

CAN YOU SEE THE FOREST FROM THE TREES? CAN YOU SEE A WOMAN IN THE FOREST?



Equality is the key. More active involvement and empowerment of women unlocks the door to positive practices and increases the value and capacities of the forestry sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

CHALLENGES

Traditional patriarchal attitudes related to gender inequalities are present in all spheres of social and economic life, including in the forestry sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Law on Gender Equality in Bosnia and Herzegovina foresees the presence of women in a ratio of 40 percent in all structures. This figure is difficult to reach in any sphere, and it is estimated that the representation of women in state institutions and administration is 17 percent.

Statistical data segregated by gender do not exist for the forestry sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina. According to research conducted within the Fem4Forest project, female employees make up only 19.5 percent of the total number of employees in seven institutions at different administrative levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The gap in the ratio of female to male employees is similar in leadership positions, where the share of women does not exceed 20 percent. Additionally, the legislative framework for forestry is incomplete, and the absence of a law on forests at the federal level complicates efforts to make gender equality a norm in this sector.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Adopt a legislative framework for forestry that recognizes and addresses the issue of gender equality. The ratio of women's participation and ways of their inclusion in work should be defined by legal or by-laws.



Start monitoring statistical indicators in the forestry sector segregated by sex. Create a database that the forestry sector observes separately from the agriculture, water management or rural development sectors, analyze the data and systematically prescribe a set of measures to achieve gender equality.



Raise awareness of gender equality. All actors in the forestry sector should be aware of the value that women bring to the forestry sector and promote it. Companies and institutions should turn their business towards gender-equal business, bringing a set of documentation and regulations that additionally regulate the field at the internal level.

Enable the association of women forest owners and women employed in the forestry sector through interest associations for the purpose of exchanging knowledge, experiences and mutual empowerment.

Find out more
at: www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/fem4forest
www.feasee.org

