



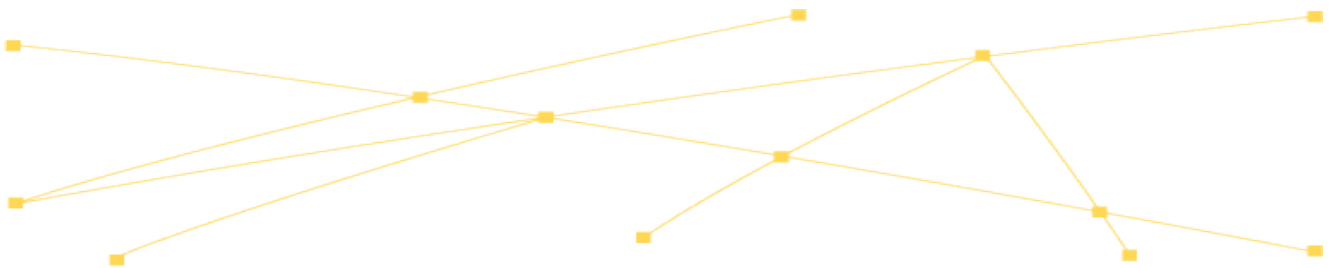
Roma-Net

Integration of Roma Population



Case Study

The Engine Shed



EUROPEAN
PROGRAMME
FOR
SUSTAINABLE
URBAN
DEVELOPMENT





The Engine Shed was started in 1989 by Garvald Community Enterprises Limited which owns six Garvald organisations all inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner. The Engine Shed provides training in real businesses and helps trainees develop confidence and self-esteem.

The Engine Shed is a “social firm” which is a form of social enterprise. Its mission is to offer on-the-job training to people with learning disabilities helping them make a successful transition to paid work. It is an independent organisation that has a turnover of £400,000 per annum and receives annual contractual funding of £200,000 from Edinburgh City Council; and it earns £200,000 from trading. The Engine Shed has a staff of 16 helped by part-time students but has no major physical assets.

In total the Engine Shed offers 36 training places annually and the trainees work in four work areas or businesses: the *Café*, the *Bakery*, *Outside Catering*, *Food Processing*. The training programme for the trainees lasts three years and also includes helping trainees get work experience with local employers and helping them obtain qualifications, skills and future jobs.

The Engine Shed has a link with the local authority (Edinburgh City Council) as they receive funding for the trainee places provided and rent the premises from the Council. Also the Social Work Department of the Council refer people to the Engine shed with the intention that they become trainees. The Engine Shed also has partnership arrangements with local employers – some private sector and some public sector.

The Engine Shed management staff have to manage a mixture of paid core staff, volunteers and students on placements. This is not easy and requires a sensitivity and understanding as well as clear corporate and shared values.

The main issues it faces are:

- Misunderstandings as the Engine Shed is not about catering skills! It is about employability skills
- 50% of funding from local authority for trainees/workers – security?
- Managing the business to maximise income and at the same time providing sheltered employment is very difficult
- Lack of long term security and no assets





WORKSHEET 2: Role of the social economy with ILMs

Think about what you have heard about social enterprise and the way some act as ILMs...

Think about the Roma people in your city and the social economy and social enterprise (may be referred to as NGOs or voluntary organizations)...

In small groups (different from the people you worked with on Worksheet 1) discuss the social economy in your different countries and consider the following...

Questions	Comments
<p>Is it possible to set up a social enterprise ILM for Roma people?</p>	
<p>To set up a “social enterprise” (or similar) in your city helping Roma adults back into work, what could you do?</p>	
<p>How would you get the Roma people, employers, the local authority and others interested in an ILM?</p>	