

Final Draft Report

Round Table Conference, June 25, 2013, Stockholm, Sweden



Winnet Center of Excellence

Seed finance project January 1, 2013 – September 30, 2013 coordinated by Winnet Sweden

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The Baltic Sea Region Partnership Platform for Gender and Economic Growth

Round Table Conference and work meeting in Stockholm, Sweden Tuesday June 25, 2013, 09.00–17.00 at the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Stockholm, Karlavägen 35

Welcome to the conference

The Ambassador of the Republic of Poland Mr Adam Halacinski welcomed the participants to the conference, glad to host this event in the historical building (built in the beginning of 20th century) of the Embassy. He thanked Winnet organisation for willing to arrange the event at the premises of the Polish Embassy. On the part of the Embassy, co-organisation of this event is perceived as a sign of commitment of Poland to cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region. Ambassador Halacinski pointed out to the Swedish and Polish engagement in the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and mentioned several reasons why the cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region should be supported.

Opening of the conference

Mrs Britt-Marie Söderberg Torstensson, chair of Winnet Sweden and Winnet Europe, opened the conference by thanking the Ambassador for hosting the event, and as the ambassador already pointed out the importance of collaboration within the Baltic Sea Region and the importance of a gender perspective in the same, she proposed a short presentation of the participants.

Mrs Britt-Marie Söderberg Torstensson also moderated the day and led the agenda of the conference.

EUSBSR as a vehicle to boost competitiveness in the region

Mr Erik Kiesow, Swedish NCP for the EUSBSR Coordination's Secretariat, the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr Kiesow starts to say that the cooperation between Sweden and Poland are very good and the Polish Presidency has been very well displayed.

The Baltic Sea Region Strategy was launched by the European Union Parliament, in the council by Sweden

and then it was reviewed with the polish presidency. The results now is a more focused strategy with clear objectives, better prepared framework for 2014 and all the indicators are up to 2020.

The idea is to have 3 targets and objectives; save the sea, connect the region and increase prosperity. These are then broken down to indicators for future measure possibilities. The strategy aims to be more relevant for other policy funding and the next programming period.

In the present negotiation in the parliament, the proposal for all EU structural residence funds, which is a balk for enhance competitiveness and cohesion, are to take the Baltic Sea Region to account and that is a huge benefit. The strategy is constructed in a way that support other policies in EU when it comes to, especially in EU 2020, competitiveness and prosperity.

In the Baltic Sea Region Strategy, gender perspective is important, and that is why Mr Kiesow's remark is competitiveness. Competitiveness is a very complex issue and it is difficult to measure, but on regional bases there are certain things that we can tackle. For example connecting the region, it is about infrastructure but also about connecting people. For competitiveness it is important to develop transporting goods as well as people in EU and BSR. Other areas that we have to tackle are innovation, education and research.

Gender perspective supply side in the Baltic Sea Region Strategy can do more. In this perspective, gender issue is tackling another side of competitiveness, and that is to work with the supply side of employment. And this is something that is highlighted in Sweden when it comes to implementation in EU 2020.

Mr Kiesow ends with saying that this is one of the weaknesses in the Baltic Sea Region Strategy and more can be done, and he is looking forward to the results of this project.

The European Regional Policy requires partnership to succeed

MEP Jens Nilsson, Swedish Member of the Committee on Regional Development, European Parliament.

The roles for the next programming period for EU 2020 are now in preparation and Mr Nilsson gives a picture of the importance of partnership. He was the former mayor of Östersund and was involved in the implementation of the cohesion policy in Jämtland, and in this work he found out that working in partnership is crucial to succeed. Not only cross border partnership geographically, but also borders between both the private and public sector as well civil society.

Evaluations from the 90's and onwards in the Swedish context shows the sustainability when one work in partnership. To exemplify this he gives example when he was the president of the Vinnväx project in Östersund over issues as sport, tourism and outdoor equipment in order to create innovation system in a triple helix perspective. It turned out not be easy to cooperate across borders as they were not accustomed to it and it was a lot of attitudes to work with. As for the success of the project, it was important to create a culture with common goals and gather people who could cooperate and were flexible. This is important, whether it be large or small scale work. Trust and commitment are two important ingredients. To destroy the achievements is easy with just a word, attitude or behavior.

