

GP 7: Enterprise Europe Network – Women Entrepreneurship Sector Group (WEG)

Owner: Enterprise Europe Network, BITNET Consortium, Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Lead Partner)

Start date: 2013

End date: on-going

Scope: ✓ training needs ✓ policy measures other

Geographical focus: local and regional national ✓ International

Woman Entrepreneurship SG is one of the oldest SGs in the system (since 2013) and it has same goals and objectives as EEN in general – to help businesses innovate and grow on an international scale. However, this SG is focused on developing and improving the support network for female small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurs with international ambitions.

Aim:

To help women entrepreneurs to:

- find clients and co-operation partners for their products and processes,
- access innovation services,
- join existing woman entrepreneurship networks
- learn about EU programs and apply for grants.

Target group:

Women entrepreneurs

About the good practice:

EEN experts use their general and specific expertise to tailor make programs and help women entrepreneurs find international opportunities. Within the SG, there is a Chair of the group; Deputy chair of the group, followed by the list of group members. Currently, there are 16 members of the groups, representing supply and demand from various countries and regions. Interested stakeholders (i.e. women entrepreneurs) can approach their local EEN expert who will take further steps and actions in order to help them – in particular to help them with their access to market (which is the main focus of EEN in general). In Bosnia and Herzegovina there are 7 partners, and there are currently 29 experts engaged.

The key factors of success:

Building of women entrepreneurship stakeholders community.

Resources needed:

EU co-financing is used for each EEN body in the system (budgeted as 60% EU COSME funds and 40% own funds).

Evidence for success:

- ✓ 89 female companies from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Turkey and Montenegro attended B2B held on 5th April 2019 in Sarajevo

Potential for learning or transfer

- organizational model / implementation process

Contact:

Amir Hujic

Head of Unit, Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Branislava Đurđeva 10, Sarajevo

phone: +387 33 566 240

email: amir.hujic@komorabih.ba

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