Project title: Labour market Employment for young Adults with a Disability – LEAD

WHY: Young adults with disabilities are a vulnerable group in many countries in Europe. Often, schools do not accommodate their needs, and many end up unemployed and in poverty, or dependent on their family. It is necessary to address the specific needs of young adults with a disability and make sure they are not discriminated against in education or employment.

WHAT: The project partners will transfer know-how and best practice on employment initiatives for young adults with a disability across European countries. They will develop and improve the framework of knowledge and actively promote successful measures for young adults with a disability to increase their access to the open labour market. A guide on best practice in employing young adults with a disability will be developed, as well as national networks. By involving the young adults in supported employment programmes, volunteering, educational activities and organising meetings between the participants and employers, they will be able to develop their personal and professional skills to get suitable jobs. By training employers and specialists in employment, they will be able to better understand the needs of the disabled. By elaborating and delivering a training package for family members of young adults with a disability, they will be able to better support the young adults’ efforts to access the open labour market.

Target groups:
• Young adults with a disability, age 15-29, and their family members
• Employers, specialists, public and private organisations involved in delivery of employment services

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 3,500 jobs in NGOs and social enterprises
• Help 1,800 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.

About the project

Country | Project partner status | Institution | Type of institution | City
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Romania | Lead partner | Health Action Overseas Foundation | NGO | Bucharest
Bulgaria | Beneficiary partner | ZGURA-M LTD. | Private | Plovdiv
Cyprus | Beneficiary partner | G.M EuroCy Innovations Ltd | Private | Nicosia
Portugal | Beneficiary partner | Consultis – Business Consulting Ltd. | Private | Vila Nova de Gaia
United Kingdom | Expertise partner | Status Employment | NGO | Croydon

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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.