

Social Inclusion Horizontal Principle Reporting Template

For the period Jan. to Dec. 2011

1. Name of Activity: Early School Leavers – Youthreach and Senior Traveller Training Centre
No.: ESF 2.5

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:

Ongoing actions to incorporate the principle in the measure include:

1. Training allowances
2. Travel and meal allowances
3. Accommodation allowances
4. Eligibility for free childcare under the Childcare in Education and Training Scheme (CETS), operated by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA).
5. Guidance, counselling and psychological services
6. Access for staff to continuing professional development
7. Availability of National Co-ordinators.
8. Flexibility in the management and curriculum of the centres
9. A learning environment which is safe, structured and challenging
10. A process which is both participant centred and participant led, where the programme followed reflects learners identified interests and needs.
11. Methodology/pedagogy which begins with the young person
12. An emphasis on recognising and rewarding achievement rather than reinforcing failure
13. Programmes organised on the basis of a curricular matrix in which each teacher or trainer is implementing a range of trans-disciplinary curricular objectives (such as communication skills development, health and safety).

(b) New Actions:

i) Phasing out of the STTC programme

The 2006 *Report and Recommendation for a Traveller Education Strategy* recommended that STTC provision be reviewed. The Department then conducted a Value for Money Review of the Youthreach and STTC programmes. The Review was published in 2008 and recommended the phasing out of segregated STTC provision over the medium to long term and the mainstreaming of Traveller specific provision.

As part of Budget 2009, STTC provision was reduced by 100 places to 984 places from September 2009 and as part of Budget 2010, there was a further reduction of 300 places in September 2010.

As part of Budget 2011 it was announced that in line with the Traveller Education Strategy and the 2008 Value for Money Review of Youthreach and STTCs, integrated further education provision for Travellers will be implemented through the phasing out of STTCs by June 2012.

Some STTCs closed in 2011 and the remainder will be phased out by June 2012. Travellers are free to access the full range of full time and part time Further Education programmes such as – Adult Literacy, Community Education, Back To Education Initiative (BTEI), VTOS and Youthreach.

For example in 2011, 578 Travellers participated in the Youthreach programme and 733 Travellers participated in BTEI courses.

3. Progress against Indicators (where established):

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

| Indicator | Baseline Position | Latest Position |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Progression of learners who complete the programme to employment, education or training | 69% | 1. Youthreach 2011 – 62% 2. STTC 2011* – 43% |

*Only 35 learners completed the STTC programme in 2011. Most learners remained in the programme until the centres are phased out in June 2012.

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?

Education plays a key role in the promotion of equality of opportunity and determines to a large extent the life chances of people. Youthreach and Senior Traveller Training are designed as part of an integrated strategy to address educational disadvantage in the context of a continuum of provision. The measure ensures that young people who have left school with no qualifications have a second chance to gain access, participate in and benefit from education of sufficient quality to allow them to find employment or to progress to further education and training. Support services are provided in recognition of the practical, emotional and social problems that many of the participants have. Their aim is to increase the capacity of the centres to cater for

the needs of their participants and to provide links with community based health and social services.

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

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

Attached please find tables showing the educational attainment and economic status of learners as they joined the programmes.

A) Education attainment at entry:

| YOUTHREACH | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Primary Education | 519 | 329 | 848 (26%) |
| Junior Cert (1- 4 subjects) | 246 | 175 | 421 (13%) |
| Junior Cert full award | 989 | 739 | 1,728 (52%) |
| Leaving Cert (1 – 2 subjects) | 14 | 6 | 20 (1%) |
| Leaving Cert (3 – 4 subjects) | 27 | 38 | 65 (2%) |
| Leaving Cert Applied | 35 | 57 | 92 (3%) |
| FETAC level 3 – minor award | 40 | 25 | 65 (2%) |
| FETAC level 3 – major award | 31 | 29 | 60 (2%) |
| FETAC level 4 – minor award | 9 | 5 | 14 (0%) |
| FETAC level 4 – major award | 7 | 1 | 8 (0%) |
| Total | 1,917 | 1,404 | 3,321 |

| STTC | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| No formal education | 19 | 62 | 81 (17%) |
| Primary Education | 22 | 155 | 177 (38%) |
| Junior Cert (1- 4 subjects) | 8 | 36 | 44 (9%) |
| Junior Cert full award | 5 | 42 | 47 (10%) |
| Leaving Cert (1 – 2 subjects) | 2 | 2 | 4 (1%) |
| Leaving Cert (3 – 4 subjects) | 13 | 15 | 28 (6%) |
| Leaving Cert Applied | 1 | 20 | 21 (5%) |
| FETAC level 3 – minor award | 15 | 35 | 50 (11%) |
| FETAC level 3 – major award | 3 | 4 | 7 (2%) |
| FETAC level 4 – minor award | 0 | 6 | 6 (1%) |

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.

HCI-OP 2007-2013 Social Inclusion Reporting Template

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|-----------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| FETAC level 4 – major award | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 88 | 378 | 466 |

B) Economic status of learners at entry

| YOUTHREACH | Male | Female | Total |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Entered directly after dropping out of school | 1,478 | 1,067 | 2,545 (77%) |
| Unemployed seeking first job | 226 | 178 | 404 (12%) |
| Unemployed 0-6 months after loss of job | 36 | 32 | 68 (2%) |
| Unemployed 7-12 months after loss of job | 30 | 17 | 47 (1%) |
| Unemployed 13-24 months after loss of job | 10 | 0 | 10 |
| Unemployed 2+ years after loss of job | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Not in the labour market/unavailable for work | 135 | 110 | 245 (7%) |
| Total | 1,917 | 1,404 | 3,321 |

| STTC | Male | Female | Total |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Entered directly after dropping out of school | 8 | 36 | 44 (9%) |
| Unemployed seeking first job | 25 | 36 | 61 (13%) |
| Unemployed 0-6 months after loss of job | 4 | 7 | 11 (2%) |
| Unemployed 7-12 months after loss of job | 5 | 1 | 6 (1%) |
| Unemployed 13-24 months after loss of job | 1 | 10 | 11 (2%) |
| Unemployed 2+ years after loss of job | 8 | 20 | 28 (6%) |
| In receipt of One Parent Family Allowance | 0 | 49 | 49 (10%) |
| In receipt of Disability Allowance | 28 | 55 | 83 (18%) |
| In receipt of Widows/Widowers Allowance | 0 | 11 | 11 (2%) |
| In receipt of Adult Dependents Allowance | 9 | 64 | 73 (16%) |
| Working in the Home | 0 | 78 | 78 (17%) |
| Not in the labour market / unavailable for work | 0 | 11 | 11 (2%) |
| Total | 88 | 378 | 466 |