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STORY of CO-OP

The Implementation period of COOP has ended. It is time to tell about the story of the Project.

In 2015, six partner organizations from six different European countries (Romania, France, Slovakia, Turkey, Italy and Spain) came together to develop an Innovative Project to produce an alternative solution to the youth unemployment problem.

The Project idea was based on the CAE (Coopérative d'Activité et d'Entrepreneurs) system developed in France and tested also in different EU countries such as Slovakia and Belgium.

This model is an original concept allowing a project holder to test his activity under safe conditions within a cooperative with the professional help of consultancy and other needed services.

The Project has been funded by the European Commission under Erasmus Plus Programme through the Romanian National Agency.

To watch the introductory video about the CAE system on YouTube, please click the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AExMzgQbZ_w



PROJECT ACTIVITIES

A. Research:



A survey on “Local Entrepreneurship Environments” in partner countries to define the needs and expectations of entrepreneurs and accordingly to map the implementation strategy of the project.

Per each partner, at least 50 young & unemployed people, 40 Small and Very Small Sized Enterprises.

B. Training for Mentors:



Mentors from other five partners came together in Bastia/France for a training to learn the CAE methodology and examine a CAE cooperative and its entrepreneurs on site (February 2016).

C. Pilot Experiments:



Four receptive partners implemented pilot schemes with the participation of at least six young potential entrepreneurs each (under the age of 30) to test the CAE methodology in these four countries (Italy, Romania, Spain and Turkey). In total more than 25 young people benefited from the trainings and other services provided under CO-OP pilots.

D. Outputs & Practical Tools:



- Five practical tools (called intellectual outputs in project terminology) through the acquired experience and knowledge by project activities.
- In addition, several guides and reports by the partnership. (details are on the back page).

E. Dissemination & Valorisation:



- Dissemination Strategy Paper
- List of Local stakeholders (500 per each partner)
- 12 Multiplier Events; more than 300 participants
- Visibility on Local Media
- Dissemination Materials
- Local/National impact areas for valorisation
- Partners' official websites & Social Media tools

F. Six Transnational Project Meetings:



1. Bucharest/RO – December 2015
2. Bastia/FR – February 2016
3. Bratislava/SK – July 2016

4. Madrid/ES – November 2016
5. Cosenza/IT – May 2017
6. Bucharest/RO – July 2017

1. RESEARCH REPORT

➤ Main Themes:

The entrepreneurship environment in partner countries;
The Needs and Expectations of young unemployed people;
Difficulties encountered by start-ups
Experiences and suggestions of successful enterprises



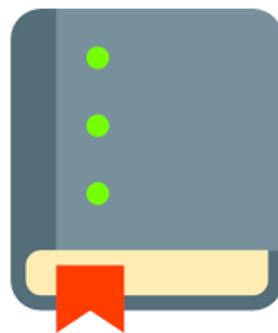
➤ Surveyed:

50 young and unemployed people;
20 SMEs/VSEs established in the last 12 months

20 successful SMEs/VSEs that is in the market for at least 3 years

➤ Separate Reports by each partner

➤ One General Report in 7 languages (EN,RO,ES,TR,IT,SK,FR)



3. CAE REPOSITORY

- History CAE Model
- Operations in practice
- Provided services of CAE
- Cooperative relations and bank
- Division of responsibilities for particular operations



4. SELF-ASSESSMENT GUIDE

- How to assess the established CAE
- How to assess the individual entrepreneurs
- Main principles
- Self-Assessment Process
- Some Useful Tools
 - Self-Assessment Sheet Templates
 - Business Plan Template
 - CAEP Contract Template



CAE

2. GUIDE TO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF CAE'S

- How to establish a CAE Cooperative
- The administrative structure of CAE
- Business Incubators vs CAE
- The stages and steps of an "Entrepreneur" in CAE
- All the details about Legal, Technical, Administrative, Financial and Social aspects of CAE



START-UP

5. HANDBOOK FOR START-UP TOOLS

A collection of practical online tools for entrepreneurs both in international and national levels:

- Business Planning
- Sales & Marketing
- Data/Analytics
- Project Management
- Productivity
- Back-Office
- Social Tools
- Collaboration and Communication
- Financing and Funding Opportunities

Please visit our partners' websites and contact us to learn more about CO-OP and to get the free pdf versions of the outputs.



www.provocatie.ro



www.promidea.it



www.kocaeliab.gov.tr



www.red2red.net



www.petrapatrimonia-corse.com



www.2ri.sk