The roles for the cohesion program 2020 is soon completed and partnership, how to behave, is one important role. The commission came up with a proposal, "code of conduct" – how to act, how to do this partnership, which also was admitted. The "code of conduct" says that the partnership must be in both making the program and implementing it and in the evaluation of the program. The partnership must consist representatives from public authorities, economical social partners and from civil society including environmental partners, NGO's, partners promoting social inclusion, gender equality and non discrimination, both on regional and national level.

The cohesion policy is 40 % of the budget so it is important that we reach the goals for 2020.

Winnet Centre of Excellence – a Quadruple Helix Innovation System for joint knowledge Development and Innovation

Malin Lindberg, Researcher in gender and innovation, Luleå University of Technology

Winnet Centre of Excellence is an innovation system for joint knowledge development and innovation on gender equal growth with Women Resource Centres and gender researchers.

Winnet Centre of Excellence was initiated by Winnet Sweden in the quadruple helix system for gender equal growth and is designed for this kind of innovation systems in order to inspire for this flag ship initiative.

Women Resource Centres are differently organised as non-profit organisations or parts of public agencies. They are promoting gender mainstreaming in regional growth policies and supporting women's employment, entrepreneurship and innovation.

In the early 1990s public funds were initiated, channeled through the County Administrations, to encourage the establishment of Women Resource Centers in Sweden. Since 1998 the funding of local and regional WRCs is distributed by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth and the ongoing financing period are 2013-2015.

Networks between WRCs in Sweden and women's initiatives in different countries were strengthened. Winnet Europe was established 2006 and can be found in 12 countries with about 300 women resource centres, with or without funding. With a bottom-up approach, these resource centres are an important force, driving the gender equality issue.

Innovation systems are networks of actors from different societal sectors who are jointly developing relevant knowledge, transformed into new goods and services being used in organisations and society. This kind of networks and actors from different parts of society as academia, public and private sector and non-profit sector develop new knowledge that are relevant not only to researchers and practitioners but for all in society.

The innovation system that Women Resource Centres have organised are realising its vision of this system, but at the same time they are representing marginalised sectors,

industries and innovation because they are built on women's entrepreneurship and innovation, and has been regarded as not relevant in several initiatives. A lot of research shows that it has to do with gender stereotypes and gender assumptions.

In the model of triple helix, collaboration between private companies, universities and policy is requested. Triple Helix primarily acknowledging innovation in men-dominated industries, neglecting innovation among non-profit actors, women and SMEs.

Women Resource Centres are supporting the non-profit sector and have systematically organised innovation systems at the local, regional and national level in Sweden by linking public, private and non-profit sector and academia in a quadruple helix model around different topics such as new technology, culture and the service industry. Most Women Resource Centres also serve as project owners and they have successfully brought all this actors together, and as we have heard earlier, it is not that easy.

In Sweden we now have been taking the first steps to form and establish Winnet Centre of Excellence by mapping researchers and research studies, creating meeting places for Women Resource Centres and researchers in a structural way, and preparing joint projects and research studies by applying for joint funding.

Next step is more interactive research processes between the Women Resource Centres and researchers specialised on WRCs in particular, as well as on women's entrepreneurship and innovation in general.

The EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and Gender: challenges for 2014–2020

Mrs Ewa Ruminska-Zimny, the International Women Forum at the Warsaw School of Economics, Poland

The model for strategies in national levels and on European level is that gender equality is a separate issue, as well as economic growth and innovation. So the result is different strategies for gender, economic and innovation and they are not linked together. This, for Mrs Ruminska-Zimny, is the main challenge for this project, for Women Resource Centres and their idea of partnership in a quadruple helix perspective. Partnership, as we have heard earlier, will be a strong feature for the next regional

policy and funding. This project can create a platform not only for gender issues but also for growth concept issues, sharing economic growth concepts in and for the Baltic Sea Countries.

