

Madrid, 22nd and 23rd February 2010

Círculo de Bellas Artes, Salón de Columnas
C/ Alcalá, nº 42 - 28014 Madrid

European Conference

Access to employment of socially disadvantaged groups



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2010
Año Europeo
de Lucha contra
la Pobreza y
la Exclusión Social


Cáritas

 **Cruz Roja Española**


Fundación Luis Vives


Fundación ONCE

 **Gitano**
Fundación
Secretariado

Reason for the event and main guidelines

NGOs of the Third sector of social action contribute strongly to improve the access to rights as well as access to employment, of groups at risk of exclusion.

The effort towards the labour market insertion in an active inclusion context through the community financial instruments such as the European Social Fund, provides good practices and also entitles the Third Sector to propose measures on social and employment policies.

This conference will contribute to the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in 2010.

It will help to highlight the activity of the Third Sector of Social Action in promoting employment of people with fewer possibilities, creating synergies with public policies, at national, regional and local levels, in particular the fight against discrimination and the promotion of equal opportunities and social inclusion.

Best practice will be introduced, proposals to the employment policies will be suggested and a debate in regard to the new programming period of the structural funds will be open as an outstanding instrument, adding value to active inclusion policies.

Finally, this conference will allow to share good practice at European level in order to provide with likely coordinated actions.

Goals of the Conference

This conference is held in order to:

- Encourage the discussion, the dialogue and the sharing of good practice related to the social and labour insertion under the Spanish Presidency.
- Create a forum composed by administrators and managers of equal opportunities initiatives co-funded by ESF, presenting the management of the Operational Programme of Fight Against Discrimination by private bodies of Social Action, as a unique experience in the EU in the last programming period 2000-2006 as well as in the current period 2007-2013.
- Disseminate the role played by the Third Sector of Social Action and its contribution to the employment and active inclusion policies. From the point of view of people and entities of social action, and also from the ability to make proposals and to have political impact.
- Sensitize the Spanish (national and regional) and European authorities about the need of medium and long term sustainability of this kind of initiative. In this sense the OP co-funded by FSE is a reference and a model to be followed in the next programming period of the Structural Funds.



- Create a networking setting to facilitate the effective carryout of activities included within the 4th Axis of the National Strategic Reference Framework of the Spanish ESF. This Conference should facilitate the transnational and interregional cooperation (art. 3.4 ESF Regulation) through the opportunity to contact potential partners and create partnership networks.
- Promoting the mainstream approach concerning non discrimination. This should guarantee a proper application of the European legislative regulation highlighting its main and fundamental principles and obtaining an active social support regarding non discrimination and equality.
- Help to find out the role played or to be played by managers of bodies of social action in the development of institutional OP (at national or regional level).

Brief description of contents

This will be an event with a high technical and political significance led by the Secretariat General for Employment, ESF managing Authority of Spain and NGOs involved in the management of the ESF and working very closely with disadvantaged groups in access to labour market. The following contents will be developed:

- Effects of a number of policies in situations of exclusion and accessibility to employment for people suffering discrimination and social inequality.
- Impact of inclusion and employment policies in situations of poverty and exclusion.
- The added value of ESF in inclusion and employment policies, particularly in equal opportunities for job placement of disadvantaged groups or at risk of exclusion.
- The example of good practice in the Community Funds Management by the Third Sector Entities of Social Action.

