

# Youth Entrepreneurship:

an opportunity for youth unemployment

GR-12-69-2011-R4

## What is the project about?

EL Το έργο αφορά στο ζήτημα της οικονομικής κρίσης που μαστιάζει τόσο τη χώρα μας όσο και άλλες ευρωπαϊκές χώρες και ιδιαίτερα στην αυξητική τάση της ανεργίας που πλήττει τους νέους.

EN The project addresses the economic crisis that has hit not only Greece but all other European countries, and primarily the alarmingly high tendency of unemployment that has affected youth.

## What are the objectives of the project?

- ✓ Επαφή μεταξύ νέων στην Ευρώπη
- ✓ Ανταλλαγή απόψεων σχετικά με το ζήτημα της οικονομικής κρίσης
- ✓ Αναζήτηση τρόπων ενίσχυσης της επαγγελματικής και της κοινωνικής τους ενσωμάτωσης
- ✓ Ανάδειξη της επιχειρηματικότητας ως διεξόδου για την επαγγελματική ένταξη των νέων
- ✓ Communication among young people in Europe
- ✓ Exchange of views and visions related to the economic crisis
- ✓ Searching for ways to enhance business skills and competences
- ✓ Promoting entrepreneurship for professional integration of young people

## Which are the Activities ?

EL Η κύρια δραστηριότητα του εργαστηρίου αφορούσε στην υλοποίηση ενός εργαστηρίου στην Λάρισα το οποίο περιλάμβανε δύο άξονες.

Ο πρώτος άξονας αφορούσε στο ζήτημα της οικονομική κρίσης, της νεανικής ανεργίας και στον βαθμό που επηρεάζουν τους νέους.

Ο δεύτερος αφορούσε στην προσέγγιση της επιχειρηματικότητας ως σημαντική επιλογή επαγγελματικής ένταξης των νέων.

EN The main activity of the project was the materialization of a workshop in Larissa, which consists of two axes.

The first axis addressed the issues of the economic crisis, youth unemployment and the extent that it has affected youth .

The second axis concerned the approach to entrepreneurship as a significant choice for the professional inclusion of youth .



# The workshop

EL Το εργαστήριο είχε διάρκεια τεσσάρων ημερών, κάθε ημέρα θα βασιζόταν σε συγκεκριμένη θεματική ενότητα. Οι θεματικές ενότητες αφορούσαν (α) πλαίσιο, συνθήκες και κίνητρα εκδήλωσης της **επιχειρηματικής δραστηριότητας**, (β) **εμπόδια** που προέκυψαν στα πρώτα στάδια και διοίκηση επιχείρησης, (γ) προοπτικές και **στρατηγική ανάπτυξης** της επιχείρησης, (δ) **εξωστρέφεια**, δυνατότητες δικτύωσης επιχειρηματιών και οφέλη (ε) οικονομική κρίση και **νεανική ανεργία**.

EN The workshop lasted for four days, with each day focusing on a specific topic. These topics are about:

(a) framework, situation and motives of **entrepreneurial activity**

(b) **obstacles** that came up on the first stage and on business administration

(c) prospects and **development strategy** of the business

(d) **extroversion**, networking opportunities and benefits

(e) economic crisis and **youth unemployment**.

- √ Debate on the economic crisis in Greece & in Portugal
- √ Exchange of views and experiences in terms of the economic crisis in both countries
- √ Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs
- √ Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs, success stories
- √ Open discussion, Conclusions
- √ Youth unemployment and rates in Greece & in Portugal
- √ Solutions to youth unemployment
- √ Ideas for entrepreneurship, best practices
- √ Case studies on Entrepreneurship
- √ Hellenic Association of Young Entrepreneurs, Mission and aims
- √ Chamber of Larissa, Actions about the entrepreneurship
- √ Internet and ways of development
- √ Entrepreneurship through internet
- √ Social Media Marketing
- √ Ideas relating to the thematic interest of the target group for upcoming plans
- √ Provision of information concerning the potential and possibilities of Youth in Action programme and possibilities of continuation of the activities of the workshop

a  
g  
e  
n  
d  
a

## who participated in the workshop ?

✓ Hugo MORGADO

*27 years old, Student, Portugal*

✓ Jorge FERNANDES

*20 years old, Student, Portugal*

✓ Paulo RIBEIRO

*24 years old, Student, Portugal*

✓ Emilia LOPES

*20 years old, Student, Portugal*

✓ HELEN-ALICE DIAMANTI

*19 years old, Student, Greece*

✓ MARGARITA MARKOU

*20 years old, Student, Greece*

✓ Tania LACHOURA

*19 years old, Student, Greece*

✓ Sotiria MAGIOGLOU

*19 years old, Student, Greece*

✓ Marianna CHASAPOGIANNI

*26 years old, Student, Greece*

✓ Dimitris SIAKAVELIS

*25 years old, Student, Greece*





1.) To what degree do you feel that the economic crisis has affected your everyday life?

