



## Learning, Living, Working for Neet-Group

<sup>1</sup>Adriana Branni, <sup>2</sup>Chris Janssen

<sup>1</sup>CESIE (Italy), <sup>2</sup>EURICON (The Netherlands)

[adriana.branni@cesie.org](mailto:adriana.branni@cesie.org), [chris.janssen@euricon.eu](mailto:chris.janssen@euricon.eu)

### Abstract

The problem of (socially, culturally and economically) disadvantaged youngsters and of early school leavers exists in all EU member states, in the so-called new member states as much as in the so-called old member states. [1] Everywhere everyone is looking for good prevention actions. Everywhere various kinds of second chance measures have been tried out over the last 10 years, with tangible success but also with ups and downs. Since the establishment of the European Association of Cities, Institutions and Second Chance Schools "E2C Europe" at the end of the 1990's, activity increased in the field of adult education i.e. policy making (local and regional), the development of skills and competences of teachers and trainers, the mobility and exchange of teachers and students and the organisation of meetings and events.

The need grows for a multi-angled integrated focus on the disadvantaged youngster at risk of educational and societal drop-out. [2] The so-called NEET-group (not in education, employment, or training) faces challenges bigger than simply a lack of vocational skills, therefore a holistic focus on learning, living and working is essential. For educational institutions, enterprises and housing associations this means a complete turnaround in thinking. No longer own processes and interests are enough to deal with the target group, but network-based activities addressing the needs of the NEET-group, improving their competencies and skills in an integrated approach.

In the LION project (Learning, lIving, wORking for Neet-group) an educational diverse and geographical distributed consortium develops experimental and innovative approaches. The holistic LION approach means: 1) making the educational environment personalised and interactive, 2) focus on competence based learning with employability actions leading to apprenticeships and 3) taking care of basic life conditions.

Promoting social and economic inclusion of the NEET-target group is the aim of almost every government in Europe. Via empowering them and offering tailor made practices and excellent support by teachers/trainers and mentors in the triangle learning, living, working, this inclusion is highly improved. [3], [4] Prevention of drop-out and social exclusion, the need for a holistic and target group centred approach and collective efforts for societal benefits hold a central position within the LION-project.

Connecting the worlds of learning, living and working via regional centres of excellence is regarded as essential to have a multi-angled and integrated approach that prospers social and economic inclusion for the target group mentioned. Upgrading skills of teachers/trainers and mentors and improving the European area of life-long-learning with quality standards for tools working with the NEET-group are important side activities that have long-lasting effects.

The LION-project is "With the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union" and "This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein."

### References

- [1] [http://ec.europa.eu/education/school-education/doc/earlywp\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/education/school-education/doc/earlywp_en.pdf)
- [2] <http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2012/12/education%20post%202015%20adams/12%20education%20post%202015%20adams.pdf>
- [3] [http://eit.europa.eu/fileadmin/Content/Downloads/PDF/Key\\_documents/EIT\\_publication\\_Final.pdf](http://eit.europa.eu/fileadmin/Content/Downloads/PDF/Key_documents/EIT_publication_Final.pdf)
- [4] [http://ec.europa.eu/education/vocational-education/doc/bruges\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/education/vocational-education/doc/bruges_en.pdf)