Agenda

February 22nd

- 9:00 – 10:00 h.** **Registration of participants**
- 10:00 – 10:30 h.** **Opening session**
MC: Miguel Angel Cabra de Luna, Director for Social and International Affairs and Strategic Plans. Fundación ONCE.
– Celestino Corbacho, Minister of Labour and Immigration. Spain.
– Juan Manuel Suárez del Toro, President of the Spanish Red Cross.
– Rafael del Río, President of Caritas Spain.
– Óscar Alzaga, President of Fundación Luis Vives.
– Miguel Carballeda, President of ONCE and its Foundation.
– Pedro Puente, President of Fundación Secretariado Gitano.
- 10:30 – 11:30 h.** **Lecture: Access to employment of socially disadvantaged groups in the EU.**
Chair: Victor Renes Ayala. Director of Social Studies. Fundación FOESSA.
Speaker: Robert Anderson, Head of Unit of Research on Living Conditions and Quality of Life. Eurofound.
- 11:30 – 12:00 h.** **Coffee break**
- 12:00 – 13:30 h.** **Roundtable: European Policies / instruments for the access to employment and social inclusion of socially disadvantaged groups.**
Chair: Carmen Navarro. Director General against Discrimination. Ministry of Equality. Spain.
Speakers:
– Lenia Samuel. Deputy Director-General. DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. European Commission. The role of the ESF in the access to employment of socially disadvantaged groups.
– Martin Hirsch, High Commissioner for Active Solidarity against poverty and for Young people. France. Examples of good practices on social inclusion.
– Julius Mraz, Deputy General manager, Centre of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. Slovak Republic. Examples of combating unemployment and inactivity.
– Eamonn Davern, Head Jobcentre Plus International Relations. Ministry of Labour. United Kingdom. British model of integration of groups at risk of exclusion.
- 13:30 – 15:00 h.** **Lunch**
- 15:00 – 16:40 h.** **Roundtable: The ESF in Spain. EU added value of the Program to Combat Discrimination: the example of the managing by private operators for Social Action.**
Chair and speaker: Carlos Tortuero, General Director of the ESF Managing Authority. Spain.
Speakers:
– Antoni Bruel i Carreras, General Coordinator Spanish Red Cross.
– Sebastián Mora, General Secretary Caritas Spain.
– Miguel Ángel Cabra de Luna, Director for Social and International Affairs and Strategic Plans of Fundación ONCE. Counsellor at the European Economic and Social Committee.
– Isidro Rodríguez, General Director Fundación Secretariado Gitano.
– Ignacio Velo, Managing Director Fundación Luis Vives.
- 16:40 – 17:00 h.** **Break**
- 17:00 – 18:00 h.** **Lecture: Spanish Policies / instruments for the access to employment and social inclusion of socially disadvantaged groups.**
Chair: Aurelio Fernández, President of the Committee for Social Protection.
Speakers:
– Maravillas Rojo, General Secretary for Employment, Ministry of Labour and Immigration. Spain.
– Francisco Moza, General Secretary for Social Policy and Consumer Protection, Ministry of Health and Social Policy. Spain.
- 18:15 – 19:45 h.** **Madrid Sight Seeing Tour.** Bus with Spanish and English guides, and sign languages interpreter, finish at the Hotel.
- 21:00 h.** **Cocktail** at Palacete Duques de Pastrana, Paseo de la Habana 208, 28036 Madrid.



February 23rd

9:00 – 10:30 h.

Roundtable: EU Strategy 2020 and financial perspectives from the point of view of the Institutions.

Chair: David García López. Deputy General Director of the ESF Managing Authority. Spain.

Speakers:

Institutional Representatives:

- Esteban Lozano. Representative of the European Commission. DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.
- Antonio González. Adviser to the Economic Policy Department. Economic Bureau of the Spanish Prime Minister.
- Jan Olsson. Counsellor at the European Economic and Social Committee.

10:30 – 11:00 h.

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 h.

Roundtable: EU Strategy 2020 and financial perspectives from the point of view of civil society.

Chair: Juan Carlos Mato. General Director for Social Policy, Families and Childhood. Ministry of Health and Social Policy. Spain.

Speakers:

European representatives of Civil Society:

- Ulrich Cronenberg. Red Cross EU Office.
- Pirkko Mahlamäki, Secretary general of the Finnish Disability Forum (Member of the European Disability Forum – EDF).
- Erny Guillén, President of Caritas Europe.
- Sian Jones, Policy Coordinator. Representative of EAPN.

12:30 – 13:30 h.

Plenary session: Presentation of practical conclusions.

13:30 – 14:00 h.

Closing ceremony

- Carlos Carnero, Ambassador at large for European integration projects. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain.
- Francisco Fonseca. Director of the Permanent Representation of the European Commission in Spain.
- Rodolfo Cattani. European Disability Forum Secretary.
- Antonio Bruel. Coordinator of Spanish Red Cross.
- Erny Guillén. President of Caritas Europe.

14:00 h.

Spanish wine