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PRESS RELEASE

OesteCIM promotes World Café to debate the theme of Gender Equality in the West Region

The 29th of January marked the launch of the Oeste + Igual Project. The launch session was held virtually and was attended by the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (Programme Operator), the Center for Gender and Equality (Norwegian Partner), the Executive Secretary and the technical team of OesteCIM, as well as Mayors and Municipal Technicians of the 12 Municipalities of the West.

The Oeste + Igual Project intends to be a pilot project for the implementation of effective local and regional policies in the areas of Gender Equality and Reconciliation of Professional, Family and Personal Life in the 12 municipalities of the West Region.

With an expected duration of 25 months, the creation of an Observatory of the West is foreseen, aiming at the permanent monitoring of the evolution of the data collected and the implementation of measures to overcome the identified gaps, supporting the decision-making process of public managers.

The kick-off meeting of the Project was opened by Paulo Simões, Executive Secretary of OesteCIM, who reiterated his desire for this to be a pilot project of reference. The floor was then given to Åsta Einstabland (CGE), who underlined the importance of gender equality and family reconciliation for a smart economy, giving the Norwegian example and respective indicators.

Followed by Rita Silva (CIG) Programme Operator, who identified equality between men and women as one of the great challenges that Portugal continues to face. Thus, she underlined the value of the Oeste + Igual Project to respond to this challenge.

The project is funded by EEA Grants within the scope of Open Call#5 – Projects for the promotion of equality between women and men at the local level, of the Conciliation and Gender Equality Programme, with a total cost of 249 857.74 euros, of which the component financed by the EEA Grants is 249,857.74 euros.

Through the Agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA), Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are partners in the internal market with the Member States of the European Union.

As a way of promoting a continuous and balanced strengthening of economic and trade relations, the parties to the EEA Agreement have established a multi-year Financial Mechanism, known as EEA Grants.

The EEA Grants aim to reduce social and economic disparities in Europe and strengthen bilateral relations between these three countries and the beneficiary countries.

For the period 2014-2021, a total contribution of €2.8 billion has been agreed for 15 beneficiary countries. Portugal will benefit from an amount of 102.7 million euros. Learn more at www.eeagrants.gov.pt

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