Project title: Find your way to the world of work

WHY: Young people need education and skills to be able to get a job. Some young people have difficulties in getting a good education because they are poor, or they experience discrimination in school or with employers because they belong to a minority group. Poverty and discrimination often lead to problems with low self-esteem and motivation. Employers need to change their attitudes towards these young people.

WHAT: The project partners will learn from each other how to improve the chances of disadvantaged youth to get an education and a job. The aim is to increase the skills of participants through various personal services. Employers will be assisted to strengthen their motivation to hire a more diverse workforce.

Target groups:
- 15-29 years old disadvantaged youth, with completed primary education
- Roma
- Employers who want to diversify their workforce
- Schools that will introduce new pedagogical tools and attitudes towards disadvantaged and Roma youth.

The €60 million EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment supports transnational project initiatives that promote sustainable and quality youth employment in Europe. The focus on transnational cooperation reflects the view that unemployment among youth is a common European challenge and common European solutions should therefore be explored.

The fund seeks to complement existing EU funding on youth employment initiatives, e.g. the long-term unemployed in the age group 25-29.

The selected projects aim to:
- Make it easier for 25,000 young people to find a job
- Create 3500 jobs in NGOs and social enterprises
- Help 1800 young people start up their own business

The 27 selected projects involve partners from all the 15 beneficiary countries of the EEA and Norway Grants as well as Ireland, Italy and Spain – all countries with high youth unemployment. The projects also include expertise partners from the donor countries Iceland and Norway as well as two international organisations and other EU member states.

www.eeagrants.org/youthemployment

ABOUT THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

The EEA and Norway Grants represent the contribution of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to reducing economic and social disparities and to strengthening bilateral relations with 15 EU countries in Central and Southern Europe and the Baltics. For the period 2014-2021, the total contribution is €2.8 billion (EEA Grants €1.5 billion and Norway Grants €1.3 billion).

Under the EEA Agreement, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are part of the European internal market. The EEA Agreement sets out the common goal of working together to reduce social and economic disparities.

Country | Project partner status | Institution | Type of institution | City
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Hungary | Lead partner | Autonomia Foundation | NGO | Budapest
Bulgaria | Beneficiary partner | Trust for Social Achievement Foundation | NGO | Sofia
Bulgaria | Beneficiary partner | Arete Youth Foundation | NGO | Sofia
Romania | Beneficiary partner | Association ‘Caritas-Social Assistance’ Branch of Caritas Alba Iulia Organisation | NGO | Târgu Mureș
Spain | Beneficiary partner | Foundation Secretaria do Gitano | NGO | Madrid