



Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Imprenditoria
ed il Lavoro Femminile in Agricoltura

THE NATIONAL OBSERVATORY FOR FEMALE ENTERPRISE AND LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE

presents



Promoting female
employment in rural areas



Supporting of Female
enterprise in agriculture



Spreading knowledge and
good practice

SECRETARIAT
Ministry of agriculture food
and forestry policies

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MINISTERO DELLE POLITICHE AGRICOLE
ALIMENTARI E FORESTALI



Who we are

The Observatory for female enterprise and labour in agriculture has been developed from an idea thought up by female representatives of the professional agricultural organisations, stimulated by the work of the European Day for the Female Agricultural Worker in 1996, which was held in Brussels.

On that occasion, in an "open letter written by female agricultural workers", the Ministry for Agricultural and Forestry Policy (MiPAF), was officially asked to set up an Observatory for Female enterprise in agriculture. The Ministry accepted the request and the Observatory was founded in 1997.



Setting up and functions

The Observatory was set up by the MiPAF further to a Ministerial Decree (D.M. dated 13 October 1997). It is made up of 30 members, who represent the main and lesser institutions connected with the national agricultural and rural sectors. In particular, the Observatory, headed by the Minister, comprises the following representatives:

- Ministry of Agricultural and Forestry Policy;
- Ministry of Employment and Social Policy;
- Ministry of Manufacturing Industries;
- Ministry of Economy and Finance;
- Equal Opportunities Department;
- The agricultural organisations CIA, Coldiretti, Confagricoltura and Copagri;
- Regions and Autonomous Provinces;
- INEA and ISTAT.

For the purpose of favouring synergies in the female employment field, the Observatory works in collaboration with the players (public and private) who play a part in the agricultural and rural development sector.



The tasks

The Observatory's main aim is to further its knowledge of the reality of female enterprise and labour in the agricultural and rural sectors, and to put forward proposals and solutions.

In particular, the Observatory aims at:

- Gathering and processing statistical data;
- Analysing the legislation regarding female employment and matters of equal opportunities;
- Examining the interventions started up by the European Union and Central and regional governments that are aimed at promoting various initiatives in the world of female enterprise;
- Creating links with information sources, information publication means and with the research world;
- Promoting pilot schemes, together with Regions and autonomous Provinces, aimed at female rural enterprise.



Activities

The Observatory's main activities involve:

- The organisation of conferences, seminars and information days, with the aim of creating opportunities to talk about themes, spread knowledge and compare experience on matters regarding the female status in rural areas;
- The setting up of information-gathering surveys on matters concerning the role and function of women in the development of rural areas, in order to supply the public administration with useful indications needed for the planning of specific interventions;
- The processing and publication of information (brochures, documents, papers, deeds, etc.) on themes that the Observatory deals with;
- The designing and setting up of a web site, which can be used to facilitate the diffusion and circulation of information.

The observatory uses Ismea (Food and agricultural market services Institute) scientific and technical knowledge in organizing and carrying out its activity.