

EQUAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING n°9 REFERRING TO THE TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

In the year 2003, on September 25th (twenty-fifth), a meeting aimed at the transnational co-operation opens at 4,00 a.m. (four in the afternoon). It takes place at 67, Via Nuovaluce. The DPs interested in the transnational co-operation are

* Kista Borough (Stadsdelsförvaltning 164 07 Kista, Sweden), for the Equal project *Kista Open Academy*, identification number: SE-11

and

* Promozione & Sviluppo m.c.m. s.r.l., Via Virgilio n° 10, 97100 Ragusa – Italy, for the Equal project *Fenice*, identification number: IT-G-SIC-076.

The members who take part in the meeting are:

Ente e/o Associazione	Nome	Funzione
PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION IN CATANIA	Ms Margherita MOTTA	Functionary of the Labour Active Policy
	Mr Emanuele GIACALONE	Functionary of the Labour Active Policy
CSA (Local Education Office)	Ms Anna Maria BATTIATO	Responsible for the Local Education Office
KISTA BOROUGH - SWEDEN	Ms Ebba TRÄSKELIN	Project Manager
SORSELE MUNICIPALITY	Mr Göran VASTERBERG	Manager Development of Industries & Commerce
XPANDIA	Ms Rebekka DOMINIQUE	Project manager
INTERVERBUM COMPANY	Mr Saad LARAQUI	Development Officer Language Services
STOCKHOLMS NYFÖRETAGARCENTRUM	Mr Bertil PERSSON	Vice president
PRO.SVI. - ITALY	Mr Mario ADAMO	Director
	Ms Giovannella INCARDONA	Consultant of the project
	Ms Nunziata ELIA	Interpreter
	Ms Cettina CORALLO	Responsible of the PRO.SVI. society in Catania
	Ms Donatella DI FRANCESCO	Responsible of the PRO.SVI. society in Catania

Ms Träskelin opens the meeting: after giving some explanations on the Swedish educational system focusing on adult education, she points out that among people that have followed training courses only 4% didn't manage to insert in the working environment, which means that the public bodies have invested in training, in different ways.

In order to help young people to take part in the training courses, it is not enough to give technical / theoretical information. New vocational training centers were born in some municipalities: a basic programme that can be enriched by adding other subjects, chosen by the adults, beneficiaries that become active participants in the training process.

Such courses, organised by the training centres and financed by municipalities, are flexible, available from 8 to 22 and at distance, to satisfy the workers' needs.

Mr Vasterberg, representant of Sorsele Municipality, supports the initiatives favouring the workers who have difficulties and cannot attend University. An exemple is given by Sorsele, a municipality with a low density of population (3000 inhabitants) situated in the Northern part of Sweden.

In the framework of the National project, the responsible have tried to start up a training Centre in Stockholm, as it is also important to have some in big centres.

The first step was to start up three centres in Sollentuna, Jarfalla and Kista, managing to create relationships of cooperation. Ms Träskelin underlines that the courses offered by the training centres

are free and can be attended by everybody: if the enrolments are in excess, some waiting lists are created. At the moment some fields of the research are the following:

- 1) “the variables influencing the training”, this aspect is deepened in collaboration with Great Britain;
- 2) “The local development”, such theme is deepened with Portugal;
- 3) “Silent learning”;
- 4) “The importance of certifications”, as the ways of living are too fast, the workers should be able to show their know-how without any documentation.

With reference to the analysis addressed to workers, there have been some difficulties:

- a) whoever has made a training course can immediately get a job, unlike people who find underpaid seasonal employments;
- b) the funds addressed to the training of unemployed people are about 8000 Swedish crowns, that are lower if there are temporary jobs; such funds involve workers at different levels;
- c) learning the Swedish language on the part of the immigrants’ children must be encouraged, in order to stop the drop out.

Ms Träskelin underlines how important is to favour training initiatives at different levels – above all for those who work or run the risk of losing their jobs -, even though the costs limit these initiatives.

As to Italy, Mr Piccolo is in favour of the training courses addressed to unemployed people who want to solve the difficulties linked to high rates of unemployment. Yet the problem to face is linked to the value of diplomas that are not spendible in the working environment, in fact the responsible in charge for vocational training is different from the responsible of education.

To conclude Ms Träskelin focuses on the importance of refreshing courses: in the past it was important *not only what* to do, *but also how* to do that; today it is only important what to do – you must discover how to do that -, which makes more and more difficult to carry out tasks without being updated.

As it is admitted that the items have been developed and discussed, the meeting closes at 6,30 p.m. (half past six in the afternoon).

The participants¹

¹ Herewith enclosed please find the participating card, properly signed.