

Personalized Support in Project Learning for Young Adults (PLYA)



Slovenian Institute of Adult Education



1999 – ongoing

Objective: To help young adults (15 – 29) who have dropped out of school or face significant personal challenges to resume education, build life skills, and enhance employability through personalized and holistic support program.

Target group: young adults (15 – 29) facing barriers such as unemployment, social issues (e.g., poverty, family problems), mental health challenges, and risk of educational dropout.

Key components of the practice:

1. **Individual learning plans:** tailored goals for education and personal development.
2. **Project work:** group projects that build practical skills and are shared with the community.
3. **Interest-based activities:** workshops in areas like cooking, music, and tech.
4. **Production work:** experience in various professions through hands-on projects.

Key outcomes:

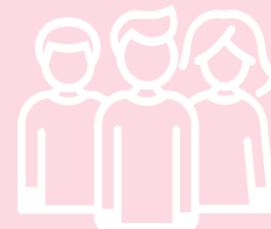
- Skills developed: social skills, self-awareness, empowerment, and resilience.
- Holistic approach: combines educational, social, and career-focused support in a safe, inclusive environment.

Evidence of success: The results of the PLYA program from the Final report (2016–2023):

- 3067 participants (15–26 years).
- Employment rate: 9.7%.
- Enrolment in education: 11.2%.

A 2021 internal evaluation showed improvements in self-confidence and social integration, with 100% of participants finding the program beneficial.

[Find out more](#)



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€1.14 M EU FUNDING | MAR 2023 - MAY 2027



Hackathon @Karierjada – “Career Olympics” (part of NEKSTEP project)



Adult Education Center Koper



2023

Objective: The “Hackathon” was part of the Karierjada event, where groups of young people tried solving challenges local employers encountered in their everyday work, giving youth direct contact with local employers.

Target group: young adults (14 – 29) from less dynamic environments.

Key components of the practice:

1. We invited three local companies to share the challenges they encounter in their daily operations.
2. Participants were introduced to these real-world challenges and organized into groups to brainstorm and develop potential solutions.
3. Each group prepared a presentation detailing their solution ideas, which they then presented to the companies, explaining their approaches and insights.

Key outcomes:

- Participants were directly in active contact with local employers.
- Young people were able to test themselves in business environments.
- The winning group offered a solution for digitalising construction processes for a building company. The two other groups proposed solutions for promotional activities for the other two participating companies.

Evidence of success:

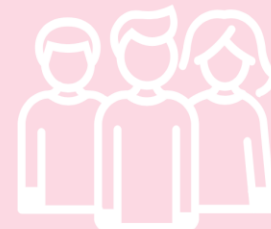
- The construction company implemented a part of the solution offered by the group and invited it to participate in the other projects.

[Find out more](#)



Regione Toscana

HRVATSKI ZAVOD
ZA ZAPOSŁJAVANJEMinistry of Labor
and Social Solidarity



Aim Learn Master Achieve - ALMA Initiative



Employment Service of Slovenia



Pilot NSM 2016 – 2022; current
ALMA ongoing

Objective: To integrate young NEETs, especially those facing social and economic challenges, into the labour market and society through a 6-month mentoring program and supervised work-related experience abroad.

Target group: long-term unemployed younger than 35.

Key components of the practice:

6-month mentoring model is divided into:

- Stage 1: preparation for mobility 2 months: **activation**.
- Stage 2: mobility in another EU country and work-related learning experience 70 days: **empowerment - I can do it**.
- Stage 3: Follow-up activities: **evaluation of mobility** for 1 -2 months and **integration**.

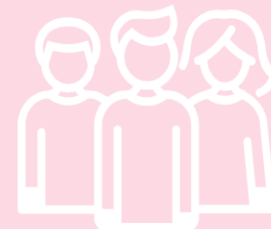
Key outcomes:

- Skill development (job specific, social, language).
- Personal growth.
- Networking opportunities.
- Connections with employers.

Evidence of success:

- Each participant gets a mentor.
- During individual mentoring sessions, a mobility plan is drafted.
- Personal and occupational skills and experiences that participants want to develop or improve during the stage of mobility are being identified.

