

# FUTURE-PROOFING ADULT LEARNING IN CITIES



## DONEGAL, Ireland

### Training and Confidence Building for Women

#### Key facts

In Donegal, Ireland, the Women's Integration Skills and Employment (WISE) project was implemented to provide a range of free services to support women (re)entering the labour market.

#### Timeframe and funding

The project was implemented in the Donegal county of Ireland, from May 2017 to April 2020. The project was co-funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Department of Justice and Equality in Ireland.

#### City population

2,607

#### Governing body

#### Link

[WISE – Giving women in Donegal, Ireland, the skills and confidence to return to the labour market-Projects - Regional Policy - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

#### Main objectives

The key objective of the programme was:

- To help women who are furthest from the labour market regain employment, undertake training or become self-employed.

## Content and mode of delivery



As part of the WISE project, all participants were assigned a dedicated personal employment advisor free of charge. These advisors supported the women in practical areas such as writing effective CVs, improving their interview skills and understanding employment contracts. The advisors also guided the women on accessing suitable training programmes and educational opportunities, and on becoming self-employed.

Furthermore, the WISE team motivated and built confidence in the women as some faced anxiety regarding the labour market. In addition to personal services, WISE assessed the abilities and interests of clients and subsequently screened positions with local employers to find a match between job opportunities and the clients' profiles. The team also supported clients for up to 6 months after they were employed and assisted these women in getting public funding related to issues such as training and childcare support.

Over 280 women accessed WISE services; at least 70 of them found jobs, 8 of them became self-employed and 60 of them applied for self-accredited training courses. Prior to joining the project, many of these women had no work experience and insufficient education to find a job. The project helped women who were unemployed and felt inadequate to return to work and earn a living.

### Contact us:

[Tilde.Ussing@oecd.org](mailto:Tilde.Ussing@oecd.org)

Directorate for Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

### Follow us:

