

Association Disabled for the Environment EKON

*...social economy and
environment protection*

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www.ekon.org.pl



Association Disabled for the Environment EKON

- ❑ *founded in 2003*
- ❑ *one of the first and leading social enterprise in Poland*
- ❑ *operates in 16 places in Poland*
- ❑ *created over 900 stable workplaces*
- ❑ *social advantages of EKON's operating were assessed in 2007 at 2.1 million euro per year*
- ❑ *is a member of Workability International*
- ❑ *was awarded by PFRON, WFOŚiGW, MPiPS*
- ❑ *acquired the CERTIFICATE of Quality Management System PN-EN ISO 9001:2001*
- ❑ *since 1 of April 2008, as one of the first NGO in Poland, is sheltered workshop*



Association Disabled for the Environment EKON

- ❑ *focuses on:*
 - ❑ *environment protection (waste management, ecological education)*
 - ❑ *professional rehabilitation of people with disabilities, especially with mental impairments*



Professional rehabilitation of people with disabilities

- Poland has over 38 millions of inhabitants of which 4.5 million are people with legal disability constitute
- 17.8% people with disability are professionally active
- barriers to professional activity:
 - fear of loosing social benefits
 - unwillingness of their family
 - inadequate qualifications
 - low motivation to work
 - lack of information about employment possibilities
 - unwillingness to hire people with disabilities
 - low of knowledge about benefits concerning employing people with disabilities



Aim of EKON Association in the field of professional rehabilitation of people with disabilities

- ❑ Development of supported employment of people with disabilities in Poland
- ❑ Supported employment is a process, which consists of:
 - ❑ pull out disable person from inactivity
 - ❑ preparing him/her to work
 - ❑ placing disabled person on the labour market



Aim of EKON Association in the field of professional rehabilitation of people with disabilities

- ❑ Main role is played by AZW, who is a person that takes care of disable person from the very first moment of their entering supported employment process until their are independant in the workplace.
- ❑ AZW main tasks:
 - ❑ identifying the needs of unemployed disabled person
 - ❑ provide adequate trainings
 - ❑ finding suitable workplaces
 - ❑ supporting employed disabled person
 - ❑ meetings with employers – encouraging them to hire disabled persons



Thank you for your attention

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