

PAB MEETING – 17th FEBRUARY 2015 – VALENCIA

On 17th February Polibienestar organized the seminar "The labour market and vulnerable groups" framed within the INSPIRES project (Innovative Social Policies for Inclusive and Resilient Labour Markets in Europe) funded by the 7th framework program of the European Commission.

The main goal of the INSPIRES project is to develop a comparative assessment of the European labour markets by identifying the innovative policies which are reinforcing the resilience and the labour inclusion of the vulnerable groups. With this aim, the INSPIRES project is studying the labour market position of four vulnerable groups (young people, older workers over 55 years old, disabled and migrant people) in 11 European countries from 2000 to 2012. The objective is to identify the crisis impact on each vulnerable group.

Technicians, politicians from the local government, professors and NGO representatives from Torrent, Benetusser and l'Eliana city councils, the Valencian Institute of Social Action (IVAS), Red Cross, Emplea Foundation, Novaterra, University of Valencia and Polytechnic University of Valencia attended to the meeting. Specifically the assistants were:

- Roberto Ballester, Felidarity
- Josep Banyuls Llopis, University of Valencia
- Mercedes Berenguer Llorens, l'Eliana city council
- Francisco Cobacho Casas, Novaterra
- Fernando Luis Fita Ortega, University of Valencia
- Carmina Gil Gil, Polytechnic University of Valencia
- Javier González Cardona, Benetusser city council
- Julián Iniesta Romero and Cira Ricós Valle, Valencian Institute of Social Action (IVAS)
- María Muñoz Cervera and M^a Jose Muñoz Pretel, Torrent city council
- Iván Reche Lillo, Emplea Foundation
- Noelia Tronchoni Pastor and Elia Transfiguración Salinas, Red Cross



During the meeting the results obtained by the Polibienestar research team within the INSPIRES project were compared with the results from other European countries.



The attendees debated the measures implemented during the crisis to minimize its effects on each vulnerable group in order to identify the best strategies to improve the Spanish resilience and labour inclusion. To this end, three focus groups were organized so as to respond the following questions:

- 1. What measures are being implemented to minimize the effects of the crisis on vulnerable groups?*
- 2. As a professional, do you think that the specific factors that can affect each vulnerable group are being taken into account in the daily practice by the professionals?*
- 3. Are there other factors that had not been indicated?*



Under the wing of this discussion, some conclusions about the key aspects in the design of the resilient policies were reached.

RESILIENT POLICIES: KEY ASPECTS

- **TEMPORAL DIMENSION:** Long-term measures
- **TERRITORIAL DIMENSION:** Measures adapted to the needs of the territory
- **DESIGN:** Botton-up
- **COORDINATION:** Among administrative levels and competencies
- **RESOURCES:** Increase in economic resources for labour insertion

Moreover, during the meeting the future challenges of the Spanish labour market were argued so as to increase the labour inclusiveness.

CHALLENGES

- **SPANISH ECONOMIC AND PRODUCTIVE MODEL** impacting on the retraining of the workers in the sectors affected by the crisis .
- **LACK OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR TRAINING** aimed at retraining.
- **CORPORATE CULTURE** which might restrict the labour inclusion.
- Reinforcing the measures to **MEET THE LABOUR INCLUSION LEGISLATION.**
- Increasing specific **MEASURES FOCUSED ON THE LABOUR INCLUSION OF MIGRANT AND PEOPLE WITH MENTAL DISABILITIES.**
- To increase **JOB QUALITY.**
- **LACK OF LONG TERM LABOUR MEASURES FOCUSED ON YOUNG PEOPLE.**
- **REDUCTION IN PUBLIC FUNDING.**
- **IMPACT OF THE CRISIS ON THE SPECIAL EMPLOYMENT CENTERS** deteriorating labour position of people with disabilities.