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# 2019

## WORK4PSY: AN INNOVATIVE MODEL FOR CAREER COUNSELING SERVICES TO MENTAL HEALTH NEETS



### KICK-OFF MEETING

#### Partner Organizations



NOVEMBER 18TH – 19TH,  
2019

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT -  
LIAISON OFFICE IN ATHENS  
8 AMALIAS AVENUE,  
ATHENS, GREECE

# HdBA

Hochschule der  
Bundesagentur für Arbeit  
University of Applied Labour Studies



The **University of Applied Labour Studies of the Federal Employment Agency (HdBA)** is an important provider of study programs and training for students and practitioners in the field of vocational orientation and counselling. The HdBA regularly participates in projects that focus on young people with special social and health problems, such as programs for vocational training (BEB, Programme für die Berufsausbildung), assisted vocational training (AsA, Assistierte Ausbildung), Advice as innovative prevention of training dropouts (Praelab, Beratung als innovative Prävention von Ausbildungsabbrüchen), etc.

The **Pan-Hellenic Association for the Psychosocial Rehabilitation & Work Re-integration (PEPSAEE)** has a broad expertise in the field of mental health and especially in the field of career counselling/ work integration of people with mental illness, as it maintains the only Supported Employment Office for people with mental health problems in Greece. The past year more than 150 mental health patients received services from specialized career counsellors and more than 40% of them are now in employment/ traineeship. PEPSAEE has, also, implemented innovative projects concerning this issue, such as “Bridges for Employment”, a multilevel project, aiming at work integration of mental health patients.



**CESIE** is a European Centre for Studies and Initiatives, which focuses on the research of social needs and challenges and the use of innovative learning approaches. In this way, CESIE actively connects research with action through the use of formal and non-formal learning methodologies and has participated in a number of projects relevant to (a) the development of innovative approaches and tools to promote the inclusion of people with both mental and physical disabilities (Projects: MENS; ALdia; CREATE; EQUIL), (b) the development and implementation of training activities to promote employability (Projects: STARTUP; SUCCESS; SCIENT; ARISE; SERCO) and (c) the development of VET programmes (Projects: VIRTUS; CAPE; CREATE; Journeys; ArtS).



**POMOST** is strongly active in the field of rehabilitation of young people with mental health illness from the Lodzkie region in Poland. POMOST's Day Care Centre hosts 26 people. The target of vocational rehabilitation of MH NEETs is also achieved through innovative projects such as “Focus on Job” aiming to build a model of cooperation between people with MH illnesses, job coaches and employers. POMOST is part of an initiative/coalition of non-profit organisations, companies and institutions. The initiative pursues incorporating supported employment as a standard part of rehabilitation in Polish social politics towards people with mental health (and other) disabilities.



**Vsl "eMundus"** has a broad expertise in the development of various ICT applications. The mission of eMundus is to actively promote the development of the knowledge society by developing and developing services related to educational activities, information technology, innovation and practical applications in education and social activities, ecology, healthy lifestyles and harmonious education in order to ensure quality cooperation and unity between different generations and different groups in society.

## **WORK4PSY KICK-OFF MEETING** **ATHENS, 18-19 NOVEMBER 2019**

<b>Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Welcome addresses &amp; Partners Presentation (10.00 – 11.00)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Welcome messages</li><li>- Presentation of the partners organizations (10' each partner)</li></ul>
<b>Project Overview (11.00-12.15)</b> PEPSAEE, All partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main targets, Objectives, Methodology, Outputs, Outcomes</li><li>- All partners make a brief presentation of the psychiatric system in their country</li></ul>
<b>Intellectual Output I – Literature Review (12.30 -13.15)</b> PEPSAEE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main objectives, Methodology, Next steps</li></ul>
<b>Intellectual Output II – European Career Counseling MH NEETs (13.15 -14.00)</b> PEPSAEE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main objectives, Methodology, Next steps</li></ul>
<b>Lunch break (14.00 – 16.00)</b>
<b>Intellectual Output III – European Work and Education Integration Curriculum for MH NEETs (16.15 -17.00)</b> HdBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main objectives, Methodology, Next steps</li></ul>
<b>Intellectual Output IV – Open Learning Platform: Complementary Content, material and resources (17:00 -17.45)</b> CESIE <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main objectives, Methodology, Next steps</li></ul>
<b>Dinner at Traditional Greek “Taverna” (20.30 – 23.00)</b>

<b>Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Arrival &amp; Coffee (09.00 – 09.30)</b>
<b>Intellectual Output IV – Open Learning Platform: Complementary Content, material and resources (09.30 -10.15)</b> Vsl “eMundus” <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Main objectives, Methodology, Next steps</li></ul>
<b>Project Management I (10.15 – 11.30)</b> HdBA <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Administrative, management and financial issues</li></ul>
<b>Break (11.30 – 11.45)</b>

## Work4Psy: An innovative model for career counseling services to Mental Health NEETs

<b>Project Management I (11.45 – 12.45)</b> HdBA - Administrative, management and financial issues
<b>Break (12.45 – 13.00)</b>
<b>Getting ready for WORK4PSY (13.00 – 13.15)</b> - Closing session and Certificates of attendance
<b>Study Visit in PEPSAEE's Center for Social Dialogue: MH NEETs' experience regarding work integration - Lunch (14.00 – 17.00)</b>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### HOST ORGANIZATION: PEPSAEE



The **PanHellenic Association for the Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Work Integration (PEPSAEE)** is a Scientific Non-Governmental Organization that was established in 1996 ([www.pepsaee.gr](http://www.pepsaee.gr)). It aims at facilitating the social inclusion and work integration of people with psychosocial problems and of people from socially vulnerable groups in general. PEPSAEE operates at three rehabilitation structures: two day-centers, and a residential house for people with severe mental health problems. It has established the first Employment

Office for people with mental health problems in Greece. In time of Greece's economic crisis, PEPSAEE established the first and only Center for the Psychosocial Support of unemployed people. In 2017 an international committee selected PEPSAEE as the most innovative organization for social inclusion worldwide, and PEPSAEE was awarded during the International Conference "Decent Work, Equity and Inclusion" in Padova, Italy.

### MEETING'S VENUE: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT – LIAISON OFFICE IN ATHENS (8 Amalias Avenue, 105 57 Athens)

The European Parliament has Liaison Offices (EPLOs) in the EU capitals, as well as antennae in a regionally relevant city in the most populous Member States, and further afield. In Washington it has a Liaison Office with the U.S. Congress. EPLOs are responsible for the local implementation of institutional communication activities, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that people understand the importance of the European Parliament well enough to engage in the European democratic process. The Offices engage with citizens and stakeholders, manage contacts with national, regional and local media, and provide support to Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) in the exercise of their official mandates in the Member States.

### WORK4PSY EXPLAINED IN A FEW WORDS

Mental illness affects around 27% (83m.) of Europeans annually (European Social Work, 2013). Three quarters of mental illness begins by age 24 (WHO), affecting the social inclusion and, due to stigma, the work integration of a big number of young citizens in the EU. While many EU projects have focused in facilitating work integration of European NEETs (young people Not in Employment, Education or Training), little attention has been paid to young people with Mental Health problems that are, also, "not in Employment, Education or Training", and in the same time they have to face a lot of extra challenges on their way to education and the labour market..

As MH NEETs have specialized needs of support regarding their way to work integration, Work4Psy proposes to develop specialized methodology and tools for Career Counselling that will answer these needs, with a great emphasis in **facilitating social entrepreneurship**; and in **early intervention during the first stages of the mental health problems**.