The gender perspective are marginalised in Europe 2020, European Recovery Plan as well in Cohesion Policy. It is outside policy priorities to build a new Europe through intelligent sustainable and inclusive growth. In the European Regional Development Fund, equal opportunities as a horizontal priority, but only 8% of gender related programmes had specific strategy, budget and quantified targets in 2000-2006. And in the European Social Fund, only 7% of financing went on equality measures including reconciliation in 2000-2006. In the EQUAL program, 15% of financing went on equality measures.

The Baltic Sea Strategy is the first strategy of the EU related to a macro-region (started 2009), action plan was adopted in 2013, that gives framework for cooperation in the Baltic Sea Area. In the Baltic Sea Region strategy there is three main objectives: to save the sea, to connect the region and to increase prosperity. In these three objectives, gender equality is a horizontal perspective, and one cannot see much of gender in the strategy, only a small reference in PA and SME. In the last minute, Sweden and Poland managed to include a proposal of stronger statement in Action Plan on equality with growth links.

At the last meeting before the strategy was to be adopted a proposal was made to take place in the action plan. Nobody objected, because it would be politically incorrect. And now the proposal is, as follows down beneath, in the action plan.

“Successful implementation of the Strategy requires also the adoption of a gender perspective in the governance system and the Action Plan. Equality between men and women is a core value of the European Union. At the same time, economic and business benefits can be gained from enhancing gender equality. In order to achieve the objectives of the EUSBSR the contribution and talents of both women and men should be fully used.”

Missing a gender perspective is an issue of economic growth. Women are the main source of new labour in Poland and in Europe, except migration, and gender diversity in innovation, production and management styles pays off. Women tend to be better educated and should be better used in the society.

Gender, Innovation and Growth in BSR countries

Mrs Marta Hozer-Koćmiel, University of Szczecin, Poland

Poland was a successful country. When everybody was sinking down, Poland increased its GDP. The main driving force was private consumption, exports, investment and regional funds as Poland had the largest beneficiaries. Investments were most made in infrastructure projects and social structure projects as education, elderly care and childcare were neglected and lacked of investments.

Now Poland has problems with strong gender bias. Poland is suffering from rising unemployment – from 6–7% to over 14 % (2008–2013) and female unemployment are higher than men's despite better education. Fixed terms contracts has increased sharply to 27% and caring jobs in public sector (hospitals, nurses) has been outsourced. And there has not been a progress in further reduction of poverty. Some results from this is less polish women on the labour market and the unemployment rates has sharply increased.

For Poland is the female factor a barrier for growth at the moment. Decisionmakers have begun to calculate what will happen to the public finances and the pension system if Poland ends up with a vey high rate of an older and elderly society.

Since mid 1980s fertility rates have dropped from the highest (above 2 children/women) to the lowest in Europe (1.2- 1.4). Employment as a prerequisite to have babies is the reversal of trends between participation rates and fertility (Matysiak 2009; d'Addio et al. 2005). If women do not have jobs, they give birth to less children. Implications from the growth perspective is shortages of labour, presure on public finance, pension system, health care expenditure. Fertility issues is high up on the political agenda, but lack of effective policies as paternal leave. Government expenditures, on family benefits are slightly higher than in Greece, but are still located in the lower part of the scale. The losers in the polish society are single parents and large families. The more children, the poorer they are.

Challenges for the next programming period 2014-2020 and for a flag ship initiative is to define a gender sensitive concept of innovative economy based on BSR experience and identify gender dissagregated indicators of success for EUSBRS. Each country has to prepare specific policy recommendations according to their national conditions and build regional platforms and new partnerships at all levels in a qudruple helix perspective.

Since 2004 has Szczecin University cooperated with Winnet Sweden in the process of creating a Winnet Centre of Excellence and the topic we started to work with was gender, innovation and growth in Baltic Sea Region. We can apply gender perspective in all areas in society. It is important to link gender to innovation and sustainability. Effective entrepreneurship plus innovation means higher employment, higher economic growth, and gender plus economic growth means sustainable development.

Some definitions about gender, focused on those proposed from the European Commission are gender as a concept that refers to the social differences between women and men that have been learned, are changeable over time and have wide variations both within and between cultures. The consideration and attention to the differences in any given policy area/activity are the gender perspective.

