



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

South East Innovative and trans-national projects

Active inclusion

Meeting new challenges – demographic
changes

Meeting new challenges – skills for climate
change and sustainable development



Method for choosing themes

- Information in RES, Regional ESF framework and SE ERDF Competitiveness programme
- Lessons from EQUAL programme in region
- Substantive discussion at ESF Regional committee on 11 September
- Web based consultation with wider ESF partnership in region
- Clear preference for 3 themes chosen but e.g. active inclusion may pick up some other aspects e.g. social enterprise

Active inclusion

- ESF Regional framework section on innovation contains number of references to support inclusion of this theme
- Address multiple issues facing disadvantaged participants accessing the labour market through flexible and personalised packages of support
- Reconcile family and professional life and re-integrate economically inactive women and older people by developing more flexible and effective forms of work organisation and support services
- Impact of financial crisis in region and need for re-skilling

Demographic change

- An ageing workforce is one of the major changes facing the SE economy in the coming years
- More work is needed to identify, quantify and describe the issues surrounding economic migrants
- Sustain employment and promote new multi-disciplinary roles in the workplace by applying the experience of successful ESF and EQUAL projects e.g. the “Tick tock” project

Skills for climate change

- Opportunity to link to ERDF Competitiveness programme in SE and maximise impact
- The aim of this programme is to promote competitiveness in SE England whilst reducing the region's ecological footprint
- Programme focus on sustainable consumption and production

Skills for climate change cont.

- Objectives of programme include stimulation of innovation and job creation in new and emerging ecologically-driven market sectors
- Despite the relatively high skills profiles at the regional level, many employers in the region encounter persistent difficulties in finding workers with relevant basic, technical and specialist skills