GenderStrat Workshop 27 June 2016
Going International. Beyond borders. Key aspects of international trainings.
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Participants wanted to learn something new because of lack of international experiences. Questions circled mostly around quality standards of gender trainers, definition of the term gender, how to encourage people to participate in gender equality trainings and objective standard of trainers. There seemed to be a kind of gap between experiences in East and West, a different way of life and quality of life that led to different views of the subject. Developing indicators depending on target groups participants agreed that values of gender equality are not yet integrated in people minds without benefits. So it is important to find the point where people would be willing to be ‘touched’.

Croatian participants pointed out that in a last 25 years the Catholic Church became one of the strongest element in social life. Gender ideology is often mentioned in negative context, as strong conservative movements and antifeminist movements are emerging. E.g. politicians tend to think having daughters and a wife will count as a quality for gender decision makers.

Looking forward
It will be important to look at (e)quality standards and the promotion of ‘advanced women’. It could may be be hindering to have too many requirements for trainers.

What is important: Legislations and implementation, encouraging people with very simple and comprehensive language, show and require deep respect for human beings, look out for training models that do not segregate some groups and a very critical element: understanding the context, the gender concept, develop criteria and methods how to measure development and implementation of gender equality.

Who is financing international trainings? It was noticed that at this moment only foreign money is available for gender projects. More EU money would be helpful to go international with gender equality training.