

Social Inclusion Pillar



Introduction

The National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007 – 2016 (NAP inclusion) represents a wide-ranging and comprehensive programme of action to address social exclusion. It sets out a coherent and comprehensive approach for a ten year period that coincides with the timescale of Towards 2016 Partnership Agreement.

The NAP Inclusion uses a lifecycle approach, as set out by National Economic and Social Council (NESC) in its report, The Developmental Welfare State. This approach was adopted by the national partnership agreement “Towards 2016” as a means to tackling the problems people face at different stages of their lives and is also reflected in the social inclusion elements of the new National Development Plan. The lifecycle approach places the individual at the centre of policy development and delivery and offers a framework for implementing a streamlined, cross-cutting and visible approach to tackling poverty and social exclusion.

In developing criteria for the Social Inclusion Pillar of the Kilkenny Public Participation Network it is useful to apply these ***lifecycle thematic headings*** in the self-selecting of local groups working in Kilkenny.

The National Anti-poverty Plan 2007-2016 lifecycle stages

- Children;
- People of working age
- Older people
- People with disabilities

In addition, the NAP inclusion contains a chapter on communities which targets those who experience:

1. Educational Disadvantage
2. Unemployment
3. Income Adequacy
4. Disadvantaged Urban Dwellers
5. Disadvantaged Rural Dwellers
6. Housing/Accommodation issues
7. Health; mental health issues

Cross-Cutting Themes are also identified as:

- Child Poverty
- Women's Poverty
- Older People
- Ethnic Minorities including Travellers
- People with Disabilities

Eligibility Criteria for membership of the Social Inclusion Pillar

1. The primary objectives and activities must focus on poverty reduction, community development, equality and social justice issues
2. The organisation must be a not for profit group
3. The organisation must be formally organised with at least a constitution bank account or credit union account
4. The organisation must have activities in line with a social inclusion approach to community building and have those who experience poverty and social exclusion on its management /organisational structure
5. The organisational structure of the member groups must not have representatives **appointed** by any government department, semi-state body or local authority; but this does not prevent any person sitting on the board in a personal capacity

Suggested list of eligible local groups for membership of the Social Inclusion Pillar

- Disability groups
- Traveller groups
- Ethnic minority groups
- Women's Groups

- Family Support group (FRC's)
- Literacy groups
- Older peoples groups
- Social justice groups
- Groups promoting equality
- LGBT Groups
- Youth service and groups
- Children services and support groups
- Groups supporting engagement and participation on inclusive activity, sports, arts, men's sheds etc...
- Mental health / suicide prevention groups
- Drug and alcohol support. Information groups
- Advocacy and information groups
- Community Development groups
- Rural isolation and disadvantage groups
- Urban disadvantage groups