

PROPOSAL FOR A TRANSNATIONAL YOUTH IN ACTION SEMINAR

Context

Young people are one of the most vulnerable groups affected by the present economic crisis context. At European scale, youth unemployment doubles the unemployment for the total population along last decade, although there are important differences among countries. Spain is one of the most affected countries in this sense.

This issue is particularly important in rural areas as they are usually characterized by a lower economic activity. The economic crisis taking in conjunction to other cultural and structural causes drives to a progressive depopulation in European rural areas, especially of young people which migrates to urban and peri-urban areas looking for better job opportunities.

The impacts of the migration of youth talent have serious consequences for rural development; therefore it is essential to promote youth “rooting” and their return to rural areas, particularly by increasing their employment opportunities, among others.

We propose to organise a **transnational seminar to debate at European level how the migration of youth talent and the employment opportunities of youth in rural areas** are faced in different countries, which initiatives are carried out in this sense, particularly in the field of employment and employability. The aim is to share good practices and define a common proposal –but flexible enough taking into account the characteristics of every country– to deal with youth employment.

We plan to organise a seminar in Catalonia, Spain, by March 2013, inviting the participation of professionals in the field of youth and employment as well as youth representatives from 4 different European countries. The idea is to discuss while having different points of view about the topic from very different areas of Europe. The seminar will consist in workshops, conferences and debates about good practices among the participants.

The organization of the seminar includes a **preparatory stage** (definition of the workshop topics establishing a dialogue with the partners; selection of the participants of each region; preparation of the activities within the seminar; contact and co-organisation of the workshops with the coaches/lecturers; organization of the logistics).

The **implementation stage** is planned with the following program:

- Day 1: arrival of the participants at noon/afternoon and transport to the events place. Evening (18.30h): reception and presentation of the participants.
- Day 2: common lectures at morning and simultaneous workshops in afternoon.
- Day 3: morning and afternoon workshops. Afternoon: putting in common conclusions.

- Day 4: presentation of the conclusions and proposal of improvement measures. Return of the participants (noon/afternoon).

Finally, there is the **evaluation stage** which means evaluation of the seminar (logistics, organisation, participation, etc.), the compilation of the information shared during the debates and workshops in a document including as well as the conclusions and proposals, and also the proposal of continuity to work with the topic in the future with Youth in Action programme.

Note: the seminar will be held in English; therefore participants must have good level in English language. We only plan translators Spanish and French into English for the common conferences.

We are looking for 3 partners from different European countries to organize together this activity in the framework of action 4.3 (Training and networking of those active in youth work and youth organizations) from *Youth in action* programme.

The application needs to be handled before **1st October**.

Summary

Dates: March 2013.

Number of partners: 4 from European countries.

Number of participants: 10 participants/partner (40 participants in total).

Partner profile: preferably regional Leader networks or LAGs interested and/or working in the topic of rural youth but open to other organizations (public or private) working on youth and employment.

Seminar participant's profile: professionals in the field of youth and employment, youth representatives, organisations working for youth employability and rural youth, LEADER experiences related to the topic.

Duration: 4 days.

Location: Catalonia, Spain.

Estimated budget per partner: ~2.800 €/partner*, this does not include the staff expenses for the organization of the activity by each partner.

*Estimation made according to the *Youth in action* grant which will cover the 70% of the travel costs of the participants and a fixed quantity for participant per night (61 €/pers/night).