

Slovakia

Small, big country



Slovakia is a marvellous country. Beautiful nature, wonderful historical monuments, warm-hearted people unique folklore or Slovak gastronomy make the visit of Slovakia really great experience. The country is small in its size but huge in its richness.



Slovak sights

The witnesses of the rich Slovak history are castles and fortresses which are one of the most numerous in Europe. The marvellous country is covered by wooden cottages, churches as well as town centres where you can feel the spirit of old times.

Slovak gastronomy

Bryndzové halušky (potatoes dumplings with sheep cheese) must try each visitor because of their unique taste. There are also a lot of cheese specialties. We recommend home made Slovak slivovica (plum liquor) for aperitif and in the evenings a glass of very good beer.



Slovak spas

The beautiful nature brings pleasure not only to your eyes but also to your body. In Slovakia there are about 1300 mineral sources which regenerate physical force, relax and prevent illnesses. They are used as refreshing and healing potable water, too.

Slovak ski centres

Wonderful Slovak mountains provide ideal conditions for skiing. Slovakia has a number of ski centres which have invested in their equipment and they offer to visitors unforgettable skiing experience.



Slovak natural and artificial pools

Slovak nature provides a lot of possibilities to cool down in hot summer months. You can stay on the banks of Slovak artificial lakes or clean gravel lakes. Would you like to have a swim outside in winter? No problem, you can swim in aqua parks with hot thermal waters.

Slovak nature

More than 40% of the surface of Slovakia is covered by forests. Numerous mountains with variety of terrains tempt more and more visitors who want to spend quiet and romantic moments. In Slovakia there are nine national parks rich in untouched nature, fresh air, wild animals and attractive caves.

Novohrad region

- Novohrad region is situated in the southern part of the central Slovakia and Banskobystrický department. Northern part of this area is mountainous with typical villages. Southern part is covered by lowlands.
- The geographical centre of Novohrad is Lučenec district, but historical Novohrad includes also the districts of Poltár and Veľký Krtíš. Rich history of this region has left its traces in the form of castles and fortresses which made part of protection against the attacks of the Turks. Šomoška, Divín, Fiľakovo fortress, Halič castle belong among the best known ones.





Novohrad region

- For the Southern Slovak fold making and important part of the Novohrad region is typical warm and dry climate. Such climate is favourable for the development of summer tourism which is concentrated mainly around the artificial lakes and pools. Except of typical summer recreation there are good conditions for the development of agrotourism and sightseeing.
- Population of Novohrad is mainly of Slovak nationality, but there are also other nationalities living in the region, the most numerous is Hungarian nationality.
- Placement of Novohrad in the area with mixed languages at the Hungarian borders provides possibilities of cross-border cooperation and faster growth of tourism on both sides of the border.



Looking for innovative solutions on the labour market through partnership cooperation



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Geographical area of the project implementation





Goal of the project

- Look for solutions and possibilities of employment for disadvantaged applicants through partnership cooperation of the Development partnership in Novohrad region, Banskobystrický department in the Slovak Republic, which touches quite a high rate of unemployment.
- Lowering of unemployment of marginalized groups through creation and search for new solutions to achieve this goal
- To achieve this goal all partners cooperate within the development partnership. They prepare and carry out motivation and re-qualification courses for 300 participants of theoretical education and vocational training according to the demands of enterprises and the labour market considering the needs of the target groups.



