

Title: Organization and Governance of Work Integration Social Enterprises. Emerging issues and perspectives.

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Abstract

The Social Solidarity Economy is an important strategy in the effort of social and vocational integration of people facing various psychosocial problems. In particular, there are important examples of work integration Social Enterprises that make a decisive contribution to the social and vocational integration of people belonging to socially excluded groups. This paper based on a review of the international literature, presents the factors that make these ventures a workable proposal for reintegration. The connection between the philosophy and theoretical assumptions of the cooperative philosophy and the objectives of an emancipatory proposal for the reintegration of socially excluded groups is a key dimension highlighted by the review of the international literature.

The paper also presents a framework of principles and practices for the organization and governance of Work Integration Social Enterprises. This framework is based on literature review and also on examples from the field of Social Solidarity Economy and on examples from the field of self help/mutual aid groups. The main pillars of an organizational and governance framework are presented, with an emphasis among others, on democratic functioning, equal participation, and the active role of stakeholders. A critical approach is taken regarding the role of mental health professionals in these projects. Finally, the difficulties and limitations of the use of cooperative principles in the field of reintegration are presented, as well as the prospects for their further use in the field of social and vocational integration of socially excluded groups.

Notice: The submitted abstract is related to a paper presentation.