



Girls as Engineers! & Girls go Science! Campaigns

For the last 11 years big national campaigns: "**Girls as Engineers!**" ("Dziewczyny na politechniki!") and "**Girls go Science!**" ("Dziewczyny do ścisłych!") have been organized in Poland by the **Perspektywy Education Foundation** and the **Conference of Rectors of Polish Technical Universities (KRPUT)**. They have been very successful; the share of girls involved in the STEM-education in Poland increased during this period from 29% to 37%.

Over 150 000 girls have participated in our campaigns.

The main aim of "Girls as Engineers!" and "Girls go Science!" is **to introduce technical and engineering studies to female high school students and to promote this educational path as interesting, attractive and very beneficial in the long run**. It is also to show that technical studies address a recognized need of business and industry to attract highly trained workers with a variety of skills.

"Girls as Engineers!" & "Girls go Science!" are run under the auspices of Minister of Science and Higher Education, Minister of National Education, Minister of Administration and Digitization; Minister of Labor and Social Policy, Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment.

Each year in April Polish public technical universities and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematic) faculties invited to take part in an „**National Open Day - For Girls**”. Through a great variety of events young women are able to gain an insight into academic life of Polish technical universities and make useful connections. For this purpose, the participating universities opened their laboratories, workshops and offices as well as organized meetings with women professors to give concrete examples that showed girls how interesting and exciting studying at a university of technology can be.

The Campaigner's website www.dziewczynynapolitechniki.pl provides information not only about technical universities and STEM faculties that take part in the campaigns but also news about women's activity in STEM.

In this year „National Open Day - For Girls Only” is planned for 19th April.

Contact:

Bianka Siwińska, Author and Manager of the Campaigns

e-mail: b.siwinska@perspektywy.pl

Mobile: +48 501 535 785

Phone: +48 22 628 58 62

Joanna Lisiecka, Coordinator of the Campaigns

e-mail: j.lisiecka@perspektywy.pl

Mobile: +48 696 483 349

Phone: +48 22 628 58 62

Lean in STEM! Project

Inspiration for the program comes from an American book **“Lean in” by Sheryl Sandberg**, a Facebook executive. The book inspired a dynamic debate all over the world about barriers for female leadership careers in business environment dominated by men (mostly in the field of High-tech industry). One of the answers to the difficult situation of women in this area is encouragement to mutual support by women and creating a culture of female networking and mentoring

The comprehensive project offering several solutions supporting creation of a female networking culture in the technological industry and the STEM area. The objective of the project is promotion of technical and scientific education and career in the technological industry and other STEM-related areas among young women.

The project comprises 4 **interconnected elements**. These are:

- Mentoring Program “Lean in STEM”
- Virtual Meetings “Inspiration Academy - Girls in STEM”
- “Technological Teatimes” - “offline” meetings in technological companies
- Conference “Women in Tech Summit 2018”

Technology Partners: **3M, BCG, Bosch, Cemex, Ceri, Microsoft, P&G, Schneider Electric, Siemens.**

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e-mail: b.siwinska@perspektywy.pl

Mobile: +48 501 535 785

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Woman's Potential Survey

Objective of survey *„Women's potential for the technological industry. Choice of educational path, expectations, aspirations and market reality”* is a **complex analysis of conditions relating to the choice of educational path by women, their aspirations and expectations in this area, as well as realization of these aspirations on the global market.** On this basis a List of Recommendations will be created concerning support of development of women's careers in the technological industry – starting from school, to higher education and the job market. The recommendations will be intended for the public policy, business and non-government organizations.

This complex study is intended to let us see the issue from several key perspectives. The scope of the approach will be reflected mainly in division into four basic levels and groups: **high-school students, high-school graduates, university students and selected innovative technological industries.** There will be four separate studies done, differing in range and methodology, which together will form a coherent picture of the processes related to increasing activity of women in the technological industry and the conditions related to it.

A look from these four perspectives will allow capturing as fully as possible the phenomena related to selection of the engineering educational path by women and the consequences of that choice, both personal and systemic. The study will be done country-wide.

On this basis a diagnosis will be formulated, enabling design of mechanisms that would facilitate activation and dynamisation of women's potential for the technological industry.

Main Partner of „*Women's potential*” Survey is **Siemens** company.

Contact:

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e-mail: b.siwinska@perspektywy.pl

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Phone: +48 22 628 58 62

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