



Expression of interest to provide expertise for the project “Collaborative and sharing workspaces: policies for youth in EEA peripheral regions (Cowork4YOUTH)” activities described in the partnership agreement No. [2020-1-0444] concerning the implementation of the project between ELARD and other partner organizations.

Project description

Cowork4YOUTH is an **Analysis and Research** project aiming to increase knowledge on the impact of existing policies and offer policy suggestions to enhance **youth employment opportunities in less developed EEA regions**.

The project adopts a **transnational/regional perspective** by focusing on a binary of **non-metropolitan regions** across all study countries, especially Greece, Italy, Spain, and Ireland: tourism-dependent, island or remote coastal regions, on the one hand, and regions facing energy transition, decarbonisation or intense industrial decline on the other. This binary suffers from relatively high NEET rates and its comparative study will allow for deeper understanding of the **impact of employment policies** on youth and for designing more **effective policies** through socially-oriented platform economy and collaborative work practices. The latter are seen as a way of providing alternative means of access to a living wage.

Cowork4YOUTH will deliver **14 outputs**, including a Research Network, an Observatory, papers, and policy suggestions. Through an integrated multi scalar methodology, these outputs will help accomplish **5 outcomes**.

The direct target groups are the, usually ignored, **NEETs aged 25-29**; particular emphasis is put on **young mothers and the long-term unemployed**. The project explores the employment prospects for these end beneficiaries through **collaborative practices, co-working spaces-as- ‘learning middlegrounds’ and other alternatives**.

Project duration: 01/08/2021 to 31/01/2024

Partner organizations

Lead partner: Institute of Urban Environment and Human Resources - Panteion University (Greece)

4 Beneficiary partners: Rhodes Centre for History and Social Research (Greece), ISEAK Foundation (Spain), Economic and Social Research Institute (Ireland), Exeo Lab (Italy)

2 Expertise partners: Mid Sweden University (Sweden), European LEADER Association for Rural Development (Belgium)

ELARD’s role in the project

ELARD will participate in the operational group of project partners providing expert support and know-how. ELARD’s role in the project is first and foremost related to **expertise in transnational policies ad youth employment analyses, data collection and case study identification, networking** as well as **dissemination and communication**. ELARD will provide expertise regarding **policy recommendations**, as well as leverage its position in order to alert policy makers to the results of the project’s studies.

ELARD will contribute to:

- ⇒ The Transnational Research Network (TRN) and especially the Observatory networking
- ⇒ The pilot study by mediating with potential case studies
- ⇒ The Baseline study by identifying data sources
- ⇒ Two transnational reports
- ⇒ Two policy recommendation studies
- ⇒ The communication of the project
- ⇒ The transnational nature of the project

In order to provide high-level, experienced-based and comprehensive support for project partners during the project period there's a need to find experts on youth employment and policy design for improving youth (especially NEET's) conditions in rural territories. The optimal number of experts for this project is 3 experts working on part time basis.

ELARD is looking for experts among European LEADER networks and LAGs who have long-term experience on youth work, youth employment issues, research and policy design related to the youth topic.

ELARD expects to hire at least one senior level expert having youth work experience at least 10 years. One expert should have research work experience in the field of youth employment. One expert is expected to be on junior level from age group 25-29.

The expert contribution is required in following Work packages (WP) and their Outputs:

WP 3 – Basis and Beyond

This WP aims to consolidate the transnational cooperation on labour market issues, by creating a Transnational Research Network which will operate through the Observatory – a think-tank on youth employment across EEA regions; Offer a baseline to measure development and expand the project and the Transnational Research Network.

Output 1: Transnational Research Network, operationalized through an Observatory

Output 2: Pilot Study on the impact of youth employment policies

Output 3: Baseline Study on impact of youth employment policies

ELARD is expected to:

- ⇒ Expertise in youth employment analyses in the frame of the Observatory;
- ⇒ Expertise in design of the methodology of the Pilot study with focus on the impact of coworking spaces on youth employability, especially in the context of regions that are tourism dependent or transitioning energy-wise;
- ⇒ Contribute to transnational policy dimension of the report; Identifying and summarising policies for review of EU Policy Framework Regarding Youth Employment and NEETS from 2008 to present, with a particular emphasis on those aged 25-29 and NEET mothers;
- ⇒ Support Research Project partners in identification of case studies - regarding the impact of sharing/co-working and RnD policies, and the impact of training and youth employment policies.

The expert contribution in this WP is foreseen for 0,25 working time per month.

WP 4 – Transnational cooperation in knowledge

Building on WP3, WP4 is central and related to both the international and regional scale of the project. WP4 aims to **increase capacity on evaluating effects of employment initiatives** for NEETs/target groups through 2 PhD Theses which increase the academic capacity in policy impact evaluation following a theoretically informed empirical approach. WP4 aims to also **increase the knowledge of the effects on employment initiatives** targeting NEET/target groups through Transnational reports and Review papers.

Outputs 6&7: Two Transnational Reports – one on NEET’s skills gap and employment policies in target regions and the other on employment potential for NEET’s through alternative sectors.

ELARD is expected to consult on transnational policy dimensions and draft a pertinent chapter in the Transnational Reports: NEETs’ skills gap and employment policies, the employment potential for NEETs in alternative sectors.

The expert contribution in this WP is foreseen for 0,22 working time per month.

WP 5 – Policy Recommendations

WP5 is related to all scales of our multi-scalar approach, but most intensively to the national one. With the foundations of the partnership -the TRN/ Observatory, the Baseline and Pilot Study-laid in WP3; and taking advantage of the increased knowledge and capacity provided through WP4 with respect to the impact of various policies; WP5 “Policy Recommendations” will translate the knowledge acquired into specific **policy recommendations**. The aim is to increase use of impact studies among policymakers.

Outputs 13&14: Two Policy recommendations – one addressing skills gap and brain drain and the other on employment potential through alternative economic sectors.

ELARD is expected to ensure expert counselling on transnational policy dimensions and contribution in writing the policy recommendations.

The expert contribution in this WP is foreseen for 0,35 working time per month.

Interested expert candidates are expected to indicate into which WP they are interested to contribute and to provide information about their relevant experiences and competences in their application.

ELARD will sign fixed term employment contract for part time work. Contract term June 2022 – January 2024. As most of the work will be carried out from distance, using electronical tools, then experts can be based anywhere in Europe.

Salary will be negotiated with successful candidate according to the time to be allocated for the project outcomes.

It is expected that experts have:

- Experience with youth work at local, regional or national level, peripheral EEA region experience, especially in tourism dependant territories or territories in energy-wise transition will be seen as an advantage;
- Knowledge about Transnational Youth policies and their implementation;

- Ability to formulate policy recommendations;
- Experience in rural development;
- Experience in work with data collection and analytical skills;
- Proficiency in both written and oral English.

Application form and Europass CV's are kindly requested to send to the e-mail address **katrina.idu@elard.eu** by 25.05.2022. The selection of the experts will be performed by ELARD's core team based on the consultations with project partner's representatives.

Contact information

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