

**Sustainable employability pathways
for people experiencing homelessness
myth or reality?**

***The pros & cons of job creation
through social cooperatives***


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Confronting homelessness in the EU:
Seeking out the next generation of best practices
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(A) The cooperative model:
↳ historical principles & modern key-concepts

(b) The Italian model from the inside:
↳ how it works from insertion to recruitment

(c) Overall evaluation between pros & cons



rules	principles	Historical heritage
voluntary subscription	Capital variability	Statement of Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers (1844)
Direct election of management	Democratic control	
Proportional share of benefits	equity	
Absent/low interest in deposits	Practical character of capitals	
Political & religious neutrality	equality	
Development mutual opportunities	solidarity	
Collaboration with social bodies	OMC	International cooperative meeting Vienna (1966)
Recognition social needs	Social responsibility	
Focus on social needs, not on gain	solidarity	
Mutual help & assistance	mutuality	
Transparent funds management	Equity & transparency	
decision process based on consensus	Democratic control	
empower workers labour rights	Rights-based approach	

MEANINGFUL modern CONCEPTS

ORIENTATION

design life projects & paths of awareness on self capacities & attitudes at existential, social & working level

EDUCATION

individual receives tailored programme to develop personal skills & competences

EXPERIENCE

adequate practical skills through supported stages, assistantships & internships

MOTIVATION

most vulnerables contribute to develop collectivity & self realization at their "most"

RESPONSIBILITY

roles & commitments as workers without discounts nor discriminations

BENEFICIARIES

wider definition of "disadvantaged groups" under the evolution of social necessities

MEANINGFUL modern CONCEPTS (2)

SOCIAL
ECONOMY

activity in every market under private national standards in contracting procedures

DIFFERENT
ACTIONS

focus on insertion into work having the productive activities as instrumental

DIFFERENT
WORKS

significant % of disadvantaged workers within a productive framework which is still market economically-sustainable

CLEAR
MULTILEVELED
PATHS TOWARD
AUTONOMY

economical self maintenance forces cooperative to adopt national standards & obligations in contracting procedures

disadvantaged workers becomes full members, with full democratic control, receive eventual assets, where eligible & allowed

