

# Preventing Exclusion from the Labour Market when Budgets are Low

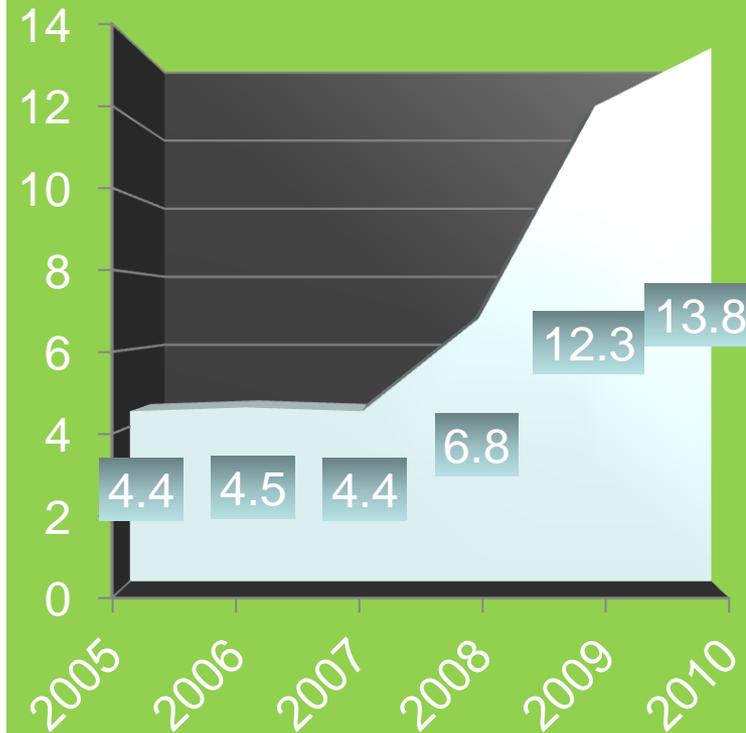
OECD LEED Forum  
Thursday 10 March 2011  
Vienna, Austria

**Denis Leamy, CEO,  
Pobal, Ireland**

# Employment in Disadvantaged Communities

- In Ireland, residents of disadvantaged communities were the last to enter employment during the boom
- First to face unemployment during the onset of crisis
- Individual/Geographic/  
Inter-generational Impact on whole communities

Irish Unemployment Figures 2005 -2010





# Service Restrictions

- Unemployed individuals are also those most likely to use publicly-funded training and employment services
- Internationally, these services are under two types of pressure:
  - Budget restrictions
  - Demands from much larger sets of people – many of whom can be placed back into employment with less effort than needed with the more marginalised.



# What is Needed to Address This?

- Clarity on the long-term value to communities of maintaining employment and training services to the socially excluded;
- Policy commitment to the appropriate protection of key services, within existing budgets, to the marginalised;
- Good use of data to assist in efficient resource targeting and service delivery;
- Appropriate cross-agency planning and implementation to meet complex needs.

## Example – National Service Prioritisation

- During the implementation of cuts during an earlier period of Irish Government budget reductions, key social employment schemes were effected but steps taken which:
  - Protected the most disadvantaged geographic areas from major cuts – which meant cutting more in richer areas;
  - Took advice from local groups on which projects should be protected;
- This allowed them make the full cuts required while still retaining their social inclusion impact

# Complexity of Individual Needs

Long-term unemployed people often display a range of complex needs, which can vary considerably

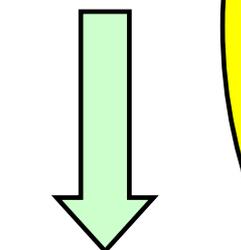
- Educational, training, childcare, addiction, transport, housing can all be issues
- No single agency is equipped to deal with all of these issues
- What is needed is a mechanism to define and offer access to the individualised set of supports a person needs
- These supports will change over the life time of the individual's needs early supports coming from community/state sectors, moving into employment supports late in the cycle