Project activities

- **Project activities concentrate above all on:**
 - Realization of the methods of individual work with the participants from the target groups
 - Indication, testing and diagnostics of participants from the disadvantaged groups
 - Looking for new forms of creation of work positions through new forms of organization of enterprises
 - Forming of attitudes of the employers towards these groups of registered unemployed
 - Tutoring of graduates of education activities



Target groups of the project

- graduates
- long time unemployed
- persons with low qualification
- citizens with changed working ability
- physically disabled
- the young
- persons over 50

Development partnership



- Civil organization BOVAP, Lučenec



- Bureau of employment, social affairs and family, Lučenec



- Regional development agency, Lučenec



- United Secondary School of Services, Lučenec



Activities of the development partnership

1. Identify employer bodies, which are interested in creation of new work positions and professions interesting for employers
2. Develop cooperation between schools, Bureau of employment, social affairs and family, non-governmental organizations, development agencies, enterprises, research and education bodies
3. Prepare innovative systems of search of appropriate employments and flexible work positions in the form of flexible information system
4. Carry out distant forms and programmes of education of specialists in the chosen areas – tutors, counsellors and advisers



Activities of the development partnership

5. Support of individuals: development of new sources of employment
6. Creation of conditions for functioning of the project system, identification of the target group, preparation of the project managers
7. Elaboration of special criteria for evaluation of the project and preparation of rules for professional administration of the project
8. Creation of topical and innovative forum
9. Counselling in the field of gaining resources form the EU programmes
10. International cooperation
11. Publicity

International partnership

- **Comune di Genova, Italy**
- **Mancomunidad de municipios bajo guadalquivir, Spain**
- **Centre do Formation d'Apprentis du Pays de Montbéliard, France**
- **Agronica Societa' Cooperativa a responsabilita' limitata, Italy**
- **Civil organization BOVAP, Slovakia**





International partnership

- Civil organization BOVAP together with the members of the development partnership takes part in an international partnership organizing a network of actions for inclusion of disadvantaged groups in the society and negotiation of changes. Members of the international partnership make efforts to find possibilities to facilitate the access to employment for persons in difficult situation applying for employment through adaptation and development of integration approach for inclusion in the society. This goal is the core of the international partnership.
- The members exchange information about local practise and experiences gained in the projects EQUAL, to be finally able to evaluate obtained knowledge and know-how ant to gather them on the local level.



Achieved results of the project

- **Created database of the target groups in the districts of Lučenec and Poltár**
 - This database has been created by the national partners of the project Bureau of employment, social affairs and family, Lučenec from the data of registered applicants for employment and United Secondary School of Services, Lučenec from the data of graduates.
 - The importance of this activity is an effective selection of participants of education activities within the project. It is used by the development partners.
 - Benefit of the use of the database is more flexible approach to the target groups and their needs.



Achieved results of the project

- **Creation and realization of education products according to the survey of the labour market and demands of the target groups – distant forms of education**
 - On the meetings of the target groups were accepted their demands for improvement of their professional knowledge to find employment. Participants of the course were chosen from the registered unemployed in the database of Bureau of employment, social affaires and family and unemployed graduates of United Secondary School of Services. Programmes of education of specialists in chosen fields have been created. Courses: With English towards employment, ABC of entrepreneur for women, Help works in the kitchen, Project manager, Manager of growing of healing plants, Basics of computer work and others. Information about courses was published for all members of the development partnership. Workshops and meetings to support individuals were carried out - counselling, lectures, legal minimum.
 - Through education activities which reflect demands of the target groups and the labour market is facilitated access of mentioned applicants on the labour market.



Achieved results of the project

- **Created database of employers of the region.**
 - Meetings were carried out in order to identify employers of the region and preparation of innovative systems of search of suitable employments and flexible work positions through flexible information system. Database of employers has been created and is regularly actualised by the Regional development agency Lučenec in cooperation with Bureau of employment, social affairs and family Lučenec and serves the members of the development partnership where it is also accessible in realization of activities towards increase of employment in the region.
 - Through development of cooperation between Bureau of employment, social affairs and family and enterprises are created positive attitudes of employers to disadvantaged groups of applicants. Benefit is more flexible application of needs on the labour market.



Achieved results of the project

- **Development of cooperation between schools, Bureau of employment, social affairs and family Lučenec, municipalities, civil organization Partnerstvo Lučenec, non-governmental organizations, development agencies, enterprises, research and education bodies.**
 - Work meetings of involved bodies took place and discussed further steps in the cooperation. The result is better cooperation of these bodies whereby is increased possibility of support of creation of new work positions and return of unemployed to the labour market.



