

Dear FEM partners,

We have planned to have so called **entrepreneur exchanges** between our FEM partner countries' women entrepreneurs during the project.

The idea is that e.g. the Finnish women entrepreneur from line of travelling "changes" the enterprise with another entrepreneur e.g. from Poland for 1-4 weeks. Also goes to work to the other partner country to somebody's enterprise and then vice versa.

This would be really good and effective knowledge, know-how and experience change!

The women resource centres in every country can be the helpers and organisers of the exchange, e.g. help in the finding the suitable exchange partner.

The idea is that the person coming to other partner country will be provided with accommodation etc. in exchange for the work she does during the stay.

There are at least four women in our *FEM North Karelian International Women Entrepreneur Group* who are interested in to have an entrepreneur exchange during our common project:

Maarit Häkkinen owns a small enterprise named Hakkimerkki. She is a clothing designer and seamstress/dress maker, and has started her enterprise in August 2004. Maarit would like to have her exchange in Norway on September or October 2006. She wishes the exchange to last about a month and she is going to take her three little children with her. So, dear Norwegian partners, could you please help us to find a suitable exchange enterprise to Maarit?

Airi Okkonen is an expert on travelling and tourism and also a consult and trainer. She has over 20 years experience on this line of business and at the moment she works for North Karelian travelling and tourism marketing enterprise called Karelia Expert Travelling Services Ltd as a manager for product develop. She is planning to have her own enterprise in future. Airi would like to have her exchange in some travel development organisation in spring or in summer 2007. Dear partners, do someone of you know some organisation in your country which would like to have Airi and her experience and contacts to use for a while?

Mirja Erlund is a business consult and an expert on women resource centre work. She has an enterprise named EksIdea Ky. She has been among women resource centre work about 10 years and an entrepreneur about twenty years. She is also the president of the Finnish Women Entrepreneurs' Association. Mirja would like to have her one month exchange in Poland in year 2007, maybe in the region of Szczecin or Łeba where we visited on May this year. She would like to give her knowledge and experience to the use of the local and regional women resource centres of Poland. Dear Polish partners, what kind of exchange place could you offer to Mirja?

I **Katariina Eskelinen** am a coming entrepreneur to the line of project and women resource centre work, organising, coordinating, training and youngster entrepreneurship education. I am going to start my enterprise at the latest on August this year and I would like to connect the internationality to my business somehow. My education is BBA also Bachelor of Business Administration and I have been

working for women resource centre Karellikeskus Ltd about 2,5 years in different kind of regional, national and international projects. I would like to have my exchange either in Poland in the area of Łeba/Lebork or in Sweden maybe in some women resource centre in summer or autumn 2007. Dear Polish and Swedish partners, would you like to have Finnish women power to your use?

Sinikka Eronen is an expert on travelling and tourism. She is planning entrepreneurship to this line of business and would like to have her exchange in France in 2007. Dear partners, if you know some good contact to France or some enterprise in your country which has place of business also in France, please let me know.

What do You think about this? Have any of Your entrepreneurs been interested in exchange? Do You have proposals or suggestions for us? Please, let us know!

Best regards with exchange wishes,

Katariina Eskelinen

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