

Da: RREUSE <sifor-list-admin@multimediaforge.net@mail72.atl51.rsgsv.net> per conto di RREUSE <sifor-list-admin@multimediaforge.net>
Inviato: martedì 13 maggio 2014 15.36
A: Barbara Bovelacci
Oggetto: SIFOR Newsletter #2

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Sistema Formativo al Lavoro-Valore del Riuso

Training system on the value of reuse

SIFOR explores IT reuse in Ireland

May computers live twice as long! **RECOSI, a not-for-profit organisation, collects and repairs used IT equipment** intended to be disposed of and uses this activity **to help disadvantaged people integrate back into the labour market.** To learn more about RECOSI's work a group of social cooperative representatives traveled to Ireland to investigate further.



Central to the RECOSI model is **partnerships with manufacturers including Microsoft, Dell, Intel and Apple** who transfer used equipment to RECOSI to be prepared for re-use or recycled. This partnership is based on the guarantee provided by RECOSI that data contained in the IT

appliances is thoroughly erased, thus **ensuring the safety of private information**. Once repaired and equipped with a new software license primarily by workers who were previously distanced from the labour market, the IT equipment is resold at market price or donated to schools, institutions and people in need. Thus **RECOSIs engagement combines environmental and social objectives: reducing the amount of waste produced and creation of job opportunities for disadvantaged people**.

Following the trip to Ireland the Italian delegation is exploring the possibility to replicate RECOSIs model and create such a partnership in Italy.

Seminar: Making the "valorizator" profile a reality



Having a professional approach to re-use and repair activities carried out by social economy actors is essential in order to build confidence and partnerships with industry actors, municipalities and consumers. As part of this process, the SIFOR project has been engaged in **creating a professional vocational qualification known as the 'valorizator'** applicable to entrepreneurs, managers and employees in social enterprise re-use centres.

On 24/3/2014, Catalonia, **Foundation Trinijove, hosted a seminar focused on the potential benefits of formalizing the "valorizator" profile**. Representatives of social enterprises, local authorities and academic researchers from Spain and Italy provided an extensive overview of existing strategies and techniques in waste prevention together with possible scenarios of integrating the professional profile within national vocational qualification systems.

According to the Director of Qualification of Catalonia, Josep Marquez, approximately 40% of workers in the region do not own any formal qualifications even though they have the necessary skills and know-how to work. It is of great importance for the labor market and for the benefit of the workers to reward such skills with the appropriate certification. Therefore **the Region of Catalonia and the Trinijove Foundation have reached an agreement to collaborate in identifying the qualification requirements** needed for employees of the reuse sector.

As part of this agreement **a pilot training program will be launched** within the next weeks, in order **to train young unemployed people in the techniques of waste management** of the reuse and recycling sector as defined by the SIFOR project. The training program aims to put theoretical attributes of the professional profile into practice.

The signing of this Agreement is an **important event for the SIFOR project** as it reaches another milestone in the creation and uptake of a professional profile in sustainable waste management.

Barcelona El Prat sustainable waste management system

As part of the SIFOR Steering Committee Meeting in Barcelona, the SIFOR project partners received an introduction and a guided tour through the waste management system of El Prat Barcelona airport.



The airport is owned and operated by AENA (public enterprise of Spanish Airports and Air Navigation) and since 2010 AENA has collaborated with Trinijove to facilitate selective waste collection in Barcelona El Prat. Trinijove Foundation is a Work Integration Social enterprise and a partner of the SIFOR project, and provides the airport with specialized services to support waste collection, sorting and management. Waste collected in El Prat is separated into glass, plastic, cardboard and paper, food waste and residual waste, reaching a **recycling rate of**

approximately 30% of the total waste produced. **16 workers in insertion** are employed by Trinijove through this collaboration. The collaboration of Trinijove and AENA represents a shining example of **sustainable waste management and social inclusion**.

RREUSE publishes position on approved re-use centre principles

In order to help foster a favorable policy environment for the development of re-use centres and networks RREUSE has produced a document outlining the characteristics of such actors. This document aims to serve as a guide for policy items such as the ongoing review of the EU waste policy. Key demands included in this guide highlight the importance of giving access to the waste stream for re-use actors in particular those of the social economy. For more in depth information read the [RREUSE position on Approved Re-use Centres and Networks – Principles](#).

Generation Awake - focus on waste for 2014



The *Generation Awake* campaign launched by the European Commission aims to create awareness about **resource efficiency** and to serve as a guide on **how we can contribute to reduce the amount of waste we produce and to preserve our natural resources**. The campaign was launched 2011 with the goal to change behavioral patterns by inviting people to think about the impact consumption habits have on the environment and natural resources. This year *Generation Awake* focuses on **efficient waste management**, which has been identified by the European Commission as one of the **key elements in achieving the goals of the green economy**. More information about the campaign and ways to apply resource efficiency in daily life can be found at www.generationawake.eu

EEB report on the benefits of an ambitious EU waste policy

In light of the current revision of EU waste policy being carried out by the European Commission, the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) has published a report outlining the wide ranging benefits of an ambitious policy proposal. Setting out different scenarios for EU resource efficiency, involving ambitious targets for food waste reduction, re-use of textiles and furniture and recycling, this report explores how placing greater emphasis on actions higher up the waste hierarchy can become a high employment strategy for the EU. The impact of more intense reuse on job creation potential is high – **at least one-third of new resources jobs in Europe could come from reuse. For more information read the full report [here](#).**

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein".

PROJECT CONTACT PERSON

Paolo Ferraresi (RREUSE)
paolo.ferraresi@rreuse.org

Maria Giulia Resca (Associazione Orius)
sifor@associazioneorius.eu



SI.FO.R. is a project co-funded by the Lifelong Learning programme of the European Commission.
SI.FO.R. "Sistema FOrmativo al valore-lavoro del Riuso" - Training system on the value of reuse.
Codice CUP: G32F12000040006 – Codice progetto: 2012-1-IT1-LEO05-02781

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