



LOCAL ACTION PLAN: KARVINA

Supporting women in local area

City of Karvina has developed an action plan to support unemployed women into work and self employment.

Problems to be addressed

The LSG met during the whole project duration and defined the basic output and topics which LAP should focus at. LSG members defined the high rate of unemployment in the town of Karviná as the main problem (approximately 17% out of which there are more unemployed women than men). Continuous unemployment is a very serious issue. The problem emerges when continuously unemployed women lose hope and give up, they get used to other daily routine and they are not willing to adapt for example to a new time schedule of the day. A relatively small number of businesswomen and lack of women in knowledge economy are other troublesome areas.

After a thorough analysis of the business environment in Karviná and also in the Czech Republic due to the necessity of comparing some of the data with the national average the LSG members came to a conclusion that the best way to reduce the unemployment of women is to motivate them to start a business activity, to educate themselves, and to go through retraining programmes.

There is also a gap in the area of combining the family life with the professional career. In the town of Karviná there is a very good background for families with children, there are nurseries, kindergartens and various free time activities for school children. The only imperfection is the shortage of employment which would enable women to have a part-time job.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of LAP is to decrease the number of unemployed women by means of measures which are not specifically defined, to increase their level of education and to raise the number of businesswomen. It was not easy to find appropriate measures and suggestions, nevertheless LSG seized the initiative in this task responsibly and defined LAP on the basis of analysis, professional knowledge and experience, and first of all on the basis of good practice examples of other project partner towns.

Actions proposed

Increase in positive actions that promote women's access to quality employment e.g. lobbying to create awareness of the general and specific rights of working women bearing on the fight against work precariousness.

- Develop labour activation policies to favour women's insertion in the job market, to strengthen equality of opportunities in working environment e.g. special measures for women with added difficulties.
- Draw up of studies and conferences from a gender perspective in different activity sectors.
Stimulate and reinforce positive actions that promote access to management positions in the public and private sectors under equal conditions.
- Support the creations of companies set up by women and stimulate Business Networks.



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Stakeholders involved

LSG was founded within the project WEED and its members are the Authority of Karviná employees, the statutory town of Karviná Mayor's deputy, and the representatives of the Employment Office in Karviná, representatives of the District Chamber of Commerce in Karviná and the organisation RPIC-ViP, s.r.o.

Next steps

The LAP will be presented to the Authority of Karviná approval. In general we can say that LAP tries to find a solution to women's high rate of unemployment, harmonization of women's family and professional life and insufficient motivation of women to conduct business. There are suggested measures which will be put into effect immediately with the financial support, but some of the proposed measures are more of a long-term character and their implementation is conditioned by a statute modification.

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