

Social Inclusion Horizontal Principle Reporting Template

For the period Jan. to Dec. 2011

1. Name of Activity: Disability Activation Project (DAP)

No.: ESF

Measure 2.2

2. What actions have taken place over the last year to incorporate the principle of social inclusion into the Activity?

(Examples: new objective created; new indicator developed; altered project selection criteria; collecting new data or collecting it in different way; pursuing case studies; carrying out impact assessments; interpreting existing data in a different way; gender proofing exercises).

(a) Ongoing Actions:

The principle of social inclusion is reflected in the Disability Activation Project (DAP) target group i.e. Department of Social Protection (DSP) illness/disability payment recipients. All participants are in receipt of a DSP illness/disability payment. It is not possible to determine different socio economic groupings by reference to payment type. However as 100% of participants are in receipt of, primarily means-tested, illness/disability payments it can be inferred that social inclusion considerations are being met.

(b) New Actions:

The DAP has developed significant links with, among others, services in the mental health and addiction areas. In 2011 this led to the development of programmes designed to assist participants with high support needs who were referred from the Mental Health Services, and for whom social inclusion is a particular issue due to the stigma associated with mental ill-health and unemployment.

Details of the programmes are as follows:

Project name: 'CSI Longford'

Lead agency: Longford Community Mental Health:

The project ran for 12 weeks and comprised 3 modules (cookery, self-expression/development and computers). It targeted people currently recovering from mental health difficulties. By participating and sharing their experience it enabled clients to commence their return to the world of work/education/training. All the participants were in receipt of a disability/illness payment. They were recovering from depression, anxiety and some have an enduring mental illness. The clients were of

working age and this programme provided an introduction that opened a window of opportunity for future training.

Project name: 'Castlerea Organic Garden Project'

Lead agency: HSE Mental Health Services

This 20 week programme was client driven and was developed from the participants request for further development of skills learned on the DAP Social Farming Course in 2010. The content identified was a natural progression from previous content. FETAC accreditation was integrated to promote better employment opportunities following the programme. Participants also had the option of availing of a short VEC 10 week gardening course for therapeutic or personal interest or opting in for the FETAC Level 3 programme to avail of an educational focus.

3. Progress against Indicators (where established):

(This should be presented if possible in the tabular form laid out below)

Indicator	Baseline Position	Latest Position

None established.

4. Taking account of the material presented under 2 and 3 above, what contribution is the Activity making to the promotion of social inclusion

Examples:

Are participation levels of women or men increasing?

Are different needs of women and men being addressed?

Are different levels of access for women and men being addressed?

Are differential outcomes for women and men being measured?

The DAP's remit is specifically with regard to promoting and supporting the progression of DSP illness/disability payment recipients. All DSP illness/disability payment recipients have an underlying disability or illness. The DAP also recognises that the medical condition itself can exacerbate social exclusion. The programmes described at 3 above were instigated in response to the foregoing.

All correspondence, facilities etc. are disability proofed; flexibility is built into engagement, course timetables, material and content in order to ensure that childcare/transport/medical needs are accommodated to the greatest extent possible, and that the different needs of women and men are being met.

5. Identify any issues arising that need to be drawn to the attention of the Managing Authority, the Equal Opportunities and Social Inclusion Co-ordinating Committee or other Departments.¹

None at present

6. Please feel free to attach any relevant additional material to this reporting template.

Not applicable

¹ The issues could relate to specific implementation concerns e.g. collection of data, or could relate to more general findings concerning the principle in question e.g. a particular policy in another department is obstructing your Activity from promoting the principle.