*"I feel the prices rising, due to the crisis, companies have to increase sell prices so that they can face the decrease in sales. So they rise the prices, and we have to pay more money for fewer products. Now people don't do things they would do in the past, due to the lack of money and they have to make choices and abstain from some life pleasures."*

*Hugo Morgado*

*"The economic crisis has significantly affected our daily lives because we need to make some cuts. And the fact that there are no permanent jobs makes it difficult for our survival"*

*Helen-Alice Diamanti*

*"I feel the economic crisis has largely affected my life, thanks to the rise in costs for transportation and food, for example, and new or more heavy taxes, the cost of living forced me and my family to cut some expenses and make some sacrifices in order for me to keep studying. "*

*Paulo Ribeiro*

*"The economic crisis we are experiencing affects not only my life but of all people, particularly young people. First speaking for myself, I am much more dependent on my parents to pay my expenses and my studies. I also sometimes think about the future and I'm not sure if I can succeed in finding a job."*

*Jorge Fernandes*

2) Are you worried about your future in terms of a professional career upon completion of your studies? How easy or difficult do you think it is to find a job in your country?

*"I'm a little worried about it. One of my life goals is to work on my own. But first of all, I want to work for a company so that I can get some market and work experience, and it's not easy to find a job in Portugal. Most companies in the department of management, work in a family bases and don't count on credited managers."*

*Hugo Morgado*

*It is very worrying because things have been very difficult and our future is uncertain for the time being.*

*Helen-Alice Diamanti*

*In Portugal it is hard for a new graduate to get a job straight away, but if one keeps looking, he will manage to find a job. As for me, I am not very worried because I know that if I keep working*

*hard and insist in looking for a job, I will find one.*

*Paulo Ribeiro*

*Yes, of course I'm worried about the future. Is a bit difficult to find employment in Portugal, but i think if we look enough and if we use different ways of finding a job is still possible to find work.*

*Jorge Fernandes*

*Today the unemployment rate is very high and finding a job for us is very difficult. I think that this is a bad time for young people and the years to come will be even more difficult.*

*Margarita Markou*

*Of course I worry about the country's future and the future of mine. I know that **it's difficult to find a job these days but we have to try.***

*Sotiria Magioglou*



4) Please state a few brief suggestions on how (youth) unemployment can be reduced.

*First off all, young people can't be waiting for opportunities to come at them. They have to look for it and show the companies why they should invest on them. They have to sell themselves as a product and not as a person that cares only for a salary. Young people must innovate and not work only with its already made.*

*Hugo Morgado*

*Young people should try and think positively. They also need to look up on new things to do and innovative ideas that will help them and the country.*

*Helen-Alice Diamanti*

*Unemployment can be reduced through the incentive of internships for new graduates and through programs that help young people to prepare*

*to find a job and teach them how they can start their own businesses.*

*Paulo Ribeiro*

*Support the companies that hire young people with some benefits. Also, agreements between universities and companies to conduct more professional internships would be helpful.*

*Jorge Fernandes*

5) Do you consider entrepreneurship as a possibility in terms of your professional career and employment? How possible would it be for you to start up your own business upon completion of your studies?

*I think that entrepreneurship is a way out of crisis and a way to get some job opportunities. In Portugal, it's easy to create a company. If you are by yourself, in one day's time you can have your company created. If you have partners, it's a longer process, but again easy. Personally, I have some projects to work and try my luck, but first I have to make a full study on them and see if they would be profitable and successful.*

*Hugo Morgado*

*Entrepreneurship is very useful. After my studies if I can get my hands on proper funding, there is a good chance that I could make a move and try to start a business. I think that if you have a good idea it's worth to take a risk.*

*Helen-Alice Diamanti*

*I hope one day I might be able to start my own business, but only after obtaining a few years of experience on the business world and after amassing a significant amount of capital to start the company as those factors are pivotal in the success of a company and after completing my studies I believe I still won't have enough of both.*

*Paulo Ribeiro*

*I believe that entrepreneurship is very important and i think it should be explained to young people since high school. First i have to finish my studies, (I'm only on the 1st year), but if i have the opportunity to start my own business, yes, i will do it.*

*Jorge Fernandes*

*I think that it is important. If after the initial slack of my studies I do start my own business, it would be very difficult for me because there are no money nowadays so that young people can pursue their profession.*

*Sotiria Magioglou*



**6) Sort, according to priority, the three most significant obstacles/difficulties for the start up of your business.**

*The most significant obstacle to start up a business is the lack of support. There are a lot of taxes and not many subsidies to help new companies.*

*Next is the lack of Education that is required to open a new business. Finally, the amount of bureaucracy necessary to start a business and the lack of knowledge from the authorities in some of the more unusual types of businesses make for a very hostile environment for innovation.*

*Paulo Ribeiro*

*I think the first major difficulty is getting the funds needed, then dealing with the associated bureaucracy (although this depends on the type of company), and finally to have the ability and courage to go ahead.*

*Jorge Fernandes*

*The most difficult thing for starting a business operation is first of all the financial problem, and then business management issue.*

*Sotiria Magioglou*

# The Institute of Entrepreneurship Development

.. is a non-governmental organization, with its main office in Larissa. It focuses its action mainly on the development and support of business processes, particularly of vulnerable groups in order to improve their position in society and to better integrate them.

Specifically, the Institute aims to:

- √ promote the philosophy and principles of entrepreneurship
- √ support innovative business ideas
- √ assist towards the development of integrated business
- √ enhance the qualitative improvement and quantitative increase in responsiveness of businesses to national European and international policies and actions that affect them.

Finally, the Institute has implemented courses of thematic workshops for adults based on non-formal learning activities on entrepreneurship.



3 Ioustinianou str. 41222 Larissa, Greece

Tel/Fax: +302410626943