TYPE A

provides social, health & educational services

TYPE B

provides employment opportunities to disadvantaged groups

IT LEGAL FRAMEWORK for SOCIAL COOPERATIVES

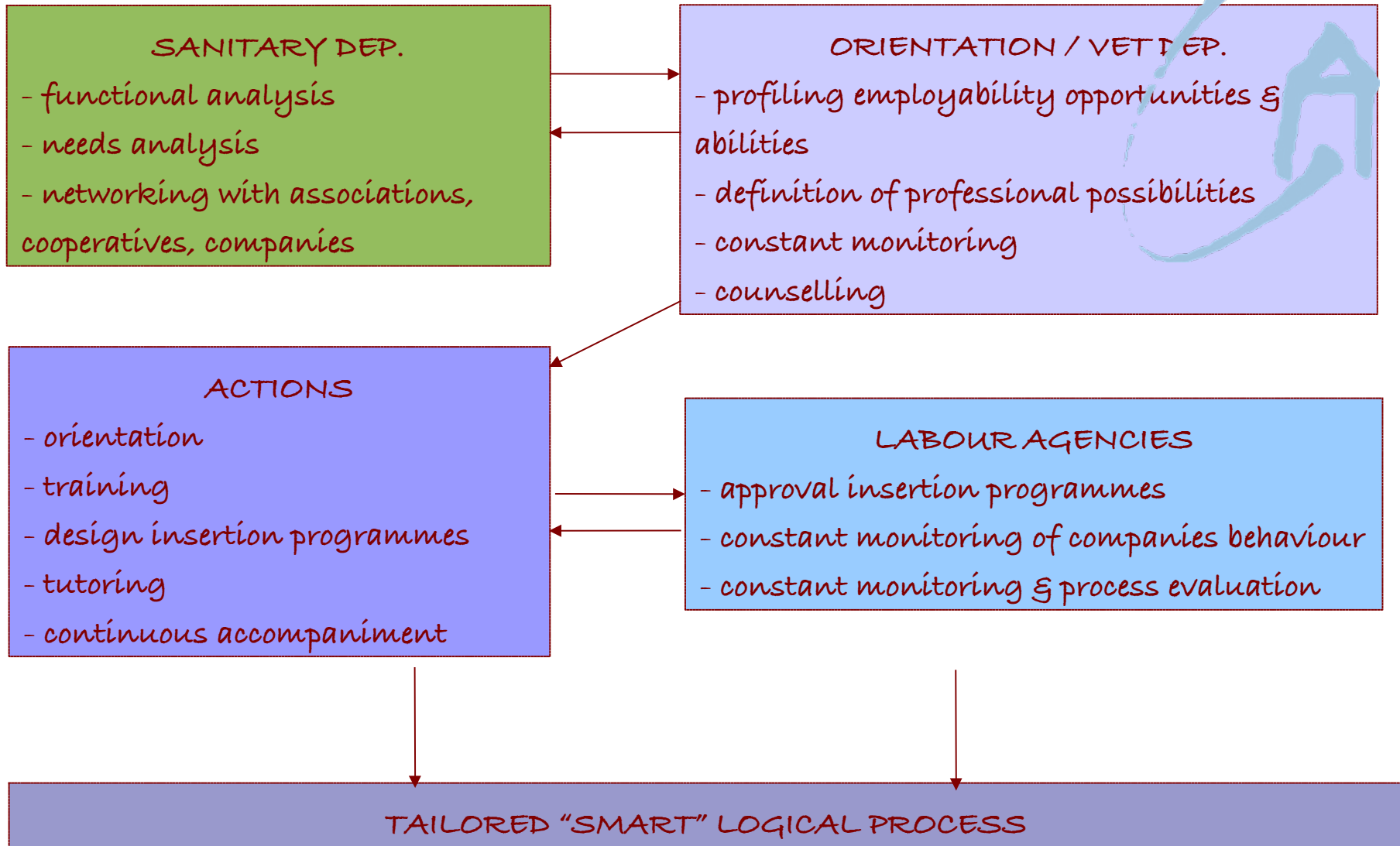
MIXED TYPE

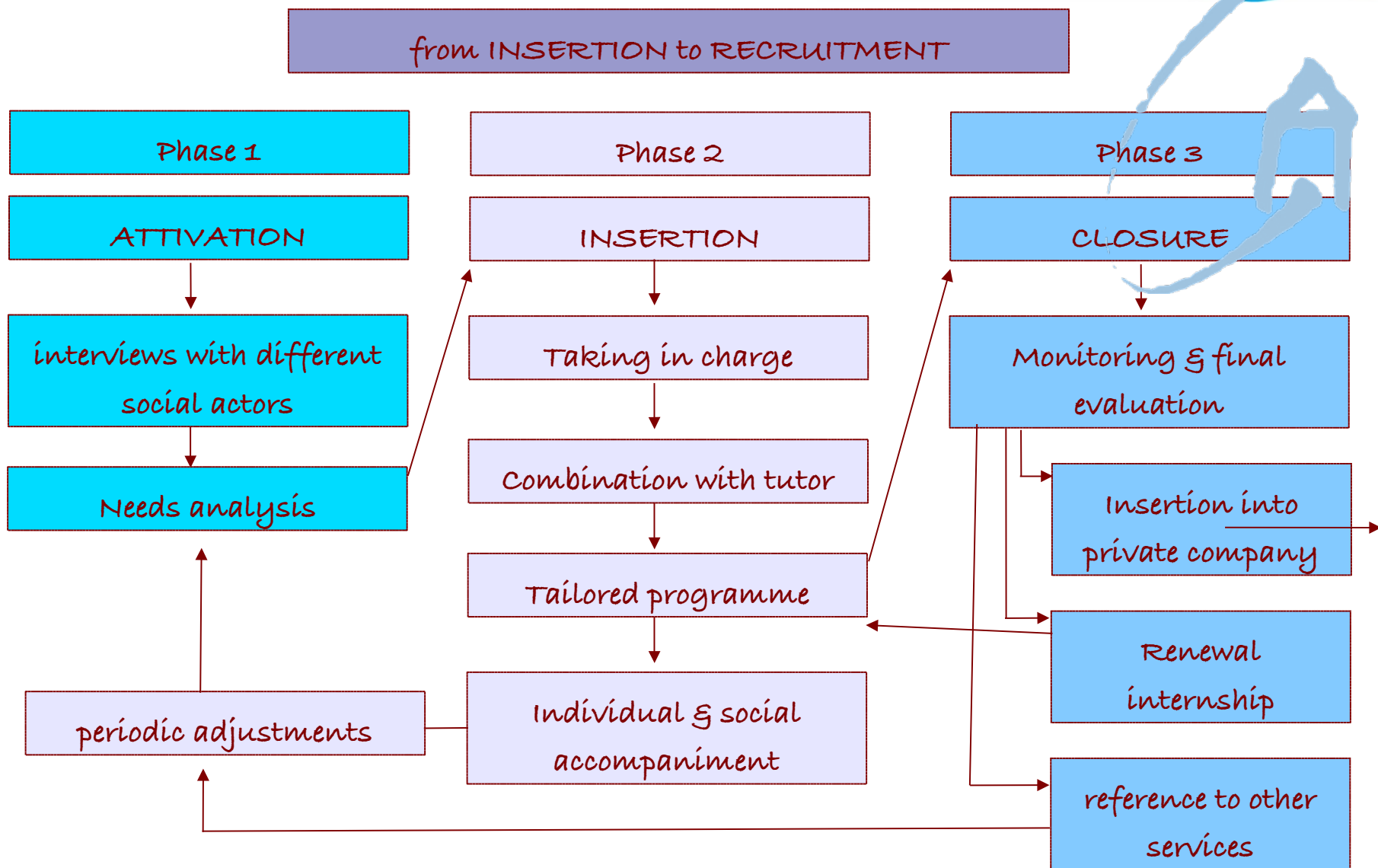
provides a mix of the above

CONSORTIA

2nd level organisation where partners are cooperatives
70% minimum

for more in-deep-info on cooperative model & social economy, please refer to this link:
[State of the art: a brief introduction to social economy in Italy](#)





PROS

CONS



integration between different sectors within the social economy market

1
flexibility issue

need of long-term policy for economic sustainability

Closeness to the problems, increment in term of prevention & quality-of-life, efficiency of social economy

2
mgmt issue

lack of project-cycle management skills, overhead SMART evaluation, degree of efficiency in social enterprises

straight support from the political & functional level to lower SSQI' costs

3
political issue

variety of political driven perspectives from time to time

defined rules within a framework strategy agreed with local GOVS

4
framework issue

ambiguity, dependancy & patronise system

Local networking, advocacy, continuity of action & community-based support

5
fragmentation issue

Risk of "self-ism" & power games, coherent use of disposable resources, skills & tools



PROS

CONS

Flexible contracting solutions & costs efficacy

6
economical issue

cost-effectiveness push contracting solutions close to poverty threshold

Confusion between ethics, morality, economy, frugality & philanthropy

direct decision process based on one-2-one vote

7
democracy issue

Possibility to scape the national contracting standards

Mutual support & improvement of the culture of process management

8
OMC issue

well-functioning governance model between public & private sector

Creation of community-based process within a right-based approach

9
proactive issue

Lack of independent evaluation, audit authorities & on-going supervision

Possibility to grow, develop consortia with effective mainstreaming effect

10
size issue

massive scale of problems fronted by tiny organisations

fair is far better than most (measures do not guarantee the proper way to do things)



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