How to link gender and innovation? Innovation is the development of new values through solutions that meet new requirements, inarticulate needs, or old customer and market needs in value adding new ways (European Commission). This is accomplished through more effective products, processes, services, technologies, or ideas that are ready available to markets, governments, and society.

When we think of Women Resource Centres as an innovation system, it is important to underline the category of social innovation, which refers to new strategies, concepts, ideas and organisations that meet social needs of all kinds, and has really been done by Women Resource Centres. The European Commission wrote that equal participation of men and women is essential for Europe to exploit the full potential of innovative strengths – not only for demographic reasons, but also in case of innovation processes and results. There is a need to clarify what new cluster policy related measures can support the process to get more women involved in the innovation process of business and research.

How to link innovation and growth? The Europe 2020 Strategy has three mutually reinforcing priorities, smart growth developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation, sustainable growth promoting more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy and inclusive growth that will foster a high-employment economy and deliver social and territorial cohesion.

What are the methods to link gender and innovation? In the publication “Innovation and Gender” by Inger Danilda, we find old methods, such as communication, mapping, monitoring, networking, proposed to be used in new context. These methods are used by Women Resource Centres and researchers.

There is not much research on gender, innovation and sustainable development, but in Mrs Hozer-Koćmiel presentation she refers to some important publications on the subject. (These recommended publications one can find in the added power point presentation.) Researchers need this fielding of empirical studies and issues. For example, Malin Lindberg, representing the researcher team from the University of Luleå, is organising a

conference “Equality, Gender and Growth”, taking place in October in Luleå, for researchers and practitioners. The result of research in the area will be the essence of the project we are preparing.

There are four ideas for research important to work with to define a broader view of innovation. First to concentrate on modelling the relation between Gender, Innovation and Sustainable Development, and it will be micro analyses. It will show the general picture of the situation in each country. Then do a smaller survey on market and non-market innovativeness of women, as we find women often standing out of the innovation system. To create a WINNET web platform for woman innovators, as an intelligent tool that makes use of the latest information technology for users on different levels. At last work with implementation of the time use aspect between women and men, growth and innovation.

Some facts and figures over unemployment rate in The Baltic Sea Region countries during the crisis shows higher rate in countries such as Poland and lowe rate in the nordic countries.

If we look at the real GDP the more greener colour the more GDP – the more yellow the lower GDP.

Real GDP per capita, growth rate and totals

2013

Percentage change on previous year, EUR per inhabitant – 2014
Percentage change on previous period



Legend

2.3 – 0.7

0.7 – 1.2

1.2 – 1.9

1.9 – 2.6

2.6 – 5.6

Not available

Minimum value: 2.3 Maximum value: 5.6

If we link it to innovation the situation is the opposite. Green islands become yellow islands. The more yellow colour, the percentage of turnover is lower and the more green colour, the better situation.



What are the characteristics to be used to see the link between gender, innovation and sustainable development? If we want to have a gender perspective we have to look at the correlation between growth and some variables. For example; the lower GDP per capita in PPS or Euro, the more females are at risk of poverty and long term unemployment. The Pearson coefficient between those characteristics shows the relationship between two categories. If the values is close to 1 or -1, it means that the relation is strong. If the values is ground zero, it means that the relation doesn't exist or is weak. In measure one can see that the higher GDP per capita, the lower female risk of poverty. The higher GDP the higher, the higher of healthy life years of women and the higher GDP, the higher are womens economic opportunities.

If we look at the time use in minutes per day for women, in chosen Baltic Sea countries, the numbers shows most used time in unpaid work and leisure. And this aspect is a need of more research.

Proposal for a Flagship initiative – The Baltic Sea Region Partnership Platform for Gender & Economic Growth.

*Mrs Britt-Marie S Torstensson,
Winnet Sweden and Winnet Europe*

The seedfinanced project the Baltic Sea Region Partnership Platform for Gender & Economic Growth is approved by the Swedish Institute, Szexcin University and Women Forum at the Warsaw School of Economics with Winnet Sweden as project owner.

