

Press release

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Online social entrepreneurship training for more than 100 young people from seven EU countries

Initially planned for 105 young people, I SEE YOU project got the attention of more than 120 people from Europe. The young people (aged 18 to 30) enrolled in the project during this autumn/winter, and at the beginning of December many of them started the first module of the online social entrepreneurship training delivered within the project's framework.

The online social entrepreneurship training is structured on five key entrepreneurship competencies, identified during the research phase of the project as the most relevant competencies to be developed in the project's countries, including: ability to think critically, ability to prioritize, willingness to explore, ability to take decisions and ability to take initiative. In comparison with other entrepreneurship education programs, which are usually focused on providing entrepreneurship management skills in planning and administrating a business, the I SEE YOU trainings are focused on developing entrepreneurship skills, skills that increase the employability of young people as regular employees, self-employed persons or entrepreneurs.

The training modules are developed and delivered online by UNED (Madrid, Spain), while each local partner from the project provides support to the participants through face-to-face meetings. Moreover, each module of the training includes a business simulation game, which helps in a very creative way in the development of a specific entrepreneurship competency. The business simulation game is developed by Totem Learning, the I SEE YOU partner from UK, specialized in educational video games. The training will end at the beginning of April 2016; each participant has to dedicate up to 25 hours of work for each module of the training.

The I SEE YOU project started in 2014, and it is implemented by eight organizations from Austria, Ireland, Italy, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, and the United Kingdom. The project aims to develop the entrepreneurship skills and competences of unemployed young people, who have an interest in creating their own social business and have an affinity for technology.

Within the 2015-2016 project activities, the young people have access to entrepreneurship trainings and learn how to manage a real business through an innovative business simulation game. At the same time, the young people work in international teams that allow them to establish their first business network. Moreover, they gain information about how to approach business angels and how to pitch their business plans to potential investors.

The young people involved in the project are **unemployed young people** (18-30 years old) from the seven European countries mentioned above. Special consideration was given to young persons with **minority or migrant background**, as they are usually facing additional barriers in entering the labour market or the business environment.

The I SEE YOU project gives **open access to all the educational resources** developed within the project activities. Thus, all English speaking young people and all other stakeholders interested in social entrepreneurship for youth can access these resources on the project's website: www.iseeyou-network.eu.

"I SEE YOU" is financed by the European Commission within the Erasmus+ program, and it is run by organizations with extensive experience in entrepreneurship education and providing support for young entrepreneurs. The project is coordinated by FH Joanneum, from Graz, Austria, which brought together other seven organizations: The Union of Self-Employed Professionals and Workers of Spain, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (Spain), Programma Integra (Italy), Italian-Slovak Chamber of Commerce (Slovakia), WestBIC (Ireland), Totem Learning (UK), and Danis Foundation for Managerial Development (Romania).

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www.iseeyou-network.eu

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