

**ENWISE valorisation conference “Enlarging Europe with/for Women Scientists”
Follow-Up Seminar “Implementing Enwise results”**

EVENT SUMMARY

The follow-up seminar “**Implementing Enwise results**” of the Enwise valorisation conference “Enlarging Europe with/for Women Scientists” took place in Tallinn on April 25-26 2005.

The purpose of the follow-up workshop was to find out how the suggestions and recommendations made during the Conference have begun to be implemented in the different Enwise countries, to find out what obstacles have occurred, and to exchange best practice experiences. 54 researchers from 13 countries participated in the seminar. During the seminar 19 presentations were made.

The opening session of the follow-up seminar was devoted to addressing the state of things of Women and Science. **Estonian Minister of Education and Research, Ms. Mailis Reps** stated in her opening address the need to make it easier for women to unify work and family life.

Mr. Johannes Klumpers gave an overview of Women and Science actions at European level. He stated that in 2001 the target of 40% of women in science was set. Although it is still a target we are moving in that direction. Mr. Klumpers introduced FP7 and pointed out that in FP7 gender research is addressed already on the programme level. Mr. Klumpers suggested making ENWISE recommendations more visible by concentrating them and narrowing them down to a smaller number of specific recommendations.

Opening Session 1, **Ms. Tiia Raudma** (EST) stated the need for EU political support for Women & Science in ENWISE countries and for gender mainstreaming in R&D policy. There is also a need to ensure gender sensitive data collection and to facilitate connections between ENWISE and other networks. National policy makers should attract girls to science, promote gender equality in research and develop family-friendly policies. Establishing contact centres for Women & Science issues is advisable.

Session 1 continued with reports on the state of the art in Enwise countries. Presentations were made by Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania and Slovak Republic. The presentations concerned actions that have been carried out, policy developments and national statistics. The need for appropriate official institutional structures was stressed, and the example of national contact centres such as exists in the Czech Republic, was cited. In the event that no national contact centre exists, it is important to have somebody in the Ministry responsible for women and science topic.

The need for wider dissemination was noted to create broader basis for women and science topic in society. The perception of women researchers of themselves is important, particularly in the interest of making their career appear attractive to young researchers. A good example for creating wider understanding is the Strategy for

Science Popularization In Lithuania. A Latvian example of best practise was writing the increase of research investments into a law. The Researchers' Charter and Code of Conduct for their Recruitment were pointed out as a step in the right direction for creating conditions for the improvement of the situation of women in science.

Session 2 was devoted to looking ahead and highlighting useful tools and schemes for Women and Science issues. **Prof. Ene Ergma** pointed out that there is a large number of women with higher education, but only a few make it to the top. Gender awareness is low, people are not aware that a problem exists.

Dr. Ursula Henze-Schulte introduced the EOWIN project. The EOWIN projects main areas are attracting girls to science, improving job conditions, raising awareness, gender research, supporting top women networks and mentoring schemes and making career paths in research more attractive. The main focus of the project is on natural sciences.

Ms. Isabel Beuter introduced the European Platform of Women Scientists, which acts as a structural link between women scientists and policy makers. The purpose of the platform is to promote women scientists and to engage women scientists in the research policy debate. The electronic platform will be basis for integration and networking.

Ms. Laura Henderson introduced the KNOWING project, "Knowledge, Institutions and Gender: an East-West comparative study". The objectives of the project are to examine contexts and communities of knowledge production, including role of gender; identify institutional practises which hinder equal participation of women in science; encourage establishment of feminist science studies; influence policy to promote gender equality in science.

Ms. Henderson also introduced the Central European Centre for Women and Youth in Science. The actions of CEC-WYS target women and science, young people in science, gender equality in R&D. The initiatives include website, database on women scientists, expert evaluators in FP 6, inclusion of gender dimension in FP 6, workshops and project sourcebook.

Prof. Dalia Šatkovskiene introduced the BASNET, "Women in sciences and high technology" project. The main goal of the project is to mobilize the interregional and interdisciplinary efforts to support the development of the strategy to increase equal participation of women scientists in Baltic States region. The projects aim is to establish a network and a database of women in sciences and high technology and formulating a common strategy for the Baltic States to ensure the equal participation of women in sciences and high technology.

Ms. Päivi Siltanen introduced the WONENG project, pointing out that there are different barriers, which keep girls away from science and engineering. The project has investigated women's situation in technical sciences and the problems being faced there.

The feedback from the participants of the workshop was very positive and confirmed the need for the follow-up seminar. All presentations of the Enwise conference and follow-up seminar are available at <http://www.archimedes.ee/enwise/>