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Promoting Innovative Career Choices in Local Communities

This project deals with youth career policy issues and transfer of knowledge in the following ways:

- promoting and supporting positive attitude toward real possibilities for young people to pursue their careers in Lithuania;
- focusing on the social dialogue between state administration, business, academic and civil communities in order to encourage local governments on the sustainable developments of long term local youth career support strategies.

The potential beneficiaries of the project are young people in the first place as well as state administrative bodies, business, academic and local community members, and finally youth policy makers.

The idea of the project is:

- 1) to identify youth success cases and non-traditional and innovative career choices in different administrative regions, in such areas as humanities, social sciences and regional development, e.g.: contribution to the community, development education, personal growth, environment protection, fair trade, innovative initiatives;
- 2) to demonstrate them using innovative show-case methods;
- 3) to enhance the role of local strategic partnerships, media and community participation to highlight successful youth career paradigms and influence public opinion.

Special attention will be given to a representative sample of career cases which later will comprise a list of potential partners for youth work-linked activities. One of the target sectors of the project is the new and innovative methodology of building regional youth career support strategies oriented towards community added value and individual growth where particular emphasis will be given to good practice demonstrative cases, networking with social partners and initiatives oriented towards using new technologies and innovative teaching/learning tools.

The burning issue of the project is to create innovative but realistic, simple and attractive instruments which will motivate local communities to participate and cooperate in distinguishing and exhibiting successful career cases more efficiently and benefit from it.

The expected outcomes:

- the project will present an innovative data base of successful career makers and join them into the open online forum with project participants;
- it will encourage social partners to cooperate for the community interests and needs and will serve as a guiding tool for other regions;
- it will prepare training tools with practical implications how to support youth career paths, service and work-linked learning methodologies and 5 youth career support strategies which will introduce significant changes in youth policy and increase employment level in the regions;
- it will invoke media to play a significant role highlighting positive and effective community development issues;

Finally, the project aims at spreading the experiences within the regions and transferring the knowledge of existing good practices and know how strategies throughout the country using new media and communication technologies.