Funded by the European Union

EU4Youth



Duration: 01.02.2024 - 31.01.2027

Countries:
Albania

EU contribution: € 2 222 800

Total budget: € 2 445 080

Implementer:
UNDP, UNICEF

Website(s): undp.org/albania/projects/eu4youth
unicef.org/albania/eu4youth

Project description:

EU4Youth is a 36-month action implemented jointly by UNDP and UNICEF to support Albania in piloting and preparing the national deployment of the Youth Guarantee scheme. The project focuses on improving the employability and labour market inclusion of young people aged 15–29 who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs), ensuring that they can access a quality offer of employment, education, training or apprenticeship within four months of registration.

Key components include strengthening institutional capacities and Youth Guarantee governance; improving data, monitoring and coordination mechanisms; establishing and operationalizing Local Partnership Networks for the identification, activation and support of NEET youth; and piloting youth-friendly outreach, preparation and offer models in Tirana, Shkodra and Vlora. The project also supports vulnerable NEETs through tailored services delivered with employment offices, municipalities, youth organizations, CSOs, education providers and employers. A further focus is placed on strengthening VET systems, preventing student drop-out through Early Warning Systems, and developing traineeship and apprenticeship models.

Expected results:

- Strengthened institutional and governance capacity for Youth Guarantee implementation, including improved NEET data, an operational Local Partnership Network model and procedures, new Youth Guarantee offers/EPPs, and support to the development of the next YG Implementation Plan.
- Functional Local Partnership Networks established in the pilot municipalities, enabling coordinated action among employment offices, municipalities, youth structures, education providers, CSOs, social partners and other local actors.
- Vulnerable NEETs better identified, reached and supported, with needs and profiles mapped for up to 5,000 NEETs, outreach measures reaching 1,500 vulnerable NEETs, and activation/pre- and post-placement support provided to 800 NEETs.
- Youth Guarantee pilot models tested and monitored, generating evidence, lessons learned and evaluation findings to fine-tune the scheme and support its future national deployment.
- Improved education and VET pathways for youth, including Early Warning Systems for students at risk of dropping out, improved education programmes for 3,500 students and quality traineeship models for 50 NEETs.