



Consiliul Național al Tineretului din Moldova

Report on Measures to Combat Youth Unemployment in Moldova

Overview of the political situation with regards to youth unemployment

Some Statistics about youth in Moldova:

- 976,400 youth aged between 15 – 29 years old approximately 28% of entire population,
- 55,3% live in rural areas,
- 32% - employed, 18% - unemployed, 50% - still studying, not officially registered as unemployed, or think to go abroad.
- In 2011 -19,000 marriages registered; 3,100 divorces,
- Every 5th young person had been hospitalized, every 4th one, had paid from his pocket for the treatment.
- Students involvement:
- 24,3% full or part-time employed
- 17,5% practice professional sports
- 11,2% are volunteers
- 15,9% involved in self-development activities
- 31,1% do nothing besides university

(~ 43.500 students)

Source: National Bureau of Statistics

Current political situation regarding youth unemployment involve few mechanisms of political regulation in order to combat youth unemployment. Three dimensions that are in the view of government and organizations that work with unemployment issue are:

1. Education - It connects all the educational reforms that strike for raising quality and interest of youngster for vocational professions and for tertiary education, considering the problem of lack of qualified work force this reforms aim to create work potential and open new perspectives for youngsters employment. Other important thing

regarding educational reforms and unemployment issue is the process for recognition of the non-formal education, which will allow persons who achieved some competences through non-formal education to offer him a better chance on the job market. Even this problem is on the political agenda, remains only at legislative level and don't have practical implementation and even policies in this field are not useful.

2. Raising employment among youngsters - at the moment Ministry of Labor, Social and Family's Protection, made up a set of policies proposals for increasing employability of youth, therefore there wasn't any concrete policy or proposal made at policy makers level.

3. Raising number of youth entrepreneurs - in order to facilitate youth entrepreneurship, Government, in 2008 adopted National Program of entrepreneurship Empowerment of Youngsters, program aimed to develop 3 main fields – informative campaigns for youngsters about how to open and develop a business, to facilitate access to financing programs and to ease the possibility to find other funding opportunities in order to raise number of businesses opened by young citizens.

Another important thing worth to be mentioned is the Youth Law that have to facilitate youth entrepreneurship. However there was not enough concrete steps made by Government to facilitate employment and entrepreneurship of youngsters.

In order to facilitate qualitative education to develop more experts in different fields were established more scholarships for specific profiles (for examples for IT faculties was offered about 1265 scholarships)

In order to solve lack of labor force in less developed region of Moldova (mainly rural area) Government offered facilities for young specialists that chose to go to work there (a better salary and accommodation)

Measures brought in to address youth unemployment since 2008

Through National Program of Youth Entrepreneurship Empowerment was set up activities for young entrepreneurs and funding opportunities for them. About 1500 youngsters, about 700 of them expressed a strong desire to start their own business and about 250 application forms were received for funding.

Also to attract youth entrepreneurs who emigrated from Moldova, was established the program "Pare 1+1" which offers the possibility to get extra funding equal to sum that entrepreneur will invest, only if this money was brought from outside the country

Also by the Government "Unemployment Development Programme":

- Were developed and implemented national program to support youth entrepreneurs in launching and developing their own businesses;
- Were encouraged business development initiated by young people in online environment (eg domain sites. Moldova free, free hosting, etc..)
- Were improved the regulatory framework to initiate and develop a business that was launched by young people;
- Were created a provision of information, advice and training for young entrepreneurs;
- Were developed the youth assistance for vocational guidance and employment in the labor market;
- Were stimulated businesses to hire young people;
- Were encouraged cooperation between employers, government, educational institutions and youth organizations.

Useful Links:

- <http://www.ifad.org/events/gc/34/nen/factsheet/moldova.pdf>
- <http://www.indexmundi.com/moldova/youth-unemployment-rate.html>
- http://www.undp.md/publications/economic_crisis/Youth_unemployment_in_Moldova_Youth_Day_En.pdf
- <http://www.issa.int/library/read/57671>
- <http://www.tradingeconomics.com/moldova/unemployment-youth-male-percent-of-male-labor-force-ages-15-24-wb-data.html>

Perspective of the National Youth Council of Croatia on what has been done so far

We become more oriented to actions on building up information systems for young people, to contribute for recognition and appraisal of the role of non-formal education, to focus on improvement of the situation of youth employment and youth participation at the local level. Particular attention is paid towards sustainability of the cooperations and thus to the necessity of maintaining the ownership of youth over existing initiatives.

Even focus on youth unemployment is bigger and broader in the last year, actions that had been set up are far not enough and solve only small part of problem (have very small impact), collaboration of Government with NGO's in this sector is poor and is limited to consultation that usually don't bring any relevant output.

Legislative regulation on youth unemployment is very abstract and doesn't offer any strategic plan, set of action or framework for solving this issue.

Taking in consideration the growing number of unemployed youngsters and lack of qualified labor force, National Youth Council of Moldova consider a good perspective the fact that more social actors are interested in developing the education system and programs for education of young specialists that will fulfill their needs, however feedback of universities and ministries connected to this subject is poor.

National Youth Council of Moldova strongly collaborates with Ministry of Youth and Sports, we participate in consultations and elaboration of policy papers in this field.

Other additional measures

As youth policy is a cross-sectorial phenomenon, it touches almost all important

issues including: migration, culture and healthcare as well as education, employment, family and sports.

Being member of European Youth Forum, CNTM tries to be active involved in all the advocacy processes regarding youth policies, and recently specific to the topic of youth unemployment.