

Esercitazione: come sviluppare una proposta progettuale

ENI CBC MED - A.3: Promotion of social inclusion and fight against poverty

Priority A.3.1: Provide young people, especially those belonging to the NEETS, and women, with marketable skills

At Mediterranean level, the socio-economic analysis and the related data have incontrovertibly shown that there are **two categories that are the most disadvantaged and that were hit the most by the crisis: women in all age groups and youths, in particular the NEETS** (“Not - engaged- in Education, Employment or Training”).

A polarisation in the labour markets on both the shores of the Mediterranean is caused by two related trends:

- **Knowledge and skill-based occupations are becoming more important, and this reduces opportunities for less-qualified workers, leaving behind those marginalised, the NEETs.** However, it is generally true that those who have conducted too general or theoretical studies will face problems when applying for jobs requiring more technical and practical skills.
- **There is shortage of specific types of skills and under-utilisation of existing skills and competences, with more qualified youths facing difficulties in finding jobs matching their expectations and skills.**

Consequently, **employability of youth up to 30 years old, and women, should be strengthened** through a variety of interventions, which may include provision of targeted training courses oriented toward the labour market; labGroups on creativity and personal initiatives; and coaching and tutoring actions with leading mentors, especially women, from successful businesses and civil society experiences, etc.

Priority A.3.2 Support social and solidarity economic actors, also in terms of improving capacities and cooperation with public administrations for services provision

Partner countries attach great importance to the theme of poverty eradication and related social issues. **Along with public institutions various actors are engaged in addressing these complex issues.** These organisations, which may work in partnership with public institutions, include: NGOs, cooperatives, mutual societies, social enterprises, foundations, associations and other similar companies and organisations.

They have emerged as a **pole of social utility that the Programme intends to support, as they can make an effective contribution to solving new social problem, and they are indispensable** if an adequate response to the new challenges of the global economy and society is to be provided. In the light of the complexities of today’s social challenges and the alarming effects of the economic crisis on Mediterranean countries and societies, **expanding outreach and improving the quality of services to the general population has become imperative.** Access to services for populations the most in need has to be carefully planned and addressed.

In this framework, and given the cross-border nature of the Programme, it is **widely agreed that strengthening transnational cooperation and improving partnerships and joint actions between local administrations and social and solidarity economic actors is to be encouraged, including through planning and consolidation of operational capacities of those actors.**

Exchanging experiences, consolidating best practices and finding new solutions to common challenges is where the Programme can make a difference and can represent an important gateway to the development of the area.