

PROMoting Youth Social Entrepreneurship

We are very pleased to introduce to you the PROMYSE project!

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1. What?

PROMYSE is a European-funded project with the aim to promote social entrepreneurship in the health/ social care sectors as an alternative pathway to youth self-sustainability, by a) developing the social entrepreneurship and business skills of unemployed youth with relevant educational or professional background and b) raising awareness on the benefits and added value of social enterprises to the community as a whole. The Project is funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme and will run for 24 months (September 2017 – August 2019).

2. Why?

The economic crisis, hard-felt by most EU countries, has hit young people disproportionately. The persistence of the economic crisis coupled with social inequalities have led to a deepening alienation of young people, a decline of social values and reduced belief in bottom-up social change. This impact has also created restricted access to education and training and thus fewer opportunities for personal and professional development. At the same time, the economic cost associated with caring responsibilities becomes unbearable for many families, while the full potential of the third sector in this regard has not yet been neither explored nor reached. Over the last years, the social economy sector has grown and gains momentum in EU economies, as there is growing recognition of the role of social enterprises in tackling societal and environmental challenges and fostering inclusive growth. Although social entrepreneurship increasingly gains interest among youth, there is a significant lack of awareness around social enterprise principles and on social enterprise creation. Entrepreneurial education is not yet sufficiently integrated into the education system and most of young people lack the skills as well as funding and support (e.g. business support services) necessary for entering the modern business landscape. Social entrepreneurship is expected to provide viable and sustainable alternatives to the ever widening gap between supply and demand in health and social care services for vulnerable groups (children, elderly, disabled people, etc.).

3. Who?

6 partners from 5 countries (Greece, Lithuania, Italy, UK, Belgium) were brought together to capitalize and build on each other's knowledge and expertise, as well as experience from best practices in their national context, for future circulation and transfer of know-how. The project partnership, therefore, creates an EU pool of expertise and manifold networking opportunities. While being led by a youth-led project expert, The IARS International Institute, the partners come from multiple disciplines and a range of areas of activity which will contribute to the elaboration of an innovative model for the pan-European promotion of youth social entrepreneurship.

The IARS International Institute

Diesis COOP

Family and Childcare Centre (KMOP)

www.iars.org.uk

www.diesis.coop

www.kmop.gr

Canary Wharf Consulting

Diversity Development Group

International Center for Southern Europe

www.canarywharf-consulting.com

www.diversitygroup.lt

www.icse-co.org

4. How?

The main result of PROMYSE upon its completion will be the increased capacity of young prospective social entrepreneurs (with an emphasis on those with fewer opportunities) to successfully engage in social entrepreneurship. To this end, PROMYSE will:

- Draw and build on best practices and transfer expertise from successful social entrepreneurship models identified in partners' countries
- Develop an integrated online tool (self-enabling, networking platform) and a coherent EU methodology for youth capacity building that will outlive the project and stand out as a good and transferable practice
- Highlight bottom-up approaches in addressing pressing (mostly crisis-born) needs on health and care service provision
- Improve, assess and certify the skills (social, basic and business-oriented) of youth to bridge the gap between non-formal education and labour market demands
- Promote social entrepreneurship as an alternative path for self-sustainability while at the same time addressing pressing social needs
 - Boost young beneficiaries' self-confidence

PROMYSE primary target group includes:

- youth with educational and/or professional experience in social and health care sector (emphasis on unemployed youth who have been traditionally marginalised due to their economic, social, ethnicity or other status and who have a talent/ hunger for entrepreneurial activities).
 - community and voluntary service organisations
 - social and health care centres
 - social entrepreneurs in social and health care sector

5. What's next?

Based on the assessment of findings of the needs analysis carried out by Consortium partners, the partner ISCE & Co in collaboration with the rest project the partners and the Youth Advisory Board of IARS is currently preparing the course outline and is analysing the proposed didactic modules and units, learning outcomes and objectives of the curriculum. After this phase the next step is for all partners to develop the capacity building course curriculum, under the guidance of ISCE & Co. The course will consist of theoretical material appropriate for self-learning, complemented by case studies, best practices, quizzes and assignments subjected to peer-reviewing.

Contact

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