



Project “WEEE in Prison”

The goal of the project "WEEE in Prison" is to promote the social and labour inclusion of disadvantaged people under criminal prosecution or just released from prison, for whom a professional support connected with the territory is necessary in order to facilitate their complete return to the rule of law and civic life of the community. For this reason, the project promotes the active involvement of the social economy and the alliance with the territorial profit system collaborating with the institutions: this is regarded as an effective way to support the continuity of the initiatives and to strengthen the social commitment of the enterprises involved.

In the period 2005/2008 the geographical Equal Pegaso partnership – it was an initiative promoted by the Emilia Romagna Region with co-funding from the European Social Fund - has developed a wide feasibility study, with the advice of Hera Group spa in close collaboration with the Regional Superintendency of Prison Administration and the Management of Prison Institutions of Bologna, Forlì, Ferrara: the objective of the research was to provide detained people with job opportunities in laboratories set up inside and outside prisons.

Based on the possibilities offered by the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) sector - Directive 2002/96/EC and Legislative Decree 151/05, new TU environment – we have planned to carry out part of the treatment/disassembly of WEEE coming from Ecological areas' and then sent to waste treatment plants. Since 2009, 3 production laboratories have been operating in Bologna, Forlì and Ferrara. Thanks to this initiative, not only have we been able to create conditions for starting the logistics activities of laboratories, but we have also consolidated our relationship with the main strategic and operational partners, HERA Spa - a multi-utility dealing with regional public services connected to environment, energy and waste disposal. Even at the local level, the project has allowed us to achieve precise organizational arrangements and trade relations between the WEEE's Consortia ECOLIGHT and ECODOM, the social cooperatives in

charge of managing each laboratory and the Directors of the prisons involved. These results were achieved thanks to the mediation of the Emilia Romagna Region and of the Agencies for vocational training.

From the very beginning the objectives identified were:

- Identifying solutions and effective ways to promote and increase social inclusion and employment, training and skills acquisition, re-entry into legality and the emancipation from social disadvantage of detained women and men;
- Promoting recycling and other forms of WEEE recovery with a view to reducing the environmental impact in their management, and the achievement of the objectives set by the European Union and Italy with Legislative Decree no. 151/2005.

Actors involved in the Project “WEEE in Prison”

Social Cooperatives

Social Cooperatives deal with: acquiring the necessary permissions to start and carry on the activity of WEEE treatment and to organize and manage the production units; taking part to the selection of workers or prisoners under probation or parole , collaborating and sharing their ideas with Prison Directions and Training Agencies; managing the working groups and monitoring their level of productivity; hiring and remunerating workers; entering into trade agreements with WEEE consortia; supporting the reintegration of workers in the local area once they have served their sentence trying to foster their transition into local enterprises; cooperating with partners engaged in institutional activities on the field, participating in both the Regional Monitoring Committee and the Technical Group.



Vocational Training Agencies

Vocational Training Agencies have to: facilitate the coordination and the internal connection between the partnership's members during the sessions of the Regional Monitoring Committee and of the Technical Group; support the planning and organization

of work placement activities in connection with Prisons Management and the social cooperatives involved; carry out training activities and internships for the acquisition of skills (both professional and transversal skills) by detained workers; promote mentoring relations within the group of workers during the production activity; cooperate in the transition and reintegration of detained workers into local enterprises; support the enhancement and the public visibility of enterprises committed to promote "Social Responsibility"; provide computer stations and the necessary support in managing the website.



Institutions

Institutions: support the project's development finding the necessary resources; facilitate the institutional and organizational connection between Prisons' Management; support the continuity of the production activities dealt with by social cooperatives; foster the continuity of the initiative and of inclusion pathways through mediation and monitoring of working relations and employment contracts; enhance and promote the Project with a focus on "Social Responsibility"; try to involve territorial profit system in the Project; provide technical assistance; take part in the sessions of the Regional Monitoring Committee; In particular, Hera spa also: fosters the supply of orders through the promotion and management of contracts with the most direct trading partners (particularly the Consortia of WEEE manufacturers); take part in the Technical Group.



WEEE Consortia

These Consortia deal with the delivery and collection of WEEE using their own means to transport them to recovery and waste disposal plants; enter into commercial agreements with social cooperatives and provide them with an adequate remuneration (in euro/per ton and/or per hour); provide laboratories with the adequate waste tonnage; provide technical assistance and cooperate in production monitoring processes; take part in the activities of the Regional Monitoring Committee and of the Technical Group, if necessary.



System partners

In order to enhance the sustainability and development of labs, they support the partnership in the promotion of innovative and experimental projects both in the environmental and artistic-cultural field; at the same time, they help to publicize the efforts of the project with a view to promoting "Social Responsibility within the community."



Waste collection data

To see the monthly collection rates of each laboratory, please go to:

[Bologna](#)

[Ferrara](#)

[Forlì](#)

Contacts

If you wish to have more information about the project and/or our activities, send proposals and suggestions or work with us, please contact:

- Barbara Bovelacci, Coordinator of the Project “WEEE in Prison”: coordinamento@raeeincarcere.org
- Paolo D’Acunti, Coordinator of website communication activities linked to the Project “WEEE in Prison”: comunicazione@raeeincarcere.org