Background of the project is the Interreg IV C capitalisation project Winnet 8, which aimed to spread out Women Resource Centre model and to shape regional, national and EU-level policies and development programmes with implemented gender perspective.

The objectives in this project are to establish a Baltic Sea Region partnership to be interactive together, and to set up a Winnet Centre of Excellence. In Sweden, WCE,

is ongoing but is needed to be developed further and at Szczecin University, the platform for WCE work is established. Next step will be to establish Winnet Centre of Excellence in all Baltic Sea countries.

We have now almost a formed partnership, just some steps left. And we have a platform for Baltic Sea Region in support of Poland and now also to develop a flagship initiative in gender and innovation for growth, including entrepreneurship and ICT issue.

The goal is that at the end of 2013 have enough basis to go on develop the flagship initiative.

Winnet Centre of Excellence in the Baltic Sea region based on Winnet8 Capitalisation project results

Mrs Marta Hozer-Koćmiel, University of Szczecin

The definition for Winnet Centre of Excellence in Baltic Sea Region is that WCE is the international network of researchers in the Baltic Sea Region for purpose of doing and promoting research, teaching and policy making on Gender, Innovation and Sustainable Growth.

Winnet Centre of Excellence is going to work with three important components, the academic component, networking component and last the practical component which means researchers networking with practitioners. The basic activities taking place in the centre will be policy oriented research, publication of monographs and papers, promotion of gender equitable approach to social and economic development and organisation of conferences, seminars and workshops.

In Winnet8 Interreg IV C Capitalisation project there were many good results to be used. Here I focus on the most important.

First results are action plans in nine regions, signed and improved by the mayor of each region. The action plan is a description over the region, a swot analyse and five ideas how to implement gender equality in the region growth and labour market.

Second result is the quadruple helix model, which is the answer how to link the four sectors; academia, policy makers, business and civil society. The method is to arrange round table discussions and most effective round tables is with more less participants and the outcome of the discussions then gives more result.

Third result from the project is a set of 40 good practises collected in a guide, how to strengthen the work with gender equality in many areas.

Fourth and last result, the most important, is recommendation of EU policies in different areas as labour market, entrepreneurship and innovation, social development. In preparing the flagship project we will form some further recommendations and they will be strongly related to sustainable development.

There will be several thematic blocks of the Winnet Centre of Excellence depending on the researchers and their interest. That will form the partnership in the flagship initiative. One thematic block will be innovation strongly connected to entrepreneurship and it is important to model the relation between gender, innovation and sustainable development. There will be a strong group analysing the strategic documents as we want to stay close to the macro policy.

Another thematic block will be feminisation of poverty with inclusion of the time aspect and gender budgeting. We are open to other research topics and what Szczecin University will focus in. We plan to make a survey on market and non market innovativeness of women.

There will be comparative statistic analyses showing general pictures of gender, innovation and sustainable development. The time use variables will be involved to analyse non market activities.

The Winnet Web Platform, created in the flagship project will be a complementary to the academic and practical network and it will be formed in order to extend exchange between Winnet Centre of Excellence and Women Resource Centre.

Summary of reflections and contribution of the researchers and their experience from Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania

In Latvia there is a lack of data, more is needed to give some evidens. The need of support in policy is also important. Latvia do not have a network of researchers, they have mostly been partners on project basis, but see the possibilities with booth creating a Winnet Centre of Excellence and Women Resource Centres for micro studies, to support connection between micro and meso level when it comes to gender awared policy for innovation and entrepreneurship. The gender perspective have been marginalised and therefor nearly lost.

In Estonia the link between enterprises and research have been tried most in projects when cooperation and connecting was forced. And a lot of sleeping networks are the result from many projects with many partners. Some good examples of connecting one can find from the municipality level with researchers, local actors and SMEs sharing information. The definition of innovation needs to be broadened because innovation exist in daily life. Innovation is not only ICT, one can find it for example in design and textile to. Also in Estonia there is a lack of data when it comes to gender and lack of basic funding. Estonia see the need of establishing Women Resource Centres

In Lithuania, the intercoordination of women research, women information and women support does not exist in any significant extent. There is a lack of Women Resource Centres and other women support centres. In Lithuania one can find women study centres in the largest universities. The link between gender, innovation and growth are very weak and the most difficult partners to build partnership with are enterprises.

