



Civil Society for Social Inclusion of Unaccompanied Minors in Transition to Adulthood:
Learning Communities for Shaping Transition Interfaces • <http://cisotra.eu>

WP3: National Seminar Report

2nd National Seminar- Greece/ Online

19/3/2020

ACTION SYNERGY

1. Preparation of the seminar

The seminar was supposed to be organised in Athens, in the premises of the Myrtillo Café at the end of February 2020. However, due to the covid-19 crisis, it was postponed and it was decided to be organised online through the use of the platform “zoom”.

An open call was organised in order to invite participants to the seminar. The participants who responded to the open call were mainly:

- People working in NGOs
- People working in shelters for UAM
- Teachers from public schools with a relatively high number of refugees
- Participants in the national training organised in the framework of WP4
- Representatives of vocational education organisations

The participants registered in the events by filling in an electronic questionnaire. The fact that the seminar was organised via zoom allowed us to invite also participants outside Athens and especially from the islands of the North Aegean Region (Lesvos, Samos) that are the first points of arrival from UAM. 32 participants attended the seminar.

2. Speakers/ Agenda

The national seminar was thematic and focused on the insertion of refugees and particularly unaccompanied minors in the labour market. The aims of the seminar were the following:

- Introduction in the project and the seminar methodology
- Presentation of approaches and best practices related with labour market insertion
- Discussion/ Exchange of experience related with the methods used for the insertion of migrants in the labour market

The moderator of the seminar was Kostas Diamantis- Balaskas, Action Synergy

The speakers of the seminar were the following:

Maria Konstantoglou, ELORIS (Vocational Training Organisation of the North Aegean Region, Lesvos)

Aggeliki Vourou, KAAEKT (Vocational Training Organisation of the island of Samos)

Manto Liadopoulou, Network for the Rights of the Child

Sara Vispi, ANKAA project

The agenda of the seminar was the following:

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|---------------------|--|
| 13:00- 13:20 | Introduction to the CISOTRA project and the theme of the seminar (Kostas Diamantis- Balaskas) |
| 13:20- 13:50 | Supporting intermediary organisations to actively support employers to hire migrants – the IMMIIJOBS project (Maria Konstantoglou, ELORIS) |
| 13:50- 14:20 | Employment Opportunities for newly arrives UAM in the island of Samos (Aggeliki Vourou, KAAEKT) |
| 14:20- 14:50 | Promotion of employment from young UAM (Manto Liadopoulou, Network for the Rights of the Children) |

- 14:50- 15:20** The experience of ANKAA project related with the development of vocational skills of the UAMs (Sara Vispi, ANKAA project)
- 15:20- 16:00** Questions and Discussion

3. Delivery of the national seminar

Date and location: 19 March 2020, Online, Language: Greek/ English

In the first part of the seminar, Kostas Diamantis- Balaskas from Action Synergy has presented generally the CISOTRA project, its aims, objectives and activities. He has also introduced the theme of the seminar which was related with the labour market integration of UAM.

In the second part, Maria Konstantoglou who is the director of the vocational organisation of the North Aegean Region for the Municipality of Lesvos (ELORIS) has presented the experience from the project IMMIIJOBS (www.immijobs.eu), a project co-funded by AMIF, that she coordinates which is focusing on the role of intermediary organisations (chambers of commerce, employer organisations etc) related with the support of employers to provide employment to migrants.

In the third part, Aggeliki Vourou who is responsible for the vocational organisation of the island of Samos has presented the way that the vocational training organisation is cooperating with the local Manpower Organisation (OAED) and some associations in order to provide employment to many UAMs

The fourth part was dedicated to a presentation of Manto Liadopoulou from the Network of the Rights of the Child where she has presented various initiatives of the NGO, in cooperation with other stakeholders, that are related with the insertion of UAMs in the labour market

The fifth part was dedicated to Mrs Sara Vispi, co- founder and administrator of ANKAA project (www.ankaaproject.org) who presented their activities in relation with the vocational training methods they use in ANKAA and the way that they sell the products created by UAMs

The sixth and final part of the seminar was dedicated to questions from the participants and the organisation of a discussion on the practices that were presented but also on legal issues related with the employment of an UAM, issues related with prejudice and racism etc.

4. Evaluation

– The evaluation sheet was filled out from 29 out of the 32 respondents that attended the session. Respondents were from the following areas: i) Representatives of NGOs II) Teachers in schools with a high number of students with migrant background, iii) people working in vocational organisations. On the question if respondents have previous experiences with innovative methods of fostering social inclusion of unaccompanied minor migrants in transition to early adulthood, we received the following answers: 53 % of the respondents have previous experiences, 47% respondent do not have previous experiences.

– The respondents were in general satisfied with the national seminar - on the scale from 1 to 4, satisfaction was 3,8. The highest score was given to the question related with the usefulness of the presentations



– All of the respondents were satisfied with the time dedicated to questions and discussions even if there were some comments that the interaction would be larger if the meeting was held face to face rather than online.

5. Policy Recommendations

The policy recommendations that came as a result of the participants comments were the following:

- The involvement of intermediary organisations could be pivotal in the promotion of labour market integration of UAMs
- Effective approaches require the cooperation between different stakeholders from the employment, care and education fields
- There are specific benefits from companies who hire migrants but they have to be communicated widely