



"Outreach and activation of NEETs by use of Mobile Teams"

ACTIVATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE THAT ARE NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, OR TRAINING (NEET) BY VISITING THEM WITH MOBILE TEAMS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO REGISTER WITH THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (PES) AND BENEFIT OF PERSONALISED EMPLOYMENT SERVICES.

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ROMANIA

Given that contacting hard-to-reach NEETs can be challenging, the project aimed to gather relevant information to identify who NEETs are, where they are and their needs. Mobile Teams visit the communities where young NEETs live and organise face-to-face meetings with them in order to inform them about support provided by PES (benefits and services), encourage them to use profiling, vocational information, second chance programmes, and counselling services and to register with the PES database.

Name of the PES

National Employment Agency (NAE)

When was the practice implemented? (including start and end date for The Mobile Teams started to form once the experts were hired. Their employment was possible starting from September 2018. The project was finalised on 25.03.2022.

What was the driver for introducing the practice? Was it internal or The nationwide project INTESPO (Registration of Young People in the Public Employment Service Records), revealed that a considerable group of young NEETs do not visit their PES for a variety of reasons. Thus, a low registration rate by young people in the PES led to the decision that the PES had to find alternative ways to contact young NEETs in a more direct way. In this context, Mobile Teams have proved to be a successful approach for reaching out effectively to NEETs in the country.

Which organisation was involved in its implementation?

The NAE's Head Office, county and local offices, municipalities, educational institutions (schools, VET centres etc.), NGOs and social workers hired outside the organisational chart by the Ministry of Labour.

Which groups were tar-geted by the practice?

The target group were young people aged 16-24 that are not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and that are not yet registered with the PES, especially young NEETs who are further away from the labour market, with low level of skills and/or with difficulties in terms of social integration.

What were the practice's main

In the scope of the national policy measure which aims to register all young NEETs in Romania, the INTESPO project had the task of identifying at least 200 000 inactive young NEETs from the target group and to obtain the agreement of at least 160 000 young people to be registered within the PES database and be provided with services.

What activities were carried out?

Both Mobile Teams and (stable) Support Points were set up within the INTESPO project, which together form the necessary infrastructure to effectively contact young NEETs.

The Support Points are teams located at the county/local PES offices which support the implementation of the project, facilitating the link between young NEETs and employment experts, i. e. Mobile Teams. The Support Points were built around a core of employment experts (from county or local level), a social worker (county or local level) and a representative from the field of education (school counsellor or school mediator).

The Mobile Teams, which were set up with the help of the Support Points and network partners (such as City Halls, local authorities, schools, churches etc.) are the core for implementing project activities and are located at county level within the PES.

With the support of the Support Points and the network partners, the Mobile Teams ensure a unified and coordinated approach to the target group all over Romania. Each local Mobile Team consisted of seven PES experts (two internal and five external), one social worker and one school counsellor. The social workers of the Mobile Teams liaise with social workers in municipal areas and support them in managing cases of young NEETs who need assistance.

What resources and other relevant organisational aspects were involved?

Staff from NAE and its partners were involved in planning, organising and implementing the Mobile Teams.

What were the source(s) of funding?

European Social Fund (ESF) and national co-funding.

What were the outputs of the practice: people reached and products?

By the end of the project, 207 405 young NEETs were identified. Of these, 190 135 young people were registered in the NAE database.

After registration, they benefited from specific services including job matching, information and counselling, training courses, employment bonuses and incentives.

What outcomes have been identified? The main purpose was to identify and register the young NEETs.

Among the reasons for exiting the target group are the following: getting a job, participating in vocational training courses, entering the "second chance" programme, continuing studies, etc.

What are the lessons learnt and success factors? Through the Support Points, a functional link between the social assistance system (run at local level) and the PES services has been achieved, which is a working method taken from international good practices and which has produced visible and sustainable results for labour force activation.



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