How to



exchange knowledge on sustainable labour inclusion pathways

















1. Warming Up

How to get participant organisations to enter the knowledge sharing mindset and focus on the sustainability lens

Checking in

At check-in, each participant will receive a paper label with their name, the name of the organisation and the number referring to the labour inclusion segment they work into:

- **Assistance**: statutory organisations, volunteers or NGO-run.
- Labour inclusion: NGOs and small-scale social enterprises.
- **Employment**: larger-scale social enterprises, for-profit companies.

Make sure all of the three segments are represented.

At the check-in, participants are invited to write down their expectations and set themselves a goal for the knowledge sharing session.



Session lens and values - Sustainability

A plenary brainstorming session should also be used to set the workshop values or better define the key concept (e.g.:'sustainability', 'inclusion', 'integration'). We defined sustainability as follows:

- **Financial sustainability** for the beneficiaries, as part of their financial empowerment journey as well as for hosting organisations, as part of their impact and resilience strategy.
- Operational sustainability for hosting organisations, as part of their operations flow and commercial strategy.
- **Psychological sustainability** for both beneficiaries and their trainers, both key players for the successful implementation of the project.

We agreed that this definition should be a lens to be applied to each phase of the workshop.













2. Connecting

3 steps to get participant organisations to connect one to another, spot synergy and identify overlaps



1. Vision Board

Each organisation will create a poster of their work:

- 1. Goals of the project;
- 2. Lessons learned;
- 3. Challenges overcome;
- 4. Successes to celebrate / Impact achieved;
- 5. Next steps

And will present it to other participants in a world-case speed-dating session. The interaction will help participants focus on their strongest offer and most urgent need, in preparation for the next exercise.

2. Speed-dating on the local labour inclusion marketplace

This speed-dating exercise helps understand what each organisation has to offer (opportunities) and what each organisation seeks (needs).

- Offers: Each organisation writes their top 3-5 offers on green sticky notes (1 offer per sticky note). It's important they include the name of the organisation.
- Needs: Each organisation writes their top 3-5 needs on yellow sticky notes (1 need per sticky note). It's important they include the name of the organisation.

Participants sit in two rows facing each other and have 5 minutes to speak to the organisation in front of them. After 5 minutes, one row moves one seat to the left and starts a new conversation. Continue until everyone has spoken to everyone.

In the meantime the facilitator will have creates an asset mapping by matching needs/offers.













After the marketplace meeting, once participants have got to know each other, invite them to pick a fellow organisation in a segment different to the one they work into, and to write them a postcard where to share in detail:

- What they do
- How they do it
- Why they'd like to connect

This is a one-to-one version of the marketplace exercise. The organisation receiving the larger number of postcards will likely offer the most sought-after service.

4. Organisation based SWOTTING

A more structured way of postcarding consists of making organisations perform a SWOT analysis of their offer.

We used this blueprint:

- **Strengths:** what are your strengths? What unique capabilities do you possess? What do you do better than others? What do others perceive as your strength?
- Weaknesses: what are your weaknesses? What do competitors do better than you?
- Opportunities: what trends may positively impact you? what opportunities are available to you?
- Threats: do you have solid financial support? What trends may negatively impact you?

Each question and answer has to be tested in respect to the threefold sustainability lens.











3. Mapping & Reimagining



1. The Roadmap of labour integration 'AS IS'

Based on what each organisation has to offer and needs, participants visually map each segment of the journey/ value chain of labour inclusion **AS IT IS**, following a readapted script of the SWOT model.

3 flipcharts, each representing a segment of the labour inclusion journey:

- Assistance: statutory organisations, volunteers or NGO-run.
- Labour inclusion: NGOs and small scale social enterprises.
- Employment: larger-scale social enterprises, for-profit companies.

These flipcharts will move around from and to three different groups with 3 facilitators, each specialised in the relevant segments. They will help participants divided into heterogeneous groups - each representing all of the three segments - to compile a SWOT flipchart for each segment, following a readapted blueprint. Each question and answer has to be tested in respect to the threefold sustainability lens.

- Strengths: What unique function do organisations working in [assistance/labour inclusion/employment] possess? What do other organisations need to be their strength?
- Weaknesses: what internal challenges do organisations working in [assistance/labour inclusion/employment] face?
- Opportunities:what opportunities are available to organisations working in [assistance/labour inclusion/employment]? Which policy/societal trend may positively affect them?
- Threats: what external challenges do organisations working in [assistance/labour inclusion/employment] face? Which policy/societal trend may negatively affect them?

The process will result in 3 collectively complied flip charts to be harvested with the help of the 3 dedicated facilitators.

















1. The sustainable Roadmap of labour integration 'AS IT CAN BE'

Based on the SWOT flipchart of each segment, leveraging on the ecosystem strengths and opportunities and connecting their expertise and experience to mitigate threats and opportunities participants can reimagine the future of labour inclusion.

The journey towards labour inclusion, in this case, has been graphically represented as a steep mountain road. The 3 segments have been represented Bottom - Top:



- 1) Assistance
- 2) Short-term labour Inclusion
- 3) Long-term Employment.

Post-it from the 3 flipcharts - representing each segment's SWOTs - have been placed on the roadmap towards labour inclusion.

Each segment has been tested in respect to the threefold sustainability lens.

Architectural and natural elements (rivers, trees, cities, bridges) have been creatively used to represent informal key stakeholders (volunteers: the sun) 1 or ongoing self development processes (counseling, self development: the river).





MEET THE CONSORTIUM AND THE PARTNERS

These are our amazing multicultural team, who worked together for 22 months



If you want to replicate this activity or another onein your organization, check out the dedicated Report & How To Guide.

















