

## **Why do we need associations and activities for women inventors?**

Some reasons (facts):

- The local male dominated associations of inventors do not attract women (There are not many female members in the associations)
- Many women do not consider themselves as inventors (even patent owners-question of identity)
- Generally speaking women do not traditionally know the invention field
- Men are not able to promote inventive activities for women (question of identity, lack of knowledge on women)
- Men do not understand women affairs (lack of interest and pursuit)
- Women have their own special issues (that are not discussed in the presence of men)
- Women have their own approach (question of women's language and values)
- Women receive message when they are addressed to women separately
- Women have their field of interest as to inventions (they observe differently from men-those of children, pregnant women and mothers, handicapped people and patients)
- Women are ready to accept and value social inventions as inventions too
- Women's networking groups differ from those of men (e.g. Women entrepreneurs)
- One single woman or a couple of women cannot influence in the traditional male dominated inventors' associations

## **Goals of the activity of QUIN-Estonia**

- To find women inventors in the country (studies)
- To bring these into daylight as role models (exhibitions, publications, lectures)
- To highlight the achievements of women innovators to encourage other women to innovate (lectures, training, media)
- To organize idea contests for women's ideas, either social inventions or product inventions (train women to participate in this sort of contests)
- To teach women to identify their ideas, to come up with their ideas and to commercialize their ideas (trainings)
- To create networks to help women in their marketing nationally and internationally
- To consult them as to financing their ideas or how to start an enterprise
- To influence the female culture