

# ANNA PETRAKIEVA BULGARIA

ROLE MODEL  
IN FORESTRY

## HER CAREER

Dipl.eng. Anna Petrakieva Ph.D. graduated from the University of Forestry in 1998 with a degree in Forestry. After graduating, she worked in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Agrarian Reform. Since 1999 she has been working in the Executive Forest Agency as a chief expert on protected areas management. Her twenty-two years of work experience is directly related to coordinating the activities of nature parks in Bulgaria. Petrakieva was member of the Supreme Expert Ecological Council at the Ministry of Environment and Water and of the National Council for Biodiversity at the Ministry of Environment and Water. She defended her PhD thesis at the University of Forestry in 2008.

## PERCEPTIVE ABOUT THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN FORESTRY

Since 2009 she has been working as a part-time lecturer at University of Forestry. Since 2015 she has been leading the discipline "Forest Pedagogy" at the University of Forestry. Since 2009 she has been Vice-President of the Union of Bulgarian Foresters, and since 2011 she has been a member of the Presidency of the Union of European Foresters. She is the initiator of the national initiative "Forester for a day", as the first classes with children began in 2015. Dr. Petrakieva has trained more than 150 experts around the country to work with children according for est pedagogy methodology.

## EXPERIENCES WITH WOMEN WORKING IN FORESTRY SECTOR

Anna Petrakieva is Director of Vitosha Nature Park: Vitosha Nature Park is a favorite place for Sofia inhabitants to spend weekends. Nearly 3.5 million people visit Vitosha every year.

## About Anna

Director of the Vitosha Nature park, and since 2011 - a member of the Presidency of the Union of European Foresters, is an example of a role model for the modern manager who actively creates and uses new knowledge in her professional career. Its grassroots are from the University of Forestry, where she studied and created the discipline – Forest Pedagogy, and from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests where she worked as an expert.



WHAT SHOULD BE DONE FOR BETTER INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN FORESTRY SECTOR?

Dr. Eng. Anna Petrakieva, initiated the First National meeting of forest pedagogues. The forum with the participation of over 100 experts from all over the country was held in the Training and Experimental Forestry - Yundola.



INTERESTING INITIATIVES WHICH HELPED  
WOMEN WITH THEIR CAREER

Dipl. eng. Anna Petrakieva Ph.D, who is lecturer in Forest Pedagogy at the University of Forestry, initiated the training of experts in the forest sector in Bulgaria in 2015. She is one of the initiators of the First National meeting of forest pedagogues, that took place in 2019. The forum with the participation of over 100 experts from all over the country was held in the Training and Experimental Forestry - Yundola.

KEY MESSAGES FOR YOUNG FEMALE IN EARLY CAREER

Forest pedagogy has a place and a future in our country. It became part of the daily work of the Bulgarian foresters.

