

## **Challenges and Dilemmas Faced by Labour Market Integration to Support Providers in Portugal**

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This research delves into the challenges and dilemmas faced by both professionals and people in vulnerable situations in the process of social and professional integration. This research adopts a qualitative approach to investigate the social and professional integration of vulnerable individuals within the context of social economy organizations in Portugal. Grounded in a theoretical framework that underscores the persistent rates of labour exclusion among specific social groups and the fragmented social policies in Portugal, the study aims to understand the structural framework and practices in this field.

The study employs nine in-depth case studies within Portuguese Social Economy Organizations a multifaceted methodological design. The findings illuminate the complex challenges faced by professionals supporting vulnerable individuals, including the non-linearity and multifaceted nature of the integration process, resource inadequacies, the need for specialized training and guidance, and a labour market unaligned with the needs and abilities of the clients. The study underscores the necessity for a more holistic, supportive, and inclusive approach to address the intricate dynamics of social and professional integration for vulnerable populations.