

Geographical coverage, implementation partners and timeframe

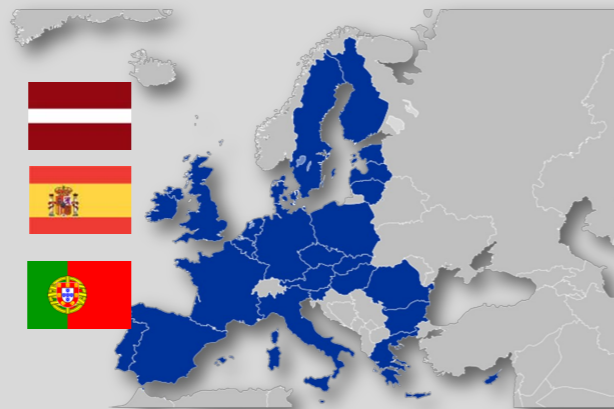
This Action covers three countries of the EU, which youth labour markets have been heavily affected by the economic and financial crisis. The criteria for selection of these countries are: (i) expressed interest in and justification for the action by Member States; (ii) rates of youth unemployment on the basis of the latest available annual data from Eurostat; (iii) most efficient use of funds, including through synergies with other funding facilities; and (iv) lack of overlap with other planned or on-going interventions (e.g. by Cedefop on apprenticeships).

Geographical coverage

The ILO is a partner of EC (i.e. DG EMPLOYMENT) with which it engages on strategic planning, policy coherence initiatives and joint action in the fields of labour and employment.

This action will be implemented in close collaboration and partnerships with institutions and entities of the European Commission that are engaged in youth employment and apprenticeships work.

The Ministries of Labour are the formal governmental counterparts of the ILO. This action will be implemented in partnership with national authorities that are tasked to implement Youth Guarantee schemes and apprenticeships. During the inception phase, the ILO and national partners in each of the three target countries will develop a roadmap for the implementation of each component of the action. These roadmaps will include information of the agreed timeline for implementation of the activities and production of deliverables.



The timeframe of the actions covers the six quarters (18 months) during which this action will be implemented. It will start on 1 July 2015 with the initial three months following approval of the action devoted to the inception phase.

Timeframe

EXECUTING AGENCY

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ENHANCING CAPABILITIES OF PRACTITIONERS TO DESIGN, IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

Executive summary

monitoring its performance. On apprenticeships, the action will apply the approach to quality apprenticeships and develop a toolkit to establish apprenticeship systems and programmes with tripartite participation.

The action will benefit from ILO's experience, its capacity to enhance national capabilities of staff of labour market institutions, its role of facilitator of policy coherence through national dialogue and the application of the wide array of ILO's youth employment methodologies and implementation tools.

The Council Recommendation on "Establishing a Youth Guarantee" calls on Member States to strengthen the capacities of national partners in the design, implementation and evaluation of national Youth Guarantee schemes.

Co-funded by the EC and the ILO, the 18-month action aims to strengthen national capacity for the implementation, monitoring of performance and assessment of results of gender-sensitive youth employment policies that are part of the Youth Guarantee schemes, and develop and implement quality apprenticeship systems and programmes in key sectors through tripartite social dialogue.

The action is expected to yield a wide range of deliverables for application across the EU with direct support to be provided to three target countries. These deliverables include practical guidelines to align local and national performance indicators to the EMCO Indicator Framework and other indicators for monitoring the Youth Guarantee and a modular training package for implementing the Youth Guarantee and



Description of key components and main deliverables

The proposed action aims to: (i) strengthen national capacity for the implementation, monitoring of performance and assessment of results of gender-sensitive youth employment policies that are part of the Youth Guarantee schemes, and (ii) develop and implement quality apprenticeship systems and programmes in key sectors through tripartite social dialogue.

