Youth Employment in Ports of the Mediterranean

YEP MED Project

2020

Introduction

Ports connected to international trade, environment and sustainability, digitization, logistics and transport networks are currently one of the main focuses of job creation in the Blue Economy sector.

This potential could be better exploited through dedicated dual Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) with job-oriented placement schemes addressing NEETs in the Mediterranean region.

Facing this challenge, the project "Youth Employment in Ports of the Mediterranean" (YEP MED in short) was created to enrich the technical and vocational education and training TVET by developing three main areas with skills shortages: foreign trade, environment and sustainability, digitization and port logistic operations.

The project developed port-logistics TVET resources adapted to the sector needs, in local ports launch learning programmes with job placement programmes and set up partnerships between key stakeholders in the local port communities (LPC) in 7 involved countries (EGYPT – Spain – Italy – Lebanon – Tunisia – France – Jordan).

The project stakeholders in Egypt are Port Training Institute -Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport and Damietta Port Authority as partners of the project.
The YEP MED fulfils 6 of SD Goals which are:

1. **No Poverty**
2. **Quality Education**
3. **Gender Equality**
4. **Decent Work and Economic Growth**
5. **Reduced Inequalities**
6. **Partnerships for the Goals**

As the YEP MED Project provides the following:

- Training and Employment to Youth of Local Port Communities that are under the category of the NEET – *(Not in Education, Employment, or Training).*
- **Equality between Genders** – as the project training courses must be equally provided to 50% males – 50% females.
- As the project only targeting the NEETs as a possible way to try and balance the increasing income gap rising especially in the developing countries.
- The project main aim is to provide these young people with a decent job with a decent salary which at the same time fulfils the market requirements. As these NEETs are provided with high quality training that provides higher levels of productivity which by time will help promote sustained economic growth.
- The cooperation between North-South Mediterranean partners are the corner stone of this project, that helped achieve its targets. This is supported the knowledge sharing between partners, sharing expertise and promote innovation.
The YEP MED Project address the following Area of Interest of the WPSP:

**Community Building**

The program:

- **Data Analysis**
  - Market needs (Future)
  - Skills assessment

- **Organization of Training Courses:**
  - Create curriculum

- **Training Methodologies**
  - Theoretical training
  - Field visits
  - Simulation training (Click and Cargo ERP system)

- **Companies Involvement**
  - Internship
  - Employment

**Port Local Community (PLC)**
The project develops port-logistics TVET resources adapted to the sector needs, in local ports launch learning programmes with job placement programmes and set up partnerships between key stakeholders in the 7 involved countries. YEP MED adapt 9 training curricula that are specially created according to the actual needs of the productive sectors, introducing personalized monitoring to students and creating training courses that address environmental issues.

Led by the Escola Europea – Intermodal Transport (Spain), the project serves the local port communities, also aims to develop port-logistics (TVET) resources adapted to sector needs to strengthen youth employability with gender equality; increase and upgrade local employment opportunities for both genders through the creation of real dual-learning programmes with job placements, strengthening the role of SME’s operating in the local port ecosystems for future employment creation; and setting up collaborative national and transnational partnerships between port-logistics associations, operators, SMEs, training centres and VET providers, whilst introducing a public-private partnership (PPP) co-management process.

YEP MED improve vocational training to provide youth at risk of educational neglect with the skills required by the labour market while influencing future policy through the involvement of public authorities. The insertion of a YEP MED pilot case into national and regional framework policies will build the legal prerequisite for the introduction of a dual training system. Trainers will be identified and invited from the beginning to be a part of the Local Port’s Occupation and Training Working Group (PLWG) to monitor results and assess and organize tailored workshops for them. Based on participative governance structure, all of these actors will coordinate within the PLWG to reach local agreements between Port Authorities and TVET training centres.

Damietta Port Authority and Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport are 2 of the main partners in the project. In December 2022, the YEP MED team in Damietta (Egypt) organised two courses aimed at the local youth and women to bring the realities of the port sector close to them.

**Partnership:**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name of the organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Region</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead beneficiary</td>
<td>European School of Short Sea Shipping, EEIG</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Cataluña</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner 1</td>
<td>PORT AUTHORITY OF BARCELONA-PORT OF BARCELONA</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Cataluña</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner 2</td>
<td>PORT AUTHORITY SYSTEM OF CENTER-NORTH TYRRHENIAN SEA</td>
<td>Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner 3</td>
<td>CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY &amp; AGRICULTURE OF BEIRUT &amp; MOUNT</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>Partner 4</td>
<td>ARAB ACADEMY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MARITIME</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Alexandria</td>
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<td>Role</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate 1</td>
<td>Consell Valencià de la Joventut (Valencian Youth Council)</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Associate 2</td>
<td>MEDPORTS ASSOCIATION</td>
<td>France</td>
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**Photos of the YEP MED:**

![Photo 1](image1.jpg)
![Photo 2](image2.jpg)
![Photo 3](image3.jpg)
![Photo 4](image4.jpg)
**YEP MED Talent:**

YEP MED Talent is a unique edition of a practical course workshop for students pre-selected from a pool of participants who completed the YEP MED trainings. It will take place from 24th–30th May 2023, 40 trainees graduated from the YEP MED courses based on gender equality will travel to Spain and Italy for a great opportunity for their professional future.

The program is taking place over seven days in the city of Barcelona and on board of a Ro-Pax vessel between the Spanish city and the Italian city of Civitavecchia (the Gateway to Rome). For the pre-selected course participants, this will prove to be a transformative journey to further expand their skills and knowledge in intermodal transport, international trade and logistics, while also networking with other talented students from the eight different port communities that are represented in the YEP MED project.

YEP MED Talent offers a comprehensive understanding of the latest industry trends of international trade, as well as details on how to coordinate intermodal & sustainable transport chains, foster entrepreneurship, and attain innovation skills and attitudes – all of which is needed to thrive in today’s modern sector.

One of the main objectives of the YEP MED Talent program was to present the **WPSP** program to the young trainees participating in the project.
World Port Sustainability Program and its Impact on Port Communities

Prof. Akram Soliman Elselmy
Dean, College of Engineering and Technology
Prof. of Port Planning and Coastal Engineering
Arab Academy for Science, Technology, and Maritime Transport
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Potential topics:

- Innovative digital applications;
- Just-in-time (JIT) arrival of ships;
- Port Community Systems (PCS);
- Novel new Technologies to make decarbonization more feasible
World Port Sustainability Program and its Impact on Port Communities

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