

Enterprising Communities, Regenerating Neighbourhoods

By and for the people!!

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London

As :

- a metropolis
where many paths converge and
diverge
- a crossroads
- a hub city
where many communities from many
countries of the world live and trade

Trade Enterprise Business

- Who engages in this activity and why?
- **Migrants, immigrants, refugees**, settled communities, minorities and majorities
- How do we define “them”?
- Do “they” have different imperatives for starting businesses?
- Are some cultures more entrepreneurial than others, if so why?

Some possible reasons;

- Difficulties in accessing labour market due to discrimination, lack of relevant skills
- Drive to succeed on ones own terms
- “Informal” economy as a space to build economic security

EQUAL in Action

REFLEX/SIED model

- **SIED- Supporting Inclusion in Enterprise Development**
- **Intersection of two key policy priorities:
Social Inclusion and Economic Regeneration**
At the core of SIED
 - ▶ **recognition and acknowledgement of individuals as belonging to groups, communities and networks**
 - ▶ **community based organisations embedded in those communities**

Social Inclusion

- **Inclusion is different from integration or assimilation**
- **It recognises the fact that different individuals and communities face different barriers that affect their life chances**
- **It recognises that people and communities are assets and not a set of problems**
- **It aims to engage and involve them in mainstream activities through accessible opportunities and resources.**

Innovators and Creators



4 LONDON BOROUGHS



26 SIED Community Based Organisations

Afghan Community	Eritrean Community in the UK	Lewisham EMP
African Comm.Partnership	Ethiopian Development Assoc.	MWH
Algerian British Connection	HALKEVI	Pepys' Community Forum
An-Viet	Hopscotch Asian Womens	Somali Speakers Assoc.
ARACHNE	Iranian Comm.	The Gate Construction
Bengoli Workers Assoc.	Islington Bangladeshi Assoc.	The HELP
Caraf Centre	Islington Chinese Assoc.	UCKG
Care Alliance Refugee	KT Somali WA	Vietnamese BA
DAYMER	Latin American WRS	

Equal SIED Partnership

Some of the partners:

- **London Borough of Islington-Lead Partner**
- **Islington Training network**
- **Islington Enterprise Agency**
- **Prevista Ltd**
- **ACBBA**
- **London Borough of Camden**
- **London Borough of Lewisham**
- **Kingston University**
- **London Advisory Services Alliance-LASA**
- **CENTA-Camden Enterprise Agency**
- **CTN-Camden Training Network**
- **Prowess**
- **Institute of Business Advisers**

SIED Project-key objectives

- **To empower and connect community based business support to the mainstream**
- **To develop a new way to deliver business support via community based organisations**
- **To research and develop minority ethnic business networks**
- **To conduct research to support effectiveness of objectives**



The project – some key achievements

- **Enhanced knowledge base & increased capacity of Community Based Organisations(CBO) to deliver business & enterprise support**
- **Resourcing CBOs to employ Business Advisers**
- **Accreditation of Community Based Business Advisers**
- **Production of materials and practice tools**
- **Working with policy makers to influence change**
- **Working with trans-national partners**



Empowerment and Equality

- **Cross-cultural approaches which recognises plurality as a strength**
- **Direct engagement of “beneficiaries” from project inception to delivery as equal partners**
- **Asset based approach rather than needs and problem based**

About Islington Training Network

- **Example of an innovative “embedded” organisation:**
- **Membership based, second tier NGO**
- **Strategic infra-structure and capacity building role-”learning by doing”**
- **Highly professional yet close to the ground**
- **Local yet working across regions and Europe wide**

Finally-----

- For further information:
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