This strategy will be implemented with a view to achieving the following two main outcomes: (i) the performance of Youth Guarantee schemes is improved as a result of enhanced capabilities of policy practitioners to monitor implementation and align



delivery to planned results and (ii) roadmaps for the design of Quality Apprenticeships systems and programmes are established in three EU countries as a result of increased institutional capability and tripartite social dialogue.

Capability enhancement training workshops on monitoring of performance during implementation and impact assessment. This set of activities is aimed at supporting two of the three target countries to develop a sound monitoring system to assess performance during implementation.

Training modules on performance monitoring and impact assessment that are based on the above-mentioned capability enhancement workshops for the replication of training within the institutions that are partners in the implementation of the national YG schemes. They will cover issues of both monitoring and evaluations of YG schemes.

A methodology for conducting cost-benefit analysis of the national YG schemes and a related training module to enhance national capability to estimate the costs of the YG schemes.¹ The application of this methodology to the country-specific context will allow national authorities to determine the level of resources that is appropriate to plan interventions and achieve national targets and policy objectives.

¹This methodology will be based on the ILO's methodology for estimating the costs and the number of young beneficiaries of the YG schemes.



COMPONENT TWO : APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEMS AND PROGRAMMES

This component of the project focuses on strengthening the capability of national institutions and implementing partners in the target countries to design Quality Apprenticeship systems. This will be done through the identification of sectors with growth and job potential for quality apprenticeships, the development of capability enhancement programmes, including case studies, and the design of a toolkit for tripartite quality apprenticeship. The main deliverables of component two are summarized as follows.

Country studies on sectors with growth and job potential for Quality Apprenticeships. The criteria for the identification of sectors will include: the participation of young women, the characteristics of targeted communities, the sustainability of micro and small enterprises, as well as the presence of other employers in the specific sectors.

Focus group meetings with representatives of employers' and workers' organizations in each of the three countries to determine the target sectors. The content of these meetings will range from the identification of key trades in which apprenticeship should start or be improved to the design of key modules of the apprenticeship trade.

Technical workshops to strengthen institutional capacity about tripartite design of Quality Apprenticeships. These workshops have the objective to share information and knowledge and engage in dialogue among all those who will be engaged in apprenticeships.

Framework roadmaps and action plans developed for the launching of Quality Apprenticeship systems. These plans will reflect national and sectoral specificities and be laid down in the toolkit.

Workshops on programme design. These workshops will be implemented at least once with project resources and are expected to be replicated by the entity in charge (e.g. ideally a local chamber of commerce, industry and crafts, professional organizations, or a sub-regional labour or education administration).

Tripartite seminars on funding apprenticeships. These seminars will serve to identify the funding mechanisms existing in the target countries: training levy, tax rebates for companies conducting training, including apprenticeships.

Study tours for tripartite delegations. These study visits will be organized in two apprenticeship-model countries. Participants will include the technical staff entrusted to run the Quality Apprenticeship pilots in the selected sectors and regions.

Publication of technical tools. These tools will include (i) the logbook for Quality Apprenticeship design, once validated by the tripartite stakeholders, (ii) a standard training course (web-version), and (iii) a publication on lessons learnt during the launching of a Quality Apprenticeship system in at least two of the three target countries.



COMPONENT ONE : YOUTH GUARANTEES

This component of the action focuses on strengthening the monitoring and evaluation functions of national institutions and implementing partners involved in the delivery of the national schemes. This will be done through the collection and analysis of good practices, the delivery of capability-enhancement programmes, and the development of training packages to train national and local partners in the monitoring of implementation of YG schemes. The main deliverables of the action on this component are summarized as follows.

Practical guidelines to align performance indicators to the EMCO Indicator Framework for monitoring the YG and YEI/ESF. These guidelines will also detail how to collect and analyze information relating to the set of indicators of the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), which is integrated in the ESF programming.

National policy dialogue seminars on the implementation of the YG schemes. These deliverables will provide a platform for government, implementing organizations, the social partners, youth-led and other organizations to take stock of the progress made and identify bottlenecks in the implementation of YG schemes.