



Technical round-tables for coordination of the Youth Guarantee at Municipal level in the Region of Murcia

Supporting institutional networking and coordination at local level

SPAIN

Title of the practice (in original language)

Mesas técnicas de Coordinación Municipal de Garantía Juvenil en la Región de Murcia

Who is/was implementing the practice?

Regional Employment and Training Services of Murcia in collaboration with the Local Authorities

Which other organisations are/were involved in the practice?

The round-tables are composed of representatives of the youth, employment and social services of the municipalities. Representatives of the Regional Administration, employment advisors as well as specialist staff dealing with youth, education and local development are also involved, along with representatives of companies and other organisations working with young people in the municipalities.

What are/were the main objectives of the practice?

- Establish a coordination network to maximise the resources available for the municipalities;
- Map the provision of services and actions implemented within the localities;
- Encourage young people to register with the Youth Guarantee;
- Assess the relevant Youth Guarantee actions which integrate the round-tables within the municipalities.

When was the practice implemented?

Since March 2015 (ongoing)

Who is/was targeted by the practice?

Youth Guarantee beneficiaries in the municipalities taking part in the round tables.

What activities are/were carried out?

In 2015, the regional PES in Murcia decided to organise round-tables with various service providers to connect and facilitate networking between them. The objective was to coordinate different administrative services to increase efficiency and to avoid redundancies in the provision of services.

A secondary objective of the roundtables was to extend the Youth Guarantee to reach people in the towns and cities represented in the round-tables, for example by organizing a small campaign or a concert for young people in that area. The round-tables also informed participants of available local resources for young people from different organisations, e.g. by increasing employment counsellors' knowledge of available jobs in their respective municipalities. In other occasions, round-tables helped decide how to implement an active policy at local level, for example deciding which courses were going to be developed in the area.

The meetings are organised every 2-3 months and attended by leaders from local authorities (e.g. local politicians). At the end of each meeting, participants agree on official recommendations to follow up and report back at the next meeting.

What are/were the sources of funding?

The practice does not require additional resources to those allocated to the day to day implementation of the municipal and regional agencies.

What are/were the outputs: people reached and products?

The initiative first began in Murcia (capital) and later extended to the whole region. Currently, 45 municipalities are represented in 14 round-tables, which are still ongoing.

What are/were the outcomes: medium-term results or effects?

- Written protocol of collaboration between the Regional Employment and Training Services and Social services to support the referral of young people at risk.
- A perceivable increase in collaboration between service providers through the practice, although the cooperation was in most cases not formalised.
- The meetings were also used to decide on some of the training offers at local level.
- Better knowledge of the characteristics of the target group at the local level, for example in terms of willingness for mobility.

What are/were the lessons learnt and success factors?

Lessons Learnt

- There is a need to ensure buy-in from the local authorities to drive the process.
- The participation of local companies helps raise awareness of the Youth Guarantee and generates employment offers.
- Ensuring and formalising the participation of young people brings added value to the discussions.

Success Factors

- Fostering active participation and ongoing commitment of local partners. There is a mixture of more formal and informal round-tables, where some only meet once or twice per year. The round-tables need to reflect the local reality.
- Focusing each meeting on limited topics has proven to be a good practice.
- Inviting only relevant actors avoids reluctance to join and decreases the chances of the meetings regarded as useless.
- More active round-tables have been organised for specific working groups, to prepare material in the lapse between meetings, assuring the continuity and monitoring of the progress of work.

What are key sources of information?

<http://www.sefcarm.es>

Arancibia, P, Corbanese, V and Rosas G, Garantía Juvenil in España: Enseñanzas extraídas-International Labour Office – Geneva: ILO, 2017

https://www.ilo.org/employment/areas/youth-employment/WCMS_580914/lang--en/index.htm