

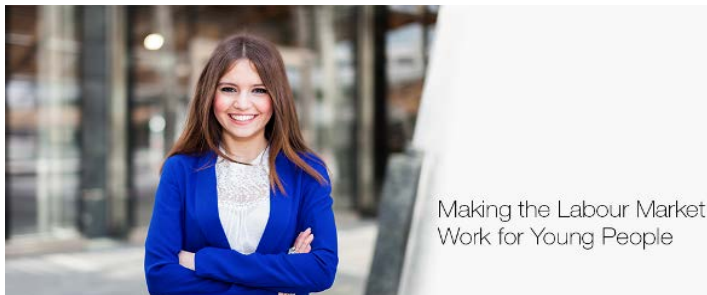


PROJECT FACTSHEET

Embassy of Switzerland in Albania

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

MAKING LABOUR MARKET WORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALBANIA



Young women and men in Albania face challenges with employment.
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An estimated 34% of Albania's youth are unemployed or underemployed. The main causes of this situation are low labour demand, ineffective job matching services and lack of skills. Youth employment is a priority and the Swiss-supported project "Making Labour Market work for Young People" - RisiAlbania - responds to this issue by promoting entry into the labour market.

Unemployment remains a serious challenge for Albania's transitional economy. The age group 15-29 year old has high rates of unemployment and unpaid, informal or underpaid jobs.

RisiAlbania has identified sectors with growth potential for creating employment for youth. A rigorous assessment of different economic sectors and relevant criteria revealed three main sectors: Agro-processing, Tourism and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Creating jobs in the private sector

Through better links with the private sector RisiAlbania so far has enabled 67 new jobs created for young people in ICT and job information portals, among which 30 women. Moreover, through better public and private job-matching, more than 1'000 young people found a job - 55% of whom are women.

RisiAlbania together with the Ministry of Economy, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship introduced for the first time the national competition "RisiTuristike" that encourages innovative tourist packages and services. By diversifying the touristic offers in the cities of Berat, Shkodër and Gjirokastër the project expects a higher number of tourists and longer stays. This in turn could boost employment and income.

Improving job-matching services

RisiAlbania developed a new practical management model and intelligent job matching system for the National Employment Services that was tested successfully in the regional labour office in Durrës. This model will become a standard working system for all regional labour offices in the country.

Besides the public job-matching service, RisiAlbania supported a private job portal where 30'100 jobs were posted and 363 companies registered. Furthermore, the project stimulated four national media to actively produce and disseminate labour market information to young people and their parents. Over 227 innovative shows, programmes and newspaper supplements targeting 700'000 young women and men and their parents are already published and aired.

Skills development

7'846 young people, among which 56% women, upgraded their labour IT skills thanks to a newly-introduced ICT online education programme called Almooc, which is supported by RisiAlbania. This initiative provides free access to high quality courses in Albanian language on the latest in-demand IT skills for young people. Leading experts in the IT industry teach the courses while curriculum materials come from schools across the USA.

The Faculty of Journalism of Tirana University introduced a new module on "reporting attractively on the labour market" in its curricula. 22 journalists and 15 students of journalism and communications strengthened their skills on labour market reporting.

GOAL

RisiAlbania aims to improve access to employment and increase income opportunities for young women and men aged 15-29 years. Two main outcomes are envisioned through the project:

1. Businesses in agro processing, tourism and ICT create more jobs for young women and men (institutional level).
2. Young people increasingly enter into the job market through an effective intermediation with the employers (population level).

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

NAME

Making Labour Market Work for Young People in Albania - RiSiAlbania

THEME

Youth employment / skills development

COUNTRY

Albania

PARTNERS

Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth
National Employment Services
Job matching companies
Businesses
Media
Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation (implementation)

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Improved employment and income opportunities for young women and men in Albania

TARGET GROUPS

Young women and men aged 15-29 years

PHASE DURATION

October 2013 – October 2017

PHASE BUDGET

CHF 5'100'000

FUNDING

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

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