Overall, one can say that here is an interest in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia to secure and promote the project idea and the Flagship idea as well to secure interested and active partners/participants, with a Quadruple Helix perspective (i.e. NGO, Private, public authorities and Academia) in the next phase.

Summary of reflections and contributions of other Baltic Sea Countries around the table

Here are some reflections from the participants, on the presentations made before lunch and contributions for the next step in the flagship initiative.

Hanseatic parliament, an association of more than 50 chambers around the Baltic Sea, have direct contact with about 400 000 SMEs and with the topic women entrepreneurship we are now in project QUICK-IGA, for equal opportunities in the labor market. The results of this work can be useful for developing Winnet Centre of Excellence further and the Norden Association offer experience and knowledge. One reflection is the cooperation between the universities in Luleå and Szczecin, the embryo for Winnet Centre of Excellence in Baltic Sea Region. It is a good example of cooperation, which will be taken for consideration in the preparation of action plans for cooperation within the whole region,

in QUICK-IGA, not only for scientific research but also including other areas as enterprises.

Another reflection is the need of practitioners, for example a council of actors from non-profit organisations for promotion of entrepreneurship is newly established in Sweden. Nyföretagarcentrum, which was established in Latvia by Swedish banks and Chamber of Commerce, is one actor and offer to Latvia experience and knowledge. Theoretical framework research is needed to be followed up with practical implementation, and Nyföretagarcentrum want to be viewed as a partner in the implementation.

Advices from Barbro Widing, Finland, is to give the cause of immigration more space in the flagship initiative as there is some certain trends in the society, and also to open up for other countries as Russia, Norway, Island and add to the proposal a new view of contact with other external countries.

Lena Rooth from the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional growth, points out the importance for small business organisations to include women entrepreneurs and the gender issue, for which they can get support from chambers of commerce. One advice is to look at the Nordic Council flagship initiative, which they are forming for the next period, if there is some to share or connect. Also look at how Sweden conducts the network of female business angels. Mrs Rooth also points out that innovation has to be better connected with public funding like developing and research. Especially in the phase of commercialisation where there is a gap. And at last gives an advice to work with gender budgeting as a tool for results.

Håkan Ottoson, Ottoson Consulting, indicates that when we talk about innovation we must add smart specialisation, which is a good method to use in the flagship. He also recommend to look at the Baltic Development Forum published reports and knowledge of economical growth.

Mrs Åsa Hildestrand from the Ministry of Finance, points out the need of creating a clear structure in this project and clarify the connection of gender and innovation for sustainable growth. Second this flagship could help implementing the gender issue to other flagships.

One idea of the flagship is to be the strategy for gender in the whole of European Union, and the Baltic Sea Region will become the most gender mainstreamed.

The papers to the Parliament from Swedish point of view is now under preparation, so this could be the opportunity to put the new topic that everyone is demanding.

Mrs Marta Hozeir-Koćmiel and Mrs Hildestrand agrees, that outlines in all programs should be mainstreamed, at least gender analysed based on deep research.

The next reflection comes from Mr Stefan Cairen, Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications, and he advice to focus on creating concrete results. Create activities from women's point of view and perspective, and organise platforms for meetings for SME run by women only. Put the aim high enough to make it visible and wanted. Mr Cairen can provide methods for making this successful.

Mrs Chatarina Nordström, Winnet Sweden, would like to emphasise the importance of new and ongoing research and the collaboration between researchers and practitioners to turn knowledge into daily life. Winnet8 project is one example on exchange for learning both ways in a quadruple helix perspective for changes in the society. Mrs Marta Hozer-Koćmiel agrees and added that the four actors must collaborate well to get synergy effects. It is also important not to be too general, more focus to innovation, which is total gender blind, and get the gender issue approved.

Round Table Conference, part 1, dialogues and discussions

Presentation done by Mrs Hozer-Koćmiel from the work shop in April in Szczecin.

The first outcast of the main objectives was formed by the participating researchers and practitioners in the project.