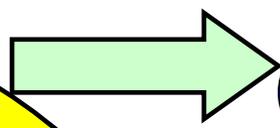
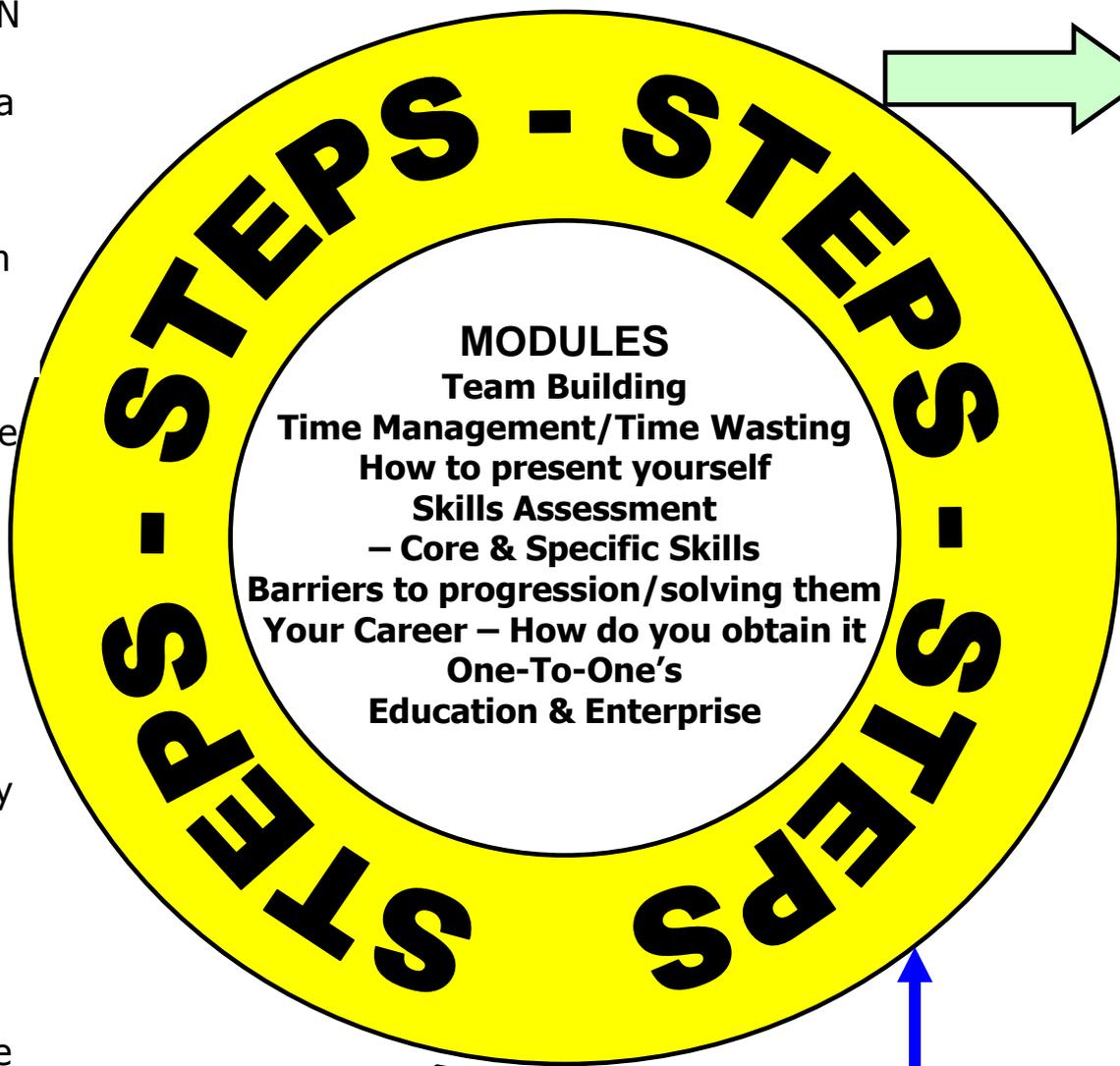
# Northside Partnership - Your Future Your Choice

**Job Seeker**  
Registers with the LESN and is assigned to a Mediator

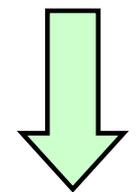
Career direction can be difficult and a confusing choice for the Job Seeker



Mediator May Refer Job Seeker to Your Future Your Choice Programme to help in the process of career choice



**CONCEPT!**

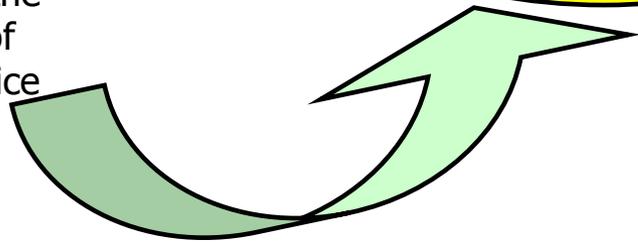


**LESN Mediator**  
Job Seeker works with Employment Mediator to develop a career path aimed at where they see themselves in the labour market

This Career Path may contain elements of Education & Skills Training

Leading to Employment And aftercare where needed

The STEPS Process is woven into the fabric of this Programme





# Conclusion

- The service needs of the socially excluded are higher than ever
- Service closures and the need to meet the demands of the newly unemployed can lead, if unchecked, to a major re-balancing of services away from the socially excluded
- This process must be understood and counteracted
- This can be through practical, national and local actions to protect priority services
- The services that are needed are not simple or stand – alone and therefore service co-ordination is vital