

# Social Approach Ausserfern

## Chapter: Inclusion

### Preamble

The Ausserfern region wants to develop into a model region of inclusion based on the idea of widening participation.

Inclusion is a fundamental human rights issue, an attitude which relies on the belief that all human beings have equal rights and must to be respected and appreciated.

Inclusion is a continuous process which aims to promote free accessibility in all areas of life, and to enable individuals to participate fully, on an equal level and with self-determination in all aspects of social life.

It is therefore essential to

- create inclusive cultures
- produce inclusive policies
- evolve inclusive practices

*Source: Tony Booth, Mel Ainscow: Index for Inclusion*

Inclusion concerns everybody, regardless of ethnic or economic background, severity of impairment, or social status. Inclusion is about all of us. Inclusion guarantees full civil rights, promotes self determination and looks for increasing forms of support and participation.

### Goals and guidelines for action

We want to achieve this by ...

- Creating inclusive cultures. We are willing to engage with one another, to communicate with one another, to meet individual requirements, and to widen the possibilities of participation for all
- Diversity is a crucial characteristic of the human society. The experience of diversity is an enriching and crucial one, and it demands the removal of architectural and attitudinal barriers
- Creating networks and partnerships to develop a region which could be used as an exemplar of inclusion and for those regions which are willing to commit themselves to the development of inclusion
- Raising the awareness of policy makers and institutions regarding the principles of inclusion and related action strategies
- Making self-assessment instruments, quality indicators and related materials available for decision makers and public institutions
- Checking what facilities are available in the organisations supporting the development of inclusion in all aspects of social life. Particularly in the following sectors
  - o Education
  - o Occupation / Employment
  - o Recreational activities
  - o Relationships, partnership, family life
  - o Public life
  - o Physical and mental health
  - o Political representation
- Providing in-service training courses and other professional qualifications
- Ensuring that the process towards inclusion is provided with permanent support systems
- Impacting upon decision makers at all political levels to produce policies and pass anti-discrimination legislation