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Project “Strengthening counselling work with young unemployed”



Employment Service of Slovenia



2016 – 2022

Objective: To improve counselling services for young people at the ESS and improve youth access to employment/career counselling services by hiring and training youth counsellors, who were expected to identify the needs of young people and tailor activities and services accordingly.

Target group: young job seekers and unemployed individuals up to age 29.

Key components of the practice:

- **Specialized youth counsellors:** assign unemployed youth to specialized youth counsellors to create personalized employment plans.
- **Counsellor skill development:** strengthen counsellors’ skills to improve the quality of service and deepen their understanding of young people’s needs.
- **Ongoing support and engagement:** schedule regular follow-ups, typically every three months, with flexibility for more frequent support.
- **Youth Guarantee referrals:** offer referrals to jobs, training programs, or workshops within the first four months.

Key outcomes:

- Ensure PES provides quality services and supports the quick activation of youth.
- Enhancing counsellor skills for working with young people.
- Developing innovative approaches to tackle youth unemployment: modern communication channels, advanced career tools, personalized services, direct contacts with employers, and partnerships with NGOs and local initiatives.

Evidence of success: Project evaluation highlighted significant measurable impacts by youth counsellors: reduced duration of youth unemployment and building trust relationships with youth, youth expressed satisfaction with counsellors.

[Find out more](#)



Mentoring Scheme in project PreseNEETi.se (Surprise yourself)



Employment Service of Slovenia



1.6. 2022 – 30. 4. 2024

Objective: The project aims to empower and include young NEETs in the labour market. It focuses on developing a comprehensive program of support services to improve education and the social environment, specifically designed to support disadvantaged groups.

Target group: young inactive NEETs not registered at the ESS.

Key components of the practice:

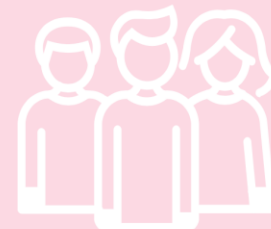
- **Current Situation Review:** Analysed the NEET population to understand their characteristics and needs. Identified and connected with NEET individuals to ensure targeted interventions
- **Empowerment and Social Activation:** Implemented programs to empower NEETs, helping them gain skills and confidence for labour market integration, education, training, or volunteer work.
- **The Mentorship Scheme** was structured into two parts:
 - **Informal mentoring** by youth workers (MSS).
 - **Formal mentoring** by Employment Service of Slovenia (ESS) counsellors.
- Trained 40 mentors to work with NEETs and paired mentors with 30 NEET individuals and initiated regular mentoring sessions.

Key outcomes:

- Mentoring Scheme Handbook: Mentor PreseNEETi is a collection of educational modules for working with NEET individuals,
- 2-tier Mentor Scheme,
- a trustful relationship between the mentor and the mentee.

Evidence of success: 30 inactive NEETS were included in the mentoring process for 2 months, and most of them went to a positive activity after the project: volunteering, registration at PES, language course, 12 employments, Mentoring Scheme Handbook: Mentor PreseNEETi, a collection of educational modules for working with NEET individuals.

[Find out more](#)



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Counselling Office



Youth Aid Centre Association



1992 - ongoing

Objective: The Counselling Office (Svetovalnica) provides a platform for young people (ages 15-30) to address issues, explore questions, and discover pathways for change. It ensures anonymity, confidentiality, and voluntary participation and is free of charge. Counselling is available in person or online.

Target group: young people between the ages of 15 and 30.

Key components of the practice: The Counselling Office is led by a trained counsellor. Individuals can reach out via phone, email, or an online form to schedule an informational session. In the first meeting, the counsellor and the counselee discuss expectations and set goals for counselling. The process focuses on techniques such as choice theory and cognitive-behavioural therapy. Counselling is tailored to individual needs and typically occurs weekly until goals are achieved. The counsellor maintains a personal support plan, and training and supervision are ongoing for counsellors.

Key outcomes: The counselling relationship is based on equality and respect. Young people feel heard, valued, and supported. The association also offers programs like assertiveness and social skills training, enabling young people to apply and reflect on their learning.

Evidence of success: Young people report improved self-confidence, problem-solving abilities, communication, and a deeper understanding of themselves and others, indicating positive changes resulting from counselling.