

PUA women case study

Interviews information

Date of fieldwork: March – September 2016

Country: Greece

Geography: Athens (capital), Lamia (central Greece), Crete, Ioannina (northwest Greece) and Patra (Peloponnese)

Method of data collection: Qualitative semi-structured interviews face-to-face (11) and Skype (1)

Language: Greek

Kind of data: Interview transcripts (4) and field notes/ summaries (8)

Population: 9 of them were members of the stakeholder organisation and trainers of the project's workshops and seminars and 3 were women participating in the programme. All of them were women aged from 30 to 55 years old, employed. One of them was from Lamia, central Greece, two from Crete, one from Patra (Peloponnese), one from Ioannina (northwest Greece).

Sampling: Random, snowball method

Number of units: 12

Key words: women, trade unions, Greece, crisis, social investment

Summary: The interviews we conducted were part of WP4 and more particularly of the evaluation process of the project "Promotion and Strengthening of Women's Participation in Trade Unions and their Representation Bodies". The interviews were conducted both with the stakeholder members participated in the project's implementation but also with trainers responsible with the implementation of

particular parts of the project (seminars and workshops). We faced no serious difficulties in recruiting our interviewees and we managed to cover different aspects of the project (design, implementation, financial, etc.) and the stakeholder staff assisted us without hesitation. The interviews helped us in the evaluation of the project despite the fact that the project was ended when we started conducting them. As all the programme staff mentioned in our interviews and informal discussions, they already knew that women are less participating and less represented in trade unions through their personal contacts with the federations and the labour centres around Greece. What also came out from the conducted interviews was that there was a small change in the target population included in the proposal. Since the programme started in the beginning of the economic crisis it came out that there was a huge interest among women on such a programme which included special information on worker's rights, legal support, social security knowledge and of course seminars and workshops for the empowerment of women. Another important aspect that came out of the interviews conducted was that women – participating or not in trade unions – despite any initial hesitation to attend the programme they expressed very positive attitudes and considered it as a great experience. This was more obvious and underlined also by stakeholder members when it came to women living in small towns and villages around Greece. Only minor problems were mentioned, organisational, of the educational material, the functioning of a telephone Help Line, but most of them were satisfactorily confronted. For example the educational material changed in the very early stages of the programme without creating any dysfunctions. The most common outcome and problem at the same time was that there wasn't a follow up programme, something that participating women and stakeholder staff mentioned almost unanimously.