Achieved results of the project

- **Establishment of a study for training**
 - A study was established in United Secondary School of Services Lučenec, which is a national partner of the project, where education activities were carried out focused on help work in the kitchen and in future other education courses will be prepared. Hereby was contributed to widening of theoretical as well as practical possibilities of applicants.
- **Information campaign about the project realization and its outputs**
 - Publicity of the project, publishing of information leaflets, preparation and actualization of the web page www.bovap.sk, photo gallery of activities on the page, certificates of courses, project presentation.
 - Through information campaign have been spread information about project, activities, its outputs and results.
- **Tutoring**
 - This activity is concentrated on care for graduates of single courses. It is used to find out whether they have found employment, what their possibilities were and to suggest following steps in search for employment.



Education activities

- English – cook, waiter, butcher
- Project manager
- Manager of growing healing plants
- ABC of entrepreneur for women
- Help works in the kitchen, preparation of soups and pastry I
- Basics of computer work
- Basics of computer work + English
- Basics of the country tourism and agrotourism
- Caretaker
- Information technology for advanced
- ABC of enterprise
- Basics of entrepreneur



Innovative items

■ Cooperation

- Innovative items in the field of the social exclusion are characterized by cooperation of single organizations of the national administration, local administration, education institutions, non-governmental sector and enterprises in order to facilitate social inclusion, community work, identification of problems of socially excluded groups and suggestion of solution of the problems on the labour market. We also focus on increase of awareness of marginalized groups and promotion of equality of chances.



Innovative items

■ Distant forms of education

- The aim in the field of education is to involve into education the long time unemployed excluded because of the low level of qualification. Distant forms of education were and are carried out according to the offer of the work positions in the region and its surrounding also considering the needs, demands and possibilities of applicants.

■ Individual work

- Within the project work also tutors who look after the target group during the whole project until the final product of acquisition of new skills. Innovative systems for search of appropriate employments are prepared and carried out through individual work with the unemployed for development of key skills demanded by the labour market it means individual approach to each participant.



Innovative items

■ **Creation of local and regional partnerships**

- Economically inactive groups of persons and persons long time registered in the evidence of unemployed demand individual approach because of their fear of inclusion respectively re-inclusion on the labour market. This approach is based on creation of better conditions for employment of these groups for example through special programmes of support of establishment of local and regional partnerships focused on social inclusion and employment at local and regional level.



Innovative items

■ Creation of programmes

- Creation of programmes supporting establishment of partnerships including activities in the fields of social economy, activation and motivation activities including psychological and social services and measures which support active approach of the target groups to education, training and employment.

■ Realization of counselling and consulting

- Realization of counselling and consulting in the field of obtaining resources from EU programmes – providing of counselling for all participants without difference in age, gender or nationality with possibility to take part in team work in the search for employment.



Innovative items

■ Influence on employers

- Inclusion of marginalized groups in employment has been carried out in the form of influence on employers in order to employ also Rom citizens because their employment is more difficult because of prejudices from the side of employers. Appeal is made on employers to employ also the group of citizens with changed working ability, persons over 50 and persons with families.



Innovative items

■ New integrated forms of cooperation

- Strengthening of new integrated forms of cooperation of involved institutions within Lučenec district Banskobystrický department through establishment of strong Development partnership and cooperation in realization of the project activities through inclusion of other bodies (schools, NGO, counselling centres, enterprises, bodies of national administration and autonomies) to solving of unemployment in the form of informal meetings and mutual help, but above all through personal contacts and with the help of personalities of the district and department.

■ Realization of topical and innovative forum

- Preparation and realization of topical and innovative forum where are used experiences of the partners of international cooperation and preparation of methodology of search, testing and diagnostics of disadvantaged groups based on common activities within the international cooperation – results are used for development of bounds between the system of work and system of education.

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Thank you for your attention



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