



Equality Summit 2012
**Panel session on Employment & Social
Inclusion**

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1. General remarks on startingpoint

- Integration/social inclusion major challenge
- Extent and nature of inequalities varies from country to country
- Practical solutions at national level and in companies
- Primarily look at (potential) capacity of individuals



2. General remarks on economy and employment

- Europe at crisis; growth-enhancing measures necessary
- Employment the best way to avoid poverty and social exclusion.
- Challenge for EU member states:
 - improve public finances
 - restructure labour market
 - reform benefit and tax systems



General remarks on economy and employment (2)

- Increasing spending on benefits not a sustainable option
- For social protection: from dependency on passive social protection benefits to active labour market inclusion
- Improve access to the labourmarket :
 - increase level of education/training
 - battle education drop out



3. Framework Agreement social partners

- Framework agreement European social partners on inclusive labour markets (ILM) in March 2010.
- ILM: improve employment prospects of disadvantaged people; in line with the Commission's EU2020 objective
- Principal objective: increase awareness and understanding of all actors
- ILM advocates concrete measures that facilitate access, return, retention and development on labour markets



4. The implementation of the framework agreement in the Netherlands

- Implementation of FA in the Netherlands; overview by The Labour Foundation
- Policy agenda 2020 on participation and employability
- Agreement social partners with the government to combat low literacy
- Activity on the decentral level: provisions regarding disabled young people