## Invitation to the third workshop of the Nordic project

## **Gender Mainstreaming at Local Level**

Welcome to the third and final workshop of this Nordic cooperation. The project has been initiated, and is run by the Nordic associations of municipalities. It has received funding from the Nordic Council of Ministers.

In this letter you will find general information about the third workshop, such as time and venue for the workshop as well as practical information about accommodation in Oslo. Our hope is that by communicating this information early you will have more time to make the practical arrangements for your trip to Oslo.

**Date:** 21 - 22 May 2015.

**Location:** The workshop will take place at two different locations. On the first day, the 21<sup>st</sup>, the workshop will be held at Thon Hotel Vika Atrium, Munkedamsveien 45, 0250 Oslo.

On the second day the, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the workshop will take place at Kommunenes Hus, the Headquarters of the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS), Haakon VIIs gate 9, Oslo. KS is located within a 5 minute walking distance from Hotel Vika Atrium.

**Accommodation:** Through KS we have received a good offer for hotel rooms at <u>Thon Hotel Vika Atrium</u>, which as mentioned also is the venue for the first day of the workshop. 10 rooms have been reserved for the night between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> and 30 rooms have been reserved for the night between the 21<sup>st</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The price per room is 1158 NOK. To book a room, contact the hotel at

<u>vika.resepsjon@thonhotels.no</u>, and use the code 200215KS. Please note that this offer is only valid until the <u>25<sup>th</sup> of April</u>, so be sure to book a room before this date.

The workshop starts at 10.00 on Thursday the  $21^{st}$  and ends by lunch on Friday the  $22^{nd}$  of May. The program for the workshop will be sent out after the next steering group meeting which will be held on the  $20^{th}$  of March in Reykjavik.

In the first workshop in Malmö, each municipality presented what they have done in terms of gender mainstreaming and gender equality work. In the second workshop in Helsinki we went deeper into some of the areas that were presented in the first workshop. In addition to this we were given a review of some of the research that has studied the work with gender mainstreaming on a local level. This revolved around what common success factors and obstacles exist in the work with implementing a gender perspective in a municipal organization and its services.









The program of **the third workshop** has not yet been decided in its entirety, but due to the feedback from Helsinki, part of the workshop will be dedicated to how we communicate the importance of gender equality work. In the workshop we will therefore look closer on and discuss what different strategies can be used in order to handle and overcome the lack of interest and understanding for the importance of gender equality. We hope that by inviting expertise on the subject and exchanging knowledge with the other municipalities on which strategies are used to face resistance, you will receive new ideas and thus be better equipped with strategies and arguments to why gender equality is important to work with.

Concerning other themes for the workshop we will return with more information and a program at the end of March.

Our best regards and welcome to Norway,

The Steering Committee of Gender Mainstreaming at Local Level





