

*IARIW Thirty-first General Conference –
St. Gallen, Switzerland, August 22-28, 2010*

Plenary Session 1: Innovation - Key Factor for Economic Growth

Tanja Česen (Chesen)

Ministry for Labour, Slovenia, tanja.cesen@gov.si

Intellectual capital in waiting

Abstract

Economic growth is connected with human capital growth - skills and knowledge of workers. On a certain level of technologic development new knowledge and ideas will accelerate growth. We can observe and measure knowledge economy from the national perspective and international comparison. For the measurement of influence of knowledge to national competitiveness the concept of human capital has to be upgraded. We need to observe the intellectual capital, which consist of several components, and create a system of internationally comparable indicators. The paper proposes a model to measure intellectual capital on national level, based on a set of indicators related to human capital by gender, business environment, market capital, innovation, technology and development capital. More importantly nowadays, with the fast increasing enrolment of women to universities and prevailing number among the graduates, is to observe the intellectual potential of modern well educated women, a degree of women intellectual capital, incorporation and employment of women intellectuals in a society. Are women in the knowledge economy involved according to their professional expertise or are we intellectual capital in waiting? Is the main reason for limited impact of innovation on productivity because of the gender gap in intellectual capital - unconsidered women brains?