

# European Union Social Enterprise Conference

*Vocational Education and Training for Social Enterprises*

## **THE UK AND EUROPE - THE IRENE.T NETWORK PERSPECTIVES AND AMBITIONS**

### Conference Agenda

**10.00 Registration, Refreshments, Networking**

**10.30 Welcome**

Mervyn Wilson, Principal and Chief Executive, the Co-operative College

**10.45 Keynote**

David Coulter, Deputy Chief Executive, Co-operatives

**11.10 Introduction to the IRENE.T project**

Lorenzo Corona, Project Manager, ASFORIN

**11.20 The IRENE.T project: contents, partnership and main deliverables**

Lorenzo Scirocco, Deputy Project Co-ordinator, ASIS

**11.30 Perspectives on Vocational Education and Training in the UK**

Joan Keysell, Member and Director Learning Manager, the Co-operative Group

Bob Cannell, Managing Partner, SUMA Worker Co-operative

Chris Dabbs, Chief Executive, Unlimited Potential, Salford

**12.30 Approaches to Vocational Education and Training in Social Enterprises**

Case studies from Sweden, Patrick Arlemalm, Managing Director, AMLEDO and Co, Sweden

Case studies from Italy, Mario Massa, ASIS, Italy

**13.15 Closing Comments**

Lorenzo Corona. ASFORIN and Chris Cooper, the Co-operative College, Manchester

**13.30 Buffet lunch and networking**

**Friday  
21<sup>st</sup> May 2010**

**Broderick Suite**

**New Century  
House**

**Miller Street**

**Manchester**

The **IRENE.T Project** consists of 14 European partners who are developing the Social Enterprises European **NET**work for **T**raining known as IRENE.T.

The project began in 2008 and runs until the end of 2011. By that time the IRENE.T Network is expected to be totally active and able to **provide a range of services to social enterprises across the Europe** and to offer access to social enterprises worldwide.

The vision of the project is to be *“The Place in Europe where Social Enterprises and Training meet”* and its mission is *“To empower Social Enterprises to enhance their skills and competencies”*. To do that, for the first time in Europe, IRENE.T offers social enterprises, vocational education and training organisations and individuals, a **virtual platform** where they can interact about their needs, the educational or learning curriculum, good practice and the training needed for Social Enterprise leaders and management.

The long-term aim is to **encourage vocational education and training organisations to tailor training to meet the needs of the Third Sector.**

The **three main objectives** for the project are to:

1. Improve the quality and volume of co-operation within Vocational and Educational Training in the Third Sector in the European Union;
2. Facilitate the development of innovative and good practices in the field of vocational education and training in the Third Sector;
3. Foster and support the dialogue among all stakeholders in this sector.

This conference will disseminate information about the project and seek to engage social enterprises further. **Key speakers from UK social enterprises will be presenting their experiences with further overviews from Sweden and Italy.** The conference is free and will be followed by lunch and an opportunity for networking with the project partners.

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To register please email Michelle Sansby with your name, organisation and dietary details at [michelle@co-op.ac.uk](mailto:michelle@co-op.ac.uk)

This conference is a part of the dissemination process of the IRENET Project. It is made available at no charge to participants.

For further details about the project please go to [www.irenework.eu](http://www.irenework.eu) or contact Chris Cooper at [chris@co-op.ac.uk](mailto:chris@co-op.ac.uk)

