

**PROJECT HRDSOP 160/2.1./S/139928 “NOW A STRUDENT! TOMORROW
A PROFESSIONAL! – THE IMPROVEMENT OF LABOUR MARKET
INSERTION OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HIGHER TECHNICAL/
ECONOMIC/ VETERINARY EDUCATION”**

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Abstract

Paper presents the progress of the project NOW A STRUDENT! TOMORROW A PROFESSIONAL! – THE IMPROVEMENT OF LABOUR MARKET INSERTION OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HIGHER TECHNICAL/ ECONOMIC/ VETERINARY EDUCATION, co-financed by European Social Fund through the Human Resources Development Sectoral Operational Programme 2007-2013, implemented by University Politehnica of Bucharest, University of Agronomical Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Bucharest, University ‘ Lucian Blaga’ Sibiu, University 1 December Alba Iulia, Romanian American University, Craiova University, Ovidius University Constanta.

The project aims to facilitate and improve labor market insertion process and working skills development of a number of 10,000 students enrolled in higher technical / economic / veterinary medical education programs by developing and providing integrated guidance, professional counseling and development partnerships with 500 potential employers.. Relevant information about the project can be found at the address: www.projectimpuls.ro .

Key words: : *labour market studies, XXI century student profile, guidance and career counseling; practical stages, labour market insertion portal*

INTRODUCTION

The initial higher education of human resources is the precondition for performing a competitive labor market. A highly skilled workforce is essential to a knowledge-based competitive and sustainable economy.(National Development Programme 2007 – 2013, Europe 2020, National Reference Strategic Framework 2007 – 2013,National Sustainable Development Strategy 2013-2020-2030). The main objectives of higher technical / economic / veterinary education institutions are to provision of career guidance and adequate practical training, to enable graduates acquire "day one" skills upon completion of their studies, to enable professional skills according to the actual labor market requirements and to the demands of sustainable development.

The specific objectives are:

- Facilitate the transition from school to working life by providing vocational guidance and counseling services for a total of 10,000 students enrolled in higher technical / economic / veterinary medical education
- Develop and strengthen partnerships in order to increase learning outcomes acquired at work by involving a total of 500 institutions / companies / research institutes / companies in order to improve the transition process from school to working life
- Development of working skills through internships for 2,000 students enrolled in higher technical / economic / veterinary medical education, in order to increase skill levels and a more rapid labor market insertion

Monitoring employability of graduates in order to correlate higher education competencies with labor market needs

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The project aims to correlate initial vocational training system to labor market needs, helping to facilitate the transition from school to working life by creating opportunities on a flexible labor market, for the participation of 10,000 students enrolled in higher technical / economic / veterinarian education system, and having a long-term positive effect for students by creating an integrated program of guidance and counseling, creating practical training, and a system of communication and relationship between students and potential employers.

Through its activities, the project aims to achieve added value elements such as:

- a pressing need to cover the training of future professionals in terms of increasing awareness of personal qualities, the structure of professional interests and correlation with educational training and professional placement in the labor market;
- teamwork and communication skills, familiarity with the rigors and demands of a professional working environment, forming an overview of the international organizations and Romanian companies;
- reform of practical training based on performance and correlation with labor market needs;
- Possibility of direct relationships with employers through workshops and internships;
- achieve a true picture student - academic – labor market, through monitoring study on graduates labor market insertion;
- Innovative professional computing portal that allows students to get familiar with new methods of personal promotion in front of a potential employer.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

- 10000 students enrolled in higher technical / economic / veterinary medical education beneficiaries of counseling and career guidance services
- 500 partnerships with social – economical environment for best practices exchange and for student internships
- 2000 students beneficiaries of internships and practical stages
- 1 study - “21st Century student profile - prospective, opportunities, development”
- 1 study – “The analysis of the educational system components in the technical/economic/veterinary fields”.
- 1 study – “The analysis of labor market dynamics in the technical/economic/veterinary fields”
- 1 study – “Vulnerable groups access to higher education and labor market integration”.

CONCLUSIONS

Counseling and career guidance services in the transition from school to working life is crucial to the extent that increases the chance of becoming employable graduates by empowering their skills in areas falling outside the academic and practice related to communication, decision-making techniques for solving problems and conflict management, stress management and professional development planning.

The development and implementation, among employers, of a system of practical training specific to job vacancies in order to increase employability and to acquire ‘day one’ skills after graduation.

The 4 studies will reflect a better image of student – academic system – labor market requirements.

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