



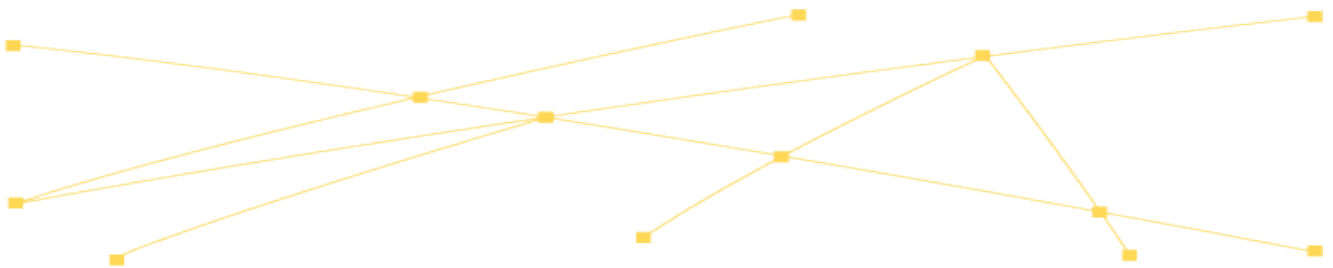
Roma-Net

Integration of Roma Population



Case Study

The Wise Group



EUROPEAN
PROGRAMME
FOR
SUSTAINABLE
URBAN
DEVELOPMENT





The Wise Group was set up in Glasgow in the early 1980s. It pioneered the development of ILMs in the UK. It helps people move from unemployment into sustainable work by responding to their individual needs with a tailored, year long package of training, personal development and paid work experience.

In addition – and in common with many ILMs that came after it – it aims to provide services that benefit the local community. It also works with local businesses to identify skills gaps, which it can then endeavour to fill by providing appropriate training and experience to its participants.

Much of the Wise Group's early work in Glasgow focused on providing home insulation and landscaping, thus improving residents' living conditions and cutting fuel bills on the estates where it worked, at the same time as improving its temporary workers' employability. From 1985, it secured contracts to provide these services to the city council, ensuring a substantial and secure source of income.

Since then, the Wise Group has gone on to expand both geographically and in terms of the types of work it performs. It now operates throughout Scotland and north east England, helping over 2,000 people move into work each year. The insulation and landscaping work continues, as does the emphasis on providing services that contribute to community regeneration, but the range of opportunities has grown to include fields such as childcare, education, recycling and administration.

In recent years the organisation has also started working closely with employers such as the NHS and call centres to develop tailored pre-employment support programmes.

www.thewisegroup.co.uk





WORKSHEET 1: Intermediate Labour Markets

Think of the Roma people living in your city...

Think about what you have heard about ILMs and the WISE Group

In small groups consider and discuss the following questions....

Questions	Comments
<p>What are the main barriers to young Roma adults getting employed?</p>	
<p>What support services could be put in place to overcome these barriers?</p>	
<p>Could you set up an ILM project for Roma people in your city and how would it work?</p>	