## Center of Women's Studies and Policies



# GENDER MAINSTREAMING in public policies and programs – the Bulgarian experience

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## Gender mainstreaming in public policies and programs

This one-year project of CWSP is implemented in partnership with *Partnership for Equality Center*, Bucharest and correlates its project *Romanian NGOs More Active in Gender Mainstreaming* 



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## **Purpose**

To increase the contribution of civil society to the elimination of gender disparities in Bulgaria by involving Gender Mainstreaming in public policies and programs.

#### **Objectives**

- To develop the capacity of local governments, trade unions, regional agencies for economic development, and NGOs to mainstream gender in policy development and implementation.
- To exchange experience with the Partnership for Equality Center in gender mainstreaming training and policy development.

## **Bulgarian partners**

- Women's Union to the Confederation of Labor Podkrepa
- The National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria
- Bulgarian Association of Regional Development Agencies
- Local NGOs







## Project summary

The project aim is to improve the capacity of local decision makers to apply and monitor gender mainstreaming in various social sectors through the following activities:

#### 1. Evaluation

of partners' present capacity for gender mainstreaming – conducting a **sociological survey** to identify the awareness and knowledge of public administration, trade unions and local NGOs with regard to gender mainstreaming.

## 2. Translating and adapting

the guide book and training materials on gender mainstreaming, developed by the Partnership for Equality Center of Bucharest.

The final variant of the practical guide also includes case studies from Bulgaria, as well as specific issues of interest for the partner organizations.

## 3. Publishing and distributing

the guide book to local governments, trade unions, regional agencies for economic development and local NGOs identified by CWSP.

The guide will come out of print by the end of July and will be distributed through the partners' networks.

## 4. Conducting a training program

 on gender mainstreaming through which 81 representatives of local authorities, trade unions, agencies for regional development and local NGOs.

### Training sessions









- Five training sessions were organized in Pravets, Veliko Turnovo, Stara Zagora, Varna and an extra training in Sofia (March – June)
- 69 women and 12 men were trained during March- June 2005.

## Moments from the trainings



#### 5. Extending www.cwsp.bg with

a specialized web page as a resource center and forum for local decision makers and civil society to improve their access to information and tools for mainstreaming gender into their programs and activities.



## 6. Promoting best practices

of gender mainstreaming in Bulgaria at the National Conference

- 100 representatives from public administration, trade unions, regional development agencies, NGOs, and the media will be held in mid-June.
- Experts from Romania, Holland, Italy,
   Serbia, Macedonia, Turkey.

## 7. Sharing experience

- at the International Expert Meeting with experts partners and specialists on gender mainstreaming from SEE (Romania, Serbia, Macedonia, Bosnia & Turkey):
- to create participatory models at different levels and present good practices and ideas for further development and implementation of gender mainstreaming policies;
- to promote models and good practices of different organizations and institutions in SEE countries.



#### CWSP thanks

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