

# NESET

"NEETs' Empowerment for Sustainable Employment in the Tourism sector"

NEWLETTER N.1

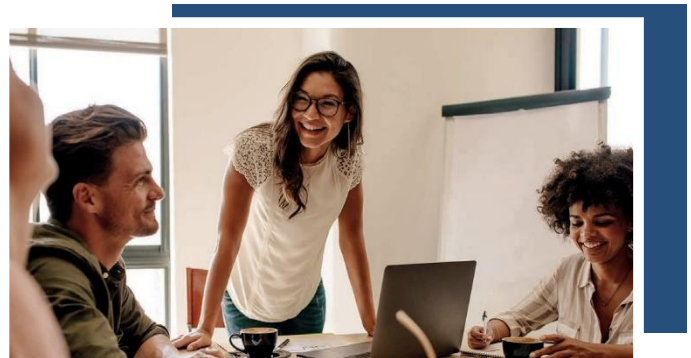
NESET - NEETs' Empowerment for Sustainable Employment in the Tourism sector is a 3-year project funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment which aims at supporting on a large-scale transnational basis the sustainability of youth integration in the tourism labour market in the NESET beneficiary countries, by creating conditions for NEETs' employment and entrepreneurship in various forms of tourism, including alternative tourism.

The main target group are NEETs (young people Not in Education, Employment or Training) between 15 and 29 years of age, with special focus on the 25-29-year-olds, belonging to disadvantaged groups (low skilled individuals, long-term unemployed, discouraged people). The key youth empowerment activities, carrying the highest innovative and transnational added value of the project include: elaboration of transnational standards for validation of prior non-formal/informal learning in key occupations in the tourism industry; elaboration of an innovative e-Support platform; organisation of transnational job placement mobilities for a group of former NEETs.

The start of the project was officially given with the organisation of the NESET Project Launch Conference, which was held in Varna, Bulgaria on October 10th, 2018. The Conference was officially opened by Mr. Ivan Tabakov, Chairman of the Varna Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NESET Project's Lead Partner) and Mr. Kosta Bazitov, Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Varna. During the conference, the participants had the opportunity to discuss the various issues addressed by the NESET Project such as: the partnership between

education and business in support of the labour market integration of young people, international cooperation and its role for securing sustainable youth employment, etc. The objectives, partners and expected outcomes of the project were also presented. The final discussion focused on youth employment problems in the tourism sector.

The Project Kick-off Meeting followed in the afternoon and the next day. The representatives of the NESET Consortium organisations from each partner country (Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Romania and Iceland as an expertise country) met and had the opportunity to get to know each other and to share their expectation about the project. The Meeting continued with the Lead Partner presenting in detail the project's objectives and the timeline of activities to be carried out. The work package coordinators also had the opportunity to present their vision about the upcoming activities under the project. At the Meeting it was decided that the Lead Partner would prepare a set of internal rules to serve as a reference for all project partners during the implementation of the project.



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The second partners' meeting took place on 2nd and 3rd of April, 2019 in Nicosia, Cyprus, with the participation of all partners who had the opportunity to discuss the status of project activities and the next steps. The meeting focused particularly on the main elements and characteristics concerning the development of the National Reports Guidelines and Questionnaires, as well as the activities to be carried out under WP3: Competence Gap Analysis. The progress of communication activities under WP2, and project management under WP1 were also discussed. In the months to follow, partners will be engaged in research activities aiming to obtain information from young adults regarding the need requirements in terms of needs vs already existing skills, and from companies, operating in the tourism industry in the 7 project's Beneficiary Countries, regarding the skills mismatches and workforce shortages in tourism, as perceived by employers.



## Implemented by



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The NESET project benefits from a € 1 124 551 grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment. The aim of the project is to support on a large-scale transnational basis the sustainability of youth integration in the tourism industry, by creating conditions for NEETs' employment and entrepreneurship in various forms of tourism.