WHY: Despite the numerous initiatives targeting unemployment among youth we still have little knowledge about what works and why it works. Many educational institutions and public employment services continue to offer courses and systems that are not based on research or evidence. There is a need to increase the number of studies on such initiatives, increase the capacity of research institutions to perform such studies, and share the information available.

WHAT: The project partners will build a transnational research network and support NGOs, public and private institutions that carry out initiatives on youth employment and entrepreneurship, to increase their capacity to do impact studies. The results of the project will be knowledge of the effects of employment initiatives targeting young people, increased capacity of research institutions to evaluate the effects of such employment initiatives, and increased transnational cooperation on labour market issues.

Target groups:
- NGOs, public and private institutions that carry out youth employment and entrepreneurship support actions towards 25-29 year olds
- Organisations devoted to or interested in impact studies

ABOUT THE FUND

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 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).