

The ESF 10B programming 2005-2008
**Associative employment micro-projects, integration and local
development : positive result for the Franche-Comté**

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Summary : The CRESS Franche-Comté manages an original device, by delegation of the European social fund, to help and subsidize associative microprojects, in favour of the employment and for territorial development. A first programming allowed creating a set of local initiatives, thanks to the mobilization of small associations, with skills but inexperienced in professional actions. It results new activities in favour of the social and ecological innovation. An important element of this device is the constitution of a network for identifying and supporting original initiatives. The poster is a descriptive of the first programming.

Résumé : la CRESS Franche-Comté gère un dispositif original, par délégation du fond social européen, pour accompagner et subventionner des microprojets associatifs, en faveur de l'emploi, de l'insertion et du développement territorial. Une première programmation a permis de faire émerger un ensemble d'initiatives locales, grâce à la mobilisation de petites associations, avec des compétences en main, mais inexpérimentées dans l'action professionnelle. Il en résulte de nouvelles activités en faveur de l'innovation sociale et écologique. Un élément important de ce dispositif est la constitution d'un réseau qui a permis d'identifier et faire émerger les initiatives, les soutenir pour une bonne mise en œuvre. Le poster est un bilan descriptif de la première programmation.

Keywords : associative microprojects, ESF, local initiatives

Mots clés : microprojets associatifs, FSE, initiatives locales

I. The EFS programming

The 10B measure contributed to the emergence of new dynamics by rendering the European Social Fund accessible to small associative structures across the whole of the regional territory, and particularly in the rural area and in disadvantaged urban districts. The purpose being to make it possible for groups of persons or associations not yet possessing much experience to realize their potential and to gain access to the European Funds, in order to lead actions which favour employment. The micro-projects are linked to objectives of socio-professional integration, business creation or the promotion of equal opportunity for men and women on the job-market, regardless of the themes of action or of the sector of activity. They are provided with a budget of a maximum amount of 23.000 euros, and the specific principle of the possibility of subsidizing for the project of up to 100% by the FSE.

Another specificity is the delegation of the management and promotion of the project to the CRESS through a convention of global subsidy. The organism undertakes full responsibility, including that of supervision of the realization and of the finances. The projects submitted within the framework defined by the national specifications and by regional procedure could also benefit from technical counsel during their preparation. They were selected after having been passed before a commission presided by the CRESS. However what is important to retain above all regards the construction of a wide network of partnerships (socio-professional, institutional and militant) in order to be able to maintain a veritable vigil which would allow to identify those with viable projects in hand and to guarantee an accompaniment in the construction of a functional plan of action prior to gaining access to European financing. This is the condition for the emergence of new initiatives across all the territories.

Key-data and figures in Franche-Comté

In all, over the period, 51 projects were selected by the Selection-Committees, from the 73 presented, all of them being led by associations.

50 were taken on of which 48 brought their project to term. 30 of these concerned the creation of a business, 17 socio-professional integration and 4 equal opportunity for men and women on the job-market.

Globally, 571 beneficiaries of socio-professional integration can be counted during the period of the agreement, of which 270 were women and 301 men.

The net creation of employment at the end of 2008 concerned 21 persons for 17 ETP, 67 persons now see reinforcement of their activity through the actions, principally farmers and artists, and finally nearly 30 new posts have been created through the development of activity following the project, but thanks to the dynamic put in motion by the FSE 10B.

Can be added to this the professional integration culminating in permanent contracts or fixed contracts for 38 persons.

For the 27 projects realized in the spring of 2008, a continuity and development of the activity have been observed in 11 cases (41%), a partial continuity in 9 cases (33%) and a ceasing of the activity in 7 cases (26%).

18 women presidents and 30 men presidents for the associations and 28 women project-leaders for 20 men have been identified.

The pilot committee was able to evaluate that the measures were among the most effective in terms of the impact of return on the financial commitment of the FSE.

II. Projects Portraits

1. Association de consommateurs BIO [Organic Consumer Association] Creation of a cooperative of organic foods (Vesoul / Haute-Saône)

The SCIC groups together consumers and employees of the BIOCOOP store. Existing first as an association, Biosaône groups not less than 80 defenders of organic production, all of them shareholders in the store and who today lead the project for economic development of organic production in Vesoul.

The association has the intention of extending the store's offer by encouraging the conversion to organic farming of local producers. The ambition of Biosaône is to promote organic farming to reach a wide public. At the present time, the store's clientele is 5 times greater in number than that of the members of the SCIC initiative. The development of an economic activity is often accompanied by the creation of jobs. Thus Biosaône enables persons who are without jobs to find durable employment in the working world.

2. ALDESS

First steps in the establishment of an incubator of business-enterprise in the Jura (Poligny / Jura)

ALDESS supported the creation of an incubator of business-enterprise in Poligny named "Objectif Création". The incubator in its turn gives the first impulse to those with a project in view of creation of a business.

Within this structure, these future bosses can test the viability of their economic activity in real life situation while at the same time limiting the financial risks. Thus they have the advantage of a transitional legal structure, a personalized accompaniment consisting in training courses, accounting and financial help, advice in commercialization and management. This Jurasian structure accompanies entrepreneurs with different profiles.

3. Les Trois Sœurs Company

Women as actors of their professional choices (Besançon / Doubs)

The company Les Trois Sœurs revisits forum-theatre in order to approach in a diverting and interactive manner the themes of career-choice, diversification of professional choices and equal opportunity for men and women.

The young people see themselves in the story of little Mathilda from nursery-school to the retirement home, subsisting on a minimal pension. The pupils can interrupt the performance at any time by means of a "joker", replace an actor on the stage and thus change the direction of the story.

On the strength or its success, the company continues performances of this play and have begun the writing of another project on the theme of discrimination.

4. Bol d'air ("A breath of fresh air")

Together, we can visit nature (Chapois/Jura)

Nature is open to anyone. But for the handicapped, walk in the forest can in some cases resemble an exploit.

Given this fact, some mountain guides decided to join together in an association in order to give such people access to nature. **Bol d'air** proposes numerous outside sports, cultural and tourist activities suited for handicapped people.

There is nothing like a jaunt in a "joelette" (like a light rickshaw) to encourage encounter between the handicapped and the able-bodied. Thanks to the nudge in the right direction, **Bol d'air** was able to develop its activity: training of employees and voluntary workers, purchase of equipment, creation of a brochure and of a Internet site.