

FOUNDATION FOR WOMENS' ISSUES "I AM WOMAN"

* What has the Foundation for Women's Issues done to educate older persons and/or the general public about the Madrid Plan?

Foundation for Women's Issues – I AM WOMAN is Coordinator of the Polish Forum 50+ Seniors of the 21 st Century. Forum 50+ is an informal, apolitical platform of 24 Polish NGOs from 9 cities. In 2005 the Foundation implemented a project, "The Voice of Older People: The Future Power." It has carried out the first opinion survey on age discrimination with the Forum's organizations. In 2007 the Foundation implemented a project, "The image of elderly in media." During conferences and meetings which were held in connection with these projects, participants learned about the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

* Which of the 3 priority directions of Madrid Plan (older persons and development; advancing health and well-being into old age; ensuring enabling and supportive environments) has Foundation focused on?

We focused on the priority direction "well-being into old age". Our aims are:

- ➤ to secure a lasting improvement in the quality of life of older people in Poland,
- ➢ to undertake steps and actions preventing age distrimination,
- > to make Poland a place where older people's lives are valued and fulfilled.

* What specific accomplishments has the Foundation achieved in that area?

By implementing the following projects: "TraVEL AGEnts over 55s without frontiers," "Save from oblivion," "Mother to mother – to give time" and others, the Foundation supports women's activity and personal development, helping them strengthen their self-esteem and sense of their personal value. We implement our projects with women and for women. We develop social attitudes of toleration and integration among generations and among persons. And we advance a consciousness of the values, principles and practices that encourage a sense of equality within the society.

* Are there other significant accomplishments of the Foundation that you'd like to share?

The Foundation seeks to provide opportunities for meaningful personal contacts between mature women of diverse cultures and backgrounds. Our website <u>www.kobieta50plus.pl</u> is very popular in Poland. The English version of our website is under construction.

* Every Government has been asked by the UN, but is not required, to conduct a "bottomup" review and appraisal during 2007 of progress in their country in implementing the Madrid Plan. To your knowledge, has your government begun or committed to undertake that review?

Our Foundation knows nothing about the Government review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. We have not been invited to participate in any meeting or consultation.

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