

THE ASSOCIATED CLUB BPW –PULA , CROATIA ANNUAL REPORT

BPW-Prvi hrvatski klub Pula (Associated Club BPW-Pula , Croatia), as a branch of International Federation of Business and and Professional Women, was founded in March 2001, and in his third year of activity continues its mission.

Croatian associated Club consists of about 40 members and friends, mainly businesswomen and entrepreneurs. Main mission of the BPW Pula is business lobbying, business informing and business education, as the women entrepreneurs in Croatia have specific difficulties in their business activities (more details in: "Selected aspects of women's position in Croatia", Series: Entrepreneurship and SME's, Women's Entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe and CIS Countries, UNITED NATIONS, Geneva 2002, www.unece.org/operact/enterp/documents/wmp.pdf)

Our Club maintains regular contacts with BPW Muenchen (President: Marion Volk), and we are planning to make twinning in 2004. We have initial contacts with BPW-Uri (Switzerland) and FIDAPA Verona Est.

BPW –Pula cooperates with Croatian Ministry of SME and all other local and national institutions which deal with promotion of women entrepreneurship.

Chronologically we can mention following activities in 2003:

January: Presentation of the Regional balance of trade and Regional budget

-Round table on specific problems on women entrepreneurship

February: Presentation on Video and computer dependency

-Candle-light dinner

March: Round table :System of cooperative societies as a benefit for women

-Ecology as a pleasure

April: Presentation on women entrepreneurs' continuous education

-Consultation on sue for damages in business

May: Round table: The importance on focusing the intellectual capital in firms

-presentation of a succesful businesswoman

June : workshop on Arbitration

September:

Symposium under patronate of Croatian SME: Incentivation , promotion and credit financing of women entrepreneurship

October: Under BPW Pula patronate: FREE exhibition of women entrepreneurs in a a Pula Trade Fair.

-Presentation of activities and cooperation with Centre civil initiative

November: Breast cancer-wide presentation for members and BPW-friends

December: Annual meeting

-Business presentation of Heliciculture (snail growing)