

**CEE-YOUTH**



## **Supporting youth employment in Central and Eastern Europe**

**Kick-off meeting in Budapest  
24 January 2013**

БЪЛГАРСКА СТОПАНСКА КАМАРА  
СЪЮЗ НА БЪЛГАРСКИЯ БИЗНЕС



BULGARIAN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION  
UNION OF THE BULGARIAN BUSINESS

The **unemployment** is high in Bulgaria by data of the National statistics institute for the 3rd trimester of **2012** (last updated data) – **11.5 %**

At the same time, the **youth unemployment** (age 15-24) is **24.6 %**

Bulgaria ranks first in the whole EU by rate of unemployment growth and, as we see from the data, the youth unemployment is rising twice as fast.

Reasons for that:

- education – not consistent with the requirements of the labour market;
- hard to get a first job;
- low pay;
- desire of young people for migration after completing their education.



Over 60% of the employment is in jobs and occupations in low-skilled sectors - trade, construction, security.

Over 30% are employed with higher qualification required for the position.

The reasons lie in the structure of the economy and employment, serious regulatory regimes, the absence of major infrastructure investment projects to take that unemployment not only among young people and the labor market.

Currency board countries have severe problems with employment and income. It can be seen in Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and other countries with similar monetary policy.



The following projects to promote employment of young people are active nowadays under the Operational Programme "Human Resources Development".

1. **"New start - from education to employment"** (4-year project for over 18 mln. euro - 8500 people up to 29 years old will pass training with an employer based on the qualification they have gained);
2. **"Chance for youth realisation in Bulgaria"** – the aim is to encourage employment of young people (3-year project for 7.5 mln euro - around 10 000 youngsters will receive varied training and services);
3. **"Start in the administration"** programme - 600 university graduates will be employed at the national or regional public administration for a 9-month duration;
4. **Start of career** (permanent programme) - 5 mln from the state budget under the National employment action plan.



In the framework of the project, we wish to become familiar with good practices used in Austria, being one of the countries with the lowest unemployment rate across the EU, on how problems with the youth employment are addressed.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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