

First Steps 4 employability

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According to the EU Employment and Social Situation - Quarterly Review - June 2014 (30/06/2014) the labor market situation remains very difficult for young people under 25, with an unemployment rate of 22.5% in April 2014, while employment growth has so far primarily benefited older workers (55-64). Young people are also the hardest hit by underemployment and feel discouraged to look for work.

To support the transition from school to work, the Commission has proposed Country Specific Recommendations to Member States on improving public employment services, education and training, boosting apprenticeships, and urgently implementing the Youth Guarantee which is a new approach to tackling youth unemployment. What we and our partners notes is the fact that in many cases even if the youngsters get a job they quit after a while because they don't like what they are doing and if you ask them what they want to do they tell you that they want a job but they don't know what kind of job. After we had a consultation with our partners we conclude that we have to approach the problem of youth employment from two sides at the same time like two complementary activities:

The institutional side: To improve the experience and knowledge of the youth workers, social workers and other types of staff which work with youngsters in the employment and career guidance sector.

The beneficiary: to give the opportunity to the youngsters to experience and discover what mean to have a certain career to help them decide which it's the right way for them from an early stage for the young ones (14-19 years old) and at the same time to help them face an interview and help them to present their competencies in the best possible way for the older ones (20-30 years old)

The main objective we want to address with this project is the youth unemployment. The general objectives are:

- To develop the cooperation between 10 youth NGO's from 10 countries,
- To understand better the situation of youth unemployment in Europe,
- To develop the cooperation and youth participation to fight unemployment between youngsters,
- To promote non-formal education and practical life learning for 150 young people,
- To promote tolerance and understanding between 150 youngsters.

We address the following issues:

- Lack of information of the youth workers and social workers which give counseling or advice youngsters to get a job or choose a career about the European employment policies, about Eures, the youth guarantee and about different non-formal methods which can be used,
- The fact that a big majority of the high school students are choosing the new step in life, university study, without knowing what job they will do or what mean to have a certain job,
- The fact that a lot of youngsters which already graduated university or which are studying and want to get a job don't know how to present themselves to an interview or how to make a CV or a motivation letter.