



# Sustainable and Social Inclusion: Empowering Women in Mountainous Regions through Mobility and Gender Equality



3 – 6 May 2025  
Valongo Portugal

# Sustainable and Social Inclusion

## Overall economic role of women

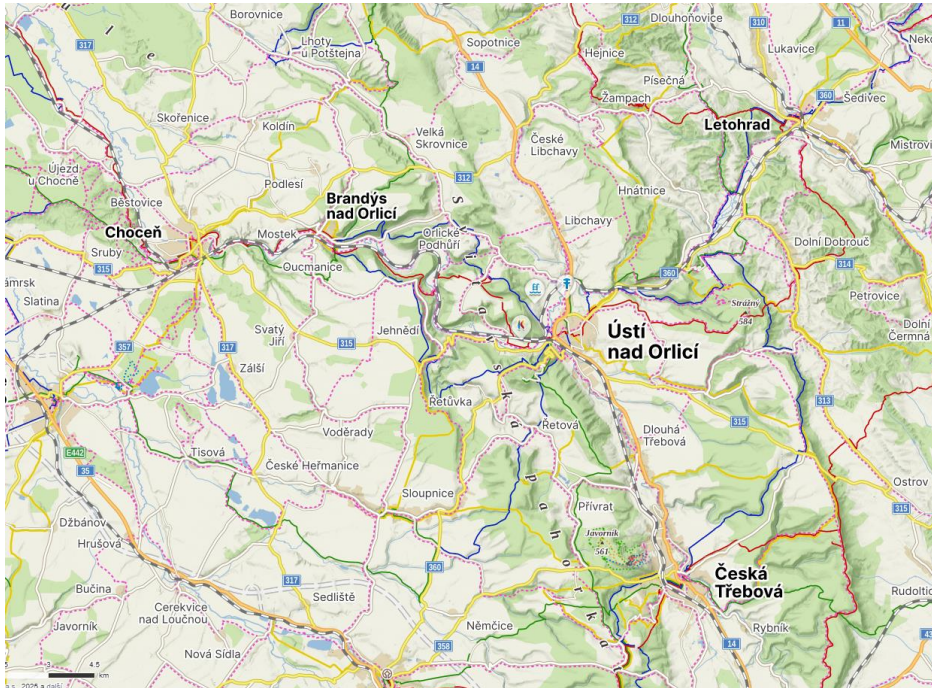
- low unemployment low (around 3%)
- earn noticeably less than men
- underrepresented in leadership roles



# Sustainable and Social Inclusion

## Role of women around the Eagle Mountains

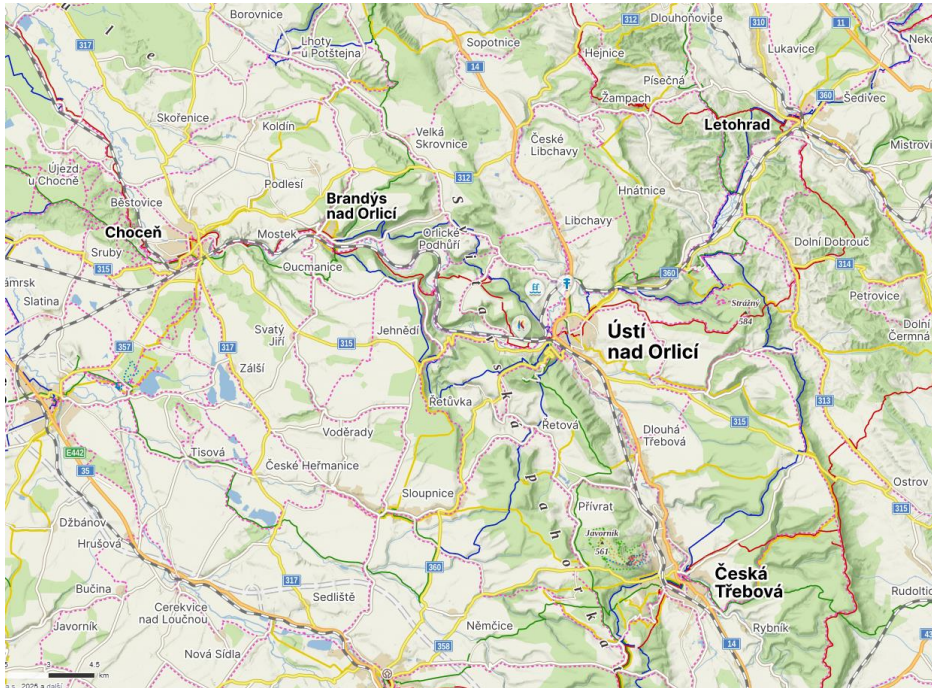
- Tourism as a key space for women's work
- Strong presence in small-scale self-employment
- Agriculture and rural traditions
- Caregiving and supporting family livelihoods
- underrepresented in leadership roles



# Sustainable and Social Inclusion

## Mobility patterns of women

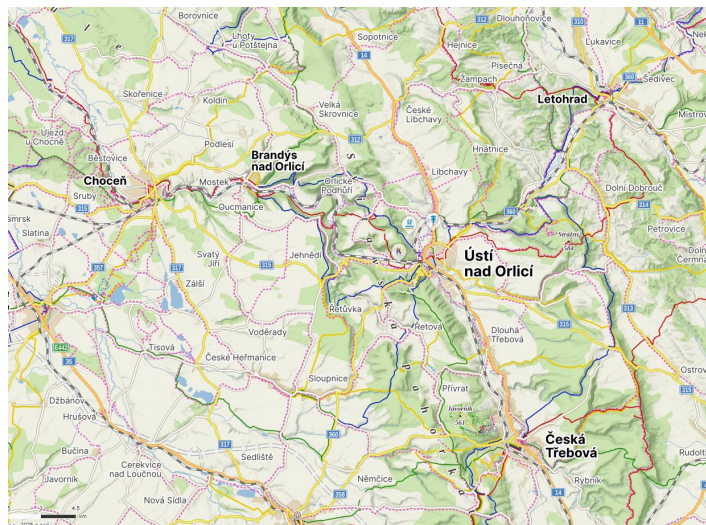
- Workplaces: local guesthouses, restaurants, schools, municipal offices, or small businesses
- Education: taking children to kindergarten or school
- Shops and services: small local stores or periodic trips to larger towns like Ústí nad Orlicí or Rychnov nad Kněžnou for bigger shopping
- Healthcare: often travel to towns for specialists
- Caregiving visits: checking on elderly relatives or helping extended family members



# Sustainable and Social Inclusion

## Main mobility barriers

- **Physical barriers** infrequently buses, limited connections between smaller villages and larger towns, hilly terrain and harsh winter conditions, poorly maintained or narrow roads, limited lighting or isolated bus stops, which can raise safety concerns
- **Economic barriers** - lower average incomes, men are the primary car users, costs of fuel and transport can be significant relative to local wages
- **Cultural barriers** - in many households women are expected to take primary responsibility for childcare, household management, and elder care
- **Temporal barriers** - women often manage multiple responsibilities, their travel must fit around school and kindergarten, care for elderly relatives, household duties



# Sustainable and Social Inclusion

## Successful story

- Creation of bus transportation for kids to school from Malá Morava (509 residents) to Králíky
- Keys to succeed:
  - Active participation of residents in rural area in sustainable transportation
  - Involvement of municipality/region
  - Transportation company provides service
  - Regular check of the safety transportation by parents

