

SAMRA BUZA

ROLE MODEL IN FORESTRY SECTOR

ABOUT SAMRA BUZA

Samra Buza is a Head of the Department for Forest Protection and Implementation of International Obligations in Forestry at Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry. She lives and works in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and has over 25 years of professional experience.

HER CAREER

Ms. Samra graduated in 1990 and started her career in 1995. Her first job was at the Ministry of Physical Planning and Natural Resources Protection, and later she moved to the competent Federal ministry of forestry, where she worked as an expert associate for forest protection. Over time, she progressed and came to the current position of Head of the Department for Forest Protection and Implementation of International Obligations in Forestry at Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

She remembers her first day at work gladly. The mentor and colleagues introduced her to all the activities and tasks and she felt welcomed.

PERCEPTIVE ABOUT THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN FORESTRY

A role model should be a person who is a professional and approaches all business activities very seriously, have high goals and colleagues can always rely on her. She thinks it's harder for women to get to that position and the reason is that women are a little less willing to take risks and like to play the "safe" card. Also, there is a constant balance between family and work life. She hopes that this situation will change over time.

EXPERIENCES WITH WOMEN WORKING IN FORESTRY SECTOR

So far, our role model have had only positive experiences working with women from the sector. She often have a different opinion than some colleagues, but in the end, she always finds a common language and the best solution. If people are professional enough, there is no room for anything other than constructive discussion.

In her opinion, women have shown that they can do all the same jobs as men.



WHAT SHOULD BE DONE FOR BETTER INTEGRATION OF WOMEN IN FORESTRY SECTOR?

With dedication and work, anything is possible. Women need to keep repeating this to themselves. We often watch the chances pass us by, but we need to exit from the passive state. Chances are the same for everyone. When it comes to education, women need to be aware of the need to constantly learn new things and expand their knowledge beyond the profession.



INTERESTING INITIATIVES WHICH HELPED WOMEN WITH THEIR CAREER

Every woman who works in the forestry sector is a role model in her way. She has special admiration for women in forest companies who have managed to secure a higher position in a job that is very difficult and responsible, usually in a male-dominated environment.

In order to help women in their careers, she thinks it is extremely important to provide supportive work atmosphere and a quality mentor who will help women, especially in early years of their career.

KEY MESSAGES FOR YOUNG FEMALE IN EARLY CAREER

We need to constantly work on improving our knowledge and skills, be focused, strive for a higher goal, and be brave.



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