

CHANTIER école National Network

CHANTIER école is the French Network of Social Learning Enterprises. Established in 1995, nowadays it includes close to 700 members from France, Guadeloupe and the island of la Réunion who represent 33,000 employees. These organizations operate in the Social and Solidarity Economy sector. More precisely, they are actors of the Integration through Work field (IAE- Insertion par l'Activité Economique) as they use work-based training as a means to empower long-term unemployed people and provide them some social and professional support.

We claim that social integration passes by work and, as a lot of people are now concerned with structural unemployment related to the lack or the absence of qualification, we conceive work as a place for learning. Thus our structures implement what we call "our learning approach". It consists in using production as a support of learning and we consider that any working situation as the potential to teach something. Our employees thus acquire knowledge and competencies during work, whether basic knowledge, professional or social skills and gradually get professional and social autonomy. They also acquire professional experience. All these assets increase their employability and are reinforced by a individual support to identify and solve their personal work disincentives. The learning approach and the social and professional support combine to lead people to global inclusion.

Personal introduction, Elisa Roblot

As a PhD. Student and research officer, I'm a member of the LiRIS, a French research lab specialized in societal innovations located in Rennes, Brittany. We currently conduct research on Work Integration Social Enterprises (WISEs) as part of the ICSEM project (International Comparative Social Enterprise Models) directed by Professors Jacques Defourny and Marthe Nyssens. We intend to establish the features of particular French Enterprises, the Work Integration *Learning* Enterprises, while studying the various features of CHANTIER école's organizations. We will try to figure out what they do and how they work, studying all their dimensions during a three- year partnership supported by the French Ministry of Research between the lab and CHANTIER école's network. These works also aim at appreciating their impacts at social, societal, economic and territorial levels. As a result, we would possibly bring on a new organizational model whose best practices could be shared and compared at European level.

