

Social Inclusion Horizontal Principle Reporting Template

For the period Jan. to Dec. 2011

1. Name of Activity: Adult Literacy

No.: ESF 2.3

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 literacy programme is provided free of charge to disadvantaged adults with low levels of literacy. The level of participation in literacy tuition by adults has increased annually from 5,000 in 1997 to almost 57,000 in 2011.

A number of specific initiatives have been introduced to provide a broad range of literacy tuition options for learners.

A 14 week intensive literacy and basic education programme, targeted at the most disadvantaged groups, was developed in 2006 in conjunction with NALA and the IVEA. The initiative, in which six hours of tuition is provided per week instead of the usual two hours, is delivered by the VECs throughout the country. Over 2,000 learners availed of the programme in 2010 and in 2011.

A family literacy initiative under DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) - An Action Plan in Educational Inclusion, was introduced in 2007. Funding has continued annually for this programme. In 2011/12, funding of €229,000 was provided for 16 projects.

In 2009/10, approximately 1,500 parents engaged in activities under the family literacy initiative and this number increased to approximately 1,900 in 2010/11.

Funding is also been provided for specially targeted literacy programmes, such as literacy for deaf people, literacy for people with dyslexia, literacy for Irish speakers and workplace literacy.

(b) New Actions:

None

3. Progress against Indicators (where established):

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

Indicator	Baseline Position	Latest Position
No of participants in Adult Literacy	35,000	56,797

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 numbers of men availing of tuition has increased at a faster rate than that of women between 2000 and 2011. However the overall rate of participation between men and women continues at a ratio of approximately 40:60.

Targeted provision at certain client groups such as men only, women only, family learning, workplace, travellers, deaf people, Irish speakers and people with dyslexia is also provided. Outreach activities are also undertaken to address specific groups that would not generally avail of tuition.

An expanded range of provision and development of linkages with other agencies dealing with social disadvantage has also taken place to improve the quality of the service provided.

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

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

n/a

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.