The importance of role models

Cocky Booy
VHTO
National Expert Organisation
girls | women and science | engineering
The Netherlands

National programme
to encourage girls in secondary education
to choose science, engineering and technology

- age of 15: profile choice
- age of 17/18: study choice (higher education)
Role models

Speed date sessions at schools of secondary education

Age of 15 (profile choice):

- Short plenary sessions with all girls (50)
- Talks in small groups of 1 female professional and 6 schoolgirls
- 3 rounds (3x 20 minutes)
Role models

Speed date sessions at schools of secondary education:

Age of 17/18 (HE study choice):

- Short plenary sessions with all girls (30)
- Plenary interview with female students in SET
- Quiz (with brochures)
- Talks in small groups of 1 female professional, 1 female student and 6 schoolgirls
- 3 rounds (3x 20 minutes)
Role models

More activities:

- Guest lectures
- Work shadowing
- Presentations at career events
- Interviews in media
Welke bèta/technische HBO-opleiding kies jij?
Database Spiegelbeeld (mirror image)
Role models

Preparation of female professionals in SET

- Search and select
  (co-operation with universities, companies and branche organisations; advertising)

- Briefing
  (scheduled 30 minutes personal briefing by telephone)

- Evaluation
  (personal or in small groups)
National programma

The programme offers also:

- Statistics on girls/women
- Gender policy advice for school management
- Workshops for SET teachers
- Workshops for career counsellors
- National conference (once a year)

and:

- Programme for institutes of vocational training
  (gender scan, communication advice, training etc.)