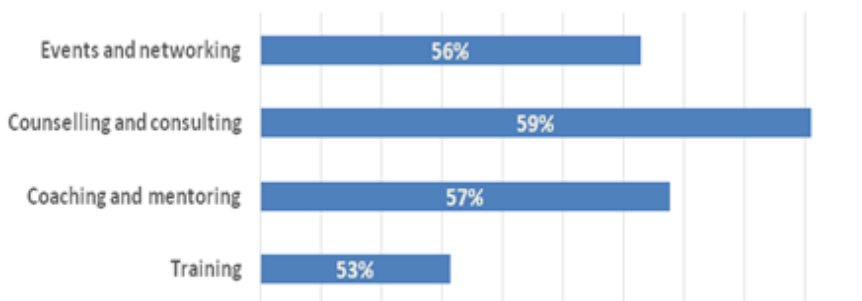


WOMEN IN BUSINESS project partners are focused on the exchange of experience activities in order to identify, collect and assess innovative solutions and good practices for fostering young women in running and developing their own businesses in the Danube region.

According to the results from the survey conducted in relation with development of the [Transnational Study of Current State of YWE](#) that covers the 9 PPs countries – Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Romania and Slovenia, top 5 barriers for becoming or being entrepreneurs in those countries are:

1. Lack of savings;
2. Difficulties in accessing a finance and high taxes;
3. Lack of information about how to start a business;
4. Lack of entrepreneurship skills;
5. Lack of self-confidence.

The **most important competencies barrier** is the **lack of information about how to start a business, followed by a lack of entrepreneurial skills**. Surprisingly, the respondents do not consider traditional views about the role of women in society as a high barrier. The highest “**soft**” barrier for them is **uncertainty about the future in case of starting own business**, followed by the **risk of losing the balance between work and personal life**.



The respondents had an opportunity to select what **type of support they need/prefer in order to improve their entrepreneurial skills**.

When it comes to training, most respondents have chosen one or two areas of future improvement. Not surprisingly, **financing and budgeting was the business field where most respondents would like to improve**, however, other business fields, such as **management, marketing, accounting, entrepreneurship and social media in business** are also identified as the areas of possible impact during the training. It might be also interesting to notice that in this aspect of the questionnaire, no significant differences could be noticed among different groups of countries.

Among the 13 suggested business fields, the respondents have chosen the 8 most interesting ones. The **importance of social media in business**, as one of the emerging business fields was well recognized by our respondents as one of the most important fields for their entrepreneurial career. Our respondents also identified e.g. **personal growth, writing, and coping with stress and negotiations as very important skills** needed in their careers.