



# VIP: Vocational training In Prison

## Analysis of innovations introduced in daily activities



### 1 What is the innovation recognized? (description of the innovation)

Innovation resides in several domains:

- confirm the necessity of sensitizing trainers on the specificities of the target group in a closed environment and about the possibilities of benefiting from training courses organised by the penitentiary administration (trainers need to understand the context in which they work and the consequences of actions);
- importance of having good relationship with the penitentiary staff, mutual trust is necessary and useful for the success of training in prison (and as a consequence for the vocational integration of ex-prisoners);
- developing forms of work (not occupational) where the prisoner can acquire and prove skills and link them with formal courses (he has also to be recognised as a real worker and receive a wage that is not symbolic).

### 2 Why is it innovative for your organisation? (describe what kind of improvement it will offer to your organisation)

It is innovative because:

- we need to maintain and develop good links with the probation services and with the prison management and the staff in order to have the same vision and to take the right decisions to facilitate the vocational integration of prisoners (frequent communication is necessary);
- trainers could start working in a prison without knowing nothing about the judicial system and penitentiary administration;
- we had not formalised the integration of new trainers;
- working possibilities offered to prisoners are decreasing.

### 3 How do you carry out it?

We try to integrate as far as possible the three dimensions mentioned above:

- development and improvement of links with the probation services and with the prison management and the staff;
- formalisation of a training path to integrate a new trainer (it has been tested during the project timespan);
- starting a reflexion about the implementation of a cooperative employing prisoners based on the model of Lazarelle cooperative in Pozzuoli.