deadline: **24 March, 2016**

Seminar language is English, with simultaneous interpretation from/into Lithuanian.



Programme

Moderation: Bo Harald Tillberg,
Director of the Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania

14.00 – 14.15

Welcome

Algimanta Pabedinskiene, Minister of Social Security and Labour,
Lithuania

Marius Skarupskas, Viceminister of Economy, Lithuania

14.15 – 14.45

Keynote address

Anne Berner, Minister of Transport and Communication,
Minister for Nordic Cooperation, Finland.

Exchange with the audience

14.45 – 15.00

Coffee break

15.00 – 16.45

Support initiatives for women in business – Nordic and Lithuanian realities, practices and lessons learned

Introduction

Maurizio Mosca, Gender equality expert, European Institute
for Gender Equality (EIGE)

Interventions

- "Business women NGO's – as effective tool for supporting women entrepreneurship"
Dalia Foigt – Norvaisiene, Chair of the Board of Association of Business Women, Lithuania
- "Fostering female entrepreneurship"
Frederikke Lett, Managing Director of HOPE, Project Manager Kølpin Group, Denmark
- Crack the code: shifting to new ideologies of women in business, examples from Norway's start-up scene"
Jaya Thomlison, Entrepreneur and Advisor, Department of Culture and Business, City of Trondheim
- "Business support organizations and gender equality in Sweden – strategies from international to local level"
Sarah Nilsson, Project Leader, Winnet Västra Götaland, Sweden
- "E-services to business: cross-border opportunities"
Zivilė Bausiene, Project Manager, Enterprise Lithuania
- Women – Social Business Leaders in Lithuania.
Good Practices and Challenges
Monika Stankeviciute, NGO Avilyt, Lithuania

16.45 – 18.00

Exchange with the audience

Closing remarks and networking reception