Work Integration Social Enterprises?

Work integration social enterprises (WISEs) are independent economic entities characterized by three identifying principles:

1. The social and professional integration of individuals who, due to their exclusion and their relegation to a marginal role in the society, have fallen victim to increasing social and professional handicaps;

2. WISEs operate at the core of the economic system which is usually the main factor of the exclusion phenomenon;

3. WISEs have a strong pedagogical dimension. They initiate trainings and educational programs based on the existing potential of their target group and develop the professional and social potential within the enterprise.

Those economic entities can be organized following different legal status. The model to integrate disadvantaged workers may vary depending on the countries: springboard model (France, Spain), permanent model (Belgium) or a mix between those two (Italy).

Economic efficiency

The 712 Work Integration Social Enterprises (WISEs) that participated to this study have their average turnover at 1 620 031 €, which shows the economic efficiency of this model.

Social aim?

WISEs offer new opportunities to people who suffer from social and professional handicaps caused by their exclusion and their marginal role in society. The definition of the target groups is made at the national level.

ENSIE is a network gathering 27 national, regional and local networks from 19 EU countries (The Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Spain, Belgium, Luxembourg, Romania, Ireland, France, Slovenia, Denmark, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Portugal, Croatia, Greece and Poland) as well as Serbia and Moldova. Overall 3 170 WISEs are represented employing over 250 000 people.
2018 Impact WISEs Study

8 EU Member States
Moldova & Serbia
712 WISEs
50 730 Workers
58%
42%
38 022 Disadvantaged workers
73%
27%

Main activity sectors

Results

47,19%
6 745 disadvantaged workers successfully found a job in the same WISE, another WISE or on the classic labour market

17,38%
2 484 disadvantaged workers successfully became self-employed or found a professional training

35,43%
5 063 disadvantaged workers didn’t find a job solution

Participating Members

Fédération des entreprises d’insertion
ACT Grupa
FAEDEI
Eco-Razeni
All Ears Foundation
CantierAperto
Phoenix
SENT
RISE Romania
IDC Serbia