The main objective is to integrate a gender perspective into innovation policies, through research, policy action plans, supporting women entrepreneurs and the area ICT. In this objective there is a clear connection between practitioners, research and policy makers.

The is 4 detailed objectives for preparing the flagship and they are as follows;

- Redefining innovation policies combining social and technological dimensions from a gender perspective. Rethink and criticize existing definitions and make better proposals. WRC is one example of social innovation.

- Exchange of knowledge and experience on different levels to create the innovative environment for gender issues in civil society. And this is strongly correlated to actions in WCE.
- Creation of methodology, recommendations and action plan how to include gender perspective into the innovation oriented Sustainable Development in BSR countries. This is a tool to get a common picture and promoting women innovators with practical, statistical and qualitative methods.
- Promotion of innovativeness among women (entrepreneurs) in BSR countries in order to more equal usage of human resources. The term “more equal usage ...” is useful to give rational arguments to enter gender issues.

Results from work shop discussions over objectives, work package, methods and activities

- The main title for the flagship has to correspond to the overall objectives, there for innovation must be found in the title.
- A proposal that the main objective must consist growth and sustainable development
- Supporting women entrepreneurship is to general described, more description of creating the strategic network.
- Clarifying what will be done in the research component and creation of WCE
- Important to bring out the innovation issue in the activities.
- Make gender analyzes and implementing gender perspective for other flagship projects.
- Discussion over the research agenda; what is research and what are the researchers addressed to bring to the project, assembling data, how to evaluate and how to present them in a more comparable way in different countries.
- The process of create the WCE, in each BSR country or only coordinators in Poland and Sweden.
- Highlight BSR as a test bed in learning processes for implementing gender perspective in methods and actions.
- Important to have a clear idea of implementation of the objectives, how to go from policy to practical deliver.

- The aim and objective is to identify the participants, for the network in a quadruple helix perspective, in each of the participating countries.
- How to implement and include the service directive from EU in the work package of WCE, as one can find many women enterprises there.
- Observe that the vision of Winnet Centre of Excellence must be linked to the third objective – prosperity – if the flagship will be organized under that objective. How WCE contribute to the objective.
- Through activities in Winnet Centre of Excellence, contribute to the objectives of prosperity through more equal usage of human resources on equal terms.

Final proposal how and where to anchor the Flagship

The idea to make three priorities in the aim was given in the discussions; to cross innovation with education and SMEs and under each one, identify at least three areas which the project can contribute with.

Out of this idea came the proposal to anchor this as a horizontal flagship under the third objective in the strategy; prosperity; were education, SME and innovation already are linked. With this solution to link the flagship to prosperity, with new solutions of interacting, methods and tools for business communication there will be a lot achieved in gender issues.

This proposal was taken from each one of participants around the table and the proposal will be further developed and adjusted.

Results from the discussion of the vision of Winnet Centre of Excellence

The vision for Winnet Centre of Excellence is common and overall umbrella that can be translated in to each BSR country.

A lot of good ideas came out of the discussion:

- Winnet Centre of Excellence as the leading platform in Europe for gender research
- Winnet Centre of Excellence with a quadruple helix perspective to be a forum for fruitful dialogues
- The vision of Winnet Centre of Excellence is to make knowledge, statistics and facts visible, and academics coming closer to civil society.

Final proposal of vision for Winnet Centre of Excellence

From these discussions emerged a draft vision for Winnet Centre of Excellence.

The vision of Winnet Centre of Excellence is to contribute to prosperity, innovation and growth by:

- making diversity/gender equality visible and easy to implement or
- making use of the full potential of all individuals and all groups.

All participants around the table agreed on this proposal, and it will be further processed.

Summing up

The timetable for progress in the project

- The 12th of September a Round Table and meeting in Stockholm, for following up the results from this conference.
- The 23th-24th of September there will be a conference in Warsaw, Poland for practitioners, researchers and other active partners.

If the proposal goes to a decision to anchor the flagship under the objective prosperity, there must be awareness of the formal procedures in the application process.

Finally, Mrs Britt-Marie S Torstensson thanked all participants for contributing to the roundtable discussions, which means that a lot have been achieved in the project already.