

Empowerment through Co-operation: Disability Solidarity in the Social Economy

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Summary

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder co-operatives provide flexible structures that empower disadvantaged groups, promote social integration, and develop community involvement, and embody the four elements identified in successful efforts at empowerment: access to information, inclusion and participation, accountability and local organizational capacity, my project seeks identify obstacles to co-operative formation for people with disabilities and illustrate possibilities for community empowerment through co-operative development.

Key Objectives

- To uncover the potential of the multi-stakeholder model of co-operative to empower people with disabilities by building capacity and solidarity within the community to enhance social capital and social efficiency
- To help shape policies needed to foster social inclusion and empower people with disabilities
- To help build disability solidarity in the social economy through co-operative development
- To frame such involvement in the social economy and community development in a language of empowerment, equality, and inclusion

Term of Project

September 2006 – March 2009



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