

Conference

# **STRONG WOMEN FOR A STRONGER ADRIATIC-IONIAN REGION**

**4-5 July 2023**

Hotel Hilton Garden Inn / ZAGREB

## PROGRAM

**EUSAIR/AII CROATIAN PRESIDENCY**

**Interreg**  
**ADRION**   
ADRIATIC-IONIAN  
European Regional Development Fund - Instrument for Pre-Accession Fund  
**EUSAIR FACILITY POINT**

  
EU Strategy for the  
Adriatic and Ionian Region  
**EUSAIR**

  
EU Strategy for the  
Adriatic and Ionian Region  
Croatian Presidency 2023-2024  
a blue-green Strategy for the future



**Tuesday / July 4<sup>th</sup>**

- 13:00** ● Registration and lunch
- 14.00** ● **OPENING SESSION**
- 14.15** ● **OPENING REMARKS**  
**Lidija Pansegrau Hadrović, Croatian Presidency EUSAIR/AII**
- **Andreja Metelko-Zgombić**, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Croatia
- **Fabio Pigliapoco**, Ambassador, Head of the Permanent Secretariat of Adriatic and Ionian Initiative
- **Helena Sundblad Schäfer**, EC DG REGIO
- **Monika Udovičić**, Director General, Ministry of Tourism and Sport, Croatia
- **Helena Štimac Radin**, Director, Office for Gender Equality of the Government of the Republic of Croatia
- **Zrinka Raguž**, State Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and EU Funds, Croatia
- 15.15** ● **STEMAZING WOMEN**  
**Moderated by Andrea Čović Vidović, Acting Head of Representation and Head of Media, European Commission Representation, Zagreb**
- **Martina Dimoska**, first female analog astronaut in North Macedonia and the Balkans
- **Nina Drakulić**, Montenegro robotics, Montenegro
- Prof. dr. **Samra Mujačić**, STEM Academy & University of Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Professor **Cristiana Carletti**, expert/adviser, Department for Equal Opportunities/Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy
- 16.30** ● Coffee break

**17.00****WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

Moderated by **Mirjana Čagalj**, Vicepresident of Croatian Chamber of Economy/ Honorary EUSAIR Ambassador

**Biljana Ščekić**, EBRD, Western Balkans and EU countries, SME Finance and Development team – how to start and develop business in the region

**Joze Tomaš**, President of the Forum of Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce

dr. **Sanja Popović Pantić**, Institute Mihajlo Pupin, Head of Science and Technology Policy Research Center and Chair of the EEN Thematic Group Women Entrepreneurship The challenges of women entrepreneurship today

**18.15****LEADING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROCESSES IN THE EUSAIR REGION**

**Krisela Hackaj**, Executive Director, Cooperation and Development Institute (CDI), Albania - Leading Youth Empowerment processes in the EUSAIR region

**18.30**

Networking dinner for all participants

**Wednesday / July 5<sup>th</sup>****9.30****STRATEGY GOES GREEN – WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN RURAL TOURISM**

Moderated by **Elena Di Federico**, EU CAP Network

**Dijana Katica**, Croatian Association for Tourism and Rural Development The Village Membership Club

**Nada Šarić**, S.O.R. Narcis, Posušje, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Vicky Stroumpou**, Ministry of Tourism, Greece

**10:45**

● Coffee break

**11:15****CIVIL SOCIETY – STRENGTHENING ROLE OF YOUTH IN THE REGION FOR THE FUTURE (AIE, AI-NURECC PLUS)**Moderated by **Maria Luisa Esposito**, Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion● **Eva Kotnik**, President, National Youth Council, Slovenia● **Nataša Gligorijević**, Director, Centre of Sustainable Development Serbia (Difusse hotels)● **Nikolina Adžić**, founder of Youth Network, Montenegro● **Tomislav Jeleković**, Board Member, youth organisation Status M, Croatia – The role of boys and men in gender equality**12:30****CONCLUDING SESSION**● **Andrea Čović Vidović**, Acting Head of Representation and Head of Media, European Commission Representation, Zagreb● **Maria Luisa Esposito**, Adriatic Ionian Euroregion (AIE)**13:00**

● Lunch for all participants