Employment of disabled people in Europe

Professor Bent Greve ANED meeting Brussels, 15th December, 2008

A few basic facts

- Strong correlation between disability, employment and education
- Worse situation for women than for men
- Persons with learning or intellectual disability have particular difficulties in entering and/or remaining in the labour market
- Differences between countries

Different strategies

- Ordinary labour market
- Sheltered Employment
- Quota-obligations

Mainstreaming do often takes place

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Recommendations

- Targets should be set at an achievable but challenging
- Establish activation projects with clear goals, including a structured evaluation strategy ensuring that it is possible to know what works and what does not work.
- Focus on measures to create accessibility in the working-environment
- Regular and planned updates to the Labour Force
- Ensure that implementation information on existing activation policies is widely available, clear and accessible

Recommendations

- Focus on how to bridge the gab between childhood and the labour market for disabled people
- Increase awareness amongst employers to ensure that companies' social responsibility is recognised.
- Continue the focus and use of mainstreaming in the area of disability
- Ensure a better measurement on spending on ALMP for disabled people, including number of the participants, outcome and effects of the activities.

Recommendations

- Establish a price for best evidence based projects
- Ensure that ways in and out of the benefit system are possible
- Preferential treatment for jobs and rights to interviews can help in removing an entry barrier.

 Increased focus on new technologies, which can increase integration and employability.

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