

MONIKA NESHYBOVÁ

ROLE MODEL IN FORESTRY SECTOR

HER CAREER

She studied Forestry at the Agricultural University (today: Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, Mendel University in Brno). After graduation she got a job as a technician at forest district Horní Maršov. After maternity leave she worked as a ranger for small municipal forests and afterwards she started working for the company Lesy města Brna (Forests of the city of Brno), where she has been working until now. Her career has been influenced also by her husband, who works in the same field and was her classmate.

PERCEPTIVE ABOUT THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN FORESTRY

Women are suitable for jobs positions such working with people, tasks planning, promotion and marketing, work in forestry pedagogy, environment and administration. Monika would not say that women are not suitable for some positions but some are physically demanding or are timely consuming – e.g. direct organization or work in the field and top managerial positions. Small number of women at managerial positions is probably because of the time issue, career disruption due to maternity leave and taking care of children, getting authority in men's world of powersaw and heavy machinery is difficult.

EXPERIENCES WITH WOMEN WORKING IN FORESTRY SECTOR

Most of the women working in forestry work in administration and managerial position, where the role model does not feel any differences between men and women. For jobs „outside“, women work only exceptionally, because of physically demanding work and also because it is necessary to manage work mostly conducted by men (lumber jacks, forest vehicles and machinery drivers, people working with horses, forest workers). Employers could have problems to employ young women for the first time because they think women will leave for several years for maternity leave and after coming back they will spend time at home because they will spend their time with ill children or solving the issue of taking care of them and household care. Woman therefore has less time to build a position in comparison to man if she also wants to take care of family. This is also the reason why women do not have high ambitions because they often put family at the first place.

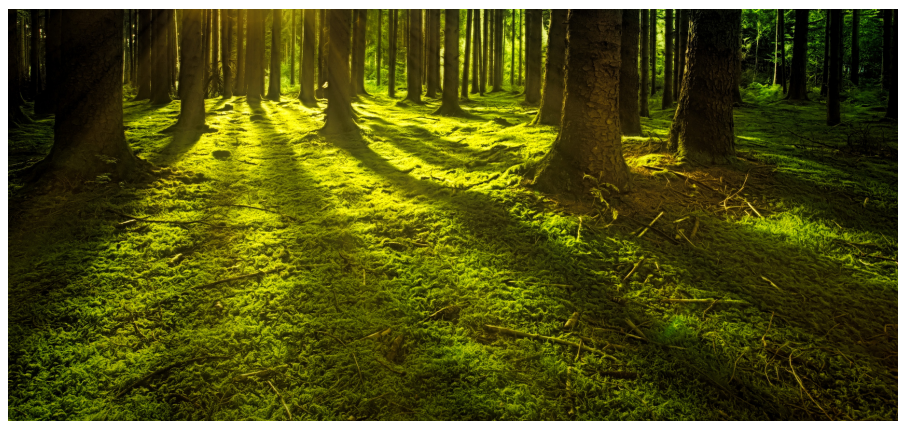
ABOUT MONIKA

Year of birth: 1967

Work position: Marketing and property-legal agenda at Forests of the city of Brno

Professional background in forestry (education: master)

Professional experience in forestry 25 years



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

Monika does not think that women need to be integrated, she does not feel it is a burning issue in the Czech Republic. However - in general - more possibilities for women to get the part-time jobs with regard to the family will be helpful. Successful career need not be the top position but satisfied women that is able to work and simultaneously has a private life.



INTERESTING INITIATIVES WHICH HELPED WOMEN WITH THEIR CAREER

Any direct initiative but she knows many women who are satisfied in forestry but they do not need to be at top managerial positions. Satisfying and fulfilling work with adequate financial evaluation is enough. She does not think that women issue is pressing in the Czech Republic - it is not good to order gender balance in all jobs, because of physically demanding work. The best authority is always with those people who did the job before so they are able to conduct it and manage it.

KEY MESSAGES FOR YOUNG FEMALE IN EARLY CAREER

Work the way to enjoy the work itself.
Don't let yourself discouraged by small disappointments and hard-to-cope-with people – they are everywhere.
Keep your femininity.



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