



YouthBankHub

WESTERN BALKAN AND TURKEY



YOUTH POLICY DESIGNED TO FIT YOUNG PEOPLE'S NEEDS

Youth policy cannot respond to all the challenges which are facing young people in Montenegro, but it can set priorities and support systems for young people in the transition process to adulthood.

Youth is a significant period of human life, if not the most important, from the perspective for a professional career. During this period, young people formulate their aspirations and life goals, they seek and find their roles and responsibilities in society and move towards economic independence. It also means that youth is a period of social and psychological transition, in which young people are called upon to make important decisions and choices that significantly affect the course of their lives. The quality of young people life largely depends on how successful they are in the transition from school to the work. Failure to get a right job after the school can have a serious lasting impact on the professional capacity and skills of young graduates as well as their income.

The project "Youth policy designed to fit young people's needs- research and active youth involvement in the process of creating the first local action plan for young people in Herceg Novi" is supported through the program capacity building of youth participation organizations Youth Bank Hub for Western Balkans and Turkey (YBH for WBT) and funded by the European Commission.



The main goal of the project is to improve youth participation in local youth policy-making, while specific goals relate to:

- “Giving space” and respecting the needs of young people and giving them an opportunity to express their thoughts and ideas;
- Preparing the Base for creating a quality local youth policy document that will consider the specificities of the local community.
- Promoting the results of research and addressing the need for urgently reaction about creating a local youth plan.

The project activities directly involved more than 350 young people from Herceg Novi, or about 6% of the population. All project activities were carried out over a year (August 2018.- August 2019.) with the great help from mentoring and partner organizations.

The development of the first local youth strategy in the territory of Herceg Novi Municipality included activities organized with the aim of informing and consulting young people for the final strategy development. They were animated in various ways to give honest answers to the following questions:

- What is youth policy?
- What are the mechanisms for youth participation?
- Who are the key players and roles?
- What is the market job in Montenegro?
- What is the concept of entrepreneurship?
- What are the support services?
- What are the life skills required for our work market?
- What are the prevention programs?
- What do young people see as a problem and what they see as solutions in local youth policy?
- How to create innovative mechanisms for youth participation in local decision-making?
- What is the economic and social participation in the Municipality of Herceg Novi?
- What exactly would they change?

The strategy included, among other things, a questionnaire with a cover letter, which was answered by 159 young people. In relation to the questionnaire and the analysis, the strategy outlined the outcomes and potential solutions for promoting youth policy, that is, involving young people in local politics.

YOUTH POLICY IS MY POLICY!

Youth policy is based on the principles of equality, volunteerism, solidarity of active participation and youth information. Equality - All young people are equal, regardless of age, physical ability, physical appearance, health status, disability, national, racial, ethnic or religious affiliation, gender, language, political orientation, social origin and property, sexual orientation, gender identity and other personal characteristics. Volunteerism- is a non-profit and unpaid activity which individuals, individually or within a group or organization, contribute to the well-being of their community or the entire society. Solidarity- is a voluntary social cohesion, a willingness to help and provide mutual support within a group.

Youth participation and involvement is a process in which young people aim to make a difference in their local or wider community. The publication can be used as a manual by anyone who is working with young people, whether in public institutions or in private sector activities.

“Every nation’s grates hope lies in the proper education of it’s young people.”