

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SPAIN



Sources

- We have carried out a research study by analysing information encountered in academic and scientific papers, specialist newspaper articles and EU publications.
- Most research is based on qualitative questionnaires applied to various target groups (usually women).
- The Spanish female entrepreneurs who founded technology companies in 2010: <http://www.thenextwomen.com/2011/03/25/spanish-female-entrepreneurs-who-founded-technology-companies-2010>
- European Commission: Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry
- Spanish Institute for Women.
- Women's Entrepreneurial Activity in Spain (Actividad Emprendedora de las Mujeres en España) – Ministerio de Sanidad Servicios Sociales e Igualdad, Fueca; May 2012.

Main Topics

- **Gender discrimination and inequality**
- **Reasons for social exclusion**
- **Women unemployment**
- **Women setting up businesses : motives**
- **Entrepreneurship in Spain**

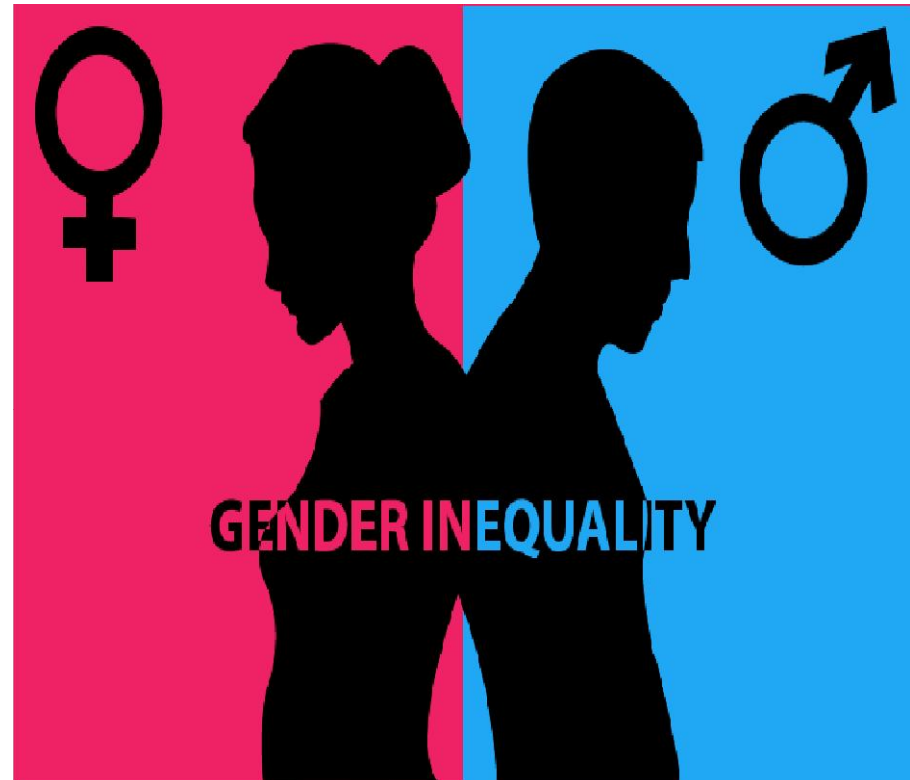
Social, academic and political interest in entrepreneurship has grown over the last few years. In capitalist societies, it is seen as a way to curb unemployment and combat exclusion among certain groups, i.e. WOMEN and immigrants. These groups suffer social and labour discrimination and marginalisation, based in part on the notion that both groups have alternative areas in which to work productively, namely the family, domestic, private area for women, and paid employment in their countries of origin for migrants.

Facts to know:

- Spain is recognised as one of the leading European countries in promoting gender equality.
- In recent years the country has introduced pioneering legislation to combat gender based violence.
- Gender equality is being strengthened in both the private and public sector.
- Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are donating €10 million to the Spanish gender equality programme , through the EEA Grants fund.

Social factors and difficulties

- If you are a young woman in Spain the odds of being unemployed are 54.7%.
- Women are still under-represented in most boards of directors of large enterprises.
- The gender pay gap remains high.
- Domestic violence is a major element of discrimination.
- The percentage of women entrepreneurs in the active labour force in Spain is 12% compared to 21% for men.



- The average educational level of women entrepreneurs in 2012 was higher than that of men: 1.96 vs. 1.84, being 1 low, 2 medium and 3 high. Regardless of this, there is still a larger number of men entrepreneurs.
- Part-time women entrepreneurs in 2012 accounted for 15% of the active labour force.
- In 2009 the entrepreneurial intention index declined by 34% for women vs. 22% for men. This was due to both the economic crisis and the obstacles women have to face when trying to start a business.
- 33% of women who strive to become entrepreneurs have an average annual income between 10.000 – 20.000 Euros. 23% have an income of up to 10.000€ and only 1% register an income of over 100.000€.
- Over 91% of women who intend to start a company are interested in the urban sector vs. approximately 8% interested in the rural one.

Young women are finding their own solutions to the crisis



- A record 800,000 businesses have been set up by women between 2009 – 2013.
- Many I.T. and technology companies have been started since 2010, such as: Sabatica, FamiliaFácil, Traditori ...
- Spain is one of the countries with the largest positive income gap for women entrepreneurs at +20% .
- Spain is in the top 10 of the most prosperous countries for female entrepreneurs.

- Women aged 25-34 represent the largest group willing to start a business (33.5%). It is closely followed by women between 35-44 years of age (29.3%).
- According to data from 2011, 28.8% of women who had the intention to start a company were willing to do it full-time.
- Almost 13% of potential women entrepreneurs have a graduate degree, while only 2% hold a post-graduate degree.



Women willing to start a business: Entrepreneurial distribution by region (2011)

- The largest group of potential women entrepreneurs is in Andalusia: 18%.
- The second largest group can be found in Catalonia with 17.4%, closely followed by Madrid at 15.2%.
- The remaining groups of potential entrepreneurs per region, in decreasing order: Comunitat Valenciana; Canary Islands, Galicia, Castilla La Mancha, Basque Country, Murcia, Balearic Islands, Castilla y León, Aragón, Extremadura, Cantabria, Asturias, Navarra, Rioja.



Fields of entrepreneurship

- Women entrepreneurship – more than male entrepreneurship - has traditionally been oriented towards the consumption sector.
- Women are not as present as men in fields such as extraction and transformation of raw materials, and their implication in these activities has decreased even more due to the economic crisis, especially from 2009 to 2011.
- Women entrepreneurs are recovering in the tertiary sector after the